

# Rotary

## Club of Valle Verde-Green Valley



### Birthdays

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  
John A Yeager  
October 2nd

## Meeting Notes September 1, 2022

By Dean Tibbetts

**Attendance** - There were 36 active club members attending in person, 5 persons on ZOOM, and guests Eugene, Joyce, Leslie, Marie, and Debbi.

**Moment of Reflection** - Tom Cooke read a message of the importance of Rotary celebrating diversity around the world, being secure in our own faith, and able to accept the open celebration of all faiths, which is the tie that binds us all. Gary Friedman provided six stories representing faith, trust, hope, confidence, love, and attitude. Live life including all of these attributes. Remember good friends are the jewel of life.

### Announcements -

- Next week is the final day to donate canned food or make a cash donation for the Sahuarita Food Bank. All donation will be delivered September 14.
- Warmth From the Heart program needs volunteers to serve on its committee.
- Roxana Rico is participating Monday in a roping competition attempting to qualify for Las Vegas. See Roxana if you wish to watch the competition.
- Upcoming calendar events:
  - 09/05/22 Valle Verde Rotary Board of Directors Meeting
  - 09/08/22 Dictionaries at Sopori School
  - 09/10/22 Hunger Walk
  - 09/13/22 Tasty Tuesday at San Ignacio 4:30
  - 09/14/22 Food Shelf Joint Service Project Delivery
  - 09/17/22 Dress For Success
  - 09/23/22 and 09/24/22 District Conference

**50/50 Raffle** - Leslie Strocsher's ticket was drawn. The pot was \$495. She drew a heart.

### Phil Silvers - IT Training for Women and Young Adults in Mbale, Uganda

As members of Valle Verde Rotary Club, we are aware of Phil's involvement in international Rotary projects in Africa and other parts of the globe. His introduction included far too many Rotary positions held to include in this report.

Phil's objectives in his talk were to be accountable to Bill Grantham and his board who agreed as club President to co-sponsor this project and to all club members who contributed to the project, and to provide an orientation on global and district grants.

Rotary's involvement in this project was initiated by a phone call from a Rotarian named Deborah Plotkin who operates her own non-profit, U-TOUCH, in Uganda providing free technology training to people living in poverty. Her call to Phil resulted in Rotary becoming a partner through a grant. Rotarians raised donations of \$8,000 which was converted to a

District Designated Fund increasing the total involvement to \$14,400. Phil has a personal example in his life, his mother Betty Ann, a welfare mother who received job training first as a comptometer operator, then as a nurse, and eventually became a community college advisor to women re-entering education. Her example led Phil to understand the importance of skill training to financially disadvantaged people.

Phil has been evaluating training programs for 49 years and believes the Uganda project is one of the best he has seen. Onesimas Mukane, a friend of Rotary, developed a training management system which includes student attitudes, aspirations, scores, and student input into the system.

The curriculum of the program includes training in ICT (Information Communication Technology), Microsoft Word, Excel, Power Point, Access (Data Base), Internet, Entrepreneurship, skills such as Tailoring, Hair Dressing, and Handicraft, and finally Womens Empowerment.

Implementation included outreach to community leaders and screening applicants. More than one thousand applicants were certified as vulnerable and 147 students were selected from that group. Before the training had been completed, the host church locked its doors ending the program at that point. Subsequently a new home at a Pentecostal bible college has been found which will allow the students to become certified.

Without Microsoft certification, 30 students have developed the skills to start small businesses or find employment. All of the trainers in the program have come from poverty themselves and are able to relate to the issues facing each student which is a major factor in the success of the program.

**Next Week's Program** - Kathleen Silvers - Imagine: Rotary Creating Peace Through Education