



THE SUN LIGHT

THE ROTARY CLUB OF GEORGETOWN - SUN CITY
District 5870 TUESDAYS 12 NOON Cowan Creek
Amenity Center, Cool Spring Way
May 31, 2011

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

Points to ponder: Government, even in its best state, is but a necessary evil;
in its worst state, an intolerable one.

Last Week: by Harold Steadman

The speaker for today is the director of the Williamson Museum, just across the street from the County Courthouse, on Austin Ave. She was raised to this level when Chris Dyer, who held the job for several years, put the museum into the picture for all of Georgetown. Ms. Ross talked about the Museum's exhibits, their education program and programs for young people of Georgetown. It is a busy place. The museum is an important landmark for Georgetown.

Invocation: Logan Cummings

Pledge: John Rouse

4-Way Test: Byron Calcote

Guests: Richard Taylor/Don Anthis

Laura Coburn/Chris Mealy

Marshall Hussein/Chris Mealy

Colleen McDaniel, Erica Hernandez, Maria Gonzalez,
Brittney Schwertner, & Casey Jones – graduating
students from Jarrell High School / John Rouse

Rotarians: Darrick McGill/Downtown
Chris Cash/Downtown
Ray Barron/Downtown
Malcolm Hensley/Odessa East
Sugie Mayfield/Carrollton

News, etc: Members attending: 48

To-day, the inestimable **Nemecs** prepared a Czech meal for us which was accompanied by music played by **Harold Bergh** on his accordion. Richard Nemecek described each dish in Czech (which your humble editor will not try to emulate), all of which were delicious – especially the kolaches made by Jeanette; thanks go to **Stephen Brown** for arranging this luncheon.

Members were delighted to have the seniors here today – and delighted to have such a special meal; **Lou Gibson** noted that this evening at the Worship Place there would be a seminar on Alzheimers; **Harold Bergh** said his oldest son had a birthday yesterday and is the President-elect of the Rosedale Rotary Club in California; **Harold Steadman** was congratulated for providing 166 items to the Caring Place (in our ongoing Food Drive Contest).

John Rouse asked his seniors to stand up and tell us about their hopes and plans for the future; they are a wonderful group – both articulate and a treat to have with us.

*Memorial Day is a day when we pause to give thanks to the
people who fought for the all the things we have.*

Tjhis Week: Al Cummins will present a programme.

Richard Taylor:

Richard was introduced by **Lou Gibson** as the most unusual person he has met. He is a retired psychologist who made the decision to write about each stage of his Alzheimer's disease as it progresses. Richard introduced himself by saying he was diagnosed about eight years ago; wept for three months; was depressed for eighteen months and then decided to "do something with [his] life and wrote a book". After the book came out he was asked by more and more clubs and organizations to speak and this has now become his purpose in life. He told us anyone aged 65 has a 1 in 10 chance of having some sort of dementia by age 85, 50% will exhibit signs. Richard warned us there is a "tsunami" of dementia waiting since the huge number of "baby boomers" are now on the cusp of age 65. We are getting confused from time to time; become occasionally disoriented; and misunderstand things and misplace things – all of which we used to do when we were in our 30s, but now we do it more and more often.

Of the more than 50 types of dementia, the most talked about is Alzheimer's which has no known cause and no known cure. As Richard mentioned, there are many areas of assistance for those who have some physical debility but nothing really for those with dementia. One reason, Richard thought, is because there is still stigma attached to brain diseases. People need support to enable them to live their lives more fully.

Next Week: Byron Calcote has asked Mr. Don Cardno, a resident of San Miguel de Allende for 20 years to speak to us. Mr. Cardno was President of the Board of Directors of the Biblioteca Pública de San Miguel at different times and the publisher of *Atención San Miguel*.

Future Programmes:

June 7 Brian Calcote

June 14 Bob Derse

June 22

June 28

July 5

July 12

July 19

July 26

PRESIDENTS NIGHT

E.C. Deaton

Nathan Cabaniss

Ron Ferreri

Lou Gibson

Bill Harrah

Future Recorders:

Bob Weimer

Charley Ray

Adaire Wolf

Pete Snelson

Don Anthis

Don Bender

Gary Brown

Upcoming Events:

June 3-5 D5870 Annual Conference, Fredericksburg

June 4 Foundation dinner, Nimitz Museum, Fredericksburg

June 22 Presidents Dinner

July 3-8 RYLA Camp

Extension Chords

*Electricians use extension cords. Musicians use harmonic chords. What do you get if you combine the two? **Extension** has a special meaning in Rotary. Extension is the opening of a new Rotary Club somewhere in the world. The new club extends the worldwide programs of Rotary and extends the recognition of the work that we all do as Rotarians. That recognition strikes a harmonic **chord** with the folks who are helped by our work.*

To start a new club, you must have a clearly defined territory that the club will serve. That is not always easy to do. The territory must have enough business and professional folks to justify a club. Territory can be defined to allow a morning club in a locality where a noon club already is established and must have the noon club's approval. That means the new club must have a list of 40 business and professional folks as potential members and should be able to hold 20 of those as permanent members. Rotary pushes clubs with less than 20 members to merge with a nearby larger club. One of the most dynamic clubs I ever visited had only 11 members.

They were unbelievably aggressive and had 100% of their members attending every district event – District assemblies, district conferences, world peace luncheons, etc. Two members

rescheduled European business trips to be able to attend their district assembly. Just by attending one of their meetings, I became involved on one of their highly successful projects and heard from them for a couple of years. Then they were folded into a larger nearby club and I ceased to hear from them. That seemed to me to be the downside of the 20-member policy.

So how successful is the Rotary Extension Chord? Every day about two new Rotary clubs start up somewhere around the world. That is about 700 new clubs a year somewhere in the over 150 countries where Rotary operates. We gain over 14,000 new folks dedicated to Service Above Self every year. That really strikes a responsive Chord for all Rotarians.

- - Bob Deffeytes

Bill Gates addressed Rotarians during the third plenary session of the 2011 RI Convention 24 May.

Bill Gates, cochair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, praised Rotary for its continued success in the effort to eradicate polio, but cautioned that Rotarians will need to redouble their efforts to keep from spreading -- and threatening hundreds of thousands of children. Gates, the keynote speaker Plenary session of the 2011 RI Convention, 24 May in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA, said that because of Rotary, there are many places in the world where polio is no longer considered a threat. "That's a blessing and a curse," said Gates. "The blessing is that in many places, polio is a disease of the past. The curse is that it is now harder for us to raise awareness that, in some places, polio is also a disease of the present. If we fail to help leaders around the world understand this, polio is certain to be a disease of the future." Gates praised Rotary for reducing the incidence of polio by more than 99 percent worldwide since 1988.

"Your work has brought us so far," he said. "I'm so proud to be a partner in the work that Rotary has been doing to eradicate polio." Gates noted that only one case of polio had been reported in India this year, as of March. "India is approaching zero cases," said Gates. "None of this would have been remotely achievable had it not been for Rotary. We would not be where we are without you. Nor can we get to where we're going without you."

Gates said that he and his wife, Melinda, have made eradicating polio their foundation's top priority. With the world on the threshold of eradication, the hard work really begins, he said. "Polio eradication has been our single biggest investment in recent years, as far as innovation and creativity. The last 1 percent will be the longest and hardest 1 percent," he said. "It will require more work and more commitment than ever before. Without the redoubled effort of everyone in this room, and your fellow Rotarians around the world, we will not succeed. Redoubling is crucial to ending polio."

The Gates Foundation has awarded two grants totaling US\$355 million to Rotary in support of its work in eradicating the disease. Rotary has responded with [Rotary's US\\$200 Million Challenge](#). To date, Rotarians have raised \$173.2 million for the challenge. Gates said he plans to work with Rotary leadership to keep polio front and center in the public eye. "You have helped so many people understand that we are 'this close.' I challenge you to make your voices louder." Countries including Canada, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, and the United States have all increased their investment in the eradication effort. Gates attributed that success to the pressure Rotarians have put on the leaders of those countries. But he noted that with a funding gap of \$400 million next year for the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#), it is no time to let up.

"If we fail, the disease will not stay at its current low level," he said. "It will spread back into countries where it's been eliminated, and will kill and paralyze hundreds of thousands of children who used to be safe." Gates said that the monuments Rotarians have [illuminated with the End Polio Now message](#) are powerful images. "But ultimately, the most important monument won't be the one we illuminate," said Gates. "It will be the one we create."