



# **WEDNESDAY WRAP-UP**

## **Of the Geneva, New York Rotary Club**

[www.GenevaRotaryClub.org](http://www.GenevaRotaryClub.org)

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Miss a meeting? Make it up at  
[www.RotaryEClubOne.org](http://www.RotaryEClubOne.org)

**Wednesday,  
July 7, 2021**

Next Week: TBA

President Stephanie led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation.

### **Announcements**

- Bill Buell's memorial service will be held on July 10 at 11 am at the Presbyterian Church in Geneva, 24 Park Place.
- RSVPs will continue for lunch. Reservations can be made the week prior or contact Stephanie via phone call, text or email by noon on Tuesday
- A new directory is being created and send updated contact information to Stephanie.
- On July 31 at 8 am the Club will be manning a water station at the Experiment Station for the Cubby Chase. The sign-up sheet is being passed around.
- A fourth person is needed to help with the weekly wrap-up. If anyone is interested, contact Ruthie.
- The Cub Scouts is hosting a golf tournament at Big Oak on July 24.
- The Rotary Golf Tournament will be held on August 9 at the Geneva Country Club.

### **50/50**

Kerry Lippincott split \$83 (\$42/\$41) with Polio Plus

### **Fines and Happy Dollars**

- Stephanie fined Charlie Bartshevich for appearing in an ad and Bob McFadden and Shad Cook for their daughters appearing in the newspaper
- Dick Austin fined himself for not attending the change over dinner. He also had \$50 in happy dollars in honor of Paul Kirsch providing great talks over the years
- Ted Baker is happy that the Boston Red Sox have the best record in the American League

- Jim DeVaney enjoyed a 4<sup>th</sup> of July party
- Helen Kelley is expecting her second grandchild in December
- Jerry Forcier congratulated Stephanie on her first week as President
- Joyce Keeney is happy to be attending the meeting
- Johnny O paid Paul Kirsch's fine for his article appearing in the newspaper

## **Program**

The annual tribute to the Declaration of Independence was written by Paul Kirsch and presented by Dick Austin and Mike Rusinko. This year's topic is "The Founders and the Declaration." Along with a general history of the Declaration, the lives of the 56 signers during American Revolution were explored.

- In June 1776 fifty-six men gathered in Philadelphia's Carpenter Hall for the Second Continental Congress. On June 7 a resolution (known as the Lee Resolution) was introduced declaring that colonies should be independent of England.
- The colonial legislatures had not given the delegates authority to discuss independence. On June 11, however, a committee was appointed to develop a draft of a possible declaration of independence. The committee included John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, Roger Sherman and Robert Livingston. Jefferson was chosen by the committee to write the first draft of what would become the Declaration of Independence.
- Why was a declaration of independence needed?
  - It justified to the colonists the reasons for declaring independence. As many as 20% of the colonists were loyal to the British Crown so the delegates had to convince everyone else that independence was worth fighting for. 27 specific abuses and usurpations committed by King George against the colonists were listed in the final Declaration of Independence
  - The document was meant to assure the French that they would benefit by joining with the United States in their war against England. French support seemed achievable because the French and British were traditional enemies. French troops and financial support would also increase the chance of American success
- From June 12 to June 27 the committee reviewed drafts. On June 27 the document was presented to Congress
- Between July 1 and 4, Congress debated revisions and Jefferson prepared a final draft. On July 2 Congress voted for the Lee Resolution and the colonies became free and independent states.
- On July 4 Congress approved Jefferson's final draft.
- None of the 56 signers ever renounced their vote to adopt the Declaration of Independence
- Who were the signers?
  - The youngest signer was 26(Edward Rutledge) and the oldest was 70 (Benjamin Franklin), most were in their 40s and 50s.
  - All were well education

- 41 owed slaves, 24 were lawyers, 15 merchants, and 4 physicians
- At least 29 fought in the war, five were captured by the British and died, two lost sons serving in Continental Army, one had two sons captured by the British, nine died from wounds, and 12 had their homes attacked, ransacked, damaged or destroyed
- The last signer to die was Charles Carroll, who passed away in 1832 at 95
- Thomas Jefferson and John Adams died on the same day – July 4, 1826 (the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence)
- Independence was declared on July 2 and the Declaration was adopted on July 4, so why do we celebrate independence on July 4? First, July 4 is the date that actually appears on the document. Second, in 1870 Congress passed a law officially making Independence Day on July 4 a national holiday.

**Submitted by Kerry Lippincott**

<p><b>Four way test:</b>  <b>"Of the things we think, say or do:"</b></p> <p><b><i>1. Is it The Truth?</i></b>  <b><i>2. Is it Fair to All Concerned?</i></b>  <b><i>3. Will it Build Goodwill and Better Friendships?</i></b>  <b><i>4. Will it be beneficial for All Concerned?</i></b></p>					
<b>Stephanie Hesler</b>	<b>Gerald Forcier</b>	<b>Diana Perry</b>	<b>Ford Weiskittel</b>	<b>Bob McFadden</b>	<b>Kelsey Journell</b>
President	President-Elect	Vice President	Secretary	Club Treasurer	Foundation Treasurer