



# THE SUN LIGHT

THE ROTARY CLUB OF GEORGETOWN - SUN CITY  
District 5870 TUESDAYS 12 NOON  
Cowan Creek Amenity Center, Cool Spring Way  
April 3, 2012

District 5870 or Rotary International  
1530 Sun City Blvd, Suite 120 Box 441, Georgetown 78633

Most books today seem to have been written overnight  
from books read the day before.  
. . . Nicholas Chamfort

**Invocation:** Kelly Barnett                      **Members Attending:** 45  
**Pledge:** Byron Calcote                      **Happy Bucks:** \$64.  
**4-way test:** John Rouse

**Visiting Rotarian:** Ray Barron/Downtown

**Last Week's Guests:** Jo Johns/Bob Smith  
Edith Payne/Bob Smith  
Jeane Wood/Bob Smith  
Ann Henry/Rich Petro

**Today's Programme:** Club Assembly

**Next Week:** John Rouse will talk about redistricting.

## **News From the Boardroom:**

The resignations of the following members have been accepted:  
E. C. Deaton  
E. M. Lawrence  
David Leas  
Gene Perry

## **Essence of Destiny:**

Watch your thoughts, for they become words;  
Choose your words, for they become action;  
Understand your actions, for they become habits;  
Study your habits, for they become character;  
Develop your character, for it becomes your destiny.  
. . . Charley Ray

## **Future Programmes:**

April 17      David Stuetelberg  
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 (subject will be Cryogenics)

## 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 <b>Spring Fling Fundraiser</b> (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, Bastrop (All invited)
June 26 (Tues)	President's Night, Cowan Creek, (time TBA)

## Things you might not know about clouds:

A June 2010 hailstorm in South Dakota dropped the largest hailstone in U.S. History. It was nearly as large as a soccer ball and weighed 2 lbs.

Cumulonimbus clouds are the ones that make your flight late. Their winds are so intense and unpredictable that pilots never go through them.

Highest of all, 50 miles up, are noctilucent or “night shining,” clouds which glow an eerie bluish white. They are invisible by day but after sunset they catch solar rays shining from far below the horizon. Noctilucent clouds first seemed to first appear after the 1883 eruption of Krakatoa and are now a common sight.

## News, etc.

14 year Rotarian, **E.C. Deaton**, and his wife, Jackie, are moving to Arlington to be closer to their children; he and **E.M. Lawrence** and **Gene Perry** will all be missed; **Dan Barr**, who is here at his first meeting as a member, is thankful his wife is now healing after surgery; **Bob Elam** attended his oldest grandson's Eagle Scout ceremony last night; several members were happy to see E.C. here before he leaves for Arlington; **John Rouse** added his dollar to the Happy Bucks for all the kids who are being tested today; **Chris Mealy** put in a plug for Ohio and **Bill Bryce** was happy to see him at the meeting; **Harold Bergh** noted that because we are losing four members, we need to remember M&M – Membership Matters – and recruit more members; **Dick Will** brought a magazine, *Scientific American*, in which there is an article about Polio and Rotary (see article below); **Stephen Brown** noted that today is **Bill Harrah's** birthday; **Harold Bergh** suggested we go to hear the Sun City Singers - tickets are almost sold out; **Caroline Holloway** added her dollar to Happy Bucks because the Bookmobile is here.

## Excerpts from *Scientific American* magazine regarding Polio:

The global campaign to eradicate polio began in 1988. Since then, naturally occurring cases worldwide have dropped to, at last count, around 650 in 2011. Completely eliminating polio requires a change in the current vaccination programme because one component in the most widely used vaccine now causes more cases of polio than it prevents.

The World Health Assembly is expected to approve a plan this May that should decrease the number of vaccine-linked cases of polio and may speed up overall eradication efforts. Yet questions have arisen over the safety of making the change rapidly. If health officials do not manage this transition correctly, polio could continue to cripple children for years to come.

Widespread use of the oral polio vaccine has brought the number of cases down dramatically, and by early 2012 eradication efforts had limited the number of countries where polio outbreaks are endemic, or self-sustaining, to three. As the number of naturally occurring infections drops, however, the rare instances of vaccine-related polio cases become less tolerable, necessitating a change in vaccine strategy.

## **Last Week: by Bob Smith**

Robert R. Payne, co-author of "Earhart's Flight Into Yesterday", grew up in Big Springs TX and joined the navy at age 17. Bob spent 25 years in the navy and during these years became familiar with the career of Captain Lawrence Frye Stafford who established the Navy's Cryptographic Program. During his career Capt. Stafford obtained numerous patents dealing with code-breaking machines; these machines could also issued coded messages – none of which was ever broken by the Germans or by the Japanese.

Capt. Stafford became interested in the Amelia Earhart story, read many books on the subject, and was intrigued by references made to a High Frequency Direction Finder obtained from the Navy and installed on Howland Island. He was actually in charge of that particular type of equipment and knew those references were incorrect. Capt. Stafford decided to research the subject and all the information regarding Earhart's flight and to write a book to set the record straight. After his retirement, he spent eight years researching Amelia Earhart's last flight and spent many long hours in the Library of Congress in this endeavour. Sadly, Capt. Stafford died before he could complete his book. However, his manuscript and other papers were eventually retrieved by Robert Payne who joined with a journalist, Cameron A. Warren, to finish the book.

Amelia Earhart was born in 1897, was raised in Atchison, Kansas, and became a licensed pilot in 1920 during the heyday of barnstorming and stunt flying. She was described as being daring, determined, very competitive, and hard-headed. Among the long list of her aviation accomplishments is the fact she set an altitude record of 18,451' in an Autogyro – a record that has not yet been broken! As well, she was the second person (after Lindbergh) and the first woman to fly across the Atlantic Ocean.

Earhart owned a Lockheed Electra twin engine plane and decided to be the first woman to fly around the world at the Equator. She teamed with Fred Noonan, a most experienced navigator, and trip preparations began in Burbank, CA. The first leg was from Burbank to Florida and on June 1, 1937 Earhart and Noonan headed out from Florida for Africa - the second leg of their effort. On approaching Africa, hard-headed Earhart disregarded Noonan's directions and flew 100 miles off course; she finally corrected and landed in Dakar as originally planned.

After flying across Africa, Earhart and Noonan's route took them through the mid-East, India, and the far East, Australia and finally to Lea, New Guinea. They had now flown 20,000 miles since leaving California. Careful preparations were made to fly non-stop over the Pacific Ocean to Howland Island which is only 2 miles long, ½ mile wide and at its highest is only 15' above sea level. Earhart had persuaded President Roosevelt to build an airstrip on the island.

At Lea, New Guinea, the Electra was stripped of all unnecessary equipment to lighten the load and make room for extra fuel tanks. On July 2, 1937 Amelia and Fred took off and headed for Howland Island, 21 flying hours away. The Navy had stationed the tug boat, "Ontario", in the flight path halfway along to Howland Island and Earhart flew right over it – attesting to Noonan's excellent navigation skills. The conditions in the Electra were less than ideal with fumes from the fuel tanks and the constant noise of the two very loud engines next to the cockpit combined with the long flying hours were exhausting. After 21 hours Earhart radioed the "Itasca", a Navy cruiser stationed at Howland, that she could not see the island and was flying in a north-south pattern trying to locate it. Soon after, Earhart reported having only ½ hour's worth of fuel remaining - and that was the last communication heard from the Electra. The cruiser fired up black smoke which trailed to the southwest and could be seen for many miles but the plane was too far north to have seen it.

By early morning on July 3, 1937, an extensive search was made in an attempt to locate Earhart and Noonan but no trace of them or the plane was ever found.

(Note – the forward by the editor, the introduction by R. Stanley [Stanley Aviation Corp.], and the preface by Captain Stafford all add interest to this book)

### **Thanks to the Troops Occasion:**

**Ann Henry** is once again making arrangements for the Fort Hood troops who have returned from their tours overseas to come here for a fun "golf tournament". On **May 10<sup>th</sup>**, the troops will come down here to Sun City and there will be a parade with flags, police cars, fire engines and many decorated golf carts, and we will all be able to say a big "Thank You". These young men and women are not all golfers as Ann said; in fact one fellow last year managed to loose 14 balls! By the time they leave and after having a big meal all those "golfers" who didn't actually win a prize will have envelopes with cash to spend. Ann is hoping to get each tee sponsored so these troops will have a great day.

### **Coffee vs Cancer:**

First came word in past years that coffee may reduce the risk of type 2 diabetes and slow cognitive decline. Then last March, a metastudy from Fudan University in Shanghai found that one extra cup of coffee daily correlates with a 3% reduced risk of a broad range of cancers. And in May, more good news about your morning cup courtesy of Harvard School of Public Health.

The institute's 20-year look at the habits of 47,911 men shows that those who drank 6 or more cups of coffee daily were 18% less likely than non-drinkers to get prostate cancer and 60% less likely to die from it. Drinking even 1-3 cups daily lowered the risk by 29%. However, it was determined that caffeine is not the secret ingredient: men drinking decaf fared just as well as those drinking caffeinated.

### **A Dose of HMO's Own Medicine**

**A doctor, a nurse, and the top executive of an HMO have all died and are in line together at the Pearly Gates.**

**St. Peter speaks with them and asks what good each has done in their life.**

**Doctor: "I have devoted my life to the sick and needy and have had a part in caring for, and healing thousands of poor people."**

**St. Peter: "That's great. Go ahead in to heaven. And what about you, dear?"**

**Nurse: "I've supported the good doctor and his patients my entire life as an adult."**

**St. Peter: "Wonderful. Please proceed in with the doctor. And what about you?"**

**Health Maintenance Organizaton Director: "I was the president of a very large HMO and was responsible for the healthcare of millions of people all over the country."**

**St. Peter: "Oh, I see. Please go in, but you can stay only two nights!"**



**Reach Within to Embrace Humanity**