



April 26, 2019

We had about 15 guests from SDSU Rotoract Club – the room was getting full! We also had today's speaker / award recipient from Hartland fire. Elena had the Rotoracter's each introduce themselves and then suggested that after college they should look at "community Rotaract". Christine's post surgery hand issues have made it so she can't currently drive, so is stuck at home. Call her, we are sure she is finding it hard to be homebound. Lisa Berlanga won today!!

Firefighter of the Year



Division Chief Mike Chagin of Heartland Fire & Rescue introduced Bent Kock, a Battalion Chief, and head of Support Services; he buys and supplies stations.

Heartland is a coordination between La Mesa, El Cajon, and Lemon Grove.

For this annual recognition of Dean Sergeant, the Chief looked for who and how to select the recipient. While most people seem to think it would be the firefighter that runs into a burning building, but, he said ALL the firefighters do that. So, there are other things that he used to make this selection. He also talked about the Fire Explorer Program, a youth program which teaches primary job skills that we all agreed apply to almost all jobs: showing up on time, dressed for the work, ready to work...

Dean Sergeant

Starting out as a Fire Reserve volunteer, he was eventually hired. He is now an Engineer, which is a driver of the big red engine. Dean is the leader of the Fire Explorer Program, done as a volunteer on his own time.

Dean is still close to his advisor whom he met when Dean was 17 years old. They just had a former Explorer get a job on the SD police department.

Dean discussed the progression of steps for attending the Explorer Program. They are ages 15 through 21. Eventually they could later participate in the Reserves program. There are similar programs in many of the other fire departments, all of which operate under a shared system. There are boys and girls participating.

Primary calls are medical emergencies, as fires are not as frequent. During the drive to the event, the captain is in the front passenger seat reading updates on their computer system, and might decide that any Explorer ride-along might best stay on the truck if the situation is something they think might be too ugly/messy/gory for a minor to see. But, this is dependent on the student, as some are quite experienced, licensed EMT's.

T-shirts, hats, etc are needed to purchase and donations are welcome.

Dean works at station 12, starts at 8am; his shift lasting 24 hours. When he arrives at work, he finds his fellow rank, finds out what they did over the last day and what items were used... Dean then looks at all the equipment to make sure he knows everything is ready for their shift. From 8:30 - 10:00 they do physical training. There are also scheduled training at times. They cook dinner at 5:30, then there is some time when they can do personal calls, study, etc, and THEN they go to sleep.

Chief Mike then gave us a slide show about Heartland. Connecting the 3 cities Fire Departments, done in 2010, was done to save money like sharing of costs and consolidating management. One Chief instead of 3, one training officer instead of 3. El Cajon has 4 stations. La Mesa has 3, Lemon Grove 1 station. 12 Engines in all. There are 37 people on staff at any one time.

They operate under a Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement:

- Shared training.
- Shared rules for local businesses to follow.
- Common equipment, common training, common systems.



NEXT MEETING

May 3, 2019

Announcements

(cont'd from pg. 1) Heartland is a class 1 department. Only one in 500 departments is rated that highly, so they are justifiably proud. They just hired 6 new firefighters and expects in about a year, will hire 3 more.

Fern: Bowling is coming up in 2 weeks. Sign up and pay per Laurel, 14 lanes are signed up but all those are from club members, we want OTHER people to attend.

We Need prizes. If you have gift cards to donate, we'll take them. Carrie, Ellie and Lynn volunteered to help Fern with putting together the gift baskets.



**May 10
BOWLING**
Bowling is coming up!!! Soon!!!!
Sell lanes! Get teams!!!! We need money!!! May 10 is only a couple of weeks away!!! Please, Please, Please help!!!!



John Stremlau was recognized for missing the March garage sale, with a paintbrush, that was fully decorated into a face. It didn't cost him too much.

TOMORROW is "Rotarians at Work Day" 9-12, at the Alvarado Creek location just east of the AAA building on Fletcher.



May 22nd we will do stone soup chili to feed the homeless. Club buys the meat, members donate all other ingredients.

When everyone was welcoming our newest members, we pulled up new member Megan O'Dowd-Schacht. for her welcoming hugs from all the club.

NEWEST MEMBERS!!



Michael and Marlowe McAnear became our latest new Rotarians!
Mike is actually DR. Michael McAnear, 22 years as Professor of Literature, humanities, communication, multimedia and instructional technology and College Dean for 6 1/2 years. He wants us to know..he is NOT retired! One fun factoid...Mike is a semi-pro musician/singer!

Marlowe, however IS retired from 6 years as a Special Education teacher. She is currently teaching composting to children and building gardens, hence her designation "Gardening Angel". She said she has organizational and management skills. Yay!



They raised 4 children (all over 30 now) and have 1 grandchild. One of their children lives in Central America, which is one of the reasons they were attracted to our club..we truly are an international club. Who knows, we may be doing a project in Central America again!!

SNAP SHOTS

