

# The Roundtable

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**A**nd it came to pass that it was my turn to give a classification talk, said club vice president **Ken Nagle**, as he served as President *Pro Tempore* in June's absence.

But first, he gaveled the business of the club to order. He introduced his guest, Harvey Chessley. **Jeff Plourde** reported a gross total of \$34,000 from auction activity, with about \$22,000-\$24,000 net. He reminded the members to pick up items they bid for and won. (Ken Nagle's trip to Italy is a work in progress.) Jeff thanked **Lisa, Tom, Karen** and **Caroline** for their huge help in performing the tasks that made the auction a success. Lisa led applause for Jeff's chairmanship of the auction committee.

David Zelz travels to Cape Cod tonight to assist the Audubon Society in a rescue operation. The story, from the Massachusetts Audubon Society: most sea turtles (aside from the leatherback) are ectothermic, meaning that their body temperature is regulated by the temperature of the water around them. As winter approaches, the water of Cape Cod Bay slowly decreases, and sea turtles should make their way south to warmer tropical waters.

However, each year since the late 1970s, some number of juvenile turtles does not make the journey in time. Trapped by the hook of the Cape, the turtles become disoriented. When the water reaches about 50° by mid-November, the turtles are too cold to eat, drink, or swim, and become "cold-stunned."

Unable to move, these turtles are at the mercy of the winds and currents. When strong winds blow in from the north or west, the turtles can be pushed up onto the beach and left behind by the receding tide.

But these cold stunned turtles are lucky. Since 1979, Wellfleet Bay staff and a corps of over 250 volunteers have patrolled the beaches of Cape Cod, on the lookout for cold-stunned turtles, which are rapidly transported to the New England Aquarium for evaluation and rehabilitation.

Jeff Plourde recounted two funny stories that occurred while he was ringing the bell for the Salvation Army on Friday. **Paul Miragliuolo** could have shared some stories if he had remembered to show up for his assigned time slot. He confessed to remembering as he watched the TV newscast that evening about the ringing. **Greg Urban** said he enjoyed the bell ringing, but also had a Sad\$ for the death of the head receptionist at the Maine

Veterans Home. Our other Greg, **Greg Jamison**, wore his audio red hat for the last time this season, saying that the \$670 was our second highest total. He reported that the friendly competition with the Bangor Noon Rotary was moot; they didn't do bell ringing this year.

**Jennifer Khavari** gave a "I Will Not Be Here Next Week" dollar because she will be celebrating a family tradition. "It is my 'baby's' twelfth birthday, and we celebrate each person's birthday with breakfast in bed."

"Bring him here for breakfast," someone suggested.

### **Ken Nagle's Journey**

Ken was born in Boston and lived in New Jersey and New Hampshire. He was 10 when he and his family moved to Maine. Holden seemed like a good choice: his mother has roots dating back to the founders of the town.

Ken attended Tufts University with an eye on engineering, and got a master's degree at Syracuse University. He worked for General Electric, but realized engineering was not going to be his life choice for work. Returning to Maine, he worked for his father, picking up where he left off when he did the same while he was in middle school. His father later sold the wholesale part of the business to a stiff competitor, Pine Tree Trading.

Eventually, Ken started a network of small stores concentrating on tobacco sales (he calls them "vice" products). There are 23 Cigaret Shopper stores in Maine.

"I tell people my occupation is a tax collector," he said. Cigarette and cigar sales generate \$60,000 per week in sales taxes, \$5-\$6 million in annual tax revenue.

Ken was married in 1996 and has five children. Two are in college, one in middle school, one attends high school and a daughter is in China (not Maine). "We attended a lot of basketball games and piano lessons," he said.

One of Ken's hobbies is studying and learning languages. His Spanish came in handy when he and representatives from his company toured the cigar industry in Nicaragua in 2014. He showed slides from seeds being planted to crop harvesting to the rolling of the leaves to produce cigars. Between 120,000 and 150,000 workers are in the industry. Those rolling the leaves can produce about 200 cigars a day.

"Nicaraguans are passionate about producing cigars," Ken said.

*Les Myers- December 13, 2018*

