



THE SUN LIGHT

THE ROTARY CLUB OF GEORGETOWN - SUN CITY
District 5870 TUESDAYS 12 NOON Cowan Creek
Amenity Center, Cool Spring Way
September 27, 2011

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

"With hurricanes, tornados, fires out of control, mud slides, flooding, and severe thunderstorms tearing up the country from one end to another, and with the threat of bird flu and terrorist attacks, are we sure this is a good time to take God out of the Pledge of Allegiance?" - - - Jay Leno

Last Week:

Presiding Officer: Rich Petro
Invocation: David Leas
Pledge: Art Tragesser
4-Way Test: Tom Minor

Visiting Rotarians: Ron Garland/Downtown

Guests: Effie Selman/Bob Selman
Dan Barr/Lou Gibson
Peter Streich/Nathan Cabaniss
Kelly Barnett/Lou Gibson
Bill Thompson

Members present: 42
Happy Bucks: \$54.00

LAST WEEK: by Bill Grusy

The speaker for our Sept. 20th program was Laura Antoine, President of the Georgetown Rotary Club. Mrs Antoine is also the Director of the Georgetown Independent School District Mentor Program (formerly Partners In Education). We were told that due to the economic downturn, there are 142 fewer persons participating in the mentor program than last year, which has resulted in an increased need for volunteers.

The value of mentor programs was demonstrated by a DVD which showed two students who were recipients of a mentor during their school years. In the first instance, a boy who lost his father at age four and his mother at age six was provided a mentor to help steer his life in the right direction. Understandably, he felt lonely, unloved, and sorely in need of someone with whom he could look up to and feel comfortable. The boy stated that he developed a father-son relationship with his mentor, and that mentoring improved his self-esteem, school attendance, as well as his goals and expectations. The young girl who was interviewed was from a broken family with multiple distractions. She too, was in dire need of someone with whom she could develop a relationship and bond. she emphasized that the most important outcome of her mentorship was the mother-daughter relationship which gave her confidence and made her more goal-oriented. This girl excelled in sports, and was a star of the school's basketball team.

In view of the need for volunteers in the mentor program, Mrs Antoine suggested that members of our club consider participation in this activity. She provided interested persons a set of procedures to be followed.

A PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

Great and Amazing Creator,

We here today offer a prayer of gratitude and we do so with the certain knowledge that prayers may indeed be answered.

We know this in our hearts but we have also seen the results of research confirming the efficacy of some prayers. So, please accept our gratitude today.

We are grateful for the healthful recovery of Bob and Chris and others whose bodies need repair.

We appreciate the opportunity to share good food and good companionship.

We accept with joy our opportunities here in Rotary to combine our talents, wisdom, and elbow grease to synergistically enrich the world.

Thank you for this day and for the rain You will be sending our way.

- - - David Leas

Today: **Jamie Mattison**, with help from **Doug Lowe**, will lead a discussion on our club's vision for the future taking into account the aims and suggestions made on August 23rd.

Next Week: Club planning will continue with discussions about What Are Our Goals? as a club.

Future Programmes:

Oct 4	Club Planning - Goals
Oct 11	Don Bender - Dr. Rahmani
Oct 18	<u>Anniversary Dinner (to be held at the Oaks)</u>
Oct 25	Club Planning – Final
Nov 1	Bill Harries
Nov 8	Salute to club Veterans

~~~~ A pat on the back is only a few inches from a kick in the pants. ~~~~~

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|----------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| <b><u>Dates to Remember:</u></b> | Sept 29 – Oct 1       | Bi-District Reunion, South Padre Island        |
|                                  | Oct. 15-16            | Chisholm Trail Days                            |
|                                  | Nov. 4-6              | Hill Country Arts and Crafts Fair              |
|                                  | Nov 28 – Dec 2        | Shopping for BWS                               |
|                                  | Dec 7                 | Gift wrapping                                  |
|                                  | Dec 10                | Gift deliveries                                |
|                                  | Dec 17                | Breakfast With Santa (G'town Community Center) |
|                                  | Jan 13, '12           | District Roll of Fame nomination deadline      |
|                                  | Feb 11, '12           | Foundation Dinner, Lost Pines Resort           |
|                                  | May 6-9, '12          | R.I. Convention, Bangkok                       |
|                                  | May 16 – June 16, '12 | GSE Team here from Australia                   |
|                                  | May - June            | District Conference                            |

## MILITARY HISTORIES OF ROTARY CLUB MEMBERS

Fellow Rotarians;

You may be aware that the club has been working on a project to collect and record in writing the various military experiences of club members (and certain close relatives) who have been veterans. Thus far over 20 histories have been recorded and the project is nearing completion.

**David Leas** has attempted to contact each club member who has indicated a personal military experience. If you are a veteran, and have not been contacted by Dave, be assured that the oversight has been inadvertent; we do not wish to leave out any veteran who wishes to be included in the project. Please note also that experience in war events is not a prerequisite. Many of us were in the military, did our duty, and were willing to serve anywhere, anytime. Whether or not we got into battle, we did our duty for our country. Please contact Dave (869-8377) if you are a veteran and wish to be included in the project. Please note the following:

1. The project includes the military experiences of present and past club members, and certain close relatives of club members.
2. Participation in battle experiences is not necessary; you served your country, and that is sufficient.
3. A club program concerning the project is planned for the Tuesday before Veterans' day (Nov 8<sup>th</sup>) in November (you might wish to invite special guests for the occasion) .

### **International Day of Peace**

This week the world celebrated the International Day of Peace.

Each year, the Rotary Peace Centers train future leaders who have a demonstrated commitment to peace, preparing them to promote national and international cooperation and the successful resolution of conflict. Fellows earn a master's degree in international relations, sustainable development, peace studies, conflict resolution, or related fields, or a professional development certificate in peace and conflict studies.

**News, etc.** **Ron Ferreri** is home after successful shoulder surgery; members were glad to see **Bob Selman** and **Dick Will** back; **Bob Smith's** granddaughter in Michigan has entered nursing school; **Norm Peters** reported MEDCO has received \$1,000 gift.

**Barb Pekar** reminded everyone to keep collecting box tops for Jarrell Elementary School; make sure to look at all boxes to see if any have the special identification mark. Barb asked new members to help her with the project.

**John Chenoweth** asked members to help – after the meeting - with stuffing and stamping envelopes for the Breakfast with Santa project.

**Ron Garland** from the Downtown club informed members that his club is hosting the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual fund raising golf Tournament Thursday. He commended our club for great participation. Then, from 6-9PM there will be a non-golfer happy hour (including dinner and wine) to be held at the Pavilion for just \$25. (\$30 at the door). As well there are \$5 raffle tickets with great prizes!

President **Rich Petro** inducted three members to-day: **Shelly LeBeau**; **Ray Hyde**; and **Ray Bergman**. Welcome to all three!

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I don't know if you've had this conversation or not, but last month I turned to my wife while we were sitting together in our family room and said, "Just so you know, I never want to live in a vegetative state dependent on some machine. If that ever happens, just pull the plug."

She immediately got up, walked over and unplugged the TV.

- Bob Deffeyes

## TO ALL THE KIDS WHO SURVIVED THE 1930s, '40s, '50s, '60s and '70s!!

First, we survived being born to mothers who may have smoked and/or drank while they were pregnant. They took aspirin, ate blue cheese dressing, tuna from a can, and didn't get tested for diabetes.

Then, after that trauma, we were put to sleep on our tummies in baby cribs covered with bright colored lead-based paints. We had no childproof lids on medicine bottles, locks on doors or cabinets, and, when we rode our bikes, we had baseball caps, not helmets, on our heads. As infants and children, we would ride in cars with no car seats, no booster seats, no seat belts, no air bags, bald tires and sometimes no brakes. Riding in the back of a pick-up truck on a warm day was always a special treat.

We drank water from the garden hose and not from a bottle. We shared one soft drink with four friends, from one bottle, and no one actually died from this. We ate cupcakes, white bread, real butter, and bacon. We drank Kool-Aid made with real white sugar. And we weren't overweight. WHY? Because we were always outside playing...that's why! We would leave home in the morning and play all day, as long as we were back when the streetlights came on. No one was able to reach us all day. --And, we were OKAY.

We would spend hours building our go-carts out of scraps and then ride them down the hill, only to find out we forgot the brakes.. After running into the bushes a few times, we learned to solve the problem.. We did not have Play Stations, Nintendos and X-boxes. There were no video games, no 150 channels on cable, no video movies or DVDs, no surround-sound or CDs, no cell phones, no personal computers, no Internet and no chat rooms. WE HAD FRIENDS and we went outside and found them!

We fell out of trees, got cut, broke bones and teeth, and there were no lawsuits from those accidents. We would get spankings with wooden spoons, switches, ping-pong paddles, or just a bare hand, and no one would call child services to report abuse. We ate worms, and mud pies made from dirt, and the worms did not live in us forever.

We were given BB guns for our 10th birthdays, 22 rifles for our 12th, rode horses, made up games with sticks and tennis balls, and - although we were told it would happen - we did not put out very many eyes. We rode bikes or walked to a friend's house and knocked on the door or rang the bell, or just walked in and talked to them. Little League had tryouts and not everyone made the team. Those who didn't had to learn to deal with disappointment. Imagine that!! **The idea of a parent bailing us out if we broke the law was unheard of. They actually sided with the law!**

These generations have produced some of the best risk-takers, problem solvers, and inventors ever. The past 50 to 85 years have seen an explosion of innovation and new ideas. We had freedom, failure, success and responsibility, and we learned how to deal with it all.. If YOU are one of those born between 1925-1970 - - CONGRATULATIONS!

You might want to share this with others who have had the luck to grow up as kids before the lawyers and the government regulated so much of our lives for our own good. While you are at it, forward it to your kids, so they will know how brave and lucky their parents were. Kind of makes you want to run through the house with scissors, doesn't it? ~~~~~

