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Editor Joni Condit

If you have any comments or questions, please contact the editor.

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Critical Path Institute: local non-profit innovating for public health

Posted by Dorothy Kret on May 14, 2012



Dr. Debra Hanna joined the Critical Path Institute as Associate Director for the Critical Path for TB Drug Regimens consortium June of 2011. In this role, Debra leads a consortium of scientists spanning academia, industry, patient advocacy and non-profit groups focused on enabling the development of novel TB drug regimens by implementing innovative regulatory sciences tools and approaches. Prior to joining C-Path, Debra was a project team leader for multiple drug discovery and development programs as well as a laboratory head for 10 years within the Antibacterials Research Unit at Pfizer Worldwide Research and Development. During her time at Pfizer, Debra led a dynamic research team focused on understanding pre-clinical pharmacodynamic and pharmacokinetic (PK/PD) relationships for novel Antibacterial agents spanning early discovery to Phase 2 development. She championed the use of in silico PK/PD modeling to drive the optimal compound and dose selection for new Antibacterial agents. Debra's passion for Tuberculosis research began during her postdoctoral fellowship at the University of California, San Diego where she studied the impact of virulence genes for survival of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* in the host lung. She received her Ph.D. in Microbiology from North Carolina State University and her B.S. in Microbiology and Immunology from Colorado State University.

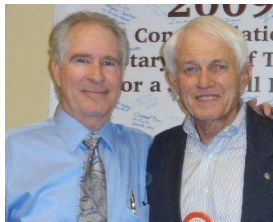
In addition to her professional titles, Debra led the Pfizer Women's Leadership Network supporting over 900 women spanning entry level roles to executive titles. In 2010, she was awarded the Leading Women™ iWIN award honoring extraordinary commitment and leadership by an individual recognized as a champion of women's professional development and career advancement within her organization and its internal women's network.

Mystery Editor May 9

Posted by Ed Mystery on May 14, 2012

President JONI CONDIT opened the meeting with news of Past President GEORGE HAWKE (1969-70) passing. George sponsored over 50 members in his many years of membership. A man that will truly be missed! After a minute of silence for George Hawke, JIM RONSSTADT gave us a moving Invocation. Our Pledge and Song was lead by CLEM LESLIE. Clem led the song like a real Choir Director. ERNIE MINCHELLA was seen trying to imitate Clem, but in an Italian Style. Past President GARY "IVORY KEYS" GETHMANN, accompanied on the grand piano to the tune "America the Beautiful".

JEFF RONSSTADT, Gramarian, introduced our Guests and Visitors. Jeff fined himself for pronouncing the names in another language. Sergeant at Arms, MATT BLAIR, is still trying to collect the \$200. Four birthdays were celebrated: TOM BROWNING, BRIAN GOLDSTEIN, MIKE SAGARA, and KEN TUCKER. None of the "birthday boys" admitted their age, but contributed money to benefit Rotary.



Past President, ROGER HARWELL (2005-2006) introduced NEW/RETURNING young member AL GROVE. Al said all of the good things Roger said about him were true and all of the bad things were half true. Welcome back Al Grove! Sergeant at Arms, MATT BLAIR and member JAY PARKER, raffled a number of great items, including a Navy Seal Flag and three Navy Seal Books courtesy of our guest speaker, Jeff, "Swimmer Dude" Utsch.

Three announcements were given raising cheers! LEE & Judy AITKEN are ready to travel from L.A. to D.C. for the Run for the Wall to honor our Veterans and help injured vets and schools along the way. JOE "The Voice" NEVIN thanks all for the support of Goodwill Industries last week. KEITH COBB thanked all who sold \$1800 worth of tickets at Casino Del Sol on May 5th. He tried to copy MATT BLAIR'S accent --Keith, keep your own accent.

President Joni introduced DARRELL "many talents" STEWART, who told us that our beloved Charlie Meaker had his surgery delayed. Hopefully his important surgery will occur in the next several weeks -- in the meantime, give him calls and send cards. Darrell went on to present our speaker, Jeff Utsch, who's topic was "Navy Seals - An Instructor's Perspective". His "Hard Men do Hard Things" story of their grueling training had us all thinking about these soldiers' sacrifices to keep us free. Success and tragedy stories were told. Our soldiers who were killed gave us their all--their lives--for our freedom. President Joni ended the meeting with a Toast and a Poem as a tribute to our friend, GEORGE HAWKE.

May 20th "Wilderness of Rock Trail" Hike

Posted by Thomas Andrews on May 14, 2012



The good news is that we have our next really fun hike planned for Sunday, May 20th up in the Catalinas... the "Wilderness of Rock Trail". We will meet early in the morning near the intersection of Tanque Verde and Catalina Highway, then carpool to the top of Mt. Lemmon, and hike the trail.....but you'll have to read the "evite" on email to get the rest of the story!

The bad news is that we have so far been unsuccessful in securing additional reservations in the Grand Canyon for Spring of next year, so we will be developing a process for selecting the 20 who can go out of the 30 paid reservations we already have. We will be scheduling a meeting in the next few weeks to discuss the issue, as well as to plan our "conditioning" hikes in preparation for the Canyon. Again, watch the "evites" for more information!

Thailand was great.... interesting, exciting, exotic, etc., but Hot and HUMID. Weatherwise, Jewel and I are glad to be back in Arizona!

Volunteers Needed!

Posted by Joni Condit on May 14, 2012

This coming Saturday, May 19th, from 8:30 am to 6:30 p.m. we will have a car show booth at the S. Houghton Rd. Drag strip!

We need volunteers to man the booth for two hour shifts. Please let Keith Cobb know if and when you can work this important event to help us sell tickets to our October 13th Car Show!

Our Sponsors



How Well Do You Know Your Fellow Rotarian?

Posted by Joni Condit on May 14, 2012



Some people in life have a harder start in life than others. Some people think they have challenges never realizing how easy they have it. **Then there is Mike Sagara, who against all odds, managed to be a real success in life by every definition in spite of a truly hard start. But Mike doesn't complain about it and is very thankful for his life.** Mike was born in Chicago, Illinois on May 8, 1948. He was placed in a foster home to be adopted but he wasn't ever adopted. Mike lived in that foster home raised by an African-American family. Sadly, his foster father died at Mike's side of a heart attack when Mike was just three years old. If this wasn't tough enough, his foster mother died of breast cancer when he was twelve. **Mike went to live with his foster sister until he was 17, when he enlisted in the Army.**

Mike served with the US Army as a Medic from 1965-1968 stationed in Okinawa. When he returned stateside he started his college education at the University of Illinois, attending several colleges, and finally graduated from Illinois State University with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology. He initially was pre-med, but says his dream of medicine was thwarted when he flunked physics! As they say, bad things often lead to good things, and **he met his wife, Lynn, at the University of Illinois Research and Education Hospital where they were initially co-workers.** Mike was first an orderly and later promoted to a cardiovascular pump technician. Lynn earned her MPH and now works at Miracle Square. They married in 1971 and have been happily married for 41 years! **They have two sons, Eric (34) who lives in Newark as a Database Reporter for the Star-Ledger Newspaper, and Brad (29) who lives in Oakland and is a Data Analyst for Tango International and travels to underdeveloped countries.**

Mike says that he started his career in the pharmaceutical business for all of the wrong reasons! After he and Lynn moved to the Chicago suburbs, he met his neighbor who worked for Roerig, a pharmaceutical company. They became fast friends and Mike was in awe of all of his friend's perks (prizes, awards, trips, expense accounts, company car, etc.). Mike thought that was great, sought an interview, and managed to get hired by Lederle Laboratories, which ultimately after several mergers, was bought by **Pfizer**. After that, Mike returned to college to finish his degree, after which he and Lynn relocated to Arizona because Lynn's parents lived here. Mike was employed by Ayerst Labs, which after several mergers, was bought out by none other than, **Pfizer**. **Mike was apparently destined to work for Pfizer and today has been credited with 38 years of service!**

In spite of his rough start in life, Mike has never missed an opportunity to give back to his country and his community. He has served in major roles with the Boy Scouts of America. He served as the Green Fields Country Day School Board of Trustees for six years. **He has volunteered with the Red Cross from the early 1990's to present, primarily helping with disaster planning, helping families displaced by disaster (usually fire), and is currently the volunteer Public Affairs Officer and Volunteer Lead of Disaster Public Affairs! We are very fortunate that he joined the Rotary Club in 2009 and he continues to make a difference in our community!**



The President's Corner

Posted by Joni Condit on May 14, 2012

This past weekend we paid tribute to one of our longest standing members, George Hawke. He was paid the ultimate honor at his service, one that he would have greatly enjoyed, when each of his three children, four of his grandchildren, his brother, sister-in-law, and friends each professed their love and admiration. Many of the attendees were his long time Rotarian friends, some of whom were sponsored by George, who sponsored 52 in all. Perhaps the most important message from George's memorial was that a life well-lived is one that is filled with love of family, love of country, service to community, and faith. George was an exceptional example in each of these.

It did not seem coincidental that George manage to orchestrate the timing of his memorial service with the same weekend as the University of Arizona graduation. George loved all things red and blue. I hope that all of you who have children, grandchildren, or other special family members who graduated this past weekend were able to share some special time together. I think George "graduated" as well. At his service there was also much attention paid to George's late wife, Millie, and it was evident how much her family cherished her as well. To all the mothers in our club, wives of members, and especially our moms and mothers-in-law, I hope your Mother's Day was a special one. George never missed appreciating those special moms in his life.

Speaking of mothers, our wonderful Executive Director, Mary Laughbaum, left on Mothers Day with her beloved, Kent to head for parts unknown (although rumor has it that Ernie Minchella could be helpful where they are going) to celebrate their silver anniversary. She will be gone for several weeks. Arla Stader, our Administrative Assistant, may not be available at all times to assist because her husband, Orin, is quite ill and has been in and out of the hospital. Please be patient and if you need assistance, please give me a call and I will do my best to help you or will find the right person to do so.



May 16 Menu

Posted by Arla Stader on May 14, 2012

Menu: Rosemary Garlic Pork Loin ~ Rosemary Garlic Rubbed Slow Roasted Pork Loin, Green Chili Mashed Potatoes, Raisin-Cinnamon Demi Vegetables, Rolls and Butter, Doubletree Chocolate Chip Cookies served family style, Coffee, Decaf or Iced Tea

Vegetarian option, if requested in advance: Portabella Mushroom Napoleon ~ Layers of Grilled Portabella Mushrooms with a Roasted Corn Spicy Salsa and Topped with Fresh Herbs

Membership and Attendance

Posted by Arla Stader on May 14, 2012

Membership		Scholarship Cups	
Active Members	177	Cash Contributions	\$ 12.00
Active Members Attendance Exempt	49	Quarterly with Dues	\$ 230.00
Total Active Members	226	Total Scholarship Cups	\$ 242.00
Honorary Members	17		
Meeting Attendance May 9, 2012		Raffle	\$ 261.00
Active Members	112	Auction	\$ 360.00
Active Members AE	17		
Honorary Members	1		
Total Members Present	130		
Guests	12		
Guests of the Club	4		
Visiting Rotarians	2		
Total Meeting Attendance	148		

