



Waunakee Rotary Club

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As a caregiver for the elderly, Jennie Nelson saw personally clients who were victims of scam artists. So the Lodi resident decided to volunteer as a fraud fighter with AARP.

At the July 8 Rotary Club meeting, Jennie told club members what measures they can take to protect themselves from fraud and identity theft.

"You don't have to be a victim when it comes to fraud," she said. "All you have to be is an activist and call the right people."

Jennie said 18- to 29-year-olds are targets of scam artists most often, and that's because they spend the most time on the Internet and in chat rooms where they give away information scam artists can use to open credit card accounts in their names. All that is needed is a name and a date of birth, Jennie said.

People age 65 and older are targeted often but report it less, she said, noting that they often don't want their children to know they've been victims. Also, victims' family members are often the ones committing the theft, she said.

Jennie said credit card reports are available free of charge four times per year and provided the number to call – (877) 322-8228. It's important to review your credit, she said, to see if any credit cards have been issued in your name.

Jennie said it's important to protect your personal information. First, be aware when completing credit card transactions in public. Also, don't carry your social security number in your wallet.

Keep personal information in a secure place, away from a window where thieves can copy important information such as credit card numbers.

When leaving mail for the postal carrier to pick up, leave the red flag down. That flag is a signal to thieves

that important documents are in your box.

If you're away, have someone check your mail. People can steal those pre-approved credit card offers and open an account in your name with only a signature. Jennie suggested getting on a no-call list and a stop direct mail list.

Also, she suggested shredding documents and avoiding junk mail or pop-ups on the Internet.

Some warning signs of identity theft include: receiving no mail delivery or an unsolicited change of address; receiving credit cards you did not apply for; being denied credit; increased insurance rates or mortgage.

If you are a victim of fraud: file a police report; request a credit report; place a fraud alert on your accounts; and contact the Wisconsin Office of Privacy Protection.

Other items:

- Those going on the pontoon boat ride should meet at Rich Murphy's at 4 p.m., or at Danny Paul's at 5:30 p.m. In the event of bad weather, meet at Fitz's on the Lake at 7:30 p.m.

- John Cullen said he would like to see more participants in the Service Club Olympics. It's a good way to network with others, he said.

- Dan Statz said more help is needed at WaunaFest Saturday night. Phil said the pizza oven will be at Piggly Wiggly beforehand to practice on.

- President Brent Ziegler said help is needed at the WaunaFest Run's water station.

- Linda Olson said help is needed on the float the Saturday of WaunaFest weekend. Also, people are needed for the parade.

- Connie Blau said a couple more volunteers are needed for the Senior Picnic.

OFFICERS

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PHIL WILLEMS, CLUB SECRETARY
BOB PULVERMACHER, RECORDING SECRETARY • JOY MCMERTY, TREASURER

DIRECTORS

ELLEN SCHAAF • JOHN CULLEN • LINDA OLSON

Calendar of Events:

- July 13, *pontoon cruise on Lake Wisconsin.*
- July 14, *senior citizens picnic*
- July 22-25, *WaunaFest*
- July 26-27, *Service Club Olympics*

Guests: Mike Jasinski, guest of Shelley Moffatt; Sam Ballweg, guest of Ken Ballweg.

Visiting Rotarians: Ben Hobbins, Downtown.

Birthdays: July 12, Jim Tubbs; July 14, Robert Tucker; July 21, Travis Heiser.

Anniversaries: July 17, Allan and Lynn Dassow; July 17, Roberta Baumann and Tim Brubaker.

Prayers: July 15, Leonard Allen; July 22, Pat Durden.

Programs: July 15, Larry Hooker, WaunaFest progress report, update; July 22, Margie Groom, Friendship Force Wisconsin; July 29, Classification talks, Roxanne Johnson and Becky Ohan; Aug. 5, Club Assembly.

Greeters: July 15, Jim Brussell and Jonny Buroker; July 22, Kathy Cefalu and Scott Cochems; July 29, John Cullen and Al Dassow.

Make up meetings online

It's easy to make up a meeting on the Internet. The site is www.rotaryclubone.org. Print out the form and give it to Phil Willems, the club secretary.