

## Establishing a Department of Peace – *Donnamarie*



A bill currently before Congress (HR 808) will, in part, establish a federal department to reduce and prevent violence in the United States and abroad. If established, this department would increase our ability to strategically develop and apply practical, cost effective and proven means of resolving conflict before it erupts into violence.

Here today to speak to us about this proposal is Donnamarie, Peace Alliance Representative on the Western Slope

This historic measure would augment our current problem-solving options and provide practical, nonviolent solutions to the problems of domestic and international conflict.

### While You Slept

(Copious Notes from last week's meeting)

By Dennis Baker

- Mysteries abound with this **Rotary Club**. First, someone made off with our bell. Has anyone checked with the **Horizon Club**? They stole it last time. We would be very surprised if it's an inside job (one of our members). The gavel, maybe, but not our iconic bell. We are looking for information. (Suggest that we get a better lock for our Rotary cabinet at **Two Rivers**.)
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> mystery is what happened to second page in *The Spokesman*, last week? It was blank. Cub Reporter, **Reed Mitchell**, was crushed. He has been studying for a long time under your senior reporter, and last week was his opportunity to shine. In all the years **Dennis Baker** has written for *The Spokesman* he was never censured, although many wished he were. The first time Reed writes for the paper, a third of his story is deleted. Reed said a bottle of **Jim Beam** will assuage his hurt feelings. **John Duffy** (who partially admits to the goof) and printer **Tyler Riehl** (who admits nothing) should make a trip to the liquor store for Reed.
- Speaking of Reed, an old family friend, **Linda Buckel**, visited from Maryland and testified that she has known Reed for 30 years, and that she knew Reed's father and Grandfather were past presidents of Rotary.
- **Sami Knight** was present at Rotary. She's a student at Central, and a leader in her school, academically and in extra-curricular activities. She attended RYLA camp and gave us a report.
- **Fid Braffett** had happy bucks for attending an IRS sponsored convention in exciting Las Vegas. **Wells Fargo** would like to know why Wells can't do it, but the IRS can. We would too.
- **Cary Eidsness** had lots of happy bucks for a lot of things, including but not limited to, the fact that his daughter was married and he has all of the relatives out of his house.
- Past District Governor **Walid Bou Matar** is happy his year as DG is over and he has his life back again.
- **Peggy Foster** had a happy birthday. She wasn't saying how many happy bucks, but that it exceeded 50, barely. **Jan Pomrenke** had sad bucks that her picture of **Dennis Pretti's** head did not appear in the *Spokesman*, last week. There was a lot that didn't appear in the *Spokesman*, last week.
- **Andrew Walter** finally proposed to his girl friend, and she accepted. He didn't say how many times he proposed. He had 20 happy bucks for the occasion. EDM ("estimated date of marriage") is June 12, 2010.
- **Jana Gerow** was happy she got to go to Durango for the Rotaract District Conference. Amanda Chrysler was named as the District Representative for Rotaract.
- **President Joe Cool** announced that he was happy that the picture in the **Beacon** newspaper of **Bob Czarnacki** also displayed Bob's Rotary Pin. We're proud that Bob is a pin up kind of guy for the older set.
- **Michael McCormick** is a **Paul Harris Fellow** plus one. Congratulations to him.
- **Riehl & Duffy** kicked in \$20 bucks each for the blank page in the *Spokesman*. Reed was inconsolable.
- **Cool Hand Warner** had a Rotary hat for **Past President Dale Beede**. Joe announced that he's looking for "cool" gifts this year, and heads will roll if any gifts fail at "coolness".
- **Walid Bou Matar** had a gift from Lebanon that qualified as "cool" but we couldn't see what it was.

## Warner's Corner



This week we highlight your new board of directors, including a brief update of its initial meeting last week. It was a lively session with many thoughtful decisions being made.

In a matter important to all, the board voted to change its meeting date to the third Wednesday of every month, as it had been before. This is effective immediately, with next month's meeting set for Wednesday, August 19, at 5 p.m. in Conference Room 101, lower level of the Hospice Care Center, 3090-B North 12<sup>th</sup> Street. (There is access to this conference room from the upstairs lobby or from an outside entrance).

The board also reviewed and accepted the financial statements for June; approved three new members; tabled a request from the Robin Hood committee pending additional information; voted to proceed with a slightly scaled-down version of the annual Back-to-School Supplies program, and approved honorary membership status for eight Rotarians.

Next month, the board will be reviewing the budget for the coming year and will consider progress on the recruitment of a new secretary/treasurer (Dennis Pretti says this is "definitely" his last year), and the possible formation of a Finance Committee.

A reminder ... board meetings are open to all and if you can't attend and have an issue to discuss, feel free to touch base with me or any member of the board.

- **Fid Braffett**, who can't keep straight face, brought back the Funnies in the News to Rotary. Fid's commentary is funnier than the stories he reports. His story about the two people, who were upset about how their pension evaporated in hard times fell on sympathetic ears, as they kidnapped their financial planner, wrapped him as a mummy and beat him senseless. Many of us can think of the owners of at least one investment company where we would like to do something similar.
- **Barbara Gottschalk** is no longer Barbara Gottschalk. My spell checker is happy. She is now **Barbara Smith**. Thank you, Barbara.
- **Nancy Hill** has been a member of the Club for less than a month, and she won two drawings last week: one for the money; and the other for High Desert Opera tickets. Some of us have been in the Club for years and have never won anything.

**Reminder:** It has been a tradition of this club, when introducing guests who are considering membership, to refrain from referring to them as potential new members. This allows us to respect our membership review process and also frees the guest from any possible embarrassment should they decide not to become a member for whatever reason.

**New Member Approvals:** Thanks to a wise and profound decision, three aspiring Rotarians have been unanimously approved for membership by your board of directors. They are: Joan Joseph, Account Executive for NBC Channel 11; Jane Kroese, Catering Manager at The Double Tree Hotel; and Jeff Nichols, CEO at Mesa Development Services. Respectively, their sponsors are: Glenn Mills, Jan Pomrenke and Robert Bray. Contact any of the board if you have questions.

### Fun Facts

By Jan Pomrenke

Some interesting observations from last weeks meeting: **Bankers leave early** (Bill Sisson and Matt Ward) but Scott Holzschuh stayed and was faithful, Gay Hetland, and Dean Massey were on leave. **Attorneys** seem to get "**A Stay**", i.e. Dennis Baker, Michael Burke, John Gormley and Kirk Rider, Geologists and **Exploration** folks tend to **have gas** (Max Krey, Walid Bou-Matar and Rod Christ), **Accountants** seem to get **IRS Invitations** being Fid Braffett, Mark Mackley and Dennis Morris, and **Health Professionals** like Leslie Hughes do off the wall things like **Take a Bread Baking Class** -- which means she is healthy and wise now baking with wheat and multi grains for heart health. Good on you, Leslie! (Let's have a bread tasting moment). Ooops, forgot to mention that **President Joe Cool Warner is staying "CCS" cool in chaotic situations, Go Joe!** One last note, **Liz Hochevar** gave me some great boots for the next time we need to give someone "**The Boot.**"

***Upcoming Dates***

Meeting Programs  
Claudia Crowell  
Program Committee Chairperson

**July 29**    **Mesa State College MBA Program**  
*Mike Moran*

**Upcoming Meetings**

**August 7**        **Past President's Meeting**  
Noon, Bookcliff Country Club

**August 12**      **Rotary Exchange Committee**  
11:15 a.m., Two Rivers Conv. Ctr

**August 19**      **Rotary Board Meeting**  
5:00 p.m., Rm. 101, Hospice Care  
Ctr. Ctr, 3090 B N. 12<sup>th</sup> Street

**July 22, 2009**