

Rotary

Club of Valle Verde-Green Valley



Birthdays

Sharon Gaipman
August 30th
John A Yeager
September 3rd
Mary L. Fisher
September 8th

Wedding Anniversaries

James Blackburn
September 4th
Mark A. Horton
September 6th
Susan J. Horton
September 6th
Ron George Darrah
September 7th
Mary L. Fisher
September 8th
Michael Paul Barker
September 11th

Meeting Notes August 25, 2022

By Dean Tibbetts on Thursday, August 25, 2022

Moment of Reflection - Susan Horton shared Jennifer Jones' statement to imagine tomorrow and not yesterday. Imagine our world where we give our very best knowing we can make a difference. Engage our members allowing them to value and enjoy their Rotary efforts.

Attendance - There were 33 members attending in person, 4 members plus guest Phil Noble attending via ZOOM, and guests Eugene Friesen, Marie Mantia, Leslie Strocsher, and Debbi Chavez. Susan Horton noted she has a goal this year of a female membership of at least 30%. Currently our club's membership of 47 active members includes 18 women or about 38%. There are currently three additional women either applying or considering applying for membership which could bring the percentage of women active members to 42%. In addition, there are 7 women who are listed as honorary members.

President's remarks- Susan thanked Ron Darrah, Michele Lewis, Nancy Green, Mary Fisher, Charlotte Gates, and Tom Cooke for their contributions while Susan was away.

Flag presentation - Tom Cooke presented a Whidbey West Side Rotary banner which he brought home from a visit he and Michele Lewis made with Sojourner Deborah Wright.

50/50 Raffle - With a total pot of \$307, Craig Altschul's ticket was drawn. Craig did not draw the joker.

Announcements -

- Susan presented our newest member, Kathy Dean, with a magnetic Rotary Wheel to place on her automobile and promised to do the same for each new member.
- Gary Friedman announced micro-credit trips will return soon. There is space for two members in District 5500 to attend the October meeting and three to attend in December.
- Thirsty Thursday will be held at 4:30 today at the Ramada with pizza, beer, and soft drinks. The cost is \$5. Michele Lewis expects 22 people attending.
- September 8 - Sopori school dictionaries will be distributed. See Susan or Mary.
- September 10 Hunger Walk at Historic Canoa Ranch. See Mary Fisher.
- September 14 - Joint Service Project among our three Rotary Clubs and Lions, Kiwanis & Optimists Clubs doing a volunteer canned food drive for the Sahuarita food bank. Details in a e-mail from President Sue.

- September 17 Dress for Success. See Mary Fisher.
- September 23 & 24 District Conference: There will be a need for volunteers at the District Conference to participate at the Valle Verde table at the House of Friendship publicizing Jazz in the Desert. We are looking into the need for volunteers to register for the conference. Watch for an e-mail from Steve.
- Ron has calendars for \$5 each. See Ron and pay Gary Friedman.

Rotary International Houston Convention reports: -Susan Horton

Susan reported she has now attended five International Conventions including 2007 in Salt Lake City, 2010 in Montreal, 2011 in New Orleans, 2018 in Toronto, and 2022 in Houston.

Susan's biggest takeaway was the big change in how savvy Rotary has become in media and presentation. Jennifer Jones and her successor, Gordon McNally, both have media backgrounds and we should expect continued changes in the future.

The major areas of emphasis she learned are Rotary wants to expand its reach making new partners, increase participant involvement, and increase our ability to adapt making small improvements.

Susan focused on membership workshops taking care of members. Our club adopting Family of Rotary is an example of a change we have made. She noted we need to ask, "How are we doing?" This a question we need to ask in all that we do.

-Phil Silvers

Phil has vast experience attending International Conferences having attended 28 of them. He provided a back story of the 2015 convention which was awarded to Sao Paulo even though Houston was a better location. The convention in São Paulo was a disaster as could have been expected.

Shekar Mehta whose conference this was presented his theme of Empowering Girls. People were also interested in hearing from current President, Jennifer Jones.

The turnout was disappointing with only 12,000 attendees. There have been 30,000 at previous conventions.

There are 219 countries with Rotary clubs and the flag ceremony is often done with a theme representing the host city. The country of Ukraine received a standing ovation exceeding five minutes.

The conference includes:

Plenary sessions with entertainment and inspiration.

Breakout sessions supporting all kinds of information of interest to each Rotarian.

House of Friendship including interest groups, vendors, RI staff, and entertainment.

District social get togethers.

Rotary Action Group and Rotary Interest Group meetings.


General Secretary, John Hewko, made an impressive presentation on the essence of Rotary, his personal Rotary journey, and Rotary activity in Ukraine responding to the needs of its citizens.

-Steve Sibulsky

This was Steve's first International Convention. Steve's focus was on public relations, membership, and Interact. He learned persistence and having a story to tell along with a photo are important in PR.

Rotary's product is community service which is important to increasing membership. We are doing well with the attributes of successful clubs. We are active and intentional.

He learned we are doing a pretty good job with keeping our members



engaged. He told a story of a Fort Worth club that began awarding Rotary Outstanding Business Awards as a way of increasing membership for local business people.

There is a Rotary Youth Network in development bringing Rotary Youth in Interact together. More to come.

Next Week's Meeting - Phil Silvers IT Training for Women and Young Adults in Mbale, Uganda