



THE SUN LIGHT

THE ROTARY CLUB OF GEORGETOWN - SUN CITY

District 5870 TUESDAYS 12 NOON

Cowan Creek Amenity Center, Cool Spring Way

March 27, 2012

www.RotaryDistrict5870.com www.rotary.org

1530 Sun City Blvd, Suite 120 Box 441, Georgetown 78633

I don't make jokes.

I just watch the government and report facts.

- Will Rogers

Last Week:

The programme centered on **membership** and was presented by **Lou Gibson** and **Harold Bergh**. Lou began by installing **Dan Barr** as a member. And to reinforce Dan's commitment to Rotary, Lou asked him to recite the 4-Way Test. Welcome, Dan!

The membership goal for our club is have at least 85 members within three years (we now have 65 members). Lou emphasized member retention for several reasons. The club's ability to serve the community is directly related to the strength and size of our membership base and thus critical to our long term success in increasing our membership numbers.

New members bring in energy and ideas both of which benefit the club and its endeavours. Also, recruiting members from the business community and surrounding Sun City area will result in more influence and recognition in the community. It's quite likely there is a large number of former Rotarians in Sun City whose Rotary experience would be invaluable to our club; we need to find them and encourage them to join us. Having more vibrant members will not only keep down our costs but will allow us to do more good in the community.

Harold stressed that "**Membership Matters**" is a theme he and Lou want to emphasize especially during the next year. Pill bottles containing M&M's were given to each member and the "directions" on the label will serve as reminders that membership matters and the retention of members is critical not only to support the community but also to support projects of Rotary International. This programme – using M&M "prescription" bottles – was created by Harold's son, Brian, president of the Glendale California Rotary Club. Lou and Harold have adapted it to fit the needs of our club; and **John Chenoweth** helped with the labels specific to Sun City Rotary.

Invocation: Kelly Barnett

Members Attending: 45

Pledge: David Leas

Happy Bucks: \$56.00

4-way test: Robert Deffeyes

Rotarian Guest: Barbara Garland/Downtown

Guests: Bob Campbell & Dan Ryder/Lou Gibson

Today's Programme: **Bob Smith** will introduce Robert R. Payne, author of "*Earhart's Flight Into Yesterday*" - the story of Amelia Earhart's last flight.

Next Week: Club Assembly

Future Programmes:

April 10	John Rouse
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 Spring Fling Fundraiser (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)

Misc. etc. **David Leas** is moving to San Antonio next week and thus this was his last meeting here (he will be sorely missed); he advised us he has completed the military histories of club members and the documents will be available to all club members (they will not be on the Internet) at a cost of \$10 to cover printing. Sign-up sheets are here and **Tom Minor** has agreed to distribute the documents since David will be in S.A.

Guest **Barbara Garland** brought tickets to the downtown club's fundraiser bar-b-que on April 13th at which they will have several big ticket items up for auction; **Charley Ray** is back from a trip to California; since **Lou Gibson** is now broke (!), a few members put some money into Happy Bucks for him; **Byron Calcote** is back; **Don Mabray** gave his usual update on Baylor; **Tom Minor**, **Jamie Mattison** and others are sad David and Maria Leas are leaving; several members mentioned how grateful they are for the good rain we've had; **Dick Will** said his rain gauge showed 3" rains so he put \$3 into Happy Bucks; **Chris Mealy** attended the meeting (great to see him) and is now back on Chemo after his operation; **Bob Weimer** reminded us about the Spring Fling on Sunday, April 29th.

Cell Phonies By **Bob Deffeyes**

Our cell phones date back to an invention by Alexander Graham Bell. The FIRST message sent by bell was to his assistant, "Watson, come here. I want you." This first message foreshadowed the cell phone because that first message interrupted someone who was busy trying to do his job. After many years of development, the modern cell phone has raised interrupting to an art form. Cell phones interrupt all times of the day and night all over the world. They interrupt concerts, lectures, meetings, potty breaks, weddings, etc., at the worst possible moments. The cell phones don't just ring. Their ringtones buzz, squeak and make looney tunes and merry melodies. At a funeral in Colorado Springs a few years ago, a pallbearer's cell phone blasted out with the trio from Sousa's "Stars and Stripes Forever". The pallbearer had both hands occupied and could not "drop everything" to shut the damned thing off. I believe that this ability to screech out a ring tone makes the cell phone the most deadly weapon on the battlefield of American business.

No comments on cell phones would be complete without looking at the recent articles on "Telephone Etiquette" – (an oxymoron in itself). Etiquette passed away with the invention of the cell phone exactly like the end of chivalry and knights in shining armor. Most cell phone operators answer with "What??? They seem to think that is a contraction for "Good Morning, How May I Help You?" I believe that if Alex Bell could foresee the way people use his invention today, the first phone message would have been, "Watson come quick and help me. We gotta kill this damned thing before it can reproduce."

Recent medical studies have shown that current businessmen live longer in this wonderful world of cell phones, pagers, iPhones, iPads, laptops, FAX's, laser printers, ink jet printers, and all that other electronic stuff. Do they really live longer? Or, does it just seem longer. I think that the real reason is that when the Angel of Death calls for them, he gets "If this is an emergency, hang up dial 919. Please listen to all options carefully as our numbers have recently been changed. If you wish to speak with scheduling press 7; if you wish to speak with sales, press 4; if you want to speak to customer service, press 9; if you wish to go to the bathroom, hang up and call again later..." The only time a live person answers a cell phone any more is when you dialed a wrong number. So I hope you all joined me by celebrating Alex Graham Bell's birthday on March 3rd with a great big Bronx cheer.

News From the Boardroom:

Lou Gibson made a motion seconded by Tom Minor that the membership of **Don Anthis** be reinstated to active member status and that Don be granted a six month leave of absence. This was in response to a written letter from Don Anthis requesting the leave of absence and his up to date payment of his dues. The vote for approval of this motion by the Board was unanimous. President Petro will notify Don of this action in writing.

PolioPlus News

Polio vaccination campaign to immunize millions in Africa

By Ambroise Tshimbalanga Kasongo, chair of RI's African PolioPlus Committee

More than 100 million children below the age of five will be vaccinated against polio in a synchronized campaign covering 20 countries in West and Central Africa starting on Friday.

Tens of thousands of health workers and volunteers including Rotarians are uniting with health ministries, UN Agencies, and communities during four days of door-to-door vaccinations. Nigeria, one of three remaining polio-endemic countries along with Afghanistan and Pakistan, is aiming to get the two drops of oral vaccine into the mouths of 57.7 million children.

This year's progress in India has proven what is possible when we focus on the task at hand. In Africa, the end of polio is in sight, but we still have hard work ahead. Failure is not an option.

If you miss a meeting -

E-clubs

Rotary e-clubs are clubs that meet online. For many members, this new way of experiencing Rotary offers the benefits of a Rotary club, with added flexibility. Other than meeting online to conduct club business, Rotary e-clubs are essentially the same as any other Rotary club: club members carry out service projects, support The Rotary Foundation, and socialize and network with each other. The main difference? E-clubs are accessible 24/7.

Membership

Although each e-club is based in a specific district, its membership can be drawn from anywhere in the world. E-clubs became official in July 2010. Club members range from young professionals to retirees. E-clubs attract members who live in different places throughout the year, have family or work commitments, travel frequently, or have limited mobility. Also, **any Rotarian can make up a missed meeting by participating in an e-club online meeting**. The addition of Rotary e-clubs reflects the growth of online communities and the sheer number of Rotarians -- and potential new members -- who are already meeting and interacting online.

Presidents-elect training seminar (PETS)

The presidents-elect training seminar helps presidents-elect prepare for their year as club president. The meeting is an opportunity for incoming club presidents to build strong working relationships with their district governor-elect and incoming assistant governors.

Convener: District governor-elect

Who participates: Club presidents-elect

Recommended time frame: Annual one-and-a-half-day seminar in March

Topics

- RI theme
- Role and responsibilities
- Working with your club and district leaders
- Club administration
- Membership
- Service projects
- The Rotary Foundation
- Public relations
- Goal setting

Tsunami rubbish arrives:

A large fishing vessel swept away by the tsunami that devastated Japan last year has been spotted adrift off British Columbia in western Canada. Jeff Olsson of Victoria's Joint rescue coordination center says an airplane contracted by the government spotted the 50-foot-long vessel recently about 160 miles west of Haida Gwaii, slowly drifting toward shore.

The vessel has been identified as coming from Hokkaido, Japan. Olsson says no one is believed to be aboard and there's no environmental danger. A maritime warning has been issued because the vessel could pose a navigational hazard. About 5 million tons of debris were swept into the ocean in March 2011 when a magnitude-9.0 earthquake and tsunami struck Japan.

Deep Thoughts

Why is it called a hamburger when it is beef?
Why are there interstate highways in Hawaii?
If nothing sticks to teflon, how do they make it stick to the pan?
Why do they put braille dots on the keypad of a drive-up ATM?
Why do we drive on parkways and park on driveways?
Why is it cargo on a ship and shipment in a car?
What is an occasional table when it isn't a table?
What was the best thing before sliced bread?
Why do we play in recitals and recite in plays?
Why doesn't glue stick to the inside of the bottle?
Why does your nose run and your feet smell?
If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is not for you.
By the time you can make ends meet, they move the ends.
If only the good die young, what does that say about senior citizens?
Employ teenagers – while they know everything.
The trouble with doing something right the first time, no one appreciates how difficult it was.