



# THE SUN LIGHT

THE ROTARY CLUB OF GEORGETOWN - SUN CITY  
District 5870 TUESDAYS 12 NOON Cowan Creek  
Amenity Center, Cool Spring Way  
August 23, 2011

[www.RotaryDistrict5870.com](http://www.RotaryDistrict5870.com) [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)  
1530 Sun City Blvd, Suite 120 Box 441, Georgetown 78633

It's a strange world of language in which skating on thin ice can get you into hot water.  
--Franklin P. Jones

**Last Week:**

**Presiding Officer:** Rich Petro  
**Invocation:** Al Cummins  
**Pledge:** Gene Perry  
**4-Way Test:** Lou Gibson

**Guests:** Jerry Hobbs/Stephen Brown  
John Harding/Bill Miller  
Captain Foreman/Ben Gaines

**Visiting Rotarians:** Ray Barron/Downtown  
Darrick McGill/Downtown

**Members present:** 42

**Happy Bucks:** \$52.00

**This Week:** Jamie Mattison, with an assist from **Doug Lowe**, has arranged a club assembly.

## **PROGRAMME & RECORDER CHANGES:**

Beginning September 13<sup>th</sup> **each member** will be responsible for writing a recap for the newsletter of the talk given by the person he has brought to present a programme. (Some members have volunteered to "help" with this and the editor thanks them!)

**Next Week:** **Doug Lowe** has asked Jarrell Superintendent **John Rouse** to present a programme.

Make plans to attend the meeting on September 13<sup>th</sup>. Lou Gibson will bring the speaker, Charles Lance, who is a prominent Elder Law attorney and will speak on the subject of "Veterans' Benefits".

Charles is an authority on this subject and his talk will be of great interest not only to our veteran members, but also to many non-members in Sun City.

This is a member recruiting opportunity for our club if each member will invite one or more veterans to attend.

### Future Programmes:

Sept 6 Carolyn Holloway  
Sept 13 Lou Gibson  
Sept 20 Bill Grusy  
Sept 27 Susie Ward  
Oct 4 Bill Harries  
Oct 11 Harold Lawless

### Future Recorders:

Al Cummins

### Miscellaneous:

**Bob Deffeyes** and his wife, Ethel, celebrate their 53<sup>rd</sup> wedding anniversary and his birthday today; last week **Tom Minor** and his wife, Lori, celebrated their 46<sup>th</sup> anniversary; **Lou Gibson** has returned after a trip to Colorado; **Don Mabray's** wife, Barbara, has just had her 39<sup>th</sup> birthday! **David Stuetelberg** and his wife, Julia, celebrated their 33<sup>rd</sup> anniversary last week; and their middle son has just married; **Norm Peters** and his wife, Lynda, have now been married for 50 years; **Barb Pekar** celebrated her anniversary Aug 4<sup>th</sup>; **Stephen Brown** was happy to have received .4" rain the other day; **Tom Minor** is happy to now be Past President; **John Rouse** advised that school starts Monday!

Jerry Hobbs, a guest of **Stephen Brown**, gave a short talk about the Georgetown Symphony Society which was begun about twelve years ago to bring good quality classical music to the area and an enrichment programme for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> year school children. The society also sponsors the Clara Scarborough programme which provides sheet music, lessons, etc for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders who can't afford them. There is also a Gaz Green fund which provides scholarships for students to continue their music education. All concerts are at the High School beginning 4PM and Mr. Hobbs outlined the programmes for the coming year beginning next month.

### **Speaker Notes for Rotary Meeting – August 16, 2011 by John Chenoweth and Byron Calcote**

**George Olive** introduced today's speaker, **Jim Romine**, Executive Director of the Sun City Community Association. This is Jim's 16<sup>th</sup> year in Sun City and in 2010 he was designated as a "Professional Community Association Manager" (PCAM) which is the highest professional recognition available nationwide to managers who specialize in community association management. Jim attended Southwest Texas State University.

Jim talked about the following Sun City areas of current interest and/or issues:

Staff from the golf management company EAGL (Evergreen Alliance Golf Limited) is being incorporated into the Community Association as a result of a recommendation from the "Golf Management Task Force." When the transition is complete on November 1, the size of the Community Association (CA) staff will be doubled (88 EAGL staff added to 90 existing CA staff). The transition from EAGL to the CA will reduce the annual management fee for golf operations from \$200K to approximately \$100K.

Another task force recently recommended five new "nature trails" for Sun City. However, only two of the five were ultimately accepted. The "nature trail" issue generated more e-mails and calls to the CA than any other Sun City issue – ever. As a result of resident input, Trail #3 has now been cancelled and only Trail #4 will be considered. The residents of Neighborhoods 27 and 38 have requested a more finite plan and that the proposed trail be staked so they can walk the route and ensure that visibility both from the trail and the surrounding homes is minimal.

As a result of the City of Georgetown being unable to reliably supply sufficient non-potable water in recent years for golf course and other irrigation, six new water wells were recently drilled in Sun City. When all the wells are in service for their intended purpose, an estimated \$120K-180K annual savings should be realized and will payout the \$350K investment in only a couple of years. Water production is from the Trinity aquifer.

Congressman John Carter and County Commissioner Valerie Covey and several other officials from the State of Texas will hold a town hall meeting on September 28 to discuss the widening of State Highway 195.

Approximately 60-70 Sun City volunteers participated in the annual Sun City "deer census" last night. Data will be collected for two additional nights. Last year the annual study recommended the removal of 150 deer (although only about 110-120 deer were actually removed). It is possible that any required

removals might be delayed until early 2012. Deer removal is under the direction of the State of Texas and is divided between transporting the animals to other locations (highest cost for CA) or "processing" (conversion to meat for area food banks).

Bentonite has been added to the new fishing pond to stop the leak(s) but it will be another month or more before we know whether the problem has been solved (some observers think it is still leaking). One of the six new Sun City water wells, dug to a depth of 800' is currently being used to re-fill the pond. Consequently, Sun City has had to purchase water from the City of Georgetown for irrigation in the Cool Springs Way area. Sun City had a \$100K water bill in June - largest water bill - ever. Golf courses can consume up to 1 million gallons of water per day. The new wells have saved the HOA \$60,000 so far this year.

Although the Golf Committee requested the CA Board rescind the approval of the Pocket Park located in Neighborhood 43 next to the Cowan Creek Golf Course, the Board reviewed the Pocket Park, stated that golf course property is common area property and in compliance for use as approved by the Board. The Property & Grounds Committee presented the CA Board with amendments to the Strip Lease Policy. The Board discussed various amendments and charged staff to amend the policy to get back to original intent of Strip Leases, which is to allow maintenance of common area land by a resident only if the parcel land is in-between two homes and in a Level 2 mowing area (not behind a home).

Next year's CA budget is in process. A presentation of proposals is expected in September with final recommendations going to the CA Board in November. The goal is to maintain the current HOA level of \$1000 per year. The next Sun City "satisfaction survey" will be conducted by a third party contractor rather than by CA staff. Comments and suggestions will be requested in September and the finalized survey is anticipated to go out to residents in October. Results of the survey will be delivered early in 2012.

Recent "noise" issues with Cowan Creek exercise facilities are being addressed. Areas of concern are the walking track and aerobics area.

Many new "rules" or adjustments to by-laws have been legislated by the CA that includes installation of flag poles (although you can't have both a pole and a garage mounted flag), solar panel installations and use of rain barrels. Also, improvements have been made regarding the posting of meeting agendas and minutes. There is now a provision for implementing a payment plan to collect HOA fees before proceeding with homeowner foreclosure. In the 15-year history of Sun City, Texas, there have only been two foreclosures due to non-payment of HOA fees.

Wildfires continue to be a concern in Texas. However, Sun City's FIREWISE GROUP programs, especially in Neighborhood 27, have done an excellent job of helping to provide protection. Residents are encouraged to learn more about the FIREWISE GROUP to ensure continued success.

Upcoming Sun City events include a jewelry bazaar and a ceremony for "retiring" American flags that are no longer in service that will be conducted by a Georgetown-area Boy Scout who is doing this for his Eagle Scout project.

Unfortunately, there was only time for a couple of questions from the audience.

### **Painting this church**

*Bill was short of money and was out looking for a job. Pastor Nelson offered Bill \$500 to buy paint and paint the church. Well Bill went out bough some paint and started painting the church. He discovered that he was using more paint than he expected so the added some thinner to the paint, well it is still covered but not as well as it did at first. Well he still was using more paint than he wanted to use so he added still more thinner to the paint. Well the paint was too thin cover well but Bill still kept on painting. All of a sudden there was a bolt of lighting and a loud voice from the sky proclaimed, "Repaint and thin no more."*

## Georgetown Sun City Rotary Endowment Fund

What a great idea it was to establish our own Rotary Club Endowment. First let me explain this is different than Rotary International Foundation. R.I. Foundation enhances all of Rotary and provides the finances that fund all of the Rotary programs, such as international matching grants, international scholarships and many other programs. Paul Harris awards are awarded to Rotarians that have donated \$1,000 to the Rotary Foundation. This money is invested by R.I. for 3 years and the interest and dividends produced is used by R.I. to run the entire organization. After 3 years the original amount is then made available to the clubs for their use in funding matching grants and various other projects.

Our Georgetown Sun City Rotary Club Endowment is of our own making and was established 4 years ago. It works in somewhat the same way as we intend to use the growth of the fund for financing our local projects. These can include additional funds for Breakfast With Santa, if needed, scholarships for high school students, RYLA programs, supporting the Dist. Governors wife's program such as we did this year in providing mosquito netting and any number of other requests that come before the board. The fund is administered by a separate finance committee made up from past club presidents, club treasurer and present club president as an ex officio member. The club's board may request this committee to provide funds to support whatever project they need help with.

This is a 501 (c) 3 entity for income tax purposes so your donation to it is tax deductible. So too, is the R.I. International Fund. The difference being that the club's fund is local, close at hand and can be used for different purposes. No "red tape" is involved in obtaining the funds as it is all done at the club level. No jumping through hoops of the district or international level.

Presently we have around \$39 thousand in this fund and I would like to see this grow to the point where it could become a significant factor in providing funds for our local projects. The Chisholm Trail Community Foundation actually administers and invests these funds for us so we just "piggy back" on them and do not have to go through the hassle of creating and administering a separate 501 (c) 3 entity. \$10 thousand of this fund was just added last month by one of our members and it makes our total more significant. If we can maintain a net growth on investment of 5-6% , next year at this time we will have over \$2,000 for our projects - without having an additional fund raiser. Think down the road a way - say 5 years - could we have \$100,000 in this fund? I'll bet we can!

In the meantime when you want to bring your "umpteenth" birthday or anniversary or "heaven forbid" your wife's 34<sup>th</sup> birthday to the attention of the club, make it memorable by scratching out a check for that amount, payable to "Chisholm Trail Community Fdt." with Sun City Endowment Fund in the memo line.