

Meeting Notes – 1-6-15

Those arriving reasonably close to the appointed hour received greetings from Allen Huber, Cal Magro, Carl Johnson, and an unnamed assortment of other folks, as described by President Bryan “Big Easy” Earll. Those arriving late were left to speculate who the anonymously credited might have been. The big “E” directed Josh Garcia to oversee that proper respect and attention was paid to the singing of the Anthem and the recitation of the Pledge, and Josh set the proper tone for each. Those of us who hadn’t had a chance to scan the room for who was and wasn’t present were pleasantly surprised to hear the voice of Malcolm Graham giving the day’s invocation. Displaying a growing possessiveness of the podium, Bryan kept song master duties for himself. As his opening selection, he chose #19, *The Get Together Song*, which accurately reflected the sentiment of the gathering. Bryan’s other selection, #69, *Sing a Song*, must have been chosen to sate the more rambunctious among us, as the hearty percussion that accompanied the tinkling seemed to attest. There were no visitors or guests, but the president spun this unplanned intimacy as lending an air of exclusivity to the meeting.

Announcements

January is Rotary Awareness month. Bryan wants us to focus on who we are as Rotarians this month and the rest of the year on what we do as Rotarians.

The initial meeting of the Canyon Oaks Interact club took place on Thursday. Expect to hear from Dennis Franklin or Felix Villanueva next meeting on how things went.

Sylvia Domotor came to the podium for a second week in a row to update us on her condition. There is no agreed upon treatment for her lung ailment. She may need a lung transplant in the next 2 to 5 years. Here’s to hoping that an effective treatment regimen is developed before it comes to that.

Lynda Linforth invited everyone to Bar O on Friday night for 2015’s inaugural First Friday event, to be held a week late as has become tradition. (Those that attended had a great time.)

The Dan Stover Music, Hensell Essay, and 4 Way Speech contests are rapidly approaching. Judges will be needed.

Tuesday’s meeting will be a Club assembly. Come prepared with your compliments, criticisms, suggestions, and ideas on where the Club should be heading in both the short term and the long term.

Next Saturday, we are scheduled to paint the sign in Rotary Park. Keep the morning free for this chore and the afternoon free for the impromptu festivities that usually follow.

Saturday is also the first scheduled facilitator orientation for RYLA. Aside from writing an addition of the Bulletin, being a RYLA facilitator is the quickest route to the attainment of a Blue Badge.

Tom Adams announced that Sally would be undergoing surgery on Friday and asked that she be included in our prayers. Latest word is that things went well. Here's to hoping we see Sally at the next First Friday event.

Fines

Gary Kooiman -- \$100 (Gary's birthday, Marjie's Birthday, Trip to Europe)

Club Anniversaries

Steve Baker, Brad Bateson – 39 years

Gary Kooiman – 35 years

Andy Montgomery – 28 years

Tom Adams – 25 years

Rob Hammond, Kathy Brandes, Chris Dyrek – 24 years

Paul Genino, Tim Mishler, Kris Leonard – 23 years

Art Thomas – 22 years

Steve Baker – 21 years

Brian Soash, Mary Ann Lutz – 20 years

Denise Harvey – 19 years

Bill Shieff – 7 years

Stan Pitts, Jenny Pappano – 4 years

Program – Craft Talks

Brad Bateson -- There was much speculation and teasing concerning the self-effacing Mr. Bateson ever reaching the podium to give us a craft talk. Hiding any discomfort he might have felt, Brad soldiered through. He grew up in Duarte and was a three sport star in high school. He was good enough to play college baseball, but his career came to an abrupt end when he shattered his arm on an ill-fated throw down to second base on a steal attempt. His plans suddenly up in the air, he discovered a talent for flower arranging and opened the Poppye Shoppe, a fixture in Monrovia for 36 years. After

working 7 days a week, several beginning at 3AM at the wholesale flower market for many of those years, Brad retired 7 years ago. He now devotes his time to wife Sharon, their three children and their children's spouses. He has also started a new career in the grandfather business. He has been a fixture on the annual Colorado River Mega Run, always the first to lend a hand or a tow rope when needed. If it wasn't apparent before, it was pretty clear after his talk that Brad would be that guy.

Gary Kooiman – Gary Kooiman grew up in Redlands and attended college at the University of Redlands when his dad offered to buy him a car if he would stay in town for his higher education. His dad also encouraged him to be an attorney, and a good score on the LSAT and the military deferment available for attending law school convinced him.

After attending law school at UC Davis, he and Marjie, whom he had met in Salzburg during a semester studying abroad, stayed in NorCal for 12 years where he practiced construction litigation. Gary and family made it to Monrovia in 1980, the same year he joined the Club. His practice here involved mostly wills, trusts, and probate matters. His son, Peter, has two boys and is a teacher. His daughter Katie, has two young daughters of her own. Marjie and he had the pleasure of spending time with their granddaughters for Christmas on their way home from Europe.

Gary ended his talk with a story from his days as a construction attorney and one from his days as a probate attorney, the former involving the use of an adjective that raised several eyebrows when it was uttered.

Opportunity Drawing

Tim Moore -- \$30

--Kris L.