

eCone

Meeting: March 11, 2010

Presiding Rotarian: Mary Bellefeuille

Visiting Rotarians: none

eCone correspondent: Evan Tuchinsky

Updates

Foundation Minute: Kathy Maxwell is most distressed. “It’s sad how few people have done any contributing,” she told the club, and so she will set up a table in the back of the room at the March 25 meeting for members to check in with her about their Paul Harris status. There’s method to her mad-ness: Mary reminds us that people who’ve donated at least \$100 by April 1 will get entered into a drawing for an expenses-paid trip to a Rotary International project place! Two such trips for two will be awarded, which means there could be ... wait a minute, two times two, carry the one, round up to the nearest non-prime number ... *four* lucky travelers.

Membership Minute: Dean Fender announced that the next new-member orientation will be the second Tuesday in April at his home. “It’s each Rotarian’s responsibility to bring in a new member,” he says, and not just for Bring a Buddy to Lunch Day on April 22.

International Minute: Kiley Patterson (welcome back, Kiley!) reported that our water-project grant proposal is getting processed at Rotary International. Meanwhile, Gary Manwill is already in Mochi working on the gutter system for tank #2 at the college! (How many bells will *that* be worth?!?)

Interact Minute: Vickie Perez said 13 Interact-ers would like to attend the Chocolate Queen Bowling Night fundraiser Monday (March 15), but could use a little help. Please call Vickie if you would like to sponsor one or more of them. Meanwhile, Trudi Angel relayed that the Camp Royal interviews yielded some exceptional candidates, including two girls who will most certainly be our representatives. (The interviews also yielded some fines – see below ...)

Chocolate Queen Minute: Along with a reminder of Bowling Night, Jackie Gitman requested more help in the kitchen for the Greek Dinner on April 11. She's sold more than 40 tickets already — that's a lot of mouths to feed! C'mon, it'll be fun ...

Announcements

Come together ... : Are you a team member of the President Elect, President-Nominee, Current President, New Member, Club Officer, Club Information Management Officer, Treasurer, Club Leader, an Aspiring Club Leader, Foundation Director, Youth Exchange/Camp Royal/Camp Venture Chair, Publicity Chair, Web Designer, or someone wanting information about Foundation Fundamentals/Annual Giving/District Simplified Grants/Matching Grants? If you fall into any of these categories, District Assembly is for you! The gathering is this coming Saturday, March 20, from 8:30 a.m. to around 2 at Butte College. Unless your sister-in-law is getting married that day, please do your best to come.

Registration required: In case you missed Mary's note, the District Assembly isn't a straggle-on-in event — we need a head count. To register, log onto www.rotary5160.org, click on "events" and then "events calendar"; find the March 20 date and click on "log in and register now" (user name is email address; password is your member number on your Rotarian magazine, i.e. the 8 numbers above your name).

Chowdah dough: Just a week after the Pollocks' big win, our club received the \$500 prize from the Corning Chowder Cookoff. Thanks to Rolling Hills Casino, not only for the check but for the promptness in sending it!

Get-out-of-jail-free cards: OK, not really, but almost — Trevor Davis is offering five packs of 10 wild-card-makeup cards for \$100 a pack. Contact him or Mary to take advantage of this functional fundraiser!

Give 'em shelter: Justin Miley reported that he'd collected \$350 on top of the \$125 pledged by Keith's team for Shelter Box(es) for Chile. More on this at the next meeting.

Rotarians' Work Day: Mark off your calendar for April 17 — that way you won't be taken off-guard when Bill Mannel approaches you about installing smoke detectors. He needs at least 25 people to comprise teams of two that will work on eight homes in four-hour shifts. (Don't ask me how that all works out; too much math!)

Pageant, please: Alisa Wrangham, Miss Teen Butte County 2010, let the club know that she's been invited to the Miss Teenage California Scholarship Pageant next month in Los Angeles. She's a remarkable young woman — though just 14 and a freshman at Paradise High, she's already distinguished herself with her academic achievements and

community service (including Project Vision and the Paradise Ridge Youth Council). If you are interested in helping sponsor her, please call 872-7435.

Presidential Trivia

Here is Mary's challenge for this week:

What are we all supposed to remember to do Saturday evening?

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

Recognitions (a.k.a. Fines)

Tom Gagne: Forgetting the birthday boy at his table. **1 bell**

Tom again: Stepped forward to acknowledge Debbie on the front page of the Paradise Post. **2 bells**

Bob Irvine: Left his lunch ticket on the table ... and not the table by the buffet! **2 bells**

Bob again, along with John Touchette and Mary: No-shows at the Camp Royal interviews. **1 bell each**

Trudi Angel: Not having Mary's cell phone number to call her about the aforementioned no-showing. **1 bell**

Bulletin Board

Welcome to this new feature in the eCone! This is the brainchild of Mary, related to her announcement at the meeting, in which she said, roughly: "For a short while we were putting non-Rotary announcements on the bulletin board in the back. I seem to be running out of time and people are sad they aren't getting recognized so we will try that system again. If you want fellow Rotarians to help with something that is a non-Rotary event, please bring a flyer for the bulletin board." What she didn't say is to please email me (ubane@aol.com) so I'll have the details straight from the source and won't have to scribble so much. Thanks!

Track time(rs): Here is a great opportunity to help Paradise High athletes. Seth Roberts is looking for 18 people to help keep time and do measurements at track meets. It's really simple: Be there at 2:50 p.m. until 6:30(ish) on Wednesday March 17, Wednesday April 21 and Wednesday May 5. Please call Ryan Wright at the CMA church, 877-7069. If you have a stopwatch, bring one; it's okay if you don't.

Another run: Organizers of the Nugget Ridge Run, April 24 at Pine Ridge School in Magalia, are looking for volunteers. Contact Lisa Eckert at 873-3800, ext. 242.

Speaker

Jim Richardson, comedy coach and writer

Topic: "How to create humorous sound bites and lighten things up"

I believe all of us appreciate the hard work of Bob Irvine and his committee members who need to schedule 48 to 50 speakers a year. We also appreciate anyone who takes the time to share his or her expertise with the club. Mr. Richardson kindly delivered a multimedia presentation about injecting comedy into speeches and presentations.

Mr. Richardson says that "telling a joke is the greatest weapon to get people to accept your message." He suggests that a speaker open every speech with humor, because "when the audience laughs, they become a like-minded community who agrees." Don't just script a joke for yourself; write notes for five jokes, and keep going down the list "until one goes over."

That was the summation of his half-hour presentation. True to his mantra, he opened with a joke. Then another. Then another. A veteran of stand-up comedy, Mr. Richardson was undeterred by the quiet response and went on to provide a valuable lesson on the importance of using the right means to connect with an audience.
