October 17, 2018

ROTARY NOTARY



Birthdays:

Scott Jensen	10/17
John Schlicher	10/17
Kim Pennington	10/22

At Rotary Today:

Greeter: Fred Thurlow

Invocation, Flag Salute, and Four-way test: Fred Thurlow

Member News: Britt Fulmer

Congratulations:

Our own Rigby Carey has been elected to the Board of Directors of Wichita Festivals Inc.

Quote of the Week:

The biggest lie I tell myself is, "I don't need to write that down, I'll remember it."

-Unknown

MEET OUR CITY'S FIRST FEMALE FIRE CHIEF: TAMMY SNOW

Tammy Snow has worked for the Wichita Fire Department since 1988 and became its chief in November 2017. It is the largest fire department in Kansas and includes just over 400 commissioned personnel operating from 22 fire stations. She's seen here visiting with our own Phil May following today's EWR meeting.

eing a good athlete can lead to a new and interesting career. Just ask Wichita Fire Chief Tammy Snow, who began her career as a teacher but ended up a firefighter after taking the agility test that is a prerequisite for entering the department.

It seems that a male firefighter she knew bet a buddy that he knew a woman who could pass the test. Because Snow loves a challenge, she took the test. And a new career was born.

Snow worked her way through the ranks, often in response to a challenge. For example, she was told that no woman had ever stayed employed by the department for more than four years. She was determined to be there for at least five. When it came time to take the test to become a lieutenant, she was told that the Wichita Fire Department had never had a female lieutenant. She took the test and earned one of the highest scores.

As the chief, Snow administrates a department with a \$46 million budget. About 92 percent of that is for staff salaries and benefits. The remainder is for rent (from the City of Wichita) of fire trucks, buildings, repairs, as well as supplies used in the fire stations.

One of Snow's achievements was the organization of an annual regional fire school, Wichita HOT (www.wichitahot.com). It has grown each year since its inception in 2006 and is recognized as the premier fire school in the Midwest.

Snow explained that, like all of us, the fire department benefits from advances in technology. The department now has a drone and drone operator. The drone can be used to conduct a rapid assessment and identify damage without having to risk injury to a firefighter.



Consider how useful this might be if a train carrying hazardous materials derailed. Each of the 22 fire stations is strategically located within Wichita to respond to a medical call within 4 minutes. In 2017 the department responded to 50,500 calls. For 96% of those calls the response time was less than 8 minutes, and for 38% of those calls the response time was less than 4 minutes.

On a lighter note, Snow remarked that although the primary responsibility of a firefighter is to take care of fires, they are called upon to perform many unrelated duties, such as getting a horse out of mud, replacing smoke alarm batteries, and of course, rescuing kittens stuck in trees. So after inserting new batteries in our own smoke detectors, we can rest a little easier this evening knowing how dedicated our Wichita Fire Department is under the leadership of Chief Tammy Snow.

Upcoming Events:

October 24—MIXER at Two Olives, 2949 N. Rock Road. Check out this newly remodeled after work hotspot and mingle with your Rotary pals. Bring your spouse or a friend! The fun begins at 5:15 or whenever you arrive!

October 26—Art for Access, a celebration of Project Access, will take place at the New York Life Building, 125 N. Market, on Friday, October 26 from 5:30—7:30 p.m. To RSVP call Angela at 316-688-0600 by this Friday.

October 26-28—See our own Sarah Wine perform in the new musical comedy the Addams Family at the Scottish Rite Center, 332 E 1st. Performances are at 8 pm on Friday and Saturday, and at 7 pm on Sunday.

October 29—OPEN HOUSE at Red Cross, 707 N. Main, from 4—6 p.m. Meet new Executive Director Shannon Wedge, and tour the new Bloodmobile and Blood Center. EWR member Deb Brinegar will be on hand to say hello as well.

ROTARY FOUNDER RECOGNIZED ON THE POINTS OF LIGHT MONUMENT

EWR member and Past President John Alefs shared this discovery he made on a recent trip to Washington D.C. Rotary International founder Paul Harris is one of 33 men and women featured on the Points of Light Monument, a one-mile walkway in Washington, D.C. that honors actions and commitments to service that have transformed our nation and the world.

The monument honors civil rights leaders, including Susan B. Anthony, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and founders of some of the world's most important social change institutions. In doing so, observers see the connected story of how the actions of these trailblazers turned into powerful movements that shaped history and continue to influence our world today.

On Oct. 14, 2005, President and Mrs. George H. W. Bush dedicated The Points of Light Monument, inducting its first 20 honorees. To date, 33 medallions have been placed, paying tribute to the work of 36 individuals. Located just blocks from the White House (starting at Pennsylvania Ave. and 15th St., NW), the plan is for the pathway to stretch one mile and include 70 medallions.



A photo of the Paul Harris medallion located on the Points of Light Monument in Washington D.C. (Photo courtesy of John Alefs.)

The text on Paul Harris' medallion reads: Inspired by the simple idea of combining fellowship and service, Paul Harris pioneered the service club movement with the founding of Rotary International. Rotary fulfilled his dream of a worldwide organization of business and professional people serving their communities and promoting international understanding. Rotary continues to expand global horizons through its educational programs and offers hope through its humanitarian efforts and public health campaigns.

NATIONAL CHOCOLATE CUPCAKE DAY

Looking for a Few Good Men:

We still need a few more EWR men to model the latest men's winter and holiday fashions at an upcoming meeting on November 14. Don't be shy! To participate, please email Anne Schneider right away!

Next Week:

Photojournalist Larry Hatteberg will be our speaker.



We looked through the National Day Calendar, our source for the wild, weird, and wonderful daily celebrations of life here in the United States, and this one was the most delicious. It's celebrated on October 18 every year and although we couldn't find out why, the more important question is, why not?

Why not celebrate a day devoted to the creation of something that is not only delectable, but good for the soul as well? Because when you bake a miniature chocolate cake and then top it with velvety smooth icing, you've created joy. Joy for your tastebuds, and joy for someone else should you decide to share.

Cupcakes are part of American history. Just 20 years after the Declaration of Independence, *American Cookery*, the first known cookbook to be written by an American, included a recipe for a cake that could be baked "in small cups." The term "cupcake" wouldn't surface until a few decades later, when it

appeared in an 1828 cookbook by Eliza Leslie. (source: https://nationaltoday.com).

So bake a dozen or two today. Or head to your favorite bakery and purchase some. Then pour a glass of cold milk and savor your treat. You've earned it.