

Transportation issues in Colorado – Russell George & Doug Aden

TODAY'S PROGRAM

Colorado West has no greater concern than a network of highways badly in need of overdue repair and replacement. Executive Director Russell George and CDOT Commissioner Doug Aden are here to present the state of transportation issues in Colorado. George, who resides in Rifle, is former Speaker of the Colorado House of Representatives and Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Natural Resources. He is a Boettcher Scholar with an undergrad degree from CSU and a law degree from Harvard University.

Aden will be remembered by longtime Rotarians as a member of our club from 1991 to 2003 and former Regional President of US Bank. He retired in 2004 and is completing his 12th year as a CDOT Commissioner. He is a past chairman of that body.



While You Slept

(Copious Notes from last week's meeting)

By Dennis Baker

- **Mari Garland** was happy that she and **Tom** purchased the hockey package in the **Masquerade Silent Auction**, last fall. The package included an exclusive stay at the **Connolly** condo in **LoDo** and dinner with tickets to the **Avalanche** hockey game. We thank Anne & Jack Connolly for supporting **Rotaract** and the **Rotary Masquerade**. Tom and Mari had a wonderful time in Denver.
- **Dennis Baker** had happy bucks for the approval of a strip club west of town. He's anxious to get in on the "sin" for Sin City, after being such a saint. President Dale (the Goat) fined Baker \$5 for the sinning. Baker was able to talk him down to \$2. Baker needs to save his \$1 bills for the sinning.
- **Barbara Gottschalk** had happy bucks for sitting at a table with two handsome men: **Mel Jurgens** and **Larry Wild**. We were all thrilled that the aforementioned **Mel Jurgens** was finally fined by the **Goat**. **Kevin** "laughing boy" **McChesney** was so thrilled that his laughter was considered unseemly by the Goat. **McChesney** was rightfully fined as well. **Larry Wild** didn't escape the fines, either. He was fined for the good publicity that **Barb** gave him.
- **Barbara** also announced that a committee meeting for **Polio Plus** will be held at 11:15 AM on March 19, **Two Rivers**. Mark your calendars. We're so close to eradicating polio. The battle to wipe polio from the planet is the largest public health initiative the world has ever known - poised on a knife-edge between success and failure. **If it fails, more than 10 million children will be paralyzed in the next 40 years.** Cases of polio have declined from 1,000 a day to just 2,000 a year. Endemic polio has been erased in all but four countries - **India, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria**. Despite the utter chaos in **Somalia**, polio has been eradicated; in **Afghanistan**, mediators negotiate ceasefires with the **Taliban** to get children vaccinated. But **India** is the key - it still has the highest number of polio cases in the world. Support this worthy effort. We need to raise \$200 million to get a matching grant of over \$500 million from the **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation**. We can eradicate polio in the next few years.
- Masquerade Committee Meeting: This week, March 4, at 11:00 AM Two Rivers.
- **Reed Mitchell** was succinct with his happy bucks: "I'm glad to be on the green side of the grass." We're glad as well. (Reed, fresh off of the Masquerade project, is conjuring up another fund raiser. We can't wait to hear the details.)

While you Slept continued

- **Donia Moore** reminded new Rotarians and sponsors that a new member orientation meeting will be held over breakfast at **Good Pastures Restaurant on Horizon**, March 13th at 7:30 A.M.
- **Max Krey** had happy bucks for the "Stimulus Package" recently enacted. We don't believe he meant it.
- **Tom Hunn** was back from Thailand and Burma with chop sticks for the President. They are versatile in that the chop sticks can double as ear cleaners.
- **Barb Salogga** was back from Guadalajara, Mexico bearing gifts for the Goat.
- **Jess James** took a snowy trip recently to Yosemite and brought back a beautiful granite vase for the Goat.
- **Teresa Anson** and her lovely assistant, what's his name, conducted the birthday honors for Rotarians celebrating birthdays in February. Each birthday boy and girl got a crown, a dunce hat, or beads. No expense was spared.
- **Pretti Prattles: Secty/Treas Dennis Pretti** took us on a visual journey of Greece with his snap shots of old rock buildings, flowers and every kitty cat in the country.

Beware of Rotarians Bearing Gifts

Gift for President Billy Goat last week included chop sticks from Tom Hunn from his trip to Thailand & Burma, and Barbara Salogga with a trinket from her trip to Guadalajara



Fun Facts By Jan Pomrenke

Speaking of mindless dribble - what to do is the question? **Crack Reporter Baker** suggested an idea for this blonde nut case's little column, so I need members input. Each week I write whatever just comes off the top of my head about members (I will blame it on **Kim Giannone**) because when she was **Big Dog President** one of her directions was to get to know various members better, so I just point out stuff. Whether it is embarrassing, cute, brilliant, wonderful or bad, it does not matter. Actually, it does matter. I like to tell the truth and give those who deserve it, a big fat compliment. Compliments are rare in this day and age because we usually only hear the bad and never the good and a little Godly moment tucked in here and there never hurts anything. Meanwhile, **Correspondent Baker** is looking for a way to talk about old club history. Example: October 1965-October programs included a doctor reporting on his three years in the medical field in South Viet Nam, another doctor reported on his missionary work in India as well as someone else reporting on the Douglas Pass Road proposal which was being pushed by GJ Rotary. We do have a very rich history, so, if you have an idea let **Old Boy Baker** know and we'll get some flashbacks going.

March 4, 2009

Upcoming Dates

**Meeting Programs
Claudia Crowell
Program Committee Chairperson**

March 11 **State Geologist** *Vince Matthews*

March 18 **Rotary Youth Exchange**
Jana Gerow

March 25 **Grand Valley Catholic Outreach**
Sister Karen Bland

Other Dates

March 6 **Past Presidents' Meeting**
Noon Bookcliff Country Club

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