



Propeller

Rotary Club of Vallejo

May 29th 2014

Anthony Shannon

President Shane McAfee started the meeting 8 minutes early today. He made some excuse about a lot on the schedule, but it seems pretty clear he is just in a hurry to end his reign as President.

Lou Caretti led us in the flag salute. We had an actual flag this week.

Tony Intintoli tried to lead us in Santa Lucia. A for effort anyway.

Fines Recognitions Happy \$\$

Happy Dollars:

JD Miller \$20 for the A's being in first place.

Jeanne Kilkenny-Turk \$10 for all the thank you letters from the 3rd graders for the dictionaries we gave them.

Visiting Rotarians

None

Guests

About halfway through the meeting, Connie Howard (our Sgt at Arms) admonished President Shane for not recognizing guests. Shane immediately stopped the meeting and asked for guests to be introduced.

JD introduced Denise Martin for the last time as a guest.

Robert (I can already taste the Presidential podium) Briseno introduced his wonderful daughter Veronica.

Connie Howard introduced the Louise to her Thelma, Linda Zileski, her best friend since 6th grade.

Jeanne introduced Shawna Gilroy from the Vallejo Times Herald as a guest for the last time.

Announcements

On the 28th of June, we are providing the BBQ dinner for the Camp Venture kids at Cal Maritime. The dinner will be at 5pm. We need volunteers for this. Normally,

Mike Diaz \$10 for Norb's participation in the Scholarship Committee

Gary Salvadori \$10 for Avery's grand opening. He just wants to make it clear that he (Gary) will not give away cars at the grand opening.

Recognitions

Tony Shannon has 2 recognitions. He turned 49 last week and he is celebrating 7 years in Vallejo Rotary. He did not have time to celebrate his birthday officially. The day after his official birthday, he took two days off to sit at holes on golf courses and give away vodka. He has enjoyed his time at Vallejo Rotary. \$100 for both.

Jeanne Kilkenny-Turk - It's her birthday today. We all sang(?) happy birthday to her. She gave us money anyway. \$52 for 52 years.

Bill Vizzolini had a birthday on May 27th. Unlike Tony, he had two birthday parties. He did admit that he had to host both of them himself. \$100.

Mystery Handshaker

Doc was the MHS. Mike Diaz won.

Drawing/Trivia

Shane said there would be

Past President Tom Phillips brings his BBQ and does some of the cooking. This year, he will donate the use of his BBQ, but he will not be able to attend. So, please, please volunteer.

Avery Greene has invited us to his Grand Re-Opening on June 5th, with a ribbon cutting at 6pm. Come and see the fabulous changes Avery has made.

On June 9th, Vallejo Rotary will have a joint board meeting at 12 noon at Children's Wonderland Park. There will be a BBQ and we are all invited.

Solano County is recognizing the volunteers of the CDA event. The event is June 10th at 9am. Please come and represent. By the by, the final numbers are in. 1,596 volunteers served 1,959 patients and 10,655 procedures were done with a value of \$1.5 million.

Program

We had 3 programs today.

Scholarships

The first program was the presentation of 4 scholarships. Norb Frost presented the scholarships after giving recognition to Mike Diaz for his 20 plus years of service as Chair of the Vallejo Rotary Scholarship Committee.

Our first recipient was Christine Constantino. She was in attendance with her mother Sarah. Christine is a student at Jesse Bethel. She is 6th in her class. She took AP and honor classes. She is President of the Astronomy Club and the Nerd Herd. She plans to attend UC Irvine and major in Psychology and Human Biology. Eventually, she wants to help in suicide prevention.

Our second recipient Christian Liampo. She was in attendance with her mother and father. She is a student at Jesse Bethel and 14th in her class. She is on the wrestling team, in the astronomy club and the honor society. She plans to go to UC Davis (Go

a test later and no one listened. The question was, "How many patients were treated at the CDA free clinic?" Jim Casper teamed up with a guest, but had no idea. Someone else guessed 1,700. Connie Howard guessed 1,200. Jim Casper got a second chance and guessed 2,000. This was within 50 of the correct answer which was 1,979.

Meeting adjourned at 1:35 pm

Aggies!) and major in Animal Science.

Our third recipient was Latiana Wallace. She was there with her mother Lashaunda. She is an honor student and Captain of the Varsity Soccer team at Jesse Bethel. She brought a binder with a catalog of all of her accomplishments to the scholarship committee interview.

Our fourth and final recipient this week was Madison Washington. She brought her mother, Natasha with her. She is 4th in her class at Vallejo High School. She is on the Varsity Tennis team and in CSF. She has been Secretary, Vice President, and President of the student body, and a computer tutor at JFK Library. She wants to go to college at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania. She wants to be a lawyer or work for the FBI. (Norb was beaming).

Inductions

We had two inductions today.

Denise Martin, formerly of the Fairfield Club left Rotary some time ago. She recently decided she was ready to come back and she chose our club. Yay! She has been an audiologist for 26 years. She has 2 children: a son 17, and a daughter 19. She came to us on her own, so I don't know that she has a sponsor.

Shawna Gilroy is sponsored by Jeanne Kilkenny-Turk. She just moved to Vallejo in February. She has a 5 year old son and is instilling in him the need to serve his community. She is the lead of the advertising team at Vallejo Times Herald. She says the turnover in that position stops with her.

Please make a point of welcoming each of them to the club.

Speaker

Doctor John Harrington spoke to us today about his recent trip to Tanzania. He went to visit his daughter, her husband, and their children.

He said the first thing you'll need there is a hat. Hats

are hard to find there. No one wears them.

The most difficult part of the trip was the 24 hrs on planes and in airports. He described this as brutal and said it took him 10 days to recover on each end of the trip.

Tanzanian's are slender people. They only eat 2 meals per day. He was an oddity. There were only 8 white people in the entire town. None were as large as Doc. Everywhere he went, people followed him. They don't see large white people very often.

When Tanzanian parents want to encourage their children to eat they tell them that the great white ogre who lives in the woods will come and get them if they don't finish their meal. Doc fit the description of the ogre to a "t". Children would stare at him, frozen with fear, and scream. He got used to it after a while.

Doc's family lives in a brightly painted home which sometimes has running water and electricity. They have committed to 10 years there. The children are home schooled. There is a team of people there with Doc's family (the other white people there). They ate their rice and beans with the windows closed. So as not to upset the locals who don't get feasts like that.

He had chicken and it was the worst meat he had ever had until he had the beef. The chickens they eat are the ones which are too old to lay eggs. You can imagine the condition of the cows which become beef. As bad as it is, the locals consider it a treat and can only afford to eat it about twice a year.

Locals live on about \$400 a year for a family of 10. There is a lot of begging, but very little crime. If someone is accused of a crime, they may be stoned to death on the spot. If you get your wallet or purse lifted while in Tanzania, consider just letting it go.

People do not carry weapons there. The only people who have guns are the military.

Doc's daughter has to be careful not to be seen

working. Women are only allowed to do certain tasks. When it comes to sewing, they are only allowed to make things like sheets which can be sewed in a straight line.

Doc had a pair of pants made by the local tailor. It took 3 weeks. The tailor, along with everyone else, tends their crops in the morning and only works at something else later in the day. The tailor measured Doc several times, and had to order more fabric. He had never made a pair of pants for a man as big as Doc.

Most Tanzanian's will live their whole life without seeing an elephant or a lion. All the large animals are kept in a game park on the Serengeti. It costs \$200 a day to visit the park. It is illegal to exit your car while in the park. Doc had to get out of the car once because something happened to the brakes. While he was outside his car, he had what he referred to as a "Jurassic Park" moment. A herd of 30 foot tall giraffes ran past. He said they were so majestic it is impossible to do anything other than stop and stare until they are gone. While in his car, he saw a lion sheltering from a brief rain storm about six feet away from his car, a jaguar (the furry thing with sharp claws, not the car model) in a tree. It was obviously pregnant. Also while in his car, a docile elephant approached his car and stuck it's trunk through the open window looking for food. He saw a cheetah which is very rare. He went to the only place in the world where black rhinos live. There are about 100 black rhinos left in the world. There were six species of rhinos that we know of. Only four species remain.

Prospective Member

The following person is being put forth as a prospective member for our club:

Dr. Ramona Bishop, the Superintendent of Vallejo Schools.



Gavin Gavel at the Irish Fly Fair in Galway, Ireland

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