

Kiwanis Club of SLO Noontime



Koverall



December 8, 2005

Meeting Notes

President C convened the meeting at 12:30 p.m. with a roomful of guests for our holiday luncheon.

Bart led us in the pledge. Ron K led us in singing a traditional yuletide carol. Kevin led us in an invocation.

Guests included: Lois Stratton, Eunice Alderman, Joanie Scholz, Pam Batson as well as Doc Steele's wife Gail and his office staff Jennifer and Chris.

Also in attendance were Darren Peters, Circle K President and Hilding's wife Mary Carol as well as her parents Clarence and May Lehman from Washington state.

Sandy introduced Jonathan Haber, a personal life coach who moved to San Luis Obispo four years ago from the Bay Area. Kevin Hauber introduced Kristin, his many-cow wife (Kristen was sporting an attractive jacket boasting of many moo-cows!)

Holly (welcome back!) introduced her coworker from First Bank, Phyllis Clarkson. Shane performed his perfunctory introduction of

Meeting Notes, Continued

Bridgette and President C introduced Amy.

Bob A reported on Feed The Homeless. Judson Terrance roasted the turkeys and the usual club members provided the accoutrements for a festive holiday feast, including 100 hand-wrapped cookies made by Bridgitte and Dr. J's pumpkin pies as well as Joanie's yams.

Thanks to all for your extra effort. At least 85 people relished this repast.

Joke of the Week

Doc S recounted a "Deck the Halls" poem he wrote some years ago for the Sierra Vista Christmas party then recited an updated version, spoofing our current state of affairs!

Upcoming Kiwanis Events!!!

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| Dec. 15 | Club Meeting @ Monday Club, 12 noon
<i>Speakers: Hilding & Pres. Carsel</i> |
| Dec. 22 | Club Meeting @ Monday Club, 12 noon
<i>Program: Barbershop Quartet</i> |
| Dec. 29 | Club Meeting @ Monday Club, 12 noon |

TBD

Announcements

President C once again passed around the sign-up sheet for Salvation Army Bell Ringing on Saturday, December 10 at two locations, the downtown Post Office and Ross on Higuera Street.

Volunteers are still needed for some two-hour shifts. Bob A is coordinating and will deliver coffee and donuts.

Dan H announced that all of the See's candy has been distributed but we got three bonus boxes for our volume buy that will be auctioned at next week's meeting.

Milt shared that he has selected four unemployed veterans' families to receive this year's gift boxes from our Club. He has members to deliver to Atascadero and Oceano families but needs two volunteers for families in San Luis Obispo. Doc Steele and Ron volunteered. Howie will be responsible for purchasing all of the food and it should be delivered the week prior to Christmas.

Kiwanis Quote

*Somehow, not only for Christmas
But all the long year through,
The joy that you give to others
Is the joy that comes back to you.
And the more you spend in blessing
The poor and lonely and sad,
The more of your heart's possessing
Returns to you glad.*

- John Greenleaf Whittier

Program Speaker

The Rent-A-Carol octet from San Luis High School chorus entertained us with Christmas carols, both traditional and a not-so-traditional "Twelve Days of Christmas". A sing-a-long concluded the program.

Soap Box

Don Mc shared a "Dear Santa" letter written by Howard Buer as a staff sergeant in 1944, extracted from *Reminisce Extra*, 2005.

*I don't care, Santa, what I get,
Of material things, I mean.
The things that I now treasure most
Are things, which can't be seen.
Time was, I'd forward look for ties
And gloves and socks to get.
Now Uncle Sammy gives me these -
I'm well supplied as yet.
And games are out, where I'm concerned;
I don't have much time free,
No cigarettes 'cause I don't smoke,
And liquor's not for me.
I won't be home the twenty-fifth,
But that is quite all right;
"Cause if a party's what I need,
I'll have it another night.
But still. That isn't what I want;
My needs are very few.
The things I want are for morale
And can't be had from you.
I want assurance (that is all)
That "Home" will "Home" remain;*

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SoapBox, continued

*That all my loved ones there will be
When I come back again.
Thus war, St. Nick, is not "for fun" -
There's work that we must do,
And when we back to this side come,
We'll find there's work here, too.
I pray to God that our people
Will ne'er in chaos live,
'Cause that, dear Sat'. is why we fight
And why our lives we give.
I said before, I do not care
What Christmas to me brings,
If I can but come back to home
And find the saner things.
A mother's touch, a sweetheart's kiss,
The clasp of Dad's firm hand,
A job for me (that's all I ask)
From this, my blessed land.*

Fines & Forfeitures

Bart served as Fine Master and Hildy commanded the Fine Box. Holly first gave \$5 happy for being back after three months on the road for First Bank and missing meetings. After Bart brought forth a *Tribune* with a laudatory article on Claude's kitchenwares and supply business, Holly contributed another \$10!

Milt gave \$5 happy for the disabled veterans getting First Place in the SLO Christmas Parade last weekend. The scooter patrol very nearly had a mishap but they were real crowd pleasers!

Fines & Forfeitures, Continued

Bart was happy that his "best friend and wife" Denise was a latecomer and also gave a "proud buck" for Denise's grandfather's heroism during World War I, where he was captured by the Japanese and died as a POW.

Ron gave a buck to inform Holly and the rest of us that Claude's business is at the intersection of Chorro Street and Foothill Boulevard. Bart thanked Lois, Eunice and Joanie for their delightful table decorations for our holiday luncheon.

The wreaths with Gingerbread houses, candy canes, gingersnap snowmen and other goodies were auctioned for a total of \$84 for the seven centerpieces. Thanks to all and enjoy!

Kiwanis Education

Kiwanis was described as "an organization for men" until what year? What percentage of today's worldwide membership is female? In 1987, after more than a decade of debate, delegates at the convention in Washington, D.C. voted overwhelmingly to eliminate gender as a membership requirement.

Today, about 18 percent of worldwide Kiwanis membership is female and about 29 percent of all new members are women.

Next week's questions: How many staff and supporting personnel does Kiwanis International have? Where are they located?

Attention donors! Year-end giving advantages through KETRA

The Katrina Emergency Tax Relief Act (KETRA) of 2005 was signed into law by President George W. Bush September 23, 2005.

This new law provides temporary incentives for gifts to the Kiwanis International Foundation and other public charities.

These incentives apply to most charitable gifts made outright and in cash to public charities, not just those made to charities that help hurricane victims. Gifts do not have to be hurricane-Katrina related.

The purpose of the bill is "to encourage charitable giving outside of Katrina relief, to prevent the rest of the nation's charities from seeing a downturn in giving as they did after September 11."

If you are considering making a gift to the Kiwanis International Foundation, some of KETRA's key provisions may benefit you: Temporary Suspension of Limitations on Cash Gifts The current law limits the itemized deductions for cash gifts to 50% of your adjusted gross income (AGI) each year. KETRA raises this ceiling to 100% of your AGI for any cash gift made between August 28 and December 31, 2005.

Exception to Limitations on Itemized

Deductions KETRA waives the IRS requirement that itemized deductions be reduced by 3% of the amount by which AGI exceeds \$145,950 (\$72,975 for married persons) for cash gifts made between August 28 and December 31, 2005.

KETRA offers our donors several unprecedented and unique giving opportunities: If you would like to make a substantial cash gift to the Kiwanis International Foundation, KETRA may allow you to use the full deduction without limitation this year.

If you have any stock losses, you may want to sell the stock, deduct the loss to the extent allowed, and donate the cash proceeds to the Kiwanis International Foundation as a gift, without the limit on your gift deduction. (Appreciated assets do not qualify.)

KETRA makes it possible for you to donate amounts withdrawn from an IRA or similar retirement plan to the Kiwanis International Foundation with minimal tax consequences, as long as the gift is made prior to the end of 2005.

This general information is not intended as a substitute for tax advice. For this reason, we strongly recommend you discuss your particular circumstances with your tax or financial professional.

Miscellaneous

Ticket Winners:

\$4 - Pres. C
\$6 - Doc Steele
\$10 - Mary Carol

Membership:

Gary missed for \$105 by drawing
the four of spades.
Next week's pot is \$107.50.

Next Week's Meeting:

Fine Free: Hildy
Soapbox: Don V
Joke of the Week: Roger J
Speaker: Pres. C & Hilding

Upcoming Birthdays & Anniversaries:

December 13
Pamela Batson's birthday
December 13
Sean Fitzpatrick joined the club (1990)
December 21
Don McCaleb joined the club (1966)
December 30
Jim & Marietta Breedlove's anniversary
January 11
Eunice Alderman's birthday

Website:

If any members cannot receive the newsletter
via an email attachment... please go to:
<http://home.kcbx.net/~xkiwanis/news.html>
for archives that you can view/download.

Thanks Dan, Great Job!!!

Contact Information

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Meeting Info The Monday Club
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