

**Englewood Rotary Club – March 2, 2021**

**Meeting Location:** ZOOM

**Presiding:** Lisa Wisotsky

**Recorder:** Mitch Schonfeld

**Birthdays/Anniversaries:** None noted

**Visiting Rotarians and Guests:** Beverly Heiner-Rivera, John Cosgrove, Bonnie Sirower, Mike Wittry—all are Rotarians who took part in the presentation.

**Announcements:**

Tuesday, May 11<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM will be our Virtual Awards Dinner. Four Honorees will be announced at our March 9<sup>th</sup> Club meeting.

Todd Claytor is requesting volunteers to help with the Shop Rite project. If there are sufficient volunteers we can have a rotation of once every six weeks a different volunteer collects the donated food.

**Our District Gov. visit is next week March 9<sup>th</sup>. A large turnout is encouraged.**

Charlotte gave words of inspiration by connecting Women's History Month with Peace work and efforts to have clean water and sanitation. Charlotte noted that in places where there is no water, there is no peace: children take long journeys to bring water back to their villages, keeping them out of school, preventing work in the fields, and subjecting the girls to rape. Lisa noted that her son's school read A Walk to Water, about the impact water has on peace, girls' education, health. Lisa said that after reading that book, she said "Now, I get what Rotary is".

**Program:** Mike Jacobs introduced the team of Beverly, John and Bonnie who reported on the Juticalpa Roatan Island water project in Honduras. Roatan is an island about 30 miles off coastal Honduras, with a population of 100,000. The village of Juticalpa has about 750 residents, almost all who live proudly, but in poverty. Most work in tourism or fishing. There is a Water Board and one well that distributes water to 60% of homes. A project is being planned to build a well with a distribution system to serve the remaining 40%. A new well will be drilled on land already donated. Residents have volunteered to do much of the manual labor. Families will contribute \$10 per month to sustain the

distribution. Rotarian volunteers are welcome to come assist. The initial budget is \$66K, but after it was recommended to do additional filtration at each of the homes/buildings, the cost is closer to \$80K. Both the well and the pipe distribution system will be chlorinated. At the final location, there will be installed either a bio-sand filter (cost \$150), which lasts indefinitely, filters about 10 gallons per hour but must be operated daily, (thus not good for school buildings and other non residences) or a Soyer I filter (\$25) with a moderate life span due to wear and tear of parts.

Our members asked many questions, the answers to which are;  
The concrete tank is earthquake proof  
Chlorine is dripped into the well and piping system  
The cost of becoming a sponsor to the project is at the discretion of each club.  
The male residents do want their girls not to have to fetch water, but instead, go to school.

The Fair Lawn Sunrise Club and a California club are already sponsors, and several other clubs in our District are considering sponsorship. An application to the R I Foundation is being developed so that the project can be funded with a combination of Foundation funds and club sponsorships. At the conclusion of today's meeting the International Project Committee will meet and make a recommendation to be considered at the March 9<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. Mike Jacobs, who has lived in Honduras is strongly encouraging that we sign on to the project.

During Happy \$ many members made pledges to the project and Jackie G. suggested one way for the club to support a possible sponsorship would be to donated a month of Happy \$ to the cause. This and other suggestions will be discussed at the Bd. Mtg.

**Attendance:** 30 of 71 42%