



Service Above Self

Rotary Club of Bullhead City eBulletin

Tuesday, August 19, 2008

Club Web Site

Editor: Art Harrington
If you have any comments or questions, email the editor.

Upcoming Events

Club Christmas Party
Dec 18 2008

Burro BBQ
Apr 17 2009 - Apr 18 2009

Installation Dinner 09-10
Jun 11 2009

News

Quote of the Week - Who Said It?

Thought for the Week - Who Said It?

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It's all about the kids
by Art Harrington

Backpacks bring the smiles

Club members were on hand at five elementary schools on Monday this week to help distribute the backpacks containing school supplies, dental hygiene and other goodies. A highlight of their first day at school, the backpacks we distributed also contained a very popular Phoenix Suns cap for each child.



Legacy is there
by Art Harrington



Mt. View kids hear Nancy

Kindergarten and first graders at Mt. View Elementary School listen to Nancy Mongeau tell them about the contents of the backpacks they are about to receive, along with the importance of brushing their teeth regularly. Nancy is VP of Program Development of the BHHS Legacy Foundation, with whom we partner on this project.

Teachers at Mt. View shared with the Rotarians the fact that a surprising number of their students live in older motels in the area, and some live with their families on the riverbanks. Longtime residents comment that not much has changed here in Bullhead City in this respect over the past 40 years. BC always seems to have an element of our population that desperately struggles to survive.

Distributing the backpacks
by Art Harrington

Lining up for the packs

One of the teachers calls up her students to receive their backpacks.



Joe Heath, Ed Marin, Sharon & Art Harrington are seen helping to distribute the packs to the kids.

Our partners

by Art Harrington



Kiwanis also partners with us

While the good-natured ribbing always accompanies our joint ventures, one of the strengths of our community is the willingness of Kiwanians to partner with Rotarians in this and other projects that benefit the kids - and make this a better place to live.

This week at Rotary

by Art Harrington

Club Forum - continued

We will hold another Club Forum this Thursday, as we continue to work our way toward adopting a budget for this year that will accomplish the things we want to do, while being a balanced budget that everyone can support.



A key issue we will be discussing will be additional club fund-raising methods for the club. Stephanie challenged us last week to each come up with one workable idea for a new fund-raiser for our club this year. With loss of the auction we shared with the Laughlin club, we have become dependent on a single fund-raiser: our Burro BBQ. We either have to cut back on the good our club has been doing, or we have to figure out how to raise more funds.

Our goal this week is to come up with and adopt one or more new fund-raisers for our club, and set a goal for how much we will try to raise through this. We need your ideas and input!

Also influencing the proposed budget will be how we are progressing on collecting delinquent dues and our Burro Sheet ads. We have some major accounts receivable. We will have an update Thursday on our progress.

We can accomplish great things this year - but we need your input and help to do it.

And the winner is...

by Art Harrington



Congratulations to Corky!

It was announced this week that our Corky Cornell is the winner of the Rotary District 5490's Preregistration Drawing.

By pre-registering for the next District Conference, to be held at the Prescott Resort on May 15-18, 2009, Corky's name was entered into a drawing for a free Conference Registration (value: \$185).

Our club is looking forward to taking a large group to this conference.

RI centennial convention

by Art Harrington

Historic celebration in Birmingham



Be a part of history when Birmingham, England, hosts the 100th Rotary International Convention, June 21-24, 2009, at the National Exhibition Centre, Europe's busiest exhibition hall.

Rotarians will celebrate the possibilities of Rotary on a grand scale, with inspirational plenary sessions and informative breakout sessions showcasing how Rotary makes dreams real for children the world over.

Birmingham is a modern, pedestrian friendly city that still retains traces of its medieval and Industrial Revolution-era roots. With more canals than Venice, Birmingham offers 35 miles of waterways for boat rides. Convention goers can choose from a variety of international cuisines, in addition to traditional pub fare, such as shepherd's pie.

British Rotarian hosts are planning a series of special events, including a kickoff parade, an evening concert and fireworks in Cannon Hill Park, and exclusive access to Warwick Castle, one of the world's best-preserved medieval castles. Nestled in the West Midlands, Birmingham is an ideal starting point to explore the Cotswolds, home to Oxford University and Shakespeare's birthplace, Stratford-upon-Avon. London is a 90-minute train ride away. Wales, Scotland, and Ireland are also easily accessible, as are such European capitals as Paris, Madrid, and Lisbon.

Birmingham will prove to be one of the most accessible conventions in recent memory, with both the convention venue and major hotels just minutes from the airport.

Sharon and I are already registered for Birmingham. Several other couples from our Bullhead City Rotary Club are also seriously considering attending this convention in England. Why not plan on joining us?

Get the latest information and register for the convention at

www.rotaryconvention2009.com/

Saving the children

by Art Harrington



Overcoming child mortality

- a high priority this year

RI President-elect Dong Kurn Lee has motivated Rotarians to take action in decreasing the world's child mortality rate. "More than 26,000 children die each day from preventable diseases such as pneumonia, measles, and malaria," he said.

One of the greatest challenges is that there simply are not nearly enough doctors to go around in many parts of the world. Mozambique has 3 doctors for every 100,000 people, and mortality rates are high for both newborns and women giving birth.

Admirably, midwives and other women in Mozambique are being trained to perform Caesarean sections and other types of surgery to counteract a severe shortage of doctors. As the result of receiving this training, they are saving the lives of a great number of children and women.

In 2004 the Mozambique government initiated a program to train a group of women - some already nurses or midwives, some with only a high school education - to perform Caesareans, hysterectomies and other operations.

While they may be the world's most unlikely obstetricians, these young women who are defying traditional medical training and cultural barriers, are convincingly beating the odds in their country by preventing the deaths of women and children at childbirth.

Rotary is involved, as usual, and is encouraging Rotarians around the world to support such efforts, as well as to find other

such innovative solutions to help overcome child mortality.

As President D.K Lee has said, "Our job is a simple one. It is saving lives with our hearts and our minds and our souls. And if in 2008-09 every one of us does this job well, at the end of the year we will all have achieved something wonderful."

River fun this weekend
by Art Harrington

Ye gotta Regatta!



Thousands of water enthusiasts are expected to participate in the colorful and popular "Pirates of the Colorado River Regatta" here in Bullhead City this Saturday. Any pirate-decorated device that will stay afloat - from inner tubes to canoes, including kayaks and all other non-motorized floats, will be accepted in the competition this weekend. Organized last year by the City of Bullhead City, this year the Laughlin's casino resorts have hopped on board to help sponsor this event that is clearly a winner.

"We watched Bullhead City put together this great event last year, and we could see the tremendous potential for growth," said Laughlin Tourism President Sean Hammond. "We believe Laughlin's visitors are going to love getting out on the river and having some fun, so the resorts are very happy to partner with Bullhead City to make this event rock the river!"

"Pirates" will sail off at 9 am at the Bullhead Community Park on Highway 95 (just across from Harrah's Laughlin) and race down the river to Rotary Park. In 2007, more than 900 floaters participated. This year, pre-registration numbers are indicating 2,500 or more floaters will participate in the floating party. All vessels must be out of the water by 2:50 p.m. on the day of the event and be ready for the awards ceremony which will be held immediately following the competition at 3 p.m. Participants had to register by August 4. Kayaks and canoes are planning to join the fun and race a longer course from Davis Dam to Rotary Park.

Murphy Broadcasting, also a major sponsor of the Regatta, will be providing music, broadcasting from pontoon boats along the float route.

To get everyone in the spirit, a "Ye Gotta Regatta" pre-welcome reception will be held on Friday at Community Park from 5-10 p.m., with vendors, costume contests, scavenger hunts and dancing. Participants can get their inner tubes aired up, judge in the "Best Bartender in the Tri-State" contest and purchase pirate souvenirs. There will also be a scavenger hunt for children.

Saturday morning's events will start with the kayak race from Davis Camp. The inner tube

float will follow. There will be three launching points to choose from: Laughlin's Fisherman's Access Park, the beach at Harrah's Laughlin and Bullhead City's Community Park.

Raising funds for B&G Clubs

by Art Harrington



Boys & Girls Clubs Benefit

The Aquarius Casino Resort has announced they will sponsor a **Fiesta & 10K Give Away** to benefit the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Colorado River.

The gala event is set for Friday, Sept. 5. Fiesta tickets are going for \$40, which includes unlimited food & margaritas. A 10K ticket, costing \$100, will give you one chance at \$10,000, plus one entry to the Fiesta. A \$500 Mazatlan package, a \$750 Cabo package and a \$1,000 Cancun package are also offered to those who fill reserved tables, purchase advertising and buy 10K tickets, according to the formulas.

For those who want to travel to Laughlin from outside the area for this event, the Aquarius is also offering a special \$29.99 room rate with the purchase of a Fiesta ticket.