

Rotary Club of Englewood, NJ

Spoke

Presiding: Lisa Wisotsky

Recorder: Jennie Katsaros

Date: 11/17/20

Visiting Rotarian – Bonnie Sinower **Guest—**PDG Matts Ingemanson

Inspiration: Joseph Sobanelli read a poem, Smile by Day, to help us get through these difficult times.

Club Toast: Bonnie toasted the Englewood Rotary Club for continuing to share friendship and fellowship in the “squares” that Zoom provides.

Program: Speaker introduced by Charlotte Bennet Schoen

Our speaker, Matts Ingemanson, is a Past District Governor of Rotary District 7230, New York and Bermuda. He is the chairman and Founding Member of Grassroots Peacemaking. Since 2014 he has participated in different peacemaking discussions including the following conflicts: North and South Korea, China and Taiwan, Russia and Ukraine. Serbia and Kosovo, Israel and Palestine, and Indian and Pakistan.

The philosophy of the Grassroots Peacemaking organization is: “Everyone Wins with Peace! Everybody Loses with War!”

There are 4 steps to the Grassroots Peacemaking Method:

1. Agree on Philosophy: Everybody wins with Peace! Everybody Loses

with War!

2. Agree on a Vision: The parties agree to develop a win-win vision of how peace will work for everybody's benefit.

3. Agree on a Mission: The parties agree to develop a mission to implement the vision they have agreed on.

4. Take Action: The parties implement the agreed mission.

These 4 steps will help the negotiating parties to stay on the same page.

Matts explained that it is in every country's self-interest to live in peace and develop economic opportunities. This will keep their smartest and best educated people from leaving. It is a big challenge to develop peace and prosperity between populations that hate each other. It will be in their self interest to agree on a common philosophy and vision of peace and prosperity on a win-win basis.

Polio Plus is part of the Grassroots Peacekeeping Project and wars have stopped for children to be vaccinated.

Matts agreed to send us his video presentation. Also, numerous websites dedicated to this Grassroots Organization are available.

Announcements

Upcoming Service Projects:

Coat drive, drop off at Secil.

Gift cards, BFC. Details to come.

Toy Drive. Locations to come.