



Chartered August 1, 1916 || Volume 32, No. 36 || April 23, 2018

The Rotary Club of Reno meets at Harrah's Reno at Noon on Monday

MONDAY'S PROGRAM

**Mridul Gautam V.P. of
Research & Innovation UNR**

Ecosystem

Dr. Gautam is an internationally recognized researcher and expert in the area of heavy-duty mobile source exhaust emissions, aerosol sampling, and particulate matter measurement, characterization, and control. As vice president for research and innovation and professor of mechanical engineering at the University of Nevada, Reno, Dr. Mridul Gautam leads the articulation and implementation of a shared vision for research and guides the administrative division focused on developing world-class research and discovery, the careers and competitiveness of faculty, and the institution's capacity as a high-impact research university and economic cornerstone of Nevada.

Dr. Gautam serves as the founding President of the Nevada Research and Innovation Corporation that was established to support the University of Nevada, Reno's research, innovation and commercialization of its intellectual property. Prior to joining the University in 2013, he was the Robert C. Byrd Professor of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering and the associate vice president for research at West Virginia University (WVU). He served as the vice president for the WVU Research Corporation.

Plan on attending and being a part of designing where we meet next Rotary Year.

April 23 - Approve Bylaws which have been updated many times since last approval. You have received a copy via separate email.
Meet at Harrah's.

April 30 - Meet in the newly renovated Eldorado Convention Room and vote on Venue choice. **Meet at Eldorado.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Visit www.renorotary.org to sign up

**Achievement Beyond Obstacles
Awards Luncheon**

April 26, 2018

Atlantis

Rotarians At Work Day

April 28, 2018

Bicentennial Park

Food Bank Volunteer Day

June 9, 2018 ~ 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

Food Bank of N. Nevada

upcoming meetings

April 30, 2018

Wendy Simons

NV Dept. of Veterans Service

May 7, 2018

Robert Kamugisha

Rotary Club of Reno Masters in Nursing Science Scholar

May 14, 2018

Ed Friedrichs

West 2nd Street Project and Downtown Development

Venue Committee Report

President Bill asked me to give a report on behalf of the committee he assembled, which includes Bill, myself, Marlene Olsen, Debe Fennell, Kurt Mische, Harvey Fennell, Carl Fuetsch and Phil Mahoney, to enlighten the membership about where the process is today.

WHY: For at least 4 years or so, different Presidents of this club, along with a committee of different members have been exploring options for an alternative place to hold our weekly meetings in case Harrah's ceased to be available to us, which was precipitated by the company filing Ch. 11 bankruptcy. This action was also inspired by feedback that came out of Visioning workshops with club leadership and committee chairs beginning in 2010, including the leadership retreat last year. It was agreed that the issue of venue would be resolved this year, one way or another.

Many members are concerned about the declining state of our venue and that our membership numbers are falling, in part due to our present meeting location. While other properties have been investing heavily in remodeling their convention space, hotel rooms and casinos, Harrah's has not done any significant improvements for many years and does not have any firm plans to do so in the near future.

ACTION: Starting in August of last year, the committee began looking in to other locations that might be a viable option for the Club. The criteria included: be downtown, could accommodate up to 150 attendees, have adequate parking, (preferably covered), have a meal service that could accommodate us, stay under \$25 and have alternative meeting locations if the facility was booked.

If the property met the criteria, a club meeting was scheduled there. The first venue explored was the newly opened Renaissance Hotel. We held a meeting there on July 31st and sent out a survey afterwards to get membership feedback. The feedback was mixed and ultimately deemed not a viable option.

- 63 of the 88 members present answered the survey
- 60% gave the experience a 4 or 5 rating - 5 being best rating
- 8% gave the meal a 4 or 5 rating
- 42% said they would pay \$25-27 for that meal

The Eldorado was the second hotel property that appeared to meet the criteria and the Eldorado and the club committee negotiated for several months, with the Eldorado making many concessions to arrive at a mutual and agreeable package, thus a meeting was held there on January 8, 2018 and a survey went out to those who attended.

- 66 of the 80 members present answered the survey
- 65% gave the experience a 4 or 5 rating
- 57% gave the meal a 4 or 5 rating
- 64.% said they would be willing to pay \$25 for a similar experience

Other locations explored were the National Auto Museum, NV Museum of Art, Whitney Peak, McKinley Arts Center and Elm Estate, all of which either did not meet our criteria or didn't have the same viability as the Eldorado, and consideration of these venues has ceased. The committee has exhausted all possible locations and are at a point that a decision should be made.

COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS: The comments that have come out of the surveys, both for and against leaving Harrah's include:

For Staying:

Staff is friendly; Harrah's has been accommodating to the club's needs; no charge for AV; stores files for the club; food price is low; piano on site at each meeting; more than 40 years at this facility.

For Leaving:

Food is so-so (80% of attending members choose the salad option); convention center hasn't been renovated in more than 20 years, leading to widespread concern that with Reno becoming less of a casino town, Harrah's won't be investing in the property to any significant degree in the foreseeable future; shrinking membership; lack of attendance and lack of new members is a huge concern; we're not attracting executives and leaders in the community; parking garage is in disrepair; stairwell needs cleaning; smoke from casino is strong in convention center.

MEMBERSHIP MINUTE

PEANUT or PLAIN? DICK vs DENNY?

Don't forget to invite your friends and colleagues who would be good potential members to a club meeting or event. You'll be rewarded by a large bag of M&M's (because "Membership Matters.") If they join, your team, captained by Dick Gammick or Denny Williams, will score a point toward our Membership Competition. We can't wait to hear what our team captains pick think of for each other for winning this competition. It should be hilarious!



Eldorado VP Rick Murdoch briefs the Club on the Eldorado and what they can do for us and, breaking news of their recent \$1.3 Billion dollar purchase of additional properties throughout the US.



Kurt Mische leads a very enlightening discussion between Club Members and Eldorado VP Rick Murdoch and Kirstin Spracklin on how they propose to host meetings of the Rotary Club of Reno.





THE RENOTARIAN

Published by THE ROTARY CLUB Reno, Nevada

Rotary Club of Reno Officers and Directors

- Bill Boon.....President
Phil Mahoney.....President Elect
Mary Brock.....President Nominee
Craig Wesner Past President
Carl Fuetsch Secretary
Vic Bucher Treasurer
Kirk Bailey Director
Tina Doherty..... Director
Diana Hoffman..... Director
Mark Meich..... Director
Stefanie Scopettone Director
Maria Sheehan Director
Trudy Nauman Director
Gary Warren Director
Tom Young..... Director

Reno Rotary Foundation

- Laurie Leonard President
Carl Fuetsch Secretary
Vic Bucher Treasurer
John Spears.....Investments
Bill Boon Ex-officio
Phil Mahoney.....Ex-officio
Brian Armon Trustee
Mary Brock.....Trustee
Harvey Fennell.....Trustee
Allen Gray Trustee
Jim Pfrommer Trustee
Phil Stone Trustee
Tom Taelour Trustee

Newsletter/Website

- David Spillers Newsletter Editor
Oliver Grosz Web-master

Candidate for the Reno Rotary Foundation Trustees

Andrea Cantlon

Andrea is a native of Northern Nevada with more than 20 years of financial services experience. She attended the University of Nevada Reno and is a graduate of the Chamber of Commerce Leadership Reno-Sparks Program, class of 2010.



Prior to joining LP Insurance in 2015, Andrea was a Private Banker with Mutual of Omaha Bank in Reno where she specialized in providing comprehensive banking solutions to high net worth individuals and businesses. At LP Insurance she is responsible for leading the Surety Division by developing new business relationships as well as retaining and servicing existing clients; offering expertise for all their bond needs.

Andrea is an active member of the Truckee Meadows, supporting the Rotary Club of Reno, Western Industrial Nevada (WIN) and the Nevada Women’s Fund. She is a member of the board for CARE Chest of Sierra Nevada which provides medical equipment, supplies, prescription assistance and wellness education to northern Nevadans in need. Andrea is an avid sports fan and enjoys camping as well as spending time with her husband and dogs exploring the Nevada wilderness.

Candidates for the Reno Rotary Foundation Trustees

Elections will be April 23 ~ Vote for two

Mark Elston

Mark Elston is a native Nevadan, born in Carson City November 25, 1957. He has lived in Reno all but one year of this time except for one year in Las Vegas. Presently, he is a Senior Vice President



of Investments for Stifel in Reno. He has been in the financial service industry since 1981 as a Financial Advisor and as a Branch Manager in Las Vegas and Reno.

Involvement in the community is extremely important to him. He has served on many boards in Reno including the University of Nevada Wolf Pack booster club, Nevada State Fair, Rotary Club of Reno, the Alumni Association of the University of Nevada, of the Prospectors Club of Reno and the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation of Northern Nevada. His most recent organization involvement has been President of the Reno Rodeo, President of the Reno Rodeo Foundation, and Chairman of the Board Bishop Manogue High School.

His biggest love is of his family with his wife Beverly having been married for 37 years. He has three children and five grandchildren the families all live in Reno.

Craig Wesner

Craig Wesner is the CEO of Lumos & Associates, a civil engineering firm based out of Carson City, Nevada. Lumos & Associates provides engineering design services for a number of



municipalities and districts throughout Northern Nevada and California including the design intermodal transportation facilities including bicycle trails.

Craig has been a Nevada Resident since 1974, graduated from Storey County High School and went on to graduate from UNR with a BS in Civil Engineering. Shortly after graduation he joined the Nevada Air National Guard and subsequently retired as a Group Commander in 2010. He has worked in a number of positions in both the public and private sector and has spent the last 20 years working for Lumos & Associates where he currently serves as the Company's CEO.

Craig has been a Rotarian since March, 2009. Craig is a multiple Paul Harris Fellow, a member of the Paul Harris Society and Benefactor. Craig has served on the Club Board since 2013, served as Club President 2015-16 and is currently the Club's immediate Past President. Craig's term serving on the Board will terminate at the end of June of the current club year.

Craig resides in Reno with his wife, Debbi. He has two adult daughters and two grand-daughters. He enjoys many outdoor activities in and around Reno and he is an avid cyclist.

LAST MEETING VOLUNTEERS

Scanner: Cate Keggs
 Greeter: Gayle Sherman
 Raffle Tickets: Kevin Melcher
 Invocation: Benjamin Brooks
 Pledge: Debe Fennell
 Sgt. At Arms: Andrea Cantlon
 Sgt. At Arms: Annie Flanzraich
 Photographer: Dan Nichols
 Piano: Genie Mathews



SAVE THE DATE: PRESIDENT BILL'S DEMOTION PARTY IS JUNE 19TH

Mark your calendars for President Bill's Demotion Party to be held Tuesday, June 19th, 5:30 p.m. at The Coney Island Bar. It promises to be a fun evening honoring Bill for



his service, and perhaps, poking fun at a few things, too! A family style dinner of bread, salad, roasted chicken, top sirloin steak, homemade mushroom ravioli with burnt butter sage sauce, penne with pesto sauce, bread pudding with caramels sauce and 2 glasses of wine will be served for \$35 per person, inclusive of tax and gratuity. A ClubRunner invite will be sent out in May. For questions, or to provide "material" for the demotion, please contact Liza Maupin at lizamaupin@gmail.com or at 775-721-8124.

the 4 way test

Of the things we think, say or do

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

ATTENDANCE

Please make sure you turn in make-ups to Carl Fuetsch at a club meeting or by email: info@renorotaryclub.org. Don't forget that you need to attend or make up at least 50% of club regular meetings in each half of the year (rolling six months) and attend at least 30% of this club's meetings in each half of the year. Credit can be received for Rotary committee work and other official Rotary functions.

Rotary Club of Reno



[Rotary Club of Reno](https://www.facebook.com/RotaryClubofReno)



**ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE**

Published by
The Rotary Club of Reno
 P.O. Box 1750
 Reno, NV 89505
info@renorotary.org

David Spillers, Editor,
 DigiPrint Corporation
 (775) 786-4464
david@digiprintcorporation.com

Articles and inserts must be received by 2 p.m. on Wednesday for inclusion in the next week's newsletter.