



THE SUN LIGHT

THE ROTARY CLUB OF GEORGETOWN - SUN CITY
District 5870 TUESDAYS 12 NOON Cowan Creek
Amenity Center, Cool Spring Way
September 6, 2011

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

With remarkable prescience, Herbert Hoover once remarked,
" Blessed are the young, for they shall inherit the national debt."

Last Week:

Presiding Officer: Rich Petro

Invocation: Al Cummins

Pledge: Bob Deffeyes

4-Way Test: Tom Powell

Guests: John Harding/Lou Gibson

Ben Hyde/Stephen Brown

Shell LeBeau/Lou Gibson

Danny Berking/Lou Gibson

Visiting Rotarians: PDG Gene Davenport – Georgetown
Ray Barron - Downtown

Members present: 43

Happy Bucks: \$ 46.00

This Week: **Caroline Holloway** is bringing Judy Apel, chairman of Friends of Library, and also the Director of the Georgetown Library. Their topic will cover information about the new Bookmobile.

LAST WEEK: by **Renée Mercier**

Jarrell School Superintendent, **John Rouse**, spoke to his fellow Rotarians about the budget cuts to education in Texas. In May of this year the previous cut of \$9.8 billion, legislated in January was reduced to \$4 billion. Nevertheless this extreme shortage of funds has brought about serious changes in the ability of educators to educate. How do we deal with this ? Twenty percent of personnel is gone. One hundred and forty positions in Georgetown are gone. They have a third less money available. Results are: no new school bus; no director of Technology; no travel for staff and no field trips for parents. Also much larger classes. And with the downturn in home values, less tax revenues. Rouse estimates that the state of Texas contributes 46 per cent to the cost of our schools. Cuts are necessary, but why education ?

Future Programmes:

Sept 13	Lou Gibson - Charles Lance, Veterans' Benefits
Sept 20	Bill Grusy - Laura Antoine, Partners in Education
Sept 27	Jamie Mattison & Doug Lowe - club planning
Oct 4	Jamie Mattison & Doug Lowe - club planning
Oct 11	Harold Lawless - Dr. Rahmani
Oct 18	<u>Anniversary Dinner</u> (to be held in the Sun City ballroom)

<u>Dates to Remember:</u>	Sept 9	GSE Team Member application deadline
	Sept 15	Matching Grant applications due to District
	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
	Dec 6	Gift wrapping
	Dec 16	Breakfast With Santa
	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

NEWS ETC: **Bob Weimer** is home and exercising faithfully! **Ron Ferreri** is happy to be back home from a trip to the Baltic; members are happy that football is resuming; **Bob Deffeyes** is on holiday in Ireland; **Bill Grusy** left flyers on upcoming Palace Theater productions on all the tables; **Bill Miller** is happy to be back in Texas after being in Virginia during the recent earthquake; **Linda Roberts** has just celebrated her birthday; **Chris Mealy** is going home to the “Motherland” this weekend to attend the wedding of his nephew; **John Rouse** is happy to have the first week of school under his belt.

The club has received an acknowledgement from Brigitte Pahwa thanking the club for our donation toward the purchase of mosquito nets.

Linda Cormack from the Senior University spoke for a few minutes about the organization. There are three sessions each year and the annual cost to join is \$50. Currently there are about 600 members who enjoy the lectures and discussions. Once a member, anyone aged 50 or older may take as many classes as he wishes for just \$60 per semester which covers all classes selected. Linda left brochures on the tables and encouraged members to sign up to receive notices of future programmes. As well there are free public lectures each year and anyone may attend. Also Senior University arranges trips to local areas and further afield. Senior University is a 501(c) entity and does not solicit funds.

Breakfast With Santa

John Chenoweth brought us up to date on last year's efforts – which exceeded \$30,000 in fundraising for the first time that enabled the club not only to host Breakfast With Santa for 850 but also to buy \$200 HEB gift cards for each family, and presents and clothes for children. He noted that many tickets sold were not redeemed which meant more funds to spend on families; and the club's individual efforts resulted in a substantial percentage of the total raised. Also, of the 200+ free tickets given to sponsors, only very small numbers were used.

Many free tickets are also given to the Boys' and Girls' Club; Jarrell HS; and to Georgetown HS. All told, only 206 out of the 800 free tickets were used. With great help from **Adaire Wolf** and **Barb Pekar** the shopping at WalMart took only 2 days instead of the 3 which had been planned. And for the second year the Community Center was used for the wrapping – and a delicious lunch put on by our “favourite people”, **Jeanette and Richard Nemec**.

John stressed we need to support Chatsworth since they have been very helpful to us over the years. He will be giving them a plaque to show our appreciation. For 2011, Breakfast With Santa will be held at the Community Center this year as we have outgrown the fire station. Dates are as follows:

Nov 28 – Dec 2	Shopping @ WalMart
December 6	Gift Wrapping
December 10	Gift delivery
December 16	Breakfast With Santa

Blocking and Tackling - The fundamentals

A few years ago, Ethel and I sat down for dinner in Fort Williams, Scotland. The waitress asked, "Are you a Rotarian?" She had spent a year in Argentina as a Rotary Youth Exchange student and could not say enough good things about Rotary. When she saw my Rotary lapel pin, she knew that I was one of the 1.2 million Rotarians around the world who work to serve others. Serving others is the fundamentals of Rotary, just as blocking and tackling are the fundamentals of the Dallas Cowboys. Sometimes in the heat of a tough game, the Cowboys sometimes forget blocking and tackling and bad stuff happens. As Rotarians we need to keep our focus on the fundamentals.

The most important activity in our club right now is the preparation of a long-range plan. You are a key part of that plan and you need to keep your focus on the fundamentals of the game. A few years back, the Rotary Board of Directors spent considerable time coming up with the fundamental definition of the goal of Rotary. For me, that statement is still the best fundamental definition I have seen.

"Rotary is an organization of business and professional leaders united worldwide, who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world."

As you help our club build a successful long-range plan, maybe this statement will help you focus on what Sun City Rotary should be doing in the years ahead to continue our outstanding past success into the future. Maybe some day you will have dinner in some place like Fort Williams and have the satisfaction of seeing how the efforts of Sun City Rotary add to the 30,000 other clubs to make the world a better place to live.

- Bob Deffeyes

Group Study Exchange – GSE

The team which will travel to France next spring will be selected on September 17th and the deadline for applications is September 9th. **Chris Mealy** urged members to think of possible applicants who must be between 25 and 40, been in their occupations at least two years and are not related to a Rotarian. Application forms can be downloaded from Rotary.org/GSE, filled out and then given to Chris.

Club Planning:

Doug Lowe said he and **Jamie Mattison** are presently going through and collating the various suggestions made and will be presenting information during a meeting to be held soon.

ET CETERA:

Greater Los Angeles Area Driver's License Application

Name: _____ Stage name: _____

Agent: _____ Attorney: _____

Sex: ___ male ___ female ___ formerly male
___ formerly female ___ both

Please indicate how many times

- a) You expect to shoot at other drivers: _____
b) How many times you expect to be shot at while driving: _____

Please indicate your number of therapy sessions per week: _____

Are you presently taking any of the following medications?

- a) Prozac
- b) Zovirax
- c) Lithium
- d) Zanax
- e) Valium

If none, please explain: _____

TEST (Please indicate the correct answer):

If you are the victim of a car jacking, you should immediately:

- a) Call the police to report the crime
- b) Call Channel 4 News to report the crime, then watch your car on TV in a high-speed chase
- c) Call your attorney and discuss a lawsuit against the cellular phone company for your 911 call not going through
- d) Call your therapist
- e) None of the above (South Central residents only)

In the event of an earthquake, you should:

- a) Stop your car
- b) Keep driving and hope for the best
- c) Immediately use your cell phone to call all loved ones
- d) Pull out your video camera and obtain footage for Channel 4

In the event of rain, you should:

- a) Never drive over 5 MPH
- b) Drive twice as fast as usual
- c) You're not sure what "rain" is

When stopped by police, you should:

- a) Pull over and have your driver's license and insurance form ready
- b) Try to outrun them by driving the wrong way on the 405 loop
- c) Have your video camera ready and provoke them to attack, ensuring yourself of a hefty lawsuit

Please turn your test in to the lady behind the bulletproof virtual window on your left.