



District 5340

03/02/2018

Club Announcements and other news



President Betty began meeting with club announcements after pledge and 4-way test, welcomed guests.

Robert and Agnes shared a few pictures of their family of cousins, aunts, uncles, and grandparents (Agnes's parents) and of the Village of Nededese in Liberia from which they originally came and recently visited. While there, they presented some laptop computers they funded through a "Go Fund Me"



account and the solar lights provided by our club. The 33,000 books collected by an effort initiated by Robert, and completed with the efforts of our club, La Mesa Sunrise Rotary Club, members of CAV, (Compassion for African Villages) and the El Cajon Evening Rotary Club are in the process of being distributed to schools in various African villages. We all fund-raised to pay for the \$15,000 cost of shipping a full ocean container of

La Mesa Sunrise Rotary Leadership 2017-2018

President Betty Howland
 Pres Elect Elena Alba
 Secretary Elly Dotseth
 Treasurer Laurel Nishida
 CommService Len Gamble
 Club Service Fern Hall
 Int'l Service Hugo Marillo
 Club Programs Betty & Aaron
 RI Foundation David Ballesteros
 Membership Bobbie Warren
 Pub Relations Aaron Landau
 Youth Interact JoAnn Bergquist
 Greeter Muff Warren
 Peace Chair Clara Harris

Credits and Acknowledgements

- Pledge: Elly Dotseth
- 4-way test: Janet
- Photos: Floyd Morrow
- Drawing: Marlene Morrow

Minutes: Lynn Dehaven



books. The books were donated in part from the Rotary clubs and CAV involved and from nearby school districts that thought donating them would save the cost of shredding them. In Liberia the ratio of books to a school child is 1 book per 20 children. We gathered more than the initial 33,000 books that filled one ocean container, we still have 29,000 more books to ship. We are still working on funding the shipping costs for the second bunch of books. At last report we had about \$4000 to go. Even we were astonished at the success of this project!! Robert and Agnes both expressed their gratitude for our help in bringing this project to fruition. They also expressed the gratitude of the recipients. They said the recipients extended invitations to any of us to come visit and they provided gifts to some of the key helpers in this project.

They presented gifts of African clothes and head wear to Alix and Mark, Betty, Bill Pogue, and Floyd Morrow.



Christine and Alix, as members of the Fellowship group announced that the March Fellowship will occur on March 24, 2018 at the Space Bar in La Mesa from 4 – 7 PM. The cost is \$20 per person. There will be wine and cheese.

Christine also announced that the balance of money collected for hurricane relief has been sent to the appropriate place to help recovery efforts.



Alannah our past speaker on Happiness/ joy, turned regular visitor, brought us up to date on the spread of happiness. Costa Rica, Denmark and Singapore; research has found them to have the highest “joyful quotients” worldwide.

www.LaMesasunriserotary.com

La Mesa Sunrise Rotary * Meetings each Friday 7:15 am * Marie Callender's 6950 Alvarado Rd., SD, CA 92120s



Anna shared that a good recommendation for another Fellowship event would be Goat Yoga. She said she was serious about that, although at first, she was skeptical. I think others are skeptical, too.

Guest Speaker: Christina Meeker on “Words Alive, 501C3 Charity”



She was here today to talk about “Words Alive”, a 501-C3 charity. This group strives to make reading matter. It’s a very necessary part of our life. They believe that children who can read become agents of their own education. Adults who can read become architects of their own success. Yet, in 2013 only 48% of the children attending San Diego Unified School District schools entered third grade as proficient readers and 1 in 5 adults in San Diego is functionally illiterate. Thankfully, illiteracy and low-literacy are 100% preventable. They offer 3 programs: The “Read Aloud” program supports pre-K through 3rd grade literacy development. It changes perspectives through opportunities to participate in discussion and evaluation of the story. It builds vocabulary and provides exposure to new concepts. It is curriculum based because the stories are chosen to enhance the core values taught in the classroom. The “Teen Services” provides language arts programming, scholarships, and mentoring. The “Family Literacy” program empowers and equips parents to be their children’s first and most important teachers. It includes groups that teach child development and tips on reading aloud, in both English and Spanish. Parents often express no confidence in helping their children with homework. This training gives them the skills they need to be good mentors to their children and the confidence they need to read to their children and discuss what is read. They show them how to have children make simple puppets to use in re-telling the story or how to act it out. Volunteers help grow literacy in the community through shared reading experiences and access to books.

Students who have parental help have shown remarkable growth in their language arts skills through these programs

Christina introduced an alumnus of this program, Daimeon Rodriguez. Dameon joined a Words Alive group while attending a charter High School in La Mesa. It helped him expand his skills and be successful in High School, from which he finally graduated. He now is a volunteer who works with foster youths. Before he was introduced to “Words Alive” he really wasn’t interested in high school and was not on track to graduate. Now he is articulate and is a Phi Beta Kappa at City College.



Christina also told us that in addition to always seeking new volunteers, Words Alive seeks donations of money to help fund their programs. For just \$60 you can fund a classroom set of books to read that will support the “core values” being taught. You can donate books. Right now, they especially need the cardboard books for very young pre-school children.

Member Highlights

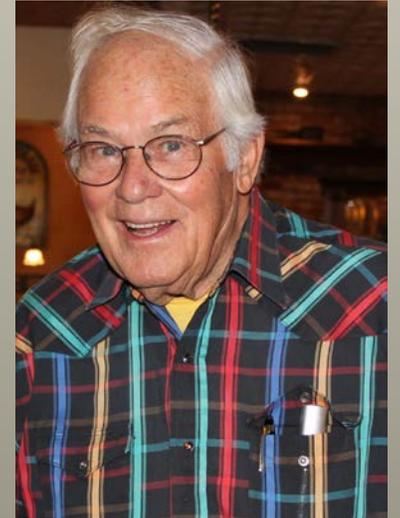


Coming Events and Reminders

- March 24, 8:30-12:50, District conference at USD,
- April 14, Yard/Garage Fern Hall's house (6210 Lake Shore Dr.)
- Ongoing donations to Polio Plus
- Daily items eg shampoo, conditioner for “Fern's Bags”

Upcoming Speakers:

- March 16th - James Grisch from “Woodcrafters America”



Guests and Visitors

Renata Valenta (SDSU), Shannon Dalton (SDSU), Jim Clark (seasonal guest from Montana)



Nick Wallace (LM Chamber of Commerce), Joe Preddy (past LMSR member), Alannah Sinclair



Ryan Woodard (Principal, Harriet Tubman), Benjamin Kettor (CAV) and Joe

