

Who doesn't remember where they were and what they were doing eleven years ago this morning? We all do, of course. And I remember where I was at noon today, too. I was one of eleven (including our speaker) who showed up on the eleventh of September on the eleventh anniversary of 9/11 for the Penfield Rotary Club's weekly meeting.

And perhaps because there were so few of us, President CHRISTIAN not only presided (cuz that's what presidents do) but he also greeted everyone, led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation. Our new president is clearly a Renaissance man of many talents.

Visiting briefly from Fairport Rotary was RUTH CRONKWRIGHT who gave a short pep talk about the Hike for Haccamo upcoming on October 13. RUTH also left letters and fliers which you will find as attachments to your Penwheel.

2+2+2 was short on food this month but all dutifully chipped in including our speaker.

And speaking of food, PRESIDENT CHRISTIAN defends his Chili Cookoff title this Saturday at the Town Park Amphitheater. Stop by from 12-4 for Tastin' the Blues.

HAPPY DOLLARS

NELS celebrated attendance by 70+ hikers last week on the Pioneer Trail at Gloria Drive.

MARY ANN contributed \$2 for a rare BRUCE sighting.

BRUCE kicked in \$2 only because I didn't have \$3.

DAVE STURTZ gave \$2 but this reporter didn't hear the reason and forgot to ask.

MARIE celebrated her 29th birthday...AGAIN!

JACK WETZEL was just happy. I don't know how but I strongly suspect he KNEW

JUDGE LOMENZO would pull his ticket in NELS' Swindle, er, I mean raffle.

PROGRAM

Longtime Penfield resident and Town Justice for 17 years, JUDGE JOHN LOMENZO was our speaker.

JUDGE LOMENZO finds the size of our town to be ideal from a justice standpoint: large enough to have interesting cases, but not so large that the court is overwhelmed by the volume of cases, such as Greece or Irondequoit might see. He has court sessions scheduled two days a week, one for arraignments and the other for hearings and/or trials. Felony cases before him only involve preliminary proceedings before they are passed on to higher courts. He does hear misdemeanor cases with a maximum of one year incarceration as well as lesser violations and small claims up to \$3000. He pointed out that plea bargaining is an absolute necessity. Without it our courts would be overwhelmed.

The budget for the Penfield Town Court for 2011 was \$203,351. Gross revenues brought in by the courts were \$334,185. However the town kept only \$123,454, the rest going to the state or county. That leaves a shortfall of some \$79,000 to be made up by the taxpayers.

JUDGE LOMENZO and JUDGE MULLEY adjudicated 4418 cases last year; 387 criminal, 52 small claims, 3603 non-criminal traffic cases, 183 landlord-tenant cases and 29 town ordinance cases.

JUDGE LOMENZO closed with a couple of actual cases he had decided to illustrate how he feels he is able to make a positive difference in people's lives.

He then showed a complete lack of judicial impartiality by picking JACK WETZEL'S ticket. JACK was sitting right next to him and their sons were classmates at PHS. Coincidence? This reporter thinks not. Suspicious? I leave that to others. Perhaps a judicial ethics investigation is in order. I'm just sayin'.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

9/18 GSE TEAM OPPORTUNITY NEXT APRIL: EASTERN SWEDEN AND LATVIA. Speaker: Rotary District Chair John Kenny

9/25 TRIBUTE TO JOHN CARLEVATTI

10/9 NUCOR HOUSE: Meeting there: 265 Embury Road

10/28 EUCHRE TOURNAMENT at The Legacy

Volunteers next week:

Greeter: Chris Kausch

Reporter: Bill Pethick

Invocation: Joe Best

Pledge: Don Milton

Pick up Joe: Marie Cinti