

Opera 101 – *Ed Arnos*

TODAY'S PROGRAM



Like the Unlimited Hydroplanes and Top Fuel Eliminator Dragsters are each the unlimited class in their respective sports, Opera is the unlimited class for expressing human emotions.

Ed began enjoying opera in 1964, rejoices in the fact we have an opera company, High Desert Opera, here in Grand Junction, and wants to open your door to the enjoyment of opera.

If he doesn't make you an instant opera buff, he will increase your enjoyment of opera and hopefully cajole you into attending the upcoming performance of "The Sorcerer" on Saturday, July 18, at Robinson Theater in the Moss performing arts center.

While You Dozed

(Astute Observations from last week's meeting)

By Reed Mitchell

The Amazing Bell Caper – President Joe Cool is extremely distressed about the loss of the Rotary Bell stolen several weeks ago and gave the Club a resounding “What –for” in an effort to smoke out the nefarious “Bell thief”. His ringing of the anemic Salvation Army bell to open our meeting spoke volumes about his despair- “ting”. The potential of a full scale inquiry by our resident FBI agent; Jane Q. and her crack investigative team hangs heavy over our illustrious organization. “Please bring our bell back” Joe lamented!

We heard a presentation from Dave Harmon's lovely friend Avena about the club raising money to get a well drilled in El Salvador for a “sister village” who desperately needs a water well to help 4,000 remote families. Piece of cake for the Downtown Rotary, eh?

Happy Bucks:

- President Cool gave \$11 happies to celebrate his grandson's birthday, is Joe really old enough to have Grandchildren?
- Mark Dyer is happy his daughter is now the Country Jam girly singing idol. She was also the Olathe Sweet corn Queen last year- what's next for this talented gal?
- Harry Mavrakis celebrated his grandson shooting 42 in 9 holes at 12 years old- All this humble cub reporter can say is “Wow!” I'd like to shoot a 42!
- Dean Massy gave up \$5 happy bucks for something (pewh this is hard!!) I'm sure it was a worthy cause but I couldn't quite hear him and knowing Dean perhaps not.
- Gary Nagy pitched the bloodmobile drive and reported the blood offered by Mike Blackburn will not be not acceptable to St. Mary's. Has Mike ever mixed a cocktail for you? His Bloody Mary's are actually quite tasty,
- Dan Roberts is greatly relieved his term as district treasurer is over and he's handing his ledger to an unknown from Salida next week. A thankless job well done Mr. Dan.
- Amanda Chrysler received a nifty award from the Rotaract club to honor her term as President for their inaugural year. Amanda blushed and thanked her pals for the honor; she did the new Rotaract club proud. Can she join the Past President now or not? The new president, Amy Case challenged our club to help them find new members. She asked each of us to pass out a brochure to a worthy prospective Rotaractors ages 18 to 30. We'll help for sure – right guys?
- The Master of Mindless Drivel, Dennis Baker offered a paltry 2 Happy Bucks because he conned this reporter into relieving him for a week. He even disparaged my remarkable literary talent with a jab about my writing ability. Don't get comfy Baker, I've got other stuff to do at Club Like gab with my pals or stare at the girls, or daydream so you're not off the hook yet.

Warner's Corner



I find it extremely “cool” that our club web site has been updated in six different countries: England, Italy, France, Denmark, Estonia and Russia – yes, Russia!

And, the Spokesman has been e-mailed from cities such as Chicago, Phoenix, Myrtle Beach, Durango, Rangeley, Charleston, SC, Denver, Boise, Seattle, Albuquerque, Vernal, Grand Junction and, as our webmaster Mike Schaack tells me, “probably a few I've forgotten.”

Our District Governor Peter Jeschofnig, who had many kind words for our club during his official visit last week, praised both our outstanding newsletter and web site. Indeed, we're all proud of the effort put forth by Mike Schaack on the web site as well as our super Spokesman editor John Duffy and his staff of Dennis Baker (the sharp-witted reporter extraordinaire), the always interesting “Fun Facts” columnist Jan Pomrenke and cub reporter Reed Mitchell.

Communicating our message is more vital than ever and, with this crew, we know we have the best around!

Paul Harris Awards:

District Governor Peter Jeschofnig (however you pronounce it) assisted President Joe Cool with presentation of the latest group of PH Fellow awards: Thanks to each of you for your investment in Rotary's future: Cary Eidsness, David Huerkamp, Robert Bray (PH + 1), Bob Ladenburger (PH+ 1), Leslie Hughes (PH + 2), Harry Mavrakis (PH + 2), Dennis Morris (PH + 2), Liz Hochevar (PH + 4).

Finally our own Denny Mayer, the past president's president (or so I'm told) skillfully introduced our speaker, new District Governor Peter Jeschofnig (??) and apologized for not getting his tenure at Colorado mountain College as disserved. Something about being unable to pronounce his name? You're off the hook Mr. Past Pres. Pres but we're all watching.

Peter is just a bit easier to understand than our incredible last District Governor Walid, but just. He says it's his “West Texas accent” but this reporter is suspicious. He also spent some time with Albert Schweitzer, very impressive but was Albert German or Austrian and just how old is this guy?

Our new Governor also spoke about Bill Gates' contribution of \$355 Million (Wow!) to the Rotary Foundation to complete our campaign to eradicate Polio on this planet. Very, very cool. His talk was actually inspiring and left little doubt the District has the right guy at the helm for 09/10. However, after a rather lame lawyer joke he finished by inviting us to the District Conference in Glenwood Springs on September 11th -13th. Imagine our club In that big pool ...hmmmm

Fun Facts

By Jan Pomrenke

What an honor and true pleasure to have the guest speaker for last weeks meeting be our own **District Governor Peter Jeschofnig and his wife, Linda** from Glenwood Springs. **Dr. Denny Mayer** did a great job with his intro. The words of the District Governor totally hit home with our club and I was extremely thankful for those words because I had a little trouble seeing him due to the very bright lights gleaming off of the baldish head of **Fellow Rotarian Extraordinaire Dennis Pretti**. I really needed to borrow **Joe Cool's glasses** just to cut the glare and keep from being blinded. It seems Dennis gets extra shiny in the summer driving around in his BMW with the top down. I wonder if he is in male menopause like they say -- probably not. He just loves to sweat in that blue BMW since it was 94 degrees out today. You all might want to bring your **cool shades** in case you ever have to sit behind dear Dennis or you will miss the show. **D.G. Peter** was smart to bring his cool shades but was looking the wrong way, I guess for good reason.

Upcoming Dates

**Meeting Programs
Claudia Crowell
Program Committee Chairperson**

July 22 Peace Around the World
Donna Marie

July 29 Mesa State College MBA Program
Mike Moran

Upcoming Meetings

July 16 Rotary Board Meeting
5 p.m., Coldwell Banker Office,
550 Patterson Ave.

July 15, 2009