



The Sun Light

THE ROTARY CLUB OF GEORGETOWN - SUN CITY
District 5870 TUESDAYS 12 NOON
Cowan Creek Amenity Center, Cool Spring Way
March 12, 2013

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

MARCH IS LITERACY MONTH

Rotary Prayer: Let us pray. Today we pray that we receive Your special blessing because we are committed to be a real service organization to help humankind. May each of us in our daily routine come to know the joy of caring and sharing with others not as fortunate as we are. May our motto that includes serving, caring and sharing be for us life in service. Amen.

Last Week:

Invocation: Hugh Young

Pledge: Art Tragesser

4-Way Test: Doug Lowe

Rotarian Guest: Darrell McGill/Downtown

Guest: Erin Kiltz/Bill Miller

Happy Bucks: \$41.00

Today's Programme: To be announced by **Bob Weimer**.

Next Week: Mr. John Delaney, Drug Policy Forum of Texas

Future Programmes:

Mar 26	Mr. Norm Peters, MEDICO
Apr 2	Club Assembly
Apr 9	Mr. Dave Lovelace, Sun City Theater building
Apr 16	Biographies
May 14	GSE team visiting from the Philippines

Upcoming Events:

April 6	Austin Rotary Club Centennial luncheon (<u>RI President-Elect Ron Burton</u> will speak)
May 31 – June 2, 2013	District 5870 Conference of Rotary Clubs, Bastrop <u>RI President-Elect Ron Burton</u> will speak.
June 23 – 26, 2013	Rotary Int'l Conference in Lisbon, Portugal

Membership Moment with **Lou Gibson** and **Harold Bergh**

Involvement – **Lou Gibson** reminded us longtime Rotarians agree that involvement is key to getting the most out of membership. Volunteering to serve on a committee that meets your interests is key to getting the most out of membership. The activities of the club will help you get to know your fellow Rotarians and better understand the work of Rotary.

Harold Bergh bemoaned the fact he has not been asked for more M&Ms.

You know you're getting old when you start watching golf on TV
and enjoying it.

Last Week: by **Glynn Hatley**

Last Tuesday's speaker, Sheila Allee, is a graduate of Texas Tech, a fellow Rotarion and a lady with an extensive and very impressive background in communications – speech writing, books, teaching, AP correspondent and at one time the Deputy Press Secretary for the Governor of Texas.

She has authored three books, the third one of which she shared with us today – “My Father's Eyes”, a memoir of her relationship with an intellectually disabled uncle – Uncle Melrose. What starts out to be a bit sad turns into a story of love and devotion to a person once shunned by all, but who becomes a very important person in Sheila's life.

As was common in the early 20th century, disabled, disfigured persons in America carried a stigma and were very much cast aside by their families. Thus, at an early age he was institutionalized and remained that way until the last few years of his life. As a young adult, Sheila set out to find Uncle Melrose. With the unauthorized help of a compassionate state worker, she was able to locate him and started visiting him. She found that his only likeness to her father was his eyes – they both had the same blue eyes.

She found him in 1991 and he died in 2001 at the age of 79. Although a short relationship, it was a fulfilling one and in Sheila's words, being around him made her feel “peaceful”. What more can you ask for?

He who has the fastest golf cart never has a bad lie.

Misc. etc: **Lou Gibson** has sold his house, but is moving only 200 yards away! **Rich Petro** has a grandson who's celebrating a birthday this week; **Stephen Brown's** oldest granddaughter had her 7th birthday on Sunday; **Gordon Bishop's** youngest daughter now has a daughter of her own; **Norm Peter's** great-grandson was 1 year old yesterday; Members were happy to see **Alex Munson** back; **Glynn Hatley** was pleased to be here and have a respite from doing his taxes. **Carolyn Holloway** reminded members about the special fundraising luncheon to be held on April 6th at which the main speaker will be incoming RI President Ron Burton; **Adaire Wolf** is recovering from recent surgery; **Bill Miller** will be able to give us a total next week of PolioPlus funds raised.

John Chenoweth attended the PETS (President-Elect Training Seminar) last weekend at which RI President-Elect Ron Burton spoke. John said the key items clubs need to focus on are: membership; foundation giving; and advertising.

Bob Smith, celebrating his 92nd birthday, was feted with a lovely cake suitably inscribed and presented by **Jeanette Nemec** while we all sang *Happy Birthday* accompanied by **Harold Bergh** on his accordian. **Pete Snelson** was not in attendance today or he would have been feted as well. It was **Carolyn Holloway** who worked to make this celebration happen.

President Jamie Mattison related that because of matching grants (with mainly the Mexico and the Downtown clubs) Brookwood in Georgetown (BiG) now has a new van in which to transport their 17 citizens. **Dick Will**, a major donor towards this enterprise, and **Bill Miller** escorted **Erin Kiltz** to the front where she was presented with a cheque for \$2,000 for BiG to go towards this enterprise.

Sunlight (not the newsletter, the real stuff): Beer's Worst Enemy

Nothing is worse than cracking a beer, only to be treated to an onslaught of “skunky” flavours and aromas. When light rays hit a beer, they break down the iso-alpha acids that give beer its bitterness. As these acids tear apart, they bind with trace amounts of sulfur to form the compound known colloquially as “stinky beer”.

Luckily, beer drinkers with functioning noses have a secret weapon: cans! Aluminum blocks all these suds-ruining rays. While brown bottles block most of them, green bottles do a horrible job blocking the skunk-inducing frequencies of light, while clear bottles don't block anything.

March is a turning point

The month of March provides each of us with an opportunity to reflect on Rotary's accomplishments. It is during this month that we pause to recognize World Rotaract Week, International Women's Day, World Water Day, and Literacy Month – all significant reminders of the good that Rotarians have done worldwide.

As I've traveled around the world, I've been inspired by Rotaractors and their important contributions to the Rotary family. I've had the chance to work with the outstanding women who serve on our Board of Directors. I've witnessed the incredible progress The Rotary Foundation has made on water and sanitation – an area of focus that is crucial to our growing population.

And as we begin this month long celebration of literacy, I've seen how Rotarians have helped empower communities with simple, creative, and sustainable ways to break the cycle of poor education. Literacy plays a critical role in healthy and productive lives, and whether it was by volunteering at a local school, bringing language training to adults and children through concentrated language encounter and computer-assisted literacy systems, or ensuring that all children have the textbooks they need, Rotarians have helped thousands.

Our promises and accomplishments have reached a turning point: We must now look at the goals we still aim to achieve. Keep the momentum up. Get the word out. Make sure your club knows about this important month in Rotary so that come next March, we'll have even greater successes to celebrate.

Foundation Trustee Chair Wilfrid J. Wilkinson

To improve your memory, lend people money.

Five reasons to eradicate polio

(1) it saves lives

Experts say if we choose to control polio rather than eradicate it, more than 10 million children under the age of five could be paralyzed by the disease in the next 40 years.

(2) it's achievable

We have the tools to end the disease and the means to reach all children. The new bivalent vaccine successfully targets the two remaining strains of polio in one dose.

(3) it's a good investment

An independent study published in the medical journal *Vaccine* estimates that the US\$9 billion global investment in a polio-free world will net an economic benefit of \$40 billion to \$50 billion over the next 20 years.

(4) it strengthens the system

Our polio eradication efforts have established an active disease surveillance network in all countries that is supporting other health interventions, including measles vaccinations and the distribution of deworming tablets and bed nets.

(5) it sets the stage

The ability to reach all children with the polio vaccine is proof that we can succeed on our next major global health initiative.

What is Rotary?

Rotary International is a volunteer organization of business and professional leaders who provide humanitarian service, and help to build goodwill and peace in the world. There are approximately 1.2 million Rotary club members belonging to 34,000 Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas. Founded in Chicago in 1905, Rotary celebrated 100 years of service in 2005. The Rotary Foundation has awarded more than US\$2.1 billion in grants, which are administered at the local level by Rotary clubs.

What is the purpose of Rotary?

Rotary clubs exist to improve communities through a range of humanitarian, intercultural and educational activities. Clubs advance international understanding by partnering with clubs in other countries. Rotary also encourages high ethical standards in all vocations.

What do Rotary clubs do?

Rotary clubs address critical issues at home and abroad by providing health care and medical supplies, clean water, food, job training, youth development, and education to millions of people in need. Examples of Rotary's focus areas include:

Polio Eradication - In 1985, Rotary International created PolioPlus – a program to immunize all the world’s children against polio. To date, Rotary has contributed more than US\$1 billion and countless volunteer hours to the protection of more than two billion children in 122 countries. Rotary is currently working to raise an additional US\$200 million toward a US\$355 million challenge grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. These efforts are providing much needed polio vaccine, operational support, medical personnel, laboratory equipment and educational materials for health workers and parents. In addition, Rotary has played a major role in decisions by donor governments to contribute over \$6 billion to the effort. With its community-based network worldwide, Rotary is the volunteer arm of the global partnership dedicated to eradicating polio. Rotary volunteers assist in vaccine delivery, social mobilization and logistical help in cooperation with the national health ministries, the World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Peace - In an effort to educate tomorrow’s peacemakers and ambassadors, up to 110 Rotary World Peace Fellows are sponsored each year to study at one of the eight universities for International Studies in peace and conflict resolution. Since 2002, 431 fellows from over 75 countries have participated at a cost of more than \$23 million.

International Education - Rotary is the world’s largest privately-funded source of international scholarships. Each year, about 1,000 university students receive Rotary scholarships to study abroad. Rotary clubs also coordinate a high school- age student exchange program that has sent nearly 8,000 students abroad for three months to a year.

Humanitarian Projects - Rotary clubs initiate thousands of humanitarian service projects every year. These volunteer- driven projects address the root causes of conflict, such as hunger, poverty, disease and illiteracy.

Literacy - Rotary clubs work to improve literacy rates worldwide. A unique, Rotary-pioneered approach called the Concentrated Language Encounter (CLE) has proven very effective in resource-strapped developing countries. It was so successful in Thailand, that the Thai government adopted the program nationwide.

Water Management - Recognizing the importance of clean water, many Rotary clubs help to install wells and develop water treatment and distribution systems to increase access to fresh drinking water for communities in need, especially in developing countries.

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Did you Know?

The Eisenhower interstate system requires that one mile in every five must be straight; these sections are usable as airstrips in time of war or emergency.

