

Pfarr Fireside Notes - 1/22/19

Attending – Rob Pfarr, Carlyn Roy, Dane Meyer, John Schneider, Carol Webster, Gil Quante, Donna Haynes, Greg Rolsma, Rusty Hersey, Becky Fontaine, Jonathan Murray, Amanda Weidman

What is it that our Rotary does that is most inspirational to you?

1. Providing direction services to the community, hands on service to our community.
2. My favorite project is science Olympiad, but my second favorite is EFN
3. I have always enjoyed the youth exchange, it's a great mission to spread peace in the world. I do enjoy the projects, especially the way they get many people doing something together.
4. Exchange student program
5. Bringing everyone together and creating an environment for the rotary youth exchange.
6. Christmas program and EFN
7. I love the grants committee, I am certain we are funding the right projects at the right times
8. I join rotary because of the international aspect. I joined the scholarship committee because it means a lot to me, I was a scholarship kid and it means the world to me that we are focused on scholarships for kids that are high performers that need help.
9. Rotary is my church, my people, my cause. You can find something that is hands on and you can go after it and do it. That's what I love about Rotary. (note taker comment: god I love this guy!)
10. Rotary provides the opportunity for members to get involved regardless of your skill set. Everyone has the ability to contribute. Specifically, I love the hands-on projects.
11. I love the auction, it's our largest fund raiser and it funds a sh*t load of stuff. Every Thursday I look forward to seeing all of you.
12. What I love the most is when you come into Rotary you can be friends with everyone. I always feel like I'm heard at Rotary and it always feels welcoming to feel appreciated for my ideas.
13. My fellow Rotarians, I wanted to find people that I could use in my personal life. I love the exposure of people that inspire me.

Auction Question: what are you doing and what are you most looking forward to:

1. Procuring, sponsoring, attending, hosting a table, having a great time.
2. Going first year, love to dance, drink wine, buying something I don't want to.
3. Help in the morning, donate items, enjoying the auction
4. Spend a grand and seeing my friend
5. I look forward to donating and I look forward to purchasing as well
6. Financially supporting the cause!
7. Donating tickets to people that we want to come
8. Sponsorship, to build a table. I tell everyone at the table to buy something. We donate a Turkish dinner. I most like that the money will go for grants. Oh ya and I love to dance.
9. We want to go on a big trip this year. We really want to buy a trip at rotary.
10. My favorite thing at the auction is that the spouses are there!
11. Donate with Tod and Carlyn
12. Donating a self-care package, and I'll be wearing a great hat
13. We are doing a travel basket
14. I like to donate, experience golf. I'd also like to help move the stuff from office to the auction.
15. Donating a sponsor, bringing guests. Most looking forward to the social time with my favorite people.

Fireside Notes 1/22/2019

Host: Barry and Sharon Benson Guests: Jacki Farrar, Brenda Gasper, John Bailey, Ali Criss, Marty Lough, John Douville, Steve Smith, Cindy Niemi

1) What does our Rotary Club do that is most inspirational to you?

- Rotary Youth Exchange (Cindy and Steve)
Steve recalled an exchange student we sent abroad who came back sharing how the experience changed her life. Our inbound exchange students are fun representations of their country. Both inbound and outbound are great investments for our club.
- World Community Services (Barry and Sharon)
Shared India trip and water projects. Shared cool stories and projects like “days for girls” managing menses in third world countries. RI contributes to this. Helps keep girls in school and so they can provide for their families. Barry shared our club is sponsoring “Rachel Plus” that allows internet access in remote areas. Sunrise and Gig Harbor are supporting this too.
- Scholarship Committee (Marty)
Our club does a great job of supporting students but we haven’t been able to give out as much as we would like. He gave examples of a family who was impacted by their student’s ability to get a scholarship from us. It’s a reward for students we are deserving.
- Cindy suggested some of these stories be shared at the microphone at our meetings and/or in the video being produced for the auction. Marty shared that most people in the area don’t know what Rotary does. “Best kept secret” that we have impact around the globe. Sharon talked about the trip to India when they were going door to door for polio inoculation in the poorest slum and they ran into a Habitat group building houses. Barry talked about the new malaria project. Steve reminded us of the video produced for when Rotary 8 turned 100 – highlights many of the projects we do locally and for the wider world. He also shared that the last presentation from the youth exchange students was impactful. Marty, Sharon, Barry and Steve all said that they are willing to share stories and impact.
- Brenda suggested we feature actual people who have been impacted by projects. EFN repack, Stem program, grant recipients, scholarship recipients, etc. Narrowing impact down to a single person or family helps inspire and to gain compassion for the causes.

2) What will you contribute to make the auction successful?

- Everyone at the table is attending, some hosting entire tables (or 2) and some bringing non-Rotarians.
- Steve is attending but suggested we have more bar stations (shorter lines)
- Sharon asked for everyone there to fill a table.
- Ali is filling 2 tables, raising her paddle, and a sponsor.
- John is attending, giving money for the auction, spending money and encouraging friends.
- Brenda will do an item from Brooks Dental (high-end)
- Jacki will volunteer to help as well as attend.
- Marty is donating pistol lessons and an Italian dinner.

3) What are you most looking forward to at the auction?

- Steve: Hanging out with people
- Cindy: Dancing and dessert dash
- Ali: Live Auction
- Barry: Fun social evening

4) Who can help with Marketing/Social Media?

- Jacki Farrar
- John Douville

Other Auction Comments:

- Recommendation dessert is live
- Promoting bidding war at live auction
- Sending out live auction item list in advance
- More bar stations

- ID commitments of those who can raise paddle at highest level that is announced by auctioneer (so there's no crickets when they ask for, say, \$20K, for example).
- Posting live clips on facebook
- Put some good items on first silent auction tables and let people know that is happening so they arrive early or on time.
- Items involving Rotarians should be live
- Take pictures of previous live items/experiences to promote (like Rotary dinners)
- Photos of items that will be at the auction posted on social media.

Ogle Fireside – In attendance Stacey Ogle, Di Trenh, Jennifer Wedderman, Linda Kaye Briggs, Mary Lynn Pannen, Marty Lough, Carolyn Weyrick, Chris Serface, Diane Kelleher, Robin Echtle, Alex Davis, Tracy Peacock, Mark Anderson

The auction is our largest fundraiser and supports our activities through the year. This year the theme is Mission Possible – Ignite Rotary, Change Lives. Funds raised will go towards the great work our club is doing in the community and in the wider world.

- 1) What does our Rotary Club do that is most inspirational to you?
 - Polio fight – eliminating a whole disease (almost)
 - Scholarships
 - Commitment to community
 - Exchange program
 - Options to explore passions (customizable)
 - Inclusiveness – offers to participate
 - Volunteering / service opportunities (i.e. Habitat House)
 - Gets into grassroots of our city to make a difference
- 2) What will you specifically contribute to help our auction be successful? (Attend and bring friends, fill a table, sponsor the event, volunteer, donate items or money, donate money to the cause in lieu of your ability to attend, etc.?)
 - All of the above mentioned
 - More deliberate choice of table guests (ones that will donate)
 - Emcee
 - Collaborate on baskets
 - Raise the paddle
 - Unique items
 - Contribute in kind services, like printing
 - Donate experiences (i.e. cool Willamette valley trip)

Ideas: Project pics in a collage at the event, strong message before the ask, make levels for the raise the paddle known before it starts, do a monthly pledge card for the tables, play video of scholarship recipients.

- 3) What are you most looking forward to experiencing at this year's auction? (dressing up to the theme, buying great auction items, raising your paddle high for our cause, etc.?)
 - Baskets
 - Raise the paddle for our own committees' work
 - How do we make more than ever before to help our committees do more good?
 - Calling / inviting every member
 - Getting a table together
 - Shift focus from "stuff" to raising paddle – being impactful
 - Being around others, working for common cause
 - Friendship

Kim Bedier and Monique Nadeau Fireside 1/22/19

Attendees: Kim Bedier, Monique Nadeau, Christina Turner, Maria Harlow, Miriam Barnett, Joy Vivar-Beeks, Marsha Burns, Harrison Laird, Missy Zenczak, Libby Catalinich

1. What does our rotary club do that is most inspirational to you?
 - Kim- Habitat House that Rotary 8 is building; doing something hands-on and creating something. It's nice because we don't often see the solid line of connection
 - Libby- The impact on youth, the hands-on projects (stuffing backpacks and labeling books.) Long-term members and their dedication to the club is inspiring. Also, seeing the youth exchange relationships formed.
 - Maria- The people in rotary and the direct connection to the community
 - Miriam- Having wonderful speakers-it has helped to gain knowledge about what's happening in our community, in Tacoma and beyond
 - Missy- The opportunity to meet and get to know fellow members and the relationships that are built from that
 - Monique- Those who step up to help with their industry expertise or talents. (Example: Harrison Laird and George Pilant who helped to secure a new office location for Rotary 8)
 - Joy- Outbound rotary youth exchange students – seeing the growth after their time away and how cool it is to see them grow.

2. What will you specifically contribute to help our auction be successful?
 - Maria- personal calls to fill the room
 - Christina – raffle chair and co-emcee the auction with Chris Serface
 - Miriam – coordinating volunteers
 - **All our fireside attendees are attending the auction!!**

3. What are you most looking forward to experiencing at this year's auction?
 - Our whole fireside group was excited for potential outfit ideas with this year's theme:
 - Boris and Natasha
 - Get Smart characters
 - James Bond 007
 - Men In Black
 - Dick Tracy
 - Spy v. Spy
 - Inspector Clouseau
 - Carmen Sandiego
 - Pink Panther
 - Columbo

 - Maria- excited to reach our fundraising goal
 - Kim- excited for the causes that the auction will support
 - Libby- looking forward to a delicious meal
 - Marsha- Raise the Paddle
 - Christina- Raise the Paddle

- Other thoughts: mission moments are important to help our club remember the "Why"
- It would be nice to have a "menu of options" on the tables at our lunchtime meetings for our members to see all the variety of ways that they can support the auction
- We need both fun announcements and more "serious" announcements to get our members focused on the auction.