

Meeting Notes for 12/23/14

The meeting on 12-23 promised to be an interesting one, being a special Christmas-oriented meeting, and it was indeed. To begin with, Messrs. Huber, Leonard and Shieff greeted members as they ambled into the meeting hall. Steve Baker was also in an especially chipper mood, and therefore counted as a *de facto* fourth greeter.

President Earll, further evidencing that he recognizes that his year is almost half over, started the meeting a little later than usual. 11:53, to be exact. Bill Shieff, our esteemed President-elect (I think, but who knows, these things seem to change on a weekly basis) kicked off the meeting with the Anthem & Pledge. The notes don't indicate who our divine intermediary was, but it is safe to assume it was Steve Knight.

Guests were then announced. There were a few. In attendance for this family friendly event (well, until Andy's turn at the mic, which we will get to), were Fil Lujan and progeny, Mr. Earll's mother-in-law, Mrs. Farmer, Tim Moore's bride and Lauren Worsley. I learned during lunch that Ms. Worsley is a high-level amateur dance competitor. While an interesting factual discovery, for at least two reasons, it was not too surprising.

Fines

On to Mr. Montgomery. Per the usual, he was invited up to levy fines and facilitate recognition of the noteworthy. Now, typically, I am proud of the fact that it was I, your talented scribe, who hand-selected Mr. Montgomery for his role as Fine Master. However, on this day, pride may have been at least partially displaced by mortification. As his first act, Mr. Montgomery invited Jim Ward to the front, to recognize him for making the paper. As Mr. Ward approached, Mr. Montgomery held up, for everyone to see, a framed newspaper clipping of a "Wanted" poster stating that Mr. Ward was wanted for several crimes, including a particularly heinous one (after which a certain registration is required). This prompted some wide-eyed questions from our younger guests. Well done sir.

Realizing the potentially questionable nature of his first fine, Mr. Montgomery quickly moved on to the more traditional variety. First, Art Thomas was recognized for his 88th birthday, for which he donated \$100 to the Billy Ryan fund. Stan Pitts then followed with a \$48 donation to recognize his wedding anniversary. Finally, in a very generous showing, Allan Huber donated \$500 to the police Explorer fund. A special thank you to Mr. Huber.

Announcements

In the interest of time, recognizing that we had a heft program ahead, El Presidente skipped announcements.

Program

Being that Christmas was only two days off, Erica Hahn (who, in the bright and cheerful spirit of Christmas referred to herself as the “Mistress of the Dark”) led the club in a multifaceted holiday celebration that included song, trivia and gift giving. Jenny Pappano and Lynda Linforth kicked things off by providing the proper answer to “what is ‘Boxing Day’?”, before the group endeavored to sing “I’m Dreaming of a White Christmas” and “Santa Claus is Coming to Town.” Not if he heard us singing. The remainder of the program alternated between song and trivia, with Mr. Earll jumping in variously to hand out his own gifts. Thank you Bryan. As for the trivia winners, I can report that the following people were victorious on at least one question: Tina Pitts, Cal Magro, Stan Pitts, Alex Blackburn, Steve Knight, and Barbara Veenstra. Karen Lujan also won the “ugly t-shirt” contest, with a truly ugly green cat-themed shirt.

Finally, the President Earll offered Mr. Hahn a thank you gift for her hard work in preparing the program, and Shihan Tom won the opportunity drawing.