

Rotary



Club of Medford Rogue

September 30 Communicator

Medford Rogue Rotary: Chartered April 20, 1977

Meeting Link: Will send link out later on separate email

Presiding: Paul Robinson, President

Involved Rotarians

- Inspirational Moment: Julie Gillis
- Sergeant at Arms: Gene Taylor
- Greeters: Bruce Garetto
- Attendance: Shaun Franks
- Technology: John VanSickle

Song for Today

Song Title: ♦The Prayer♦

([Link to YouTube performance - Daddy/Daughter Duet](#))

Song lyrics

*I pray you♦ll be our eyes,
And watch us where we go
And help us to be wise,
In times when we don♦t know
Let this be our prayer,
When we lose our way
Lead us to a place,
Guide us with your grace
To a place where we♦ll be safe*

(Thanks to Frank Pulver)

Today♦s Speaker

Topic: ♦Who Tells Your Story?♦

Speaker: Barbara Dellenback (Former MRRotarian)

Introduced by: Lyn Hennion

Next week♦s speaker

Topic: Candidates♦ Forum♦State Representative Candidates

Speakers: Alberto Enriquez and Kim Wallan

Introduced by: Bob Wise

Summary of last week♦s topic

Candidates for Jackson County Commissioner

Dave Dotterer:

Dave is a graduate of Oregon State University and was an Infantry officer in the US Marines. He has lived in

Ashland for 20 years and has worked as a consultant for the Department of Defense and with the Oregon Legislature

Terrie Martin:

Terrie was a Rotary Scholar in 1980 and spent 14 years as a reporter for the Medford Mail Tribune, then as an adjunct professor at Southern Oregon University.

Questions for the candidates:

What one area of County services is most needful of additional resources?

Terrie: Human Services

Dave: The nexus between law enforcement and social services

What element of the County government is most effective? Why?

Dave: Public safety; the County does a very effective job at that

Terrie: Human and health services; the County has risen to the challenge of addressing health crisis issues for those on the margins

How should the County work with its city governments?

Dave: Commissioners should have regular connections to elected leaders of local cities

Terrie: agree; but we need a solution that includes all the leaders across the County

Are County taxes about right, too high, or too low?

Terrie: Taxes are about right now; would be reluctant to raise property taxes given recent disasters

Dave: the County has done a great job of being fiscally prudent; this is not the time to raise taxes

What would you do about economic development?

Dave: organizations like SOREDI need to be engaged; this is one of the most important jobs of a Commissioner

Terrie: 48% of County residents are self-employed and at the mercy of the government in many ways. We need smart policies to support at-home workers.

What steps should County Commissioners take to ensure responsiveness after the recent fires?

Terrie: we need to address the concerns raised by the media; why didn't the County activate the

emergency notification system?

Dave: We need to form a Jackson County Emergency Management Office, and conduct a hot wash to learn what we can do better

Would you support evening meetings of Commissioners once in-person meetings are possible?

Dave: yes

Terrie: that would help, but even 6pm meetings are not going to be possible for working citizens

What should voters know about you personally?

Terrie: I'm a heart-and-soul journalist; that means I don't look at politics so much as search for real solutions.

Dave: my career has included experience in disaster management, so I'm very comfortable with planning and setting priorities.

Rotary member questions:

Why should Commissioners be paid so much, and should there be regional as opposed to at large candidates?

Dave: we need to pay people for the level of responsibility they take on; and we need at-large Commissioners to get a more holistic view of situations

Terrie: if you don't pay Commissioners properly, you get candidates who can afford to take the job for other reasons. And, we should move to having five Commissioners who have regional affiliations.

Why do you want this job?

Terrie: I've been thinking about being a Commissioner for 20 years, and believe we need someone connected to the history and diversity of the County

Dave: I have been working in this area and I see the gaps that need to be addressed.