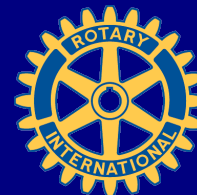


Issue No 3 Sep
2015-2016 Rotary year

Stephenville, Texas
Cowboy Capital of the World

Stephenville Rotary News



The 100% Club for Aug

Gene Atkinson
Jim Choate
Bob Collins
Bob Cranford
Matt Hallgarth
Chelsea Hansenb
Debbie Hummel
Joe McFarland
Rosemary Nagle
Curt Norman
Carrie Pack
C. J. Prater
R. Sanders
Vernon Sweeney

Intl Pres: K. R. Ravindran

Dist Gov: Troy Secord

President: Debbie Hummel

Pres Elect: Jerry Lee

Vice Pres: Matt Hallgarth

Sec : Joe McFarland

Treas: Jim Choate



Be a gift to the world

Happy Birthday!!

Chelsea Hansen	Sept 3
Jerry Balding	Sept 11
Moumin Quazi	Sept 16
Michelle McNutt	Sept 20

Published Monthly by the Stephenville Rotary Club, Jim Choate, Editor

City Secretary Cindy Stafford Addresses the Club

Cindy Stafford, Stephenville City Secretary, addressed the Club at a recent noon luncheon. Cindy began her presentation by talking about her past history with Stephenville dating back to her days at Tarleton State University in the 1970's. Even before TSU, Cindy recalled her rural upbringing in Olney, Texas. "My Daddy would not tolerate three words in his household: *Hate*, *Stupid*, and *Shut-up*." Good words of wisdom.

During her presentation, she pointed to three areas of economic endeavor which has sustained Stephenville through most of the last 100 years.

The first is *agriculture* which includes peanuts, dairies, and horse production.

The second is *industrial production* which includes names such FMC, Fibergrate, and Norton corporations.

The third area is *Tarleton State University* which over the years has grown from a 2-year school to a four year University with over 100 undergraduate and graduate degrees and over 11,600 students.

According to Cindy, Stephenville has grown and prospered over her time here through the steadfast wisdom of its leaders. She pointed to the recent trial of Eddie Ray Routh which drew world wide attention. "The professionalism and leadership of City and County officials was exemplary, and reflected great credit on the city and county."

Cindy emphasized that progress in the city government has not been without difficulty. She referenced the loss of some longtime city officials, including Rotarian Drew Wells who transferred to Buda, Texas.

Cindy closed by thanking the Rotary for a



Stephenville City Secretary Cindy Stafford spoke at a recent Rotary Club meeting.

long history of service to the community with projects such Flags, Meals on Wheels, and Water for Firemen.



Don't Forget Flags!

Labor Day

Patriot's Day

Sept 7

Sept 11

The First Four Rotarians

On February 23, 1905 Paul Harris and some acquaintances met in an office for what would become known as the first Rotary club meeting. Harris's desire for camaraderie among his business associates brought these four men together and eventually led to an international organization of service and fellowship.

Rotary's founder, **Paul Harris**, was born in Wisconsin on 19 April 1868. He was raised by paternal grandparents and attended the University of Vermont, Princeton and the University of Iowa. He was club President from 1910 to 1912 and remained a member of the Chicago Rotary Club until his death in January of 1947.

Gustavus Loehr was a mining engineer from Carlinville, Illinois. He was a Rotarian for only a few years, never holding an office at the club, but that first meeting was held in his office room 711 of the Unity Building in downtown Chicago.

Silvester Schiele, a coal dealer served as the club's first president in 1905. He was president of the Schiele Coal Company from 1902 until his retirement in 1939. He and Harris became lifelong friends and lived near each other on the south side of Chicago. He died in December 1945 and is buried near Harris at Mount Hope Cemetery.

Hiram Shorey, a tailor, served as recording secretary during the club's first year and remained a Rotarian for only a few years.

The Fifth Rotarian

The fifth Rotarian, **Harry Ruggles**, was a printer by trade and attended the second club meeting. He is known for introducing singing to the club. His printing company, H. L. Ruggles & Co printed the first issue of The National Rotarian and the first Rotary songbook. At the time of his death, he was an honorary member of seven clubs in addition to his home club in Chicago.

What would cause five men about the same age but of varying background—one a coal dealer, one a mining engineer, one a lawyer, one a tailor and one a printer—have in common to start a club? A club which would become an international organization with over 1.2 million members in 34,000 clubs. Today, these are men and women of every nationality, race, faith, and political and economic status. I believe that the answer lies in two simple precepts: **Rotary does good work in the world....by practicing Service Above Self.**



Assistant District Governor (ADG) Burton Smith spoke to the Club about membership — one of the important pillars of Rotary.

At a recent noon luncheon meeting, ADG Burton Smith spoke to the Club. He emphasized that the long term longevity of any organization requires continual emphasis on recruiting new members. He went on to say that membership is one of four essential pillars of any successful Rotary Club. Other pillars include Programs, Projects and Financing.

Burton described a successful recruiting plan as a blueprint that is written with realistic attainable goals. It should identify potential members and include a written invitation to those selected potential members. Finally it should include a plan to retain those new members.

Prospective new members will likely come from the millennial generation. This generation is the biggest in US history comprising 92.0 million born between 1980 and 2000 between 18 and 35 years of age. As a sector they are unemployed or underemployed with about 60% with jobs. However 84% want to be a positive influence for the betterment of the world.

They are also known as the digital natives who have grown up with the internet and smart phones in an always-on digital world. Over fifty percent will play video games or have a Twitter and/or a Facebook account.

According to Burton, the secret to successful recruiting prospective new millennial members is learn their values and what Rotary can do to motivate and inspire them.



Rotarians Gene Atkinson, Matt Hallgarth, and Burton Smith provided "Rotarian Power" to assemble school packets for incoming students .

Rotarians Gene Atkinson, Matt Hallgarth, Burton Smith, Joe McFarland, and C. J. Prater participated in a service project to Stephenville students by building back to school packs for all the eligible students. Matt provided the overall management for the club's effort, while Gene, Burton and Joe stuffed bags with typical 7th grade supplies. Pens, pencils, erasures, rulers, notebooks, and writing pads, sufficient to keep a 7th grader supplied for a semester were provided.

C. J. led the effort to assure that the correct packs were given to the proper students based on their grades.

Thanks to those Rotarians who gave of their time and effort to make this a worthwhile project.

Labor Day 2015

Labor Day 2015 will find most of us enjoying a long weekend enjoying a cook out with neighbors and friends treasuring some idle time before the new school year kicks in and summer officially ends.

Ever wonder why labor day was designated as a national holiday? Well it seems labor day was to honor the American labor movement and the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well being of the country.

Following the Haymarket Massacre where a number of striking Pullman workers were killed at the hands of Federal authorities, in Chicago in May 1886, Congress unanimously approved rush legislation that made Labor day a national holiday.



Erath County Veterans Service Officer Tamara Barker spoke to the Club about VA benefits.

Erath County Veterans Service Officer Tamara Barker spoke to the club during a recent noon luncheon meeting. She reviewed the benefits available to veterans of Erath County which includes a broad range of services including health care, education and training, home loans, life insurance, and burial benefits.

According to Tamara Erath Veterans should enroll with her office even if they currently do not anticipate applying for a benefit. Of the 2200 veterans in Erath County, only 500 have enrolled with her office. In an environment of scarce resources, perceived non use of available services could result in a cut in funding so that those services might not be available in the future. All veterans should register with Tamara if you live in Erath County.

Contact Tamara at: erathvet@co.erath.tx.us or 254-965-

President Grover Cleveland signed the legislation into law six days after the end of the strike. Cleveland feared that commemorating Labor Day on May 1 could become an opportunity to commemorate the massacre, therefore in 1877, the US holiday was established in September.

The US and Canada celebrate on the first Monday of September, however more than 80 other countries celebrate International Workers' Day on May 1 as their holiday dedicated to labor.

Oregon was the first state to make it a holiday on February 21, 1887. By the time it became a federal holiday, thirty states officially recognized Labor Day.