



District 5300



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Karl Maisner



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Jordana Lane

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Shawn Callahan

Rebecca Collett

Eric Colvin

Tom Martin

Karen Strawn

Advisors

Fred Fukumoto

Keith Thomas

Bruce Pope

Committee Chairs

Community Service-Paul Gustilo

International Service-Shawn Callahan

Callahan

Vocational Service-Joe Wittenwiler

Youth/Cultural Exchange-Adrienne Cox

Cox

Foundation-Ted Henderson

Club Service-Cliff Silverstein

Membership-Rebecca Collett

Public Relations/Calendar-Keith Thomas

Thomas

Programs-Bryan Dziedzic

Monday, Noon

Lawry's Prime Rib Restaurant

4043 Howard Hughes Parkway

(Paradise and Flamingo)

Las Vegas, NV

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Check out our website

www.lvsr.org and our Facebook

page - "Rotary Club of Las Vegas

Southwest")

#VegasStrong

Las Vegas Southwest Rotary Newsletter

2/25/19

Presiding and Conducting:

President Karl

Prayer and Pledge

Fred Fukumoto

Photos:

Ted Henderson (see below or click [here](#))

Mic duty:

Eric Colvin

Newsletter:

Obadiah Dogberry, Esq.

VISITING ROTARIANS

Tom Novotny, Past District Governor for [District 5300](#) and member of the [Las Vegas West Club](#) was "in the house" today. Ever the "district cheerleader", he seized the mic to remind everyone about upcoming district events:

1. [RI Foundation Gala](#) for District 5300 will be on 3/16 at the World Market Center.
2. [RYLA](#) is in need of facilitators. If interested, go to the District 5300 website and sign up.
3. April 5-6 is [District Assembly](#) in Pasadena, CA.
4. May 3-4 is [District Conference](#) in Anaheim.
5. 5/18 is [Superbuild](#) in Mexico.
6. 6/1-6 is the [International Convention](#) in Hamburg, Germany.

Tom also filled us in on the details of his club's upcoming "Scratch It Off Your Bucket List" [fundraiser](#) and invited our participation to help them raise money for the youth in our community. Tickets are only \$5 and if you purchase \$100 or more in tickets, you will go into a drawing for two tickets to a Vegas Golden Knights home game and two jerseys.

SERVICE ABOVE SELF



The Object of Rotary

THE OBJECT of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

FIRST The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

SECOND High ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

THIRD The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;

FOURTH The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service

The Four-Way Test

OF THE THINGS we think, say, or do:

- 1) Is it the TRUTH?
- 2) Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- 3) Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- 4) Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Rotarian Code of Conduct

The following code of conduct has been adopted for the use of Rotarians:

AS A ROTARIAN, I will

- 1) Act with integrity and high ethical standards in my personal and professional life
- 2) Deal fairly with others and treat them and their occupations with respect
- 3) Use my professional skills through Rotary to: mentor young people, help those with special needs, and improve people's quality of life in my community and in the world
- 4) Avoid behavior that reflects adversely on Rotary or other Rotarians

GUESTS

Elaine Barlin, originally a guest of Adrienne Cox, is now a guest of the club and is in the process of joining our Rotary club. You couldn't find a better club than Southwest Rotary!!

Candy Rosenberg, originally a guest of Jordana Lane, is also now a guest of the club and is in the process of joining our Rotary club. Candy has a company called [PhoHerb](#), which imports Thailand's best-selling pain relief balm:

Akeylah Drake is the speech instructor at [Bonanza High School](#) and accompanied two of her students competing in today's speech contest. Ms. Drake was a 4-Way Speech contestant when she was in high school.

Jene' and Robert Murphy were in attendance today to support their daughter who is competing in today's contest.

Donna Martin (**Tom Martin's** better half) was Tom's guest today and she was accompanied by Tom's daughter, **Martel Clayton**, whose son is also competing in today's contest.

Dennis Egbert accompanied his contestant daughter today. Welcome, Dennis.

Evie Gaddi also was a guest today and was accompanying her contestant son.

ROTARY REGALIA

Again not mentioned.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pres. Karl reminded everyone that we are dark next Monday, because we will be celebrating "Past Presidents" day on Thursday, March 7th, at Home Plate

Fred Fukumoto announced that our club will also be hosting the "group" 4-Way speech contest on 3/25/19.

Paul Gustilo announced that our next "Happy Feet" project will be on March 7, 2019, at [William E. Ferron Elementary School](#) at 4200 Mountain Vista Street Las Vegas, NV 89121 [MAP](#) The school is located south of Flamingo and east of Boulder Highway. Please be there by 7:30 a.m. to help set up since we have to get an early start that day.

Keith Thomas announced that our "tree project" continues to progress. The trees have been purchased and we will be digging the holes on Friday. A volunteer with a backhoe will be doing the digging so our assistance will likely not be needed until the actual planting time which should occur in the next two weeks. Keith said that he would send around an email when it comes time to do

the planting. All the trees are fruit trees and are being planted in the “Provident Community Garden” at Jones and Oakey (behind the Seventh-Day Adventist Church).

GIFTS FOR THE PRESIDENT (Postcards, anyone?)

Keith Thomas, recently returned from visiting his daughter in Vancouver, B.C. and brought back the obligatory postcard (unfranked, of course, but at least it was purchased in Vancouver) along with an authentic pair of “Hudson’s Bay Company” striped socks, which Pres. Karl immediately put on (well, he put one of them on!) Pres. Karl remarked that he had recently told his wife that he wanted to get some more colorful socks...this is a good start!

Bruce Pope, ever attentive to Pres. Karl’s “gift” wishes, was recognized by Pres. Karl for having sent postcards from such exotic locales as Utah, Idaho, and Florida.

RECOGNITIONS

None.

JOKE OF THE DAY

Scott Baranoff politely demurred today but the cudgel was taken up by Bryan Dzieziak who related a joke provided to him by his grandson: “Jesus and St. Peter were in heaven alone watching the Super Bowl game. Although they were having a good time, St. Peter suggested it might be more fun if they invited others to join them. Jesus agreed that was a good idea. However, all the other saints, angels and all of their friends were watching the game in other parts of heaven. So St. Peter suggested that maybe they should invite some atheists to join them. But Jesus said, no, that would be impossible, because he didn’t believe that atheists existed!” (That is a pretty sophisticated joke. Bryan has a very intelligent grandson...but then what else would you expect, considering his “brainiac” grandparents.)

DRAWING

Fred Fukumoto was the winner-take-all today. Congratulations, Fred!

Fred Fukumoto introduced today’s program which was our Club4-Way Speech contest.

Katy Egbert was our first contestant. She attends Bonanza High School and participates in theater, government and teaching others. Outside of school she is interested in playing musical instruments and designing clothing. Her college plans include attending Southern Utah University and studying theater.

Braydon Clayton was our second contestant. He attends Green Valley High School and participates in International Business, football, basketball, and track. Outside of school he is interested in football, feeding the homeless, Shriners, gaming, Boy Scouts, and Church. His college plans include studying International Business, Entertainment Management, and Entrepreneurship.

Cameron Gaddi was our third contestant. He attends Bonanza High School and his interests at school include biology and literature. Outside of school, he is interested in anime and video games. His college plans include attendance at College of Southern Nevada or UNLV and plans to pursue a masters degree in speech therapy.

Grace Murphy was our fourth and final contestant. She is a high school senior who has been homeschooled since preschool. In 2017, Grace was recognized as a National Merit Scholar, scoring in the top 1000 students in Nevada on the PSAT. Her interests at school include history, food science and writing. Her ideal school day is one spent reading. Her interests outside school include the following: She is the 432nd American Heritage Girls Stars and Stripes Award recipient, and the first in Nevada. She is involved with a variety of service organizations including Good News Club, Wreaths Across America, Clean the World, Operation Christmas Child, and Backpacks for Eagles Nest. She received the Presidential Service Gold Award for completing over 250 hours of service in 2018. Grace also does seasonal work at the World Market Design Center, and has a small cake decorating business. She also works alongside her mom in their Origami Owl jewelry business. She enjoys running as a challenge to herself to keep her mind and body strong. She has completed three half marathons. Her college plans include attending UNLV in the Fall, studying Hospitality Management with a focus in Restaurant Management.

The winner was **Grace Murphy** (see below for the text of her speech). Katy Egbert was the 1st runner-up (the 1st runner-up steps in if, for some reason, the winner is unable to compete at the 3/25 group contest.) All of the speeches were excellent and we were impressed by the caliber of the speeches and the students.

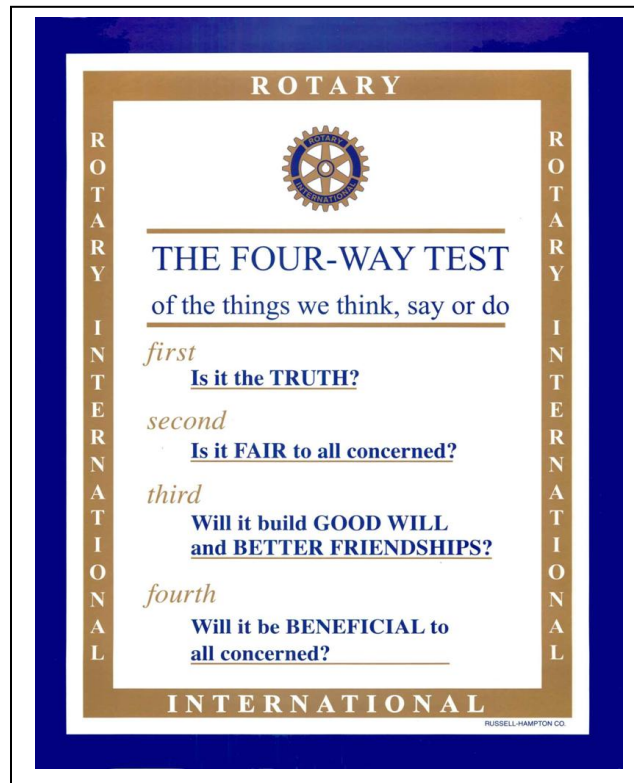
UPCOMING SPEAKERS AND EVENTS

3-7	Past Presidents Social at Home Plate Grill and Bar.
3-11	Ken Ladd – Nevada Housing and Neighborhood Development
3-18	Brian Rosenberg
3-25	Group Contest – 4-Way Speech
4-1	Mary Ryan/Zach Miles-UNLV Real Estate Development Initiative
4-8	Dark for Gold Raffle on 4/11 TENTATIVE).
4-15	Dark-Tax Day
4-21	Dark-Easter
4-29	???

(Suggestions for future speakers are welcome and encouraged.)

CONCLUSION

We concluded the meeting by standing and reciting the Four-Way Test.



**4-WAY SPEECH CONTEST
LAS VEGAS SOUTHWEST ROTARY CLUB
FEBRUARY 25, 2019**

Grace Murphy

"On a beautiful tropical night in January, 1942, a little girl came running out of an Indonesian village rooming house, slamming the screen door behind her. She entered the dark courtyard, stopped and looked up. The moon lit the crystal clear night sky and millions of twinkling stars, sparkling like diamonds against a gigantic black velvet background."

So begins my paternal grandmother's story, which she left to my family before passing away in 2006. She was too young to understand the monumental events that would begin the next morning, when WWII would make it to her home island in the Far East. Although I was only four years old when she died, her life story has inspired me and has challenged me to consider how I can live my own life in a way that I impact people for the better.

Jeanette Jordan was born on the island of Sumatra, Indonesia in 1932, to Armenian parents, Jack and Elizabeth Jordan. She was a much desired only child, and doted on by her parents. In her early years she lived a life of privilege, growing up in a huge house she fondly remembered having forty windows. The large house required servants to keep it running and also included exotic pets such as a monkey and tiger. Her father's hobby of big game hunting kept life interesting. Nearby villages would often hire him if they were being terrorized by a man eating tiger. I don't know if I would believe this, except we have a photo of him with a dead tiger framed in our living room.

She attended private schools and traveled extensively with her parents, including a month long voyage to Holland and France when she was six years old. Yet, by the time she was my age she had been through more hardships than I hope to endure in my lifetime.

I laughed when I re-read her story, as she says she was "not a brave person." How could a coward escape through the nighttime jungle with snipers shooting and chasing after her, then live under Japanese occupation for 3 years, wondering if she'd ever see her father again? Go on a hunting trip at 6 years old in the Sumatran jungle? Move around the globe working countless jobs? Immigrate to America with \$80 in her pocket, because Hollywood movies inspired her to do so? Sail into Egypt on a sinking ship, which was supposed to be heading to Holland? And marry her fiancé less than a month after meeting him, in the romantic setting of their apartment trash incinerator...?

After she married, her life continued have challenges. She was raising four children in America, which still felt foreign to her in many ways. In 1968 it was discovered that her oldest son, my father, then four years old, had gone deaf. After surgery and several years of speech therapy, his hearing and speech were fully restored. In 1976 she lived through the nightmarish event of her youngest son pulling an electric skillet of boiling water onto himself, burning twenty-five percent of his body. In her memoir she recalls how terrified she was during the helicopter ride they took when he needed to be airlifted to the hospital.

This would set the tone of her having to face her fear of flying for the next 18 years. She traveled the country with him to receive the surgeries needed to save his life and allow him to grow.

Her final years were also marred with hardships. Her father died in 1985, leaving her in the precarious situation of taking care of her mother from 2000 miles away. She was widowed in 1992 after 31 years of marriage and lost her mother two years later. She would have to continue to work to support her family even while continuing to travel with her son for his surgeries. Then her battle with ovarian cancer began, and after 5 years it took her life.

So why do I find inspiration in my grandmothers story? It is not because of the hardships and trials that were put in her path. We may not get to choose what we are handed to deal with in our lives, but we do have the choice of how we will respond and what we will allow to make or break us. I feel her story is closely tied to her life motto "nothing ventured, nothing gained." She made choices that may have frightened her, but she believed to be the right ones anyway. She had courage, even when it did not come naturally to her, and that inspires me to be brave.

As I reflect on what I know of her life there are three things she always did that I admire her for. The first is that she held dear to her Christian faith. She easily could have turned from her hope and the precepts she lived by when life got tough but she built upon them instead. She chose to praise God and worship Him every day of her life. She diligently taught her children and continued to study the Bible. The impact of this is still very evident in her Children, Grandchildren, and Great-Grandchildren today. Her desire to share her faith is evident in generations after her because she made it a priority.

The second thing I see is that she found community everywhere she landed on the Globe. She loved to be around good, loving, family and friends. She made everyone around her feel included and she actively built community around herself. She held on to friends as if they were family. Many of the people she knew from her youth ended up in Glendale California about the time she did. She held tight to those relationships throughout her life, valuing them to the point that today the line between friends and family is hard to distinguish.

The third thing I see that my grandmother actively did was that she loved and cherished her family. She stayed extremely close to her mother, bringing her parents to America as soon as she possibly could after immigrating herself. Most of her adult life her parents lived with her and my grandfather, or very close by. When they were apart they traveled frequently to be together. She was married to my grandfather for 31 years and they raised their four children together. She loved raising her four kids after growing up as an only child, and she loved her grandchildren and great-grandchildren as well. She recorded her life story for us so she could be of influence even after her passing, and her spirit is still alive in our family today.

These are the things that inspire me, they are also the things that challenge me to live my life in a way that benefits those around me, and those who will come after me. I don't think when she was making these choices she necessarily meant to inspire anyone, she just did what she believed to be right. That is why when I think of her story, I think about how I can impact the world around me, simply by doing what I believe to be right, even when it is not easy.

Thank you.



