

Reporting Meeting of Aug 14, 2017

Calendar of Events

Last Week: Aug 14 DG Fred Daniels
This Week: Aug 21 Pine Grove Cemetery 4:30 Show
Next Week: Aug 28 Whetten's Picnic
Coming Up: Sep 18 Gift of Life Golf Tournament
June 1 District Conference, River Casino

Attendance: Rotarians: 16 Guests: 1

Invocation: PPDG Stec

Note: Regular meetings are held Monday Evenings at 6:00 PM in the William E. Sewell Memorial Room at the Ballston Town Hall.

Please give suggestions for future programs to Beth Brownell.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- President Jon Costolo led us in the pledge, Bob Youmans in America the Beautiful, while Dan Stec provided a thoughtful invocation.
- TIB WEEDING PARTY – Sat. 8am; meet at “the corner”
- DUES are DUE! Val noted “some are clean, some are not.”
- BYOB to the Whetten Picnic. Can arrive early for swimming, boating and also to help set up.
- Dinner will be at the Town Hall at 6:00, following the Pine Grove Cemetery clean up on the 21st.
- Mike's good humor once more made Happy Dollars one of the high points of the meeting.

NEW DG FRED DANIEL'S PRESENTATION

DG Fred provided us with a very informative and highly energizing presentation covering Rotary District's Vision and Mission. He also described the operating principles and goals that he, the District, and Rotary International plan to pursue this coming Rotary Year. Before starting his comments, he thanked President Jon for his important contributions to the recent District's Next Generations Conference. DG Fred made it very clear from the start that he and the district seek to empower clubs (at the local level) and stated that Rotary was a “bottom up organization.”

He shared with us the Vision and Mission Statement of the District's three-year Strategic Plan. Its Vision is that “all clubs are vibrant, responsive and relevant.” There is a big emphasis on relevancy. The Mission Statement says “raise the impact of Rotary, work with resources, guidance and leadership.” He emphasized that training is a big component.

Two things the District is emphasizing are *Membership* and *Public Image*. He noted that overall American clubs are losing 12-14% of its members each year, while foreign clubs are growing. Although not the case with our club, many are leaving soon after becoming members because they are not adequately and quickly helped to become engaged with a club's operation and mission. This year, there is a special District effort to identify and work with Club Membership Chairs. DG Fred noted that differing strategies are going to be developed to help different size clubs. In terms of Public Image, he said clubs need to better communicate the Rotary message, activities and causes to the community, and to do more through social media. As a marketer, he stressed that campaigns and projects need to focus on specific causes. He highlighted three – *the environment, youth and hunger*. District special project themes this year will focus on World Polio Eradication, a Youth Peace Submit (Nov 12) and *planting one tree for every member of our district*. With great passion, DG Fred emphasized that Rotary is all about “Commitment” ...commitment to expanding and keeping membership, taking leadership positions, creating or enhancing service projects and getting involved at the District level – all while having fun and sharing camaraderie.

Lastly, DG Fred noted that Rotary was all about “action,” and “taking action.” He is therefore instituting a program where the District awards a “Certificate of Recognition” to those club members who exemplify “taking action.” That person will be designated “A Person of Action.” Last night DG Fred presented that recognition award to our Tom Brownell for his outstanding work in developing the new BHBL Rotary Web site. Congratulations Tom – well deserved! (See picture above of President Jon accepting the award on Tom's behalf.)



Reported by Steve Caine

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

August Set Up: Silas, Schrader, Ron Schimpf, Bill Wehrle, the Whettens

August Clean Up: Peter Sawyer, Alec Davis, Dan Stec