

eCone

Meeting: June 10, 2010

Presiding Rotarian: Mary Bellefeuille

eCone correspondent: Evan Tuchinsky

Updates

Foundation Minute: Kathy Maxwell handed out Paul Harris account updates to people who haven't contributed recently, articulating the goal of "every Rotarian, every year" — that is, a \$100 annual donation. "Expect gentle reminders like that," Kathy said. Sherry Swim took the microphone and stated, "I was a slow learner and didn't realize 'sustaining' meant every year." Since that realization, she has become a Fellow twice over with matching.

Relay For Life Minute: Larry Lash reported that our club received an award for raising the third-most money for the event and presented Kiley Patterson with a certificate for being the second-highest individual. (Kiley, whose employer would match up to \$1,000, left last week's meeting with \$600 and collected the remainder before the event.) All told, Larry said, Paradise Relay For Life brought in \$120,000 for the American Cancer Society, "and Rotary was a big part of that." He added: "Thanks, everyone who participated. We got a lot of support from Rotary, and I really appreciate it."

Salsa de Border Minute: Trudi Angel reminded everyone of the organizing meeting Wednesday, June 16, 7:30 p.m. at Barney O'Rourke's (*though we've learned since that it's been pushed back a day to Thursday, June 17*).

Announcements

In memoriam: The Paradise Rotary Club has lost one of our own. Bob McClenathen passed away on Monday, June 7. Pam Gray shares the following history: "Bob was born November 23, 1922 and joined our Club on October 1, 1987. He owned and operated his own insurance agency here in town until about five years ago. He went Senior Active Exempt when he was unable to attend meetings any longer, yet wanted to remain a

Rotarian. When we had Alice Smith's 100th birthday in January of last year, Bob was unable to attend but sent a check for the Boys and Girls Club, one of Alice's favorite groups." His obituary says Paradise Chapel of the Pines is handling final arrangements.

On a lighter note: Pam and Brian Gray are holding a pool party Monday, June 14, at 5:30 p.m. Pam explains that they decided "our pool needs to be used more," so they're planning several "open pool nights" this summer. These are just going to be informal shindigs for who ever may be available — with kids, without kids, borrow a kid ... whatever. Depending on the weather and the RSVPs, we'll get some pizza or BBQ burgers or something easy." If you'd like to take a dip, please RSVP to 872-2462 or RC4923@aol.com.

Off to camp: Local teens Ashton Rank and Stephanie Zinn leave Sunday morning for Camp Royal. Trudi Angel introduced them at the meeting; they promise to return to a future meeting to share their experience.

Speaking of teens ... : Our club will send four to the Teen Car Control Clinic on June 24. Please let Mary know ASAP if you know of a fifth we could send.

"Cheese," they said: Dave Bermann clicked pics for 30 club members, raising \$150 for the club. Meanwhile, the group shot by Alain Tomatis is available for purchase (\$25 for a large print embossed with the year).

Demotion in motion: Tom Gagne continues to take reservations and collect \$20 bills and checks from those who want to usher out Mary's presidency on the evening of July 1. If you haven't signed up, now you know pertinent details!

Presidential Trivia

Here is the challenge for this week — a three-parter:

Where and when is the Rotary International convention, who from our club is going, and who will run our club meeting that week?

Remember, first **e-mail reply to Mary** with the correct answer yields a coveted Wild Card Make-up Card!!!

Last two week's winners: Kathy Maxwell correctly stated 1992 as the year Arnie Hartjen was first elected club secretary. As for the club member whose middle name is a state capital, John Pierre Touchette knew that bit of trivia about himself, and the creator of the question, Don Peck, also received a make-up card — but we then learned that we have a second Rotarian who fills that bill: George Madison Siler!

Recognitions (a.k.a. Fines)

Jim Clarkson: First, he forgot to introduce himself when asking a question. Then, he said he would be attending his son's wedding, when in fact the nuptials are for his niece and his son won't even be there. Adding in the fine for the wedding trip itself: **3 bells**

Jim Johnson: Neglected to mention that a Rotarian's home was part of the garden your he announced last week. "I was trying to save Vicki getting fined," he explained. No such luck (see below), and he got himself fined on top of it! **2 bells**

Vicki Tomatis: Hers was one of six homes on the aforementioned tour. She and Alain greeted 358 people over the two days, yet still found the energy to come out to Relay For Life. **1 bell**

Linda Barnes: Tuesday was a big night for our county Treasurer-Tax Collector. "I won an election," she said, adding: "You know I had an awful lot of people running against me." Apparently Mary decided to make her fine equal the number of opponents: **0 bells**

Fine for the future: Mary singled out your humble correspondent for the errant byline with his column in the Post, thinking that the writer types in the byline and headline. When she learned the editor does these things, she recused said writer from responsibility for putting "Dick Little" on the column, and Rick Silva will get the fine. (Based on Rick's pattern of attendance, that might not happen until the Wisener administration!)

Bulletin Board

Golf Tournament: The Boys and Girls Clubs' Links Across Time fundraiser will be June 28. Check www.bgcnorthvalley.org to get information.

Farmers Market: The Road Runner Community Market Place, supporting the Butte College Foundation, takes place Saturdays at the college's Chico Center. Details can be found at www.buttefoundation.org.

Speaker

Monica Schwartz

Topic: Haiti after the quake

Monica is a physical therapist who spent 10 days in Haiti providing rehabilitation to people injured in the earthquake. She went with a group from Bidwell Presbyterian, which for 20 years has sponsored an orphanage in Port au Prince and for 10 years has sponsored trips. "I'm not a member of the church but my next door neighbor is a woman who is," Monica explained, "and just a few days before I'd said I wished I could go down there to help." She took time off work to do so.

The local group encountered fellow volunteers from across the world. Countries such as Korea, China, Israel, Italy and Germany sent aid and workers. Most people stayed in tent cities, but Monica's group got housed by an Englishwoman who'd come to Haiti as a missionary. Jackie introduced the visitors to artisans from around the area, as well as conducted a tour outside the city on the group's last day in Haiti.

Monica arrived about 2½ months after the earthquake and expected patients to be further along in their recoveries, but illness and malnutrition along with the total absence of physical therapy slowed the healing process. She worked at three hospitals (one since closed due to financial problems). The island experience two aftershocks while she was there, "but I never felt them."

So many different volunteer efforts intersected that everyone needed to meet each morning to introduce themselves and explain their fields in order to coordinate care. Overall, though, "it was very disorganized," which caused her frustration. "Sometimes it seemed like teams were competing with each other" to provide relief services. Asked whether government organizations were involved, Monica replied, "It sure didn't seem like it." That made the situation even more disheartening because much needed to be done — "it was so multidimensional, the needs." Still, "I was just amazed at the resilience of the people and their positive attitude."

Monica's overarching observation: "It was only a two-hour flight from Miami, but I felt like I was in another world."

Bob Irvine, who introduced Monica, said that there will be another trip to Haiti in November, coordinated by a woman named Jackie Johnson who teaches Creole language classes. Check with Bob if you are interested.
