



**March 16, 2018**

Starting with the flag salute was **Lynn DeHaven** and **Isabel Alba** led the four-way test recitation.

This morning's meeting was a most interesting event. We welcomed a number of visitors. **Robert Saah**, an honorary Rotarian was with us. **James Girsch**, Master wood worker, and Executive Director of Wood Crafters America, was our speaker. A friend of his, **Dorothy Duprey** was along to enjoy "the talk" She is also **Betty's friend** and is aligned closely with "Partners with Industry" another 501c3. **Nick Wallace** was here visiting today. **Elisa Williams** was here representing Harriet Tubman Village Charter School. She is a counselor there. She also announced that Tubman's basketball team won the Championship game last night. Apparently, it was a long game, not finishing until 9:30 PM on a school night. Congratulations! Finally, **Paul Michlik** was visiting for the second time. He is looking us over with interest in becoming a new member.

## James Girsch - Master Craftsman



Aaron introduced our speaker; Master craftsman, James Girsch, Executive Director of "Wood Crafters America". He has been making wood sculptures for many years. He has a great speaking voice and is the voice of some of Home Depot's advertisements. He speaks several languages and holds a BA in languages and Master's Degree in Clinical Social Work from University of Iowa. He has been woodworking since childhood when he was given a carving knife to whittle wood.

Mr. Girsch told us that just about a year ago, in May, he was dining with five woodworking friends and he shared with them his plan for creating a charity comprised of skilled wood workers who volunteer their expertise to train interested people in the arts of working with wood. He wanted it to encompass construction trade, hobbyists, and arts and crafts, all with wood. He wants to cover ages 5 to 105 and include classes for Veterans as well. He wants to have sawmill capability to enable making a two by four really 2 inches by 4 inches in size. You can't find that anymore. He had plans for a classroom, and an Administration Building. The five wondered why he hadn't acted on implementing his plans. So, with their encouragement and membership he did. He now boasts a membership of 272 members worldwide in 5 of the 193 countries in the United Nations. That is amazing growth for one year's time! He has his eyes on a 22-acre plot of land (from the Taco Bell family) in Valley Center and has just started a funding campaign to raise the \$5,000,000 to buy it. He has several Grant writers working on that.

This woodworking center will have an educational component for construction trades, hobbyists and arts and crafts. It will also include antique restoration skills. The need is there. He will combine old craftsman skills with new technology. The skill is dying out with the ageing of the craftsmen. Our economy is measured by the number of new-starts. So, there is a need for younger men to learn the trades. He wants to provide a school to train them. He envisions starting with about 800 students. His goal is to have a million craftsmen turning out little things.

He passed around an open wood box with a golf ball in it. There were no splices. The golf ball was completely encircled and the wood touched it on all sides. The box was made from Douglas fir. Clearly, the ball did not fit through the openings. He wondered aloud, "How did we get the ball inside this open box?" "The openings are not large enough to allow entry for the ball." Lynn DeHaven had the answer. The wood was wet when the ball was slipped into place. Then the wood was dried with a hair drier. The wood shrank. "Right," he agreed. "New cut tree wood is about 70% wet and thin slices are quite pliable." He showed us partially open rose buds completely

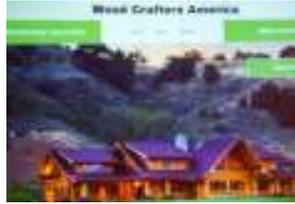


**NEXT MEETING**  
**March 23, 2018**

## James Girsch cont.

made from wood. He said if he'd had more of them available on Valentines day he would have had a good start on that \$5,000,000.

Don't you want to learn woodworking? Don't you want to see many of the homeless trained in a skill that is so necessary? Don't you want to donate your money or your time to help see this school come into being? It was a most compelling talk!



## Announcements

**Betty Howland reminded us that we will be spending Rotarians at Work Day** upgrading the gardens we once put in for the Harriet Tubman School. We also have been asked to add some cute sayings and art-work to the freshly painted Kindergarten – grade 5 bathrooms and possibly build some benches for the kindergarten area to provide seating. We plan to involve the Rotoactors in this work detail if they're willing.

Fern Hall had a list of up-coming activities: She had some **oranges and a few limes from her tree to be sold to members with the proceeds going to Polio Plus.**

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**Saturday April 14, 2018 is our next garage sale**, to be held at Fern and Jeff's house once more. Please don't deliver stuff this week as they will be out of town and rain is predicted, and wanted, but not on the donated items. She passed a clipboard for a sign-up for sorting, setting up, manning the sale, and tearing down and putting away.

**The Bowling Tournament will be held on May 11, 2018.** Please ask all your friends to bowl and make teams. A flier will be ready by next Friday for you to pass out to prospective bowlers. Also, be seeking items for prizes and baskets to be auctioned.

Now that **Daisy Mayers** is back with us, we celebrated her recently passed birthday by singing "Happy Birthday" to her and Betty presented her with a muffin decorated with a lit candle.



Betty announced that she hopes we sign up for the District (Training) Assembly on March 24, 2018. Sign up before that day. It will be at USD Joan Kroc Center. Remember, the club is paying for you to go!

Also sign up for the District Conference: May 4 – 5 at Knotts Berry Farm.

## Speakers for March/April

CASA

March 23

Dark for Holiday

March 30

Bankers Hill Club

April 6

Devotion to Dogs

April 11

Resounding Joy

April 20

Committee Meetings

April 27

## La Mesa Sunrise Rotary Leadership 2017 - 2018

<i>President</i>	Betty Howland
<i>Pres. Elect</i>	Elena Alba
<i>Secretary</i>	Elly Dotseth
<i>Treasurer</i>	Laurel Nishida
<i>Community Service</i>	Len Gamble
<i>Club Service</i>	Fern Hall
<i>Int'l. Service</i>	Hugo Morillo
<i>Club Programs</i>	Betty & Aaron
<i>Club Foundation</i>	Christine Evans
<i>RI Foundation</i>	David Ballesteros
<i>Membership</i>	Bobbi Warren
<i>Public Relations</i>	Aaron Landau
<i>Youth Greeter</i>	JoAnn Bergquist
<i>Peace Chair</i>	Muff Warren
	Clara Harris

**Announcements  
Cont.**

**Alix introduced Benjamin Kettor** who, last night was inducted as a Rotarian into our E-Club that we sponsored to get it up and going. She told us that without Benjamin our 62 thousand text books (and reading literature) sent to Liberia would not have happened. He provided a lot of muscle work, and prep work. He arranged the delivery in Liberia as well as helping with the fund-raising for the shipping costs and helping a lot with the packing of the books for shipment. For benefit of the visitors Alix re-told the story of how Robert Saah came to the club and said he wanted to visit his old home in Liberia and take some books to the school in the village. That was the start. It grew into filling two large shipping containers with 62 thousand books. Most of them were being discarded by local school districts who planned to shred them. Instead, they donated them and we plus other



Alix also told us again about the CAV FUNdraiser at the Space Bar on University from 4:00 – 7:00 PM \$20 if you pay before you arrive at the

**WineTasting**  
FUNDRAISER

**SATURDAY  
MARCH 24, 2018 4PM-7PM**

4 DIFFERENT WINES with 90+ RATING  
Cheese, Crackers, Dips, Non-alcoholic  
beverages and Kenyan Tea

Silent Auction items & ethnic items for sale  
benefiting the Bookdrive for Liberia

\$20 IN ADVANCE, \$25 AT THE DOOR

**@SPACEBAR CAFÉ**  
7454 University Ave., La Mesa 91942

Presentations and Sponsors  
ROTARY CLUB OF EL CAJON SUNSET  
COMPASSION FOR AFRICAN VILLAGES  
ANEWVISION.WEBSITE  
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**The Four-Way Test**

Is it the **TRUTH**?

Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?

Will it build **GOODWILL** and better **FRIENDSHIPS**?

Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

Our **LMSR # 5**  
Is it **FUN**?

2017 - 2018

Ian H.S. Riseley  
Rotary Int'l. President

Scott C. Carr  
SD Rotary District 5340 Governor