



**Towsontowne Rotary Club
Early Edition
Date: September 2, 2009**

Neil Young called the meeting to order at 7:15 a.m. and started the meeting off by leading us all in the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

The invocation was done by Ed Podowski.

Tanya Sher introduced the visiting guest, which are as follows:

- James Whitmore guest of Neil Young
- Patrick Reid guest of Linda Tice
- Tom Omah guest of Adam Spence
- Drew, Chef & owner of Nicely Catered guest of Gia Magliano
- Pat Pliachowski (soon to be new member) guest of Gia Magliano

Health & Wellbeing – Adam Spence stepped up to the plate for Lynne and started things rolling by asking Carl how his son was doing. Carl said that his son is doing better each day and is currently in rehabilitation. Carl also related an incident in which he tripped fell into his friend Betty Hill. She bumped her head but is ok, while Carl said he has bruises from the fall. Tiny Betty was not much of a cushion it seems. Let us say prayers for Carl as he is scheduled for a kidney operation on September 28. Our thoughts and good wishes will be with you Carl.

Sergeant at Arms – Rick Mowen started with a couple of vacation \$\$ for the gathering of happy bucks and that Curt has agreed to take on the duties of Sergeant at Arms in Rick's absence. A couple more Happy Birthday \$\$ from Ed Podowski and Jack Giacomo, who are celebrating their natal arrival in September. Jenifer Blair gave a couple for the 1st day of school for Boys' Latin; Mahmoud gave for safe travel; Diane for family and her 92 yo father. Neil gave a couple because he was happy to be back and thankful for Diane's taking custody though temporarily for him in his absence. Le was delighted that Sagar had joined us for breakfast – Sagar is a Season's cousin from Nepal and was the Ambulance teams' guide for their Nepal sojourn. Season was happy that Sagar was visiting him from Nepal. Linda Tice is celebrating her 12th Anniversary with PSA. Adam is now ensconced in his new "Dream" home and thanked Joe Tillman for his real estate expertise.

Wayne was happy that Richard Sunderland will be doing the Early Edition next week in Wayne's absence. Jo Martin gave \$\$ for her son to have a safe drive across country. Joe Tillman gave OC vacation \$\$\$. Andy gave \$\$ for Sagar and dancing lessons. Keith gave \$s in celebration of the football season and especially for Ohio State. Kathy gave "I am leaving early" dollars. Curt gave \$ just because. Rob Ketron gave a couple of \$2.00 bills that he wanted to buy back for the Rotary Foundation cause and for grandchildren, of which he has a few. He also imparted how Rotary changes lives by telling us about the generosity of Sally Schuller, first woman CEO of GE and outstanding Rotarian. Jane gave \$ and thanks for the 50/50. Carl gave \$ for Betty Hill who cushioned his fall after he had tripped. Gia gave happy children \$\$\$s. Dwight was just happy and Pat Pilachowski following in that fine Eastern European tradition gave a few happy dollars in hopes of helping to grease the skids for his application into Rotary and in recognition of New Jersey Rotarians. It seems that Cape May, NJ does not allow for visual clutter except for the sign that welcomes all to Cape May and that is home of the Cape May Rotary Club. Now that is clout.

Announcements: Jack asked Andy and Dwight to meet with him after today's meeting.

Neil reminded everyone that next week's meeting will be at Gia's business – Confetti's across the street.

Speaker: Jack Giacomo introduced Tim Fosbrink Director of Johnson Funeral Home. The topic of his talk was the importance of Pre-Planning. Most people give little thought to planning for their final days and the need to let your family know what you desire. He recommended that even though many family members maybe uncomfortable with talking about your funeral that it is important that they understand your final wishes. Do you want to be buried, cremated or your body donated to science. If you are considering donation it is not good enough that you have it listed on your driver's license. Tim recommended that you get it in writing and have it listed with the Anatomy Board of Maryland. It is important to look at the average cost and providing your family with the peace of mind factor.


Questions ranged from what is the process for donating the body to science, average cost and handling of the body which may have died because of a communicable disease.

The average cost of a funeral today is about \$6,000 (preparation of the body, visitation time and viewing) the burial at the cemetery is probably another \$2,000. The average cost of cremation is about \$2,000 and that includes visitation and

viewing. In the State of Maryland ashes can be scattered anywhere, however, if it is a public venue i.e., Pimlico Racetrack, you would need to get permission from the managing firm.

While many people have designated that they want to donate their body on their driver's license there is no assurance that this would occur and it is best to have a contract with the Anatomy board. They would insure that the body would be picked up and after six months the remains are cremated and the family has the option of having the ashes returned to them for disposal or having the ashes disposed in a general ceremony for those not picked up.

Communicable Diseases – Funeral homes treat all bodies as if they died of communicable disease for the safety of the family as well as the staff.

50/50 Winner – Ed Podowski won the draw, but not the pot. The K  was selected and Ed got a bottle of wine.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:27 a.m.