

MEETING OF APRIL 24, 2007

Minutes of Meeting of April 10, 2007

- Conrad Welker presided over today's meeting.
- The invocation was offered by Todd Bradley.
- Bill MacLauchlan led the club in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Kristy Gould introduced today's visiting Rotarians and guests.
 - ✓ Visiting Rotarians included Bill Felder out of the Long Beach Club, Patricia Furr of the Petal Club and Peggy Carlin from the Sunrise Club.
 - ✓ Kelly Evans was a guest of Lamar Evans.
 - ✓ Robin Funk was a guest of Susan Light.
 - ✓ Paul Brunsen was a guest of Allen Anderson.
 - ✓ Dennis Granberry was a guest of Erin Granberry.
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1) Thanks to Gene Winters and James Winstead for serving as today's Greeters.
- 2) Conrad reminded members that "Carmen" the opera is scheduled this week at the University of Southern Mississippi. **Club members were reminded to sell those Night in Italy tickets before next Tuesday's event. They were also reminded that the club meeting for next Tuesday is being replaced by the Night in Italy event.** Conrad

reminded members once again to get their nominations in for the RYLA scholarships in the very near future.

- 3) Richard Topp then introduced Dan Henley as our newest member.

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Peggy Carlin was introduced and presented Trey Baker with the Hattiesburg Fire Department a check for just over \$1,600. The contribution is to be used to purchase a defibrillator for another rescue unit.

Robin Funk with Wal-Mart was then introduced and presented a plaque by Conrad. The plaque recognized and thanked the Wal-Mart Foundation for assisting our club in the acquisition of four defibrillators. Conrad then presented Trey with a check from the Hattiesburg Club to be used for the purchase of two additional units.

Trey thanked club members and reported that life chances improve for sudden heart attack victims by 41 to 74 percent when a defibrillator can be used within the first three to five minutes after the onset of the attack. He thanked our Club and the Sunrise Club for our contributions and our efforts to save lives of Hattiesburg area residents.

THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM

Dan Kibodeaux then introduced today's speaker, Rotarian, Lamar Evans. Lamar announced that he has filed the Article of Incorporation for a new national organization that has as its primary focus bringing energy conservation and renewable

energy information to the general public. The Articles of Incorporation were filed this week and work continues on bylaw development and the non-profit status application with the Internal Revenue Service.

Lamar noted that he became interested in this concept during a home builder training meeting he attended two years ago. At that time he met the founder of the Green Building Institute, Inc. The founder of that organization was originally from Laurel, Mississippi. During his efforts to bring the Green Building Standards of the GBI to local home builders, Evans says he realized that it was going to be necessary to first educate the general public about the needs for and benefits of energy conservation and renewal energy. That seed of thought led him to consider developing the Mississippi Renewal Energy Association to serve as that educational outlet as well as a state organization that could certify green building practices and properties. Evans shared his idea with Allen Anderson who encouraged him to think nationally about the concept. After some research, Evans reported that he could not find a national organization with that specific focus.

During the presentation Lamar shared several energy conservation techniques and products that he has uncovered during the past two years. He encouraged members to replace their incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent fixtures that use about one-third of an incandescent and produce significant less heat. He also shared with members his installation of a radiant barrier in his own home and some of the research that he has undertaken with that project.

Americans are consuming approximately 25 barrels of oil per day as compared to 13 consumed by the German population. Evans noted that the American economy could suffer significantly were there to be an interruption in the oil supply. Other economies which use less oil would be in a

much better condition to survive a serious interruption.

Lamar also pointed out that American homes produce an estimated one-third of the greenhouse gases emitted in the country. Industry and automobiles produce the remaining two-thirds. He reported that the Congress has held two hearings so far this year considering ways to begin the possible regulation of residential greenhouse gas emissions.

Approximately eighty percent of all American homes today were constructed since 1980. By the year 2030 it is estimated that nearly one-half of all American homes will have been built since 2000. He noted that we learned many lessons as a result of the Arab Oil Embargo of the early 1970's but that those lessons are still the ones being used in new construction today. The challenge, according to Lamar, is to learn new lessons that will conserve more energy and produce less greenhouse gases in residential construction during the next 23 years.

Citing the ever rising cost of energy, Evans challenged club members to be aware of what they are paying per kilowatt of electricity and how many kilowatts they use daily. He also challenged members to spread the word about the need for conservation and the development of renewable energy resources. He also asked invited interested Rotarians to spread the word and to become involved in the National Renewable Energy Association, Inc. when it gets off the ground.

“Night in Italy Dinner”

Word is that the dinner was again a great success. Thanks to all who worked so tirelessly on the project. More details next week!

Gene Winters will lead us in the theme song “Take me out to the ball game.”

**"Take me out to the ball game,
Take me out with the crowd.
Buy me some peanuts and
Cracker Jack,
I don't care if I never get back,
Let me root, root, root for the
home team,
If they don't win it's a shame.
For it's one, two, three strikes,
you're out,
At the old ball game."**

Editor: Gary Garner