



THE SUN LIGHT

THE ROTARY CLUB OF GEORGETOWN - SUN CITY
District 5870 TUESDAYS 12 NOON
Cowan Creek Amenity Center, Cool Spring Way
April 10, 2012

www.RotaryDistrict5870.com www.rotary.org
1530 Sun City Blvd, Suite 120 Box 441, Georgetown 78633

*In prosperity our friends know us;
in adversity we know our friends.
. . . Churton Collins*

LAST WEEK:

<u>Invocation:</u>	Bill Thompson	<u>Members Attending:</u>	52
<u>Pledge:</u>	George Olive	<u>Happy Bucks:</u>	\$62.
<u>4-way test:</u>	Tom Minor		

Visiting Rotarians: District Governor Suresh Pahwa
PDG Gonzalo Garza
Tony Ruff/Downtown
Nelson Barrett/Georgetown

Guests: Glynn Hatley/Lou Gibson
Scott Murphy/Lou Gibson
Harold Steadman/Bill Miller
Tom Astengo/Gordon Bishop

Today's Programme: John Rouse

Next Week: David Stuetelberg

Last Week: Club Assembly

President **Rich Petro** called committee chairmen forward to give a short précis on how the club's goals and plans are progressing.

Chief Cheerleader and hard worker **Jamie Mattison**, together with another hard worker, **Doug Lowe**, have been the prime motivators in helping the club develop a vision and goals following, to a large extent, the format of Rotary International; and we are now at the point of formalizing a plan which will be put before the Board before the end of the (Rotary) year. A report from all the Team Leaders will be made next week – April 17th.

DG Suresh Pahwa spoke for a few minutes about the Service Project of providing mosquito nets to Togo, Africa. The goal was to have each of the members of the District – comprising about 2800 – donate a net. At this time, over 10,000 nets have been delivered! And there is enough money left over to provide some water treatment facilities. Togo is a country which has the highest incidence of malaria in Africa and the use of these nets will vastly curtail the illness.

DISTRICT GOVERNOR SURESH PAHWA'S MESSAGE

We live in the land of plenty. We produce enough food to not only feed our population but also export significant quantities. In spite of that, about 16% of our population live with food insecurity, which means that they supplement their ability to purchase food with government programs, private donations and help from family and friends.

Rotarians are generous and a number of clubs in our district support local food banks and other efforts to feed the hungry. Worldwide the statistics are staggering, and sometimes we get immune to the data. Here are some food statistics to think about:

Total world population is about 7 billion;

About 1.6 billion are overweight and about 912 million are undernourished;

Americans purchase and toss about \$17b worth of food every year and global food aid is about \$800m; thirty six (36) out of 40 hungriest nations on earth are net food exporters;

We produce more food today than ever before (17% more calories per capita than 30 years ago with 70% increase in population during the same period.) Primary cause of hunger is poverty, but large pockets of starvation are caused by conflicts.

I urge you to think of ways to find long-term solutions to hunger in the world.

Future Programmes:

April 24	Don Bender (with guest Sarah Hinton, Manager of Georgetown airport)
May 1	Ray Bergman ("Around the majors in 60 days")
May 8	Gary Sandercock (Cryogenics)
May 15	Bill Thompson
May 22	Dick Will
May 29	Hugh Young
June 5	Kelly Barnett
June 12	Harold Bergh
June 19	Gordon Bishop
June 26	<u>President's Night</u>

NEW MEMBER INSTALLATION:

With his usual grace and style, **PDG Bill Bryce** installed **Jim Scharff** as our newest member.
Welcome Jim!

Bill spoke to Jim about our club and mentioned that people here have come from all over the country, left family and friends, but did not leave behind their good and noble intentions. As he said, Rotarians meet challenges head on and gave as an example the story of Medal of Honor recipient, Marine Private, First Class, Henry Gurke, 3rd Raider Battalion.

Only three months after he enlisted in the Marines in April 1942, Pvt. Gurke was sent overseas to British Samoa. He was transferred to several battle sites, including the fight for Guadalcanal, Wallis Island, American Samoa, Espiritu Santo in New Hebrides, Pavuvu Island in the Russells, and Nouméa, New Caledonia and finally the Solomon Islands. He celebrated his 21st birthday at Bougainville, the largest island in the archipelago, and died three days later on November 9, 1943. A group of Raiders were cut off by the Japanese and Pvt. Gurke and another marine were holed up in a foxhole at Bougainville when a grenade landed in their foxhole. With uncommon valor and courage and extraordinary heroism, Pvt. Gurke fell on the grenade without hesitation.

In 1945, the destroyer USS Gurke (DD-783) was named in his honor. His body was eventually returned for burial in his hometown of Neche, South Dakota.

What an incredible example of selflessness for all Rotarians to emulate.

(Pvt. Gurke's Medal of Honor Citation can be found on the Internet)

News From the Boardroom:

1) **Bill Miller** made the motion seconded by **John Chenoweth** that Glynn Hatley and Scott Murphy be accepted as members of our Club. The vote of the Board was unanimous in favor of this motion.

2) **John Skannal** gave a report on RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards). He gave an overview of the program along with an update of the two Jarrell High School students that our Club is sponsoring. The two students will be attending RYLA this July. (see article below)

3) **District Governor Pahwa** made some good comments about our Club and asked some questions about our future plans. He also encouraged the Board members to attend the Leadership Training in Killeen and the District Conference in Bastrop.

Dates to Remember:

April 13 (Fri)	Rotary Club–Downtown – Fundraiser and bar-b-que
April 17 (Tues)	Strategic Plan Due, Report from Teams
April 28 (Sat.)	District Assembly, Killeen (All officers, committees invited)
April 29 (Sun)	Our <u>Spring Fling Fundraiser</u> (Sun City Ballroom)
May 6 – 9	International Convention, Bangkok, Thailand
May 19 (Sat.)	District Conference Part I, Killeen (All invited)
June 16 (Sat.)	District Conference Part II, Lost Pines (All invited)
June 26 (Tues)	President's Night, Cowan Creek, (time TBA)

The purpose of a District Conference

... is fellowship, inspirational addresses, discussion of Rotary matters with fun, enjoyment and recreation.

The concept this year is to have a half-day (mid-morning to mid-afternoon) event on Saturday, May 19, 2012 followed by a guided tour of the world's largest army base (Ft. Hood, Killeen), and then 1 1/2 days of relaxed activities, entertainment and a banquet during June 16 weekend at Hyatt Lost Pines resort .

All Rotarians in the district are encouraged to attend the district conference. You will learn about other clubs in the District, Rotary and Rotary core values. It will give you an opportunity to network with other Rotarians in the District for joint projects and service.

All club presidents are required to attend the district conference at which Rotary business will be conducted - Killeen. On this day, the district committee chairs will summarize the committee activities for the Rotary year, amendments to the District Resolutions will be presented for approval and the District Roll of Fame and other district awards will be presented.

All the Rotarians and their family members are invited to attend the event at Lost Pines. There will be a golf tournament College of Governors dinner on Friday and these events are open to all the conference attendees. On Saturday, everyone will have an opportunity to view club projects on display, take part in a silent auction, entertainment from around the world throughout the day, followed by a banquet, music and dance in the evening. All new Rotarians (those who have joined Rotary during the current Rotary year) will be offered a 50% discount if they register and attend both the Killeen and Lost Pines events.

Membership Moment with Lou Gibson *“Friendship”*

Every Rotary club in the world, no matter how big or how small, has one thing in common – Friendship. It is from this base of friendship that we serve the community.

Rotary International is a place where we can serve our own people and the world. It is a fellowship where every nation, every race, every colour – of all humanity is like a family.

Harold Bergh then handed out bottles of M&M's to visitors and guests as a reminder to us all that adding new members will ensure our club's health and survival.

Salute To Herman Knodel

Herman does a LOT of great things for our club, but recently he was overloaded and asked me to handle an inquiry about our club from our Fearless District Governor. I appreciated being asked and found it an interesting task. Maybe you would be interested in this bit of information I found about our club members.

Dear Mr. District Governor,

Your letter of March 23rd addressed to our Club Secretary has been referred to me for answer. You asked for a listing of our club members broken down by sex and by age. I was not sure if you wanted a list of members broken down by *both* or two lists broken down by *each*. In Sun City Rotary Club, it makes NO difference. I found that none of our members have been broken down by sex, age seems to be a more serious problem for the Sun City members. Several of our members seem to be in the process of being broken down by age and we will keep you informed of their situation as it develops.

In gathering the data for this study, we seem to have an *inverse* relationship between age and sex. Our data also indicates that many of our members are older at this time than they were at our last report on January 1, 2011. This inverse relationship between age and sex would seem to indicate that our club is very safe from being broken down by sex in the future. Nothing in this study should be interpreted to mean that our members are giving up on sex. Instead, our data seems to indicate the opposite is true. Sex seems to be giving up on our members.

We respectfully suggest that the DG might get more benefit from the study if it were broadened to include members broken down by alcohol. Alcohol seems to more of a problem here in the Austin area than either sex or age. Our President has appointed a study group to look into this problem and we will meet next Friday evening from 4:00 until 6:00 during Happy Hour at Donovan's Bar and Grill. You are welcome to join us for those deliberations.

We also have to report that two members were broken down by falling from stepladders. That data did not seem to fit into any of the categories offered on the report form. We are looking into having them join a support group at the local Scott & White clinic and hope that will work. We were unable to locate a **Ladder Climbers Anonymous** organization in our area, but are looking at one in Round Rock as a possible solution.

Sincerely yours,
Bob Deffeyes, Sun City Rotary Club

Club Secretary Do you know what **Herman Knodel** does for our club?

Herman: → maintains membership records;
→ records attendance at meetings;
→ reports monthly attendance records to the district governor within 15 days of the last meeting of each month;
→ sends out special notices and membership lists of the club;
→ records and maintains minutes of the board and committee meetings;
→ makes required reports to Rotary International and the district.
→ Informs the district governor and RI of special club activities and plans;
→ maintains club files, and equipment such as club meeting badges.
... among other things!

Thank you for what you do for our club, Herman!

Rotary Youth Leadership Award

RYLA is a 1-week long youth camp that occurs annually during the first week of July at the LCRA Campsite just west of Bastrop. The cost is \$450 per student and of the 90+ students from the District who apply, our club sponsors at least two. Our recruiting efforts usually begin early in January and by last month, **Tom Minor** and **Doug Lowe**, accompanied by **Bob Smith**, had interviewed the last of the students interested in going to RYLA. This year our club will sponsor Carrie Buckley and Samuel Perez. They are excellent students who will benefit from and enjoy attending the camp.

Additionally, our club usually sponsors a noon meal, including the cost, and members actively help with the preparation and serving of the meal. This year, we will be serving two meals - although another club will cover the cost of the second meal.

All monies and sponsorship forms have been sent in for processing as well as completed student applications. So, we are all set for July!

John Skannal, Sun City RYLA Club Coordinator

Misc. etc.

Bob Weimer and his wife have been married for 12 “blissful” years; **Ron Ferreri's** wife, Donna, has just celebrated her birthday; Lou Gibson and his wife, JoAnn, will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on tax day; **Kelly Barnett** is looking forward to having his new grandson visiting him this weekend; **Stephen Brown** reported that former member, **Ben Gaines**, is home from the hospital and doing better; members were pleased to have not only the District Governor but also two former District Governors – **Bill Brice** and **Gonzalo Garza** – here to-day; **Tom Minor** told us **Pete Snelson** is now out of the hospital and in the Estrella Rehab Center.

Next week, **Tom Minor** hopes to have **David Leas'** book on the military histories of our club members available.

Bill Miller brought us up to date on the PolioPlus fundraising efforts (a.k.a. the Lou Gibson challenge!), and reported that over 90% of the club members have participated and the total raised is currently \$6,048. And now four more members have become PolioPlus sustaining members: **Bob Elam**, **John Chenoweth**, **Bill Thompson**, and **Mike Oglesby**; and also **Harold Steadman** who has resigned from the club but not resigned from supporting PolioPlus!

And since 2007, our club has raised \$33,233 – which makes us one of the top two clubs in the District. This is a remarkable effort especially as we are certainly not the largest club!

Bill then asked **Lou Gibson** to come forward and receive his Paul Harris +8 !!

At this time Bill recognized a Benefactor – **Rich Petro**, our club President – who has made a donation to the Permanent Foundation. Rich was given a crystal paperweight as a recognition of his generosity to Rotary.



Reach Within to Embrace Humanity