

Las Vegas Southwest Rotary Newsletter

April 17, 2017

“Matt Engle – Natural History Museum”

Conducting: President Rebecca
Invocation: Ron Reynolds
Photos: Ted Henderson
Mr. Mic: Joe Wittenwiler
Newsletter: Obadiah Dogberry

PHOTOS FROM THE MEETING – Thanks Ted!

Visiting Rotarians: None

Guests:

Fred Fukumoto was accompanied by the lovely and very young Gwen Fukumoto.

Keith Thomas’ guest was Yves Mombeleur who has been hired to take Keith’s place when he retires (yes, I know, you have heard that before...I think he brought Yves just to prove that he means business this time! We’ll believe it when we see it.)

Announcements:

President Rebecca reminded everyone about District Assembly on 4/22 in Apple Valley and said that Bruce Pope has volunteered to drive and anyone who wants to car pool with him is more than welcome.

Karl Maisner reminded everyone about Spring Shopping on 4/29 at JC Penney’s in the Boulevard Mall. We will meet at 8:00 a.m. and will be shopping for 30-35 kids from Dean Peterson Elementary School.

Karl Maisner also reminded everyone to attend the next Satellite Club meeting on April 27 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. at Sierra Gold at Jones and 215. He has mailed an “evite” to everyone.

Tom Martin announced the club social to be held at Top Golf on 5/26 in the evening. It will be the last social of President Rebecca’s year, so LET’S CELEBRATE!! (Double entendre??)

Ted Henderson announced that our club is once again a 100% Paul Harris Fellow club. Congratulations Ted. You are the man! As club Foundation chair, you are doing exemplary work. Very few clubs in the world can be considered a 100% Paul Harris club.

Recognitions:

Cliff Silverstein was welcomed back after a prolonged vacation which he spent in Puerto Vallarta (where he actually spent time working with the Puerto Vallarta Sur club on their water filtration projects and their feed the homeless projects) and in Hawaii. It's tough to be retired.

Bryan Dzedziak was recognized by President Rebecca for his longstanding and significant contributions to the club. Unfortunately, his memory is not as good as his eleemosynary efforts as he forgot one of the gifts he "won" at the Gold Raffle; Lawry's gift cards!

President Rebecca "recognized" Ron Reynolds as being the only Rotarian present who was not wearing a Rotary insignia/pin, etc. Apparently he has been taking lessons from Keith Thomas as he regaled the club with a long story about a bat eating the hoses behind his washer and causing a flood in the kitchen and the need to now completely restore and remodel the kitchen and since they were already doing kitchen remodeling, Christene (yes, that is the correct spelling) decided to repaper the bedroom and do other miscellaneous modifications to the house, all of which occasioned Ron's move to sleeping in the front seat of his car and not having access to the suit he always wears on Monday which has his Rotary pin and this sentence has probably gone on long enough. After all that, I think she forgot to fine him!

Adrienne Cox was recognized for her District 5300 efforts with the Group Cultural Exchange (formerly the Group Study Exchange) which this year will be with Japan. Bonjour, Adrienne...oh wait, that's French! Adrienne is District Chair and an admirable representative of our club. Adrienne also commented on our Rotary Youth Exchange program which our club also continues to support each year.

Tom Martin was recognized \$100 for the exploits of his grandson, Jon Gray, who has returned to Las Vegas from his stint with Nike, and is taking over as number 2 at the Palms. One of his first assignments was to remove an infamous restaurant characterized by the great American fascination with guns (ok, ok, it wasn't guns, but it was something equally as dangerous!)

Eric Colvin was recognized \$150 (with a credit of \$50 for just generally being a nice guy and stepping up in the absence of our past-president) for having nothing to do with his bank's loan to the Gun Store where, despite the provocative advertising (again, that great American fascination with.....), the loan eventually went bad when the economy went bad. Fortunately, he said, his bank has a government guarantee of 90% so they won't lose too much. So, the government pays up (and who is the government...us????) He did, however, say the SBA program is self funded and doesn't use taxpayer dollars but does anyone really believe that?? He went on to announce that he is on target to close \$11million in loans. When asked what his commission was going to be, he modestly demurred.

Karen Strawn should have been recognized for arriving at the meeting in style...yes, that was her 1957 vintage Ford Thunderbird parked right outside the door (check out our club's Facebook page to see a picture.)

New Member Induction: None today.

Joke of the Day: None. (Where's Scott?)

Gifts for the President: Keith Thomas presented her with a very, very, expensive set of earrings (ok, it was only a pin from Disneyland...try as he might, he couldn't convince her that she could wear it as an earring...as we all know, he never has been very good making convincing arguments to women...he can't even keep them from hugging them, even though he says he is allergic to hugs.)

Drawing: Adrienne won again. Yes, she won last week, and the week before, and the week before, and the week before.....

PAY YOUR BILL! It's really easy! Reminder: It is your duty to keep up to date on invoices and up-to-date bills will be sent to all members. The Club recently instituted on-site credit card payment so any member can pay their bill at any meeting. If you don't know how much you owe, just ask Elaine (she's keeping a list and checking it twice).

Speaker: Our speaker was Matt Engle talking about the Las Vegas Natural History Museum. Our club supports the museum and President Rebecca presented a donation to Matt upon completion of his presentation.

1. Las Vegas Natural History Museum hosts more than 25,000 children from CCSD each year.
2. Open Door Program works with Title 1 schools, schools that have at least 40% of school attendees that live under the poverty line. This program offers free admission and pays for buses to and from the Museum to kids that live in an economically disadvantage environment. Most times these field trips are the only learning experience outside of the classroom.
3. He talked about the Las Vegas Science and Technology Festival (SciFest.vegas/events or call 702-384-3611), the largest educational event in Nevada offering nine jam-packed days of free events designed to spark kids' curiosity and showcasing the amazing science and technology happening right here in Southern Nevada.