

## 10/02/2007 Vol. XXXI No. 10

### Meeting Notes, 9-24-07.

Opening exercises for the Denton-South Rotary club meeting were begun by a standing membership who were greeted and assigned leadership roles by President Tim Ferris. Tyler Wood led the Pledge of Allegiance, Lynn Mallory the 4-Way Test and Father King the Rotary Invocation. Charles King was welcomed back, after several absences due to illness, with hearty applause.

Sgt.-at-Arms, Bob Leith, introduced visiting Rotarians Herman Oosterwijk and Charles McCarty. Charles McCarty then introduced a guest, Valentin Carbinas. The ticket of Ike Stevens was chosen for a chance at our weekly raffle, but his King of Spades yielded no winnings.

### **Announcements and business**

President Tim explained that Judy Willis has stepped forward to act as Program Chairman; a position that falls under the responsibility of the Club Service Director. We are still seeking a member to accept the Club Service Director's place on the Board.

Judy explained that she is in the process of assigning Program responsibility to individual members for specific meeting dates. She encourages all of us to accept this assignment and provide a program (not necessarily do a program) when assigned. She said to check with her after the meeting for the assignments for in the immediate future.

John Rademacher called a short meeting of those who have interest in the Literacy project for immediately following the club meeting. He wants to report his progress about working with the Community in Schools organization and hear other members' ideas.

Marvin Pollard reported that the City of Denton's annual Tree Give-away is scheduled for Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup> from noon to 3:30 or 4:00 and the Keep Denton Beautiful project will be asking for volunteers to help load the trees. Members were asked to commit by signing a sign-up sheet being

distributed. Karen Lioy, Community Service Director will be in contact with the City group. In the past, both Interact Clubs have provided help with this project.

Tim Ferris announced that the 200708 Budget was adopted by the Board last Saturday and requested that the four Directors of Service Avenues be sure to contact the President. Tim also asked for a member volunteer to help bring our web-site up-to-date.

Brian Glenn called upon our visitor Herman Oosterwijk, representing the noon Rotary Club, to add specifics for the joint international project our two clubs are preparing for. A trip to Nicaragua is planned for March 12-20, 2008. Those making the trip will help construction of additions to a medical clinic. The noon Rotarians are having a "Benefit Game Night" on October 6, 2007 at 2001 E.Oakshores Dr, Cross Roads.

Brian repeated his invitation to Denton-South members to join in the Nicaragua trip.

President Ferris reported that he had represented Denton-South Rotary at a meeting of Leadership Denton, speaking to that organization about Rotary, in general, and the specific club, Denton-South. He was pleased to have that opportunity and felt the members of Leadership Denton were glad to have heard this information.

### **Program:**

Judy Willis introduced the presenter of the day's program, Roy Minter, Chief of Police for Denton, Texas. She described an experience of cooperation that Chief Minter had exhibited in arranging for police officers to appear at a gathering of local women raising funds for the American Heart Association. It was this cooperative attitude that led Judy to invite the Chief to appear for this program.

Chief Minter expressed appreciation for the invitation to appear at a 6:45 a.m. gathering. He

indicated that it was his impression that such groups of men and women were catalysts for positive change. He said that he hopes his appearances with such service groups as ours would help establish a partnership between the community and the police department. He related several recent incidents of theft and vandalism in the parking lots of apartment complexes as being examples of how our citizens can help police in solving such crimes by paying attention to and reporting suspicious activities and by being cautious in the treatment of personal property such as leaving attractive property in plain sight inside autos. He also views the humanitarian service of our community groups as providing assistance to police by effectively touching the lives of people in such a way that they do not become a matter of concern to agencies of law enforcement.

Chief Minter explained that his contact with local citizens had revealed the three most urgent topics of concern: crime, quality of life and traffic.

Crime: The chief is increasing frequency of distributing local crime statistics to his officers who can become more vigilant as to the "what-where-how" of criminal activity. He has formed a special team to monitor the downtown area for special occasions. He is holding problem-solving meetings with the officers and their leaders.

Quality of life: Enforcement of code violations.

Traffic: "This is a major issue for us." He said. Additional signs and consistent enforcement of speeding are major. Educating citizen drivers is a must.

After reciting national statistics which show a steady increase in violent crimes, Chief Minter asked for support by the community: input from citizens, both critical and praiseworthy.

Our guest speaker was given a hearty round of applause and President Ferris informed him that this club will donate a book to the Cumberland

Presbyterian Home's library in his name. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted: Marvin Pollard.

**Important Dates:**  
Oct 27<sup>th</sup> Kinship Festival TWU  
Oct 27<sup>th</sup> KDB Tree Giveaway  
June 15<sup>th</sup> 08 Rotary Convention Los Angeles

### **U.S. ShelterBox Response Team delivers landmark aid**

On her first trip delivering disaster relief for ShelterBox, Trannie Lacquey encountered Maoist guerillas, crossed swollen rivers on foot, and hiked miles in a remote, tension-filled corner of Nepal.

But the toughest challenge, says the grandmother of five, was clearing customs at the airport for 410 ShelterBox relief kits, which would help hundreds of families trapped by the monsoon floods that swept Nepal in August. It took 10 days.

"It was tedious and very frustrating. We knew people were waiting," she says.

They also made history, as they delivered the ShelterBox that marked 500,000 disaster victims aided by the Rotarian-sponsored nonprofit.

Each ShelterBox costs about US\$1,000 and is intended to help a family of 10 survive for six months. It contains custom supplies that typically include a large tent, blankets, water purification and cooking equipment, basic tools, and a multi-fuel stove. Rotary clubs provide more than half the funding, and private donors contribute the rest.

They'll also tell stories from their recent trip. "The rice paddies were still flooded," John Trannie recalls. "People lost everything. They were living under tarps in the rain. The living conditions were just horrible." But through it all, he says, "People would help their neighbors. It was a very humbling experience for us."