The Navigator

The Exchange Club of Greater Newburyport
P.O. Box 31, Newburyport, MA 01950
Meetings 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 6 p.m. at Starboard Galley
January 1, 2020
www.exchangeclubofgreaternewburyport.org

President-Jane Collins, Secretary-Stuart Deane, Treasurer-Barbara Griffith, President Elect-Steve DiCamillo
Newsletter Editor-Stuart Deane

Speaker gives overview of local Early Intervention; Members log in to District Education Conference

By Stuart Deane

The speaker at the January 19 meeting was Linda Schaeffer of the West Newbury Early Intervention program, which deals with medical and developmental issues in children from birth to age three.

Referrals, said Linda, come from such as hospitals, schools, the police, the Department of Children and Families (DCF), and even families themselves.

Issues include premature birth, cerebral palsy, Down's syndrome, development delays, insecure attachments between parent and child, trauma… Staff members at the facility include nurses, educators and assorted physical and psychological therapists.

"We like as early an intervention as possible to pave the way for a better future," said Linda.

She cited the example of a volatile 22-year-old father whose over-the-top responses were impacting his 2-year-old son. It was difficult, but staff members developed a relationship over time with the father to the point that he came to see the impact of his behaviors on his son. "It was like a lightbulb went on over his head," commented Linda.

"I truly believe we are making a world of difference," she concluded. "I'm an optimist."

Following "graduation" from this program, clients move on to Head Start, pre-school and special education.

The club will explore what role we might play in support of this program.

N.E. District Education Conference

On Saturday, January 23, members Jane Collins, Steve DiCamillo, Stu Deane and Mike Viccaro attended a Zoom district conference.

Past-National President Bob Harb opened the meeting with an Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

District President Sharon Birchall welcomed all attendees.

National President Kathy Mize, from her home in Florida, thanked attendees "for all you do for Exchange."

Executive Director Tracey Edwards, from headquarters in Toledo, after outlining the structure of Exchange, added, "I hope your journey in Exchange fulfills your life."

Past-District President Eric LaFleur outlined ideas for fundraising in the digital age.

Bob Harb ended the conference with an overview of meeting through Zoom.

Bob Harb

DISTRICT
Sharon Birchall

Kathy Mize

Tracey Edwards

Speaker View
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Bruce, Jane, and Haley
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Mike Taggart
Stephanie
Joe Dudek
Steve Di Camillo
Paul Robey
Jane Collins
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Ferdinand Baez
Julie Giordano
Rick Blain
Eric
iPad
Joe Burns
Mute
Stop Video
Participants
Chat
Share Screen
Record
Reactions
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