

MEETING OF OCTOBER 10, 2006

Minutes of Meeting of Oct. 3, 2006

- Presiding: Conrad Welker
- Invocation: Kris King
- Pledge of Allegiance: Gary Garner
- Gene Owens filled in for Kristy Gould this week and introduced guests and visiting Rotarians:
 - ✓ James Mitchell and Milton Wheeler visited from the Petal Club.
 - ✓ Nancy Guice was the guest of John Guice.
 - ✓ Todd Williamson was the guest of Wesley Griffin.
 - ✓ Harold Nicholson was the guest of Johnny Stevens.
 - ✓ Brad Stinson was the guest of Bill McLeod.
 - ✓ Mary B. Riley was the guest of Bob Riley.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1) Greeters for today were Ric Corts and Mary Cromartie
- 2) John Karnes and his wife are the parents of new twins.
- 3) **Congratulations.** Ric Corts and Conrad Welker shared a birthday today. Wilbur Bullock announced his 86th birthday this week and Richard Topp announced his 32nd wedding anniversary.

- 4) Mike Ratliff reported that Pickup Pine Belt is in need of volunteers to assist in a clean-up drive schedule for October 28. A large number of members indicated their willingness to participate. Signup sheets will be available at next weeks meeting.
- 5) Todd Beasley reported the conclusion of another successful golf tournament. The final accounting isn't complete yet but it appears the club will have generated about \$6,000 to share with the Sunrise club. Todd also thanked the many volunteers and sponsors, including Re/Max who made a \$1,500 contribution to the Children's Miracle Network in the name of Rotarians.

LAST WEEK'S PROGRAM

Garland Sullivan introduced the speaker, Dr. Jay Dean, Conductor of the Symphony of Southern Mississippi, the oldest operating symphony in the state. Dr. Dean noted that the symphony is just now beginning a new season. This past weekend's Godspell performance was seen by 2,500 area residents. Season tickets are limited based on the location of the symphony's performances. Dr. Dean encouraged anyone interested in attending to always try and purchase a ticket for each event.

The Symphony of Southern Mississippi has a mission of providing cultural opportunities to residents of the Hattiesburg area as well as southern Mississippi. The group performs annually at every public and private school, at every nursing home and at every personal care facility.

Additionally, the symphony serves as a talent resource for other events throughout the southeast, including Florida and Louisiana. Additionally, the symphony offers the Coca Cola String Quartet for performances outside of the immediate Hattiesburg area.

The Symphony is the only organization in the state to offer a link to Carnegie Hall's educational program. Students from around the state can use the link every May to train through resources offered through Carnegie Hall.

Dr. Dean emphasized the importance of the scholarship program. In his opinion, excellence is provided through the scholarship program and if the Symphony wishes to continue to compete, it must continue to fund this program. Currently the Symphony receives less than 10 percent of its operating budget from the University. The remainder comes from area supporters and businesses.

The Symphony has begun a Five by Five Scholarship Endowment program. The goal is to raise five million dollars in the next five years, ensuring the Symphony's ability to fully fund scholarships in the future. If you're interested in participating, call 601.266.4001.

THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM

Jack Kyle

Recognized nationally and internationally for his expertise in organizing world-class art exhibitions, Jack Kyle is an advocate of the importance of the arts in today's society.

Most recently, Kyle organized four world-class exhibition projects as executive director of the non-profit Mississippi

Commission for International Cultural Exchange. Noted for the quality of the art contained in the exhibitions and the magnificent installation settings of the artworks, these four exhibitions attracted over 1.3 million visitors, including approximately 400,000 students.

Drawn from some of the greatest art museums in the world, these exhibitions included *Palaces of St. Petersburg: Russian Imperial Style*, *Splendors of Versailles*, *The Majesty of Spain: Royal Collections from the Museo del Prado & Patrimonio Nacional*, and *The Glory of Baroque Dresden*.

Among the highlights of these exhibitions were room recreations from Russian imperial palaces, a ten-ton "Equestrian Statue of Louis XIV" by Gian Lorenzo Bernini from the Chateau of Versailles, Goya masterpieces from The Prado and the only recreation of the famed Porcelain Room from Spain's Royal Palace of Aranjuez. The Dresden State Art Collections made rare loans of Jan Vermeer's "The Procuress" and the renown "Dresden Green Diamond."

Attesting to the importance of these international cultural exchanges, Spain's King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia visited the 2001 Spanish exhibition, and Germany's then-chancellor Gerhard Schroeder inaugurated the 2004 Dresden exhibition.

For his service to the arts and contributions to international cultural understanding, Kyle was knighted by France as a **Chevalier of the Order of Arts & Letters**, decorated by Spain's King Juan Carlos as a **Commander of the Order of Isabel the Catholic**, and awarded the **Cross of the Order of Merit** by the President of Germany.

House Beautiful magazine gave Kyle its prestigious "**Giants of Design**" award as an arts ambassador. The Daughters of the American Revolution awarded him its **Medal of Honor**.

Kyle is a graduate of Delta State University and served four years in the United States Navy. A Mississippi native, Kyle currently resides in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, where he is working for The Area Development

Partnership to develop several major cultural projects to enhance the quality of life for the area.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Seattle club uses technology to advance Service Above Self

By
Rotary

Lisa
International

Baker
News

Although the Rotary Club of Seattle in Washington is the fourth oldest club, celebrating their 100th anniversary in 2008, it hasn't kept them from advancing with the times. This summer, the club began using streaming video of their meetings on their Web site.

The club came up with the idea a few years ago when members realized that their meetings were a valuable resource that wasn't being shared with the Seattle community.

The club president, Bill Center, admits that until now, their meetings did not have a strong service element. "We wanted to use our meetings as a way to continue Service Above Self," says Center.

Because they are Rotary's second largest club, professors, politicians, and business leaders from all over the world speak at their meetings.

According to David Endicott, club member, "We can use technology to generate broader and deeper conversation about the issues of the day. Sharing this resource generates more awareness of what Seattle Rotary does. We try to get other leaders involved who are not Rotarians, in hopes that they will want to join."

The club hires an independent company to videotape the meetings. Usually, the meeting is online within two days. Almost all of the US\$1,000 per meeting cost is underwritten by area companies.

Endicott says that the use of streaming media can be adapted to any community. "It gives better opportunities in individual cities to talk about larger issues important to national and international communities. It sparks conversation, thought and hopefully action," says Endicott.

Center says that currently, Rotarians can't use their technology as a virtual makeup meeting, but they hope to get to that point someday.

To view Seattle's meetings [online](#), you need broadband Internet access and Windows Media Player.

Editor: Gary Garner