

## **Meeting of January 30, 2012**

**President, Candice Macri presided.**

**Songs: America and Tom Dooley**

**Guests (introduced by Mike Bruno): Lois Harvan and Courtney Jacobs.**

**Club Announcements:** Farmers' Day will be February 20, at the Villa. Mike Bruno announced that we will again participate in the Public Library's Literacy Program. This year, we will read Curious George at the Croton Pre-K School. Each reader will have three 20 minute sessions.

**Member Concerns:** none.

**Getting to Know You:** Joe Reagle told us that he was born in Greenville, PA in 1953, being child #4 out of 12 children. The family moved to New Castle in 1965, where Joe enrolled in the St. Mary's Parish School, where he was set upon by bullies and rescued by one of the Sisters. Joe graduated from NCSH in 1972. He served in the U.S. Navy and married Carolyn in 1977. He graduated from the NYU prosthetic program, and did his residency in Phoenix, AZ. He is certified in orthotics. The Reagles returned to New Castle in 1990 to open Custom Artificial Limb, where they make braces. Joe joined Rotary in 1990, under the sponsorship of Young Rick Rentz.

The Reagles have three children. Joe likes Sandra Bullock movies. He thanked the Club for our participation in the Calendar Sale project, which he chaired. We had 100% participation and will net a \$13,800 profit.

We will also be raising pennies for Polio Plus.

**"In the News:"** (Nick Binder drafted Dennis Alduk as his acting deputy) Sean Kanan's recipes are appearing in various magazines; and his father, Dale Perelman, paid.

Happy Dollars: Sid Shenkan for Joe Reagle's good job as Calendar chair. Eileen Borrelli for three Job Fair Expos coming up. She told us that employment is now picking up locally. Rocco Favorite, for the mild winter; Rocky Massaro, for his daughter's missionary trip to Bolivia; Gayle Young, for the Opera Valentine's Day fundraiser at the Cathedral on February 11, which will be a dinner dance.

**Program:** Charlene Troggio, co-owner of Breakaway Tours, gave us interesting insights into the new trends in tourism. There will be a Travel Show that her firm sponsors at the New Englander, on March 23. There will be many vendors, including the big tour companies and cruise lines, as well as local travel companies.

Her firm runs 200 motor coach trips each year. They are a full-service travel company, with lots of their own personal travel experience. They help with all travel docs and help with cancelled flights and other snafus. The best beaches are in the Turks and Caicos Islands. The best cost right now is the Mexican Riviera (but don't leave the resort's compound).

### **Future Programs:**

February 6, 2012; Xaloy

February 13, Dayna Sear on the Manchester Craft Guild's proposal for Cascade Riverplex;

February 20, Farmers' Day at the Villa;

February 27, Colleen Chambers

**Thought for the Week:** From the PA Legal Intelligencer

"The Catholic Archdiocese of Philadelphia supplied a priest accused of

sexually abusing and assaulting young boys with an 'endless' supply of victims through assignments that involved ministering to youth, a Philadelphia prosecutor argued in court Monday (Jan. 16).

In an unprecedented step nationally, the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office has charged the priest's supervisor, the Catholic Archdiocese of Philadelphia's former personnel director for priests, Monsignor William Lynn, with two counts of endangering the welfare of a child and two counts of conspiracy for allegedly failing to protect children by moving two accused sexual offenders to new parish assignments"

The prosecutors allege that Msgr. Lynn reassigned more than 25 priests under his supervision who were accused of molesting young boys. They were sent to other places where they were able to continue sodomizing other children. Msgr. Lynn's lawyer has described the victims as "whiners, rats and wimps". Msgr Lynn is outraged that these victims have stepped forward to complain. Apparently, he thinks that to do so is "wimpy". Instead, they should have "man-upped" and suffered the pastoral predations in silence, like all the good little Catholic soldiers in previous generations. This is nothing new. The difference is that now victims are finally speaking out. Former Cardinal Anthony J, Babilacqua (who died this past week) had been accused of participating in covering up known sexual abuse by priests in his archdiocese. The late Cardinal Babilacqua was an ardent public opponent of the use of contraceptives by married couples, homosexual marriage and abortion. Apparently, these are sins that are not committed by priests, since sworn to celibacy, they may not marry their child victims; and since the victims are boys, the use of condoms does not constitute birth control; and there will never be an unwanted pregnancy to terminate. So where is the sin? The Church is preoccupied with the "family values" issues of sexual conduct between consenting adults, but has turned a blind eye to the plight of unconsenting child victims in its own schools and churches.

These prelates seem more concerned with the well being of the general unborn embryo population than they are with the welfare of their own living and breathing Catholic children.

**Respectfully submitted, Jonathan Solomon**