



Propeller

Rotary Club of Vallejo

January 30th 2014

Tony Shannon

President Shane was absent. JD Miller stepped in and started the meeting at 1:23pm. He had to ring the bell twice. No one responded on the first ring. People just looked around in disbelief.

Finally, the assembly rose and Gary Salvadori led us in the flag salute.

Former Mayor Intintoli led us in a song titled, "Heart of My Heart". Then gave us about how his dog peed on his carpet and when he called his wife to tell her about it, she was on her way to take the dog to a \$50 dog bath appointment.

Fines
Recognitions
Happy \$\$

Visiting Rotarians

None

Guests

Welcome, once again, Cynthia Ripley. She has been to several of our meetings and inexplicably keeps coming back. Her business is North Star Business Advisors.

Announcements

Dictionary Handout: Kevin Rahill gave big thanks to everyone who worked so hard to put dictionaries in the hands of Vallejo's 3rd graders.

This prompted Incoming President Robert Briseno to give us a report on the last board meeting where members of the school district were in attendance. He reported that the school district would like us to put our efforts into creating STEM classrooms and hands-on projects. In an ironic switch, JD interrupted Robert and asked him if his announcement was the program.

Rich Curtola then chimed in with the fact that our dictionary project was originally called "Project Literacy."

Happy Dollars:

Doc is back from Tanzania. He said the poverty there is oppressive and now knows why people kiss the US soil when they return from other countries.

Ann Grove \$20 - she spent 7 days in Maine and 3 days in Detroit and is glad to be back in California. Her mother passed away at 98.

Incoming President Robert Briseno \$5 for the dictionary program and his visits to Pennycook and Cave.

Jeanne Kilkenny-Turk \$5 for volleyball, her daughter's team is now the division champions, thanks to Doc (for keeping her daughter upright).

Freda Dill \$5 for Kathe Chandler joining the Athena sisterhood.

Jeanne matched the \$5 and also welcomed Kathe into the Athena sisterhood.

Luis Romero \$5 glad to be back among us.

Recognitions

JD did not have the magic oracle binder with all of the recognition dates in it, so he asked everyone to be on the honor system (blank looks around the

Pete then added that the dictionaries give us something physical to show potential donors and make raising the money an easier sell than it would be for an intangible concept.

Program

Anastasia Schuster from Access Speakers in Petaluma came to us today to talk to us about talking.

She spent 30 years in the Luxury Tourism industry and created women's retreats. Now she books speakers for non-paying gigs (including 3 of our past speakers).

She took a brief pause from her main subject to tell us that she has 3 children and considers the possession and use of a dictionary to be a right of passage.

She represents speakers who use public speaking as a way to market their businesses.

The Sustainable Farmer (one of our speakers) was her first client. Anastasia started by reaching out to Rotary groups. Public speaking is now the number one generator of business for the sustainable farmer.

Due to our economy, we now have more entrepreneurs than ever before in the US. These people need a way to get their message out.

Anastasia co-authored "Business Success with Ease."

She says anybody can book their own speaking gigs for themselves. If you want to do this, she recommends starting with what you know, Rotary groups. Brand yourself as a speaker. Add "Public Speaker" to your business card, email signature, and Linked-In skill set. Create your own speaker sheet which gives information about you as a speaker and the topics you cover. To make things easy on the person introducing you, write an introduction for yourself.

room).

Rich Curtola finally stepped up and gave \$100 for his birthday and wedding anniversary.

Mystery Handshaker

Ann chose herself to act as Mystery Handshaker. Norb won. I think he donated the money back to the club.

Raffle/Trivia

JD gave us an easy question. In 2008, the New York Mets announced this person was going to spring training with them. Walt thought he had the answer (Billy Crystal), but no. The correct answer was, Ted Williams.

We adjourned as we started, early at 1:15pm

If you use A/V, test the equipment and be prepared to give your presentation without the A/V if it fails on site. Before your presentation, meet people in the room. Learn their names and refer to them in your talk.

After your presentation, send a thank you to the person who invited you to speak to the group.

Utilize training resources like Toastmasters.

Perfect is a myth. Anastasia waited a long time to get up and speak in front of people because she wanted to be perfect first. She finally gave up the concept of "perfect" and spoke about speaking for the first time right now (well, it's past now, because you are reading about it). We were her first audience for her talk on talking.

Never say things like, "I'm so nervous." No one cares. Share your knowledge and passion with the world. If you do not, you are doing the world a disservice. Don't wait to become perfect at it. Do it now.

If you do become really, really good at public speaking, you can make \$5k or more per speaking engagement.

Photos



My apologies to Anastasia. She did smile and turn toward me several times, but by the time I raised the camera and took the picture, this was the best photo I got.



JD leading the meeting and waiving money.

Potential New Member!

Cynthia Ripley has come to several meetings. She

wants to join the group.



Try it FREE today.

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