



The Bolo

Newsletter of the Rotary Club of New Orleans

Rotary of New Orleans
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Our Speaker This Week:

Sidney Smith Haunted History Tours

Our speaker will be Mr. Sidney Smith, owner and creator of Haunted History Tours. The company has been highlighted on A&E, Discovery, The History Channel, MTV and is recommended by The Travel Channel as "The #1 tour in New Orleans! A must do!" Be prepared to learn about actual documented hauntings. Explore the grim and ghastly deeds of the old French Quarter. Secret and sinister, most of these events occurred a very long time ago. Yes! Ghosts and Spirits still haunt the legendary Vieux Carre. Phantoms & Ghosts abound! Escape into the past as our offbeat, theatrical New Orleans tour guide provides us with an eerie, chilling yet fun-filled adventure! You'll visit sights (virtually in our case) of documented hauntings, Ghosts, Spirits and see the French Quarter residences in which unbelievable events took place.

Article on Recovery Work

One of Susan Simon's friends from Rutgers was written up on a study that she did in New Orleans. You can view the article on the web:

<http://www.thnt.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070830/NEWS/70830013/1001>

Upcoming Programs

Nov 7	Andrew Lackner, TU Primate Ctr
Nov 14	Terry Ebert, N.O. Homeland Sec.
Nov 21	No Meeting
Nov 28	John Kennedy, State Treasurer

Volunteers Needed

The Rotarian Action Group for Blindness Prevention will be in New Orleans November 10-13 in conjunction with the American Academy of Ophthalmology. We need a few Rotarians to staff the Action Group booth at the convention for 2-3 hours any of the four days of the convention. If interested and you want to know more, call Club President Byron Harrell (504) 593-2332.

Interact Club

The Warren Easton Interact Club meets each Monday afternoon at 3:25 pm in Judy Demarest's classroom on the Warren Easton campus. All Rotarians are encouraged to attend and to witness first-hand the amount of work that these students perform for their community. For more information contact Judy Demarest at weinteract@yahoo.com.

Governor's Weekly Newsletter

From: Milton Wheeler
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Dear District Leaders,

When one's routine finds a dash of history added to the mixture, life becomes so much more fun. Such was the case in this week's Rotary activities.

On Friday we traveled to New Orleans for two events: a meeting of the selection committee for choosing the leader of our Group Study Exchange team to the Netherlands and the celebration that evening of the fiftieth anniversary of the Rotary Club of East New Orleans.

The committee conducted its interviews in the office of Chairman Carlton Dufrechou on the 20th floor of the Lakeview 3 skyscraper. The view takes one's breath. Coupled with President Byron Harrell's 29th floor view, one can assert that few districts have more beautiful settings for their committee meetings. With excellent candidates from which to choose, the committee spent the afternoon making its selection. In addition to Chairman Carlton all three members of the committee were former GSE team leaders themselves, thus understanding the challenges that will come to this important assignment. The committee chose PDG Subhash Kulkarni, a sterling choice for the April-May exchange. He was named Civil Engineer of the Year for Louisiana in 2003 and has been very active in post-hurricane levee-related matters. He comes from the Rotary Club of Metairie-Sunrise. The alternate leader will be Assistant Governor Mike Rich of the Rotary Club of Slidell. Although not an engineer, like the team members will be, he has considerable talents that will enable him to lead the team in case something comes up to prevent Governor Subhash from going. These two choices will certainly match the excellent standards that the Dutch have made in choosing their team leader, an engineer comparable to those in our US Army Corps of Engineers. Now that we

have our leaders chosen, we shall conduct interviews with the eight applicants who wish to join our team. If any club has an additional candidate, please let Chairman Carlton or me know by next Friday.

After the meeting, the 5:30 sun was perfectly positioned for the most beautiful views from the Metairie skyscraper. Downtown New Orleans was majestic in the distance, reminding me of the happy times we expect in April at our district conference. The sun also reflected well on the buildings down Causeway Boulevard, looking south. The levee was picture perfect looking east, while the rush hour traffic began to stream across the 22-mile lake towards Mandeville. The only reason I was ready to leave this magnificent scene was that I had another Rotary meeting in Gentilly in 45 minutes.

And what a meeting it was! Here's where the dash of history comes in to season the flavor of the day. Precisely fifty years earlier, on October 26, 1957, the Rotary Club of East New Orleans was born. Back in March I had ordered a beautiful leather-bound certificate from Rotary International to celebrate this event. The club was actually surprised about their birthday. But a few weeks ago I telephoned President Ramiro Guerra, asking him to have something special for a celebration on October 26. He outdid himself. He had a catered dinner at the alumni building on the campus of the University of New Orleans. It was first class, catered by Toulouse Gourmet. One could argue that this group would win the blue ribbon among culinary artists in all of Aquitaine. The pecan bread pudding sealed the case. PDG John Altazan presented an interesting brief history of the fifty years of service enjoyed by the club. He exuded confidence that the club, though it has found only seven of its pre-hurricane members, will continue its excellent service for another fifty years. Though small, the club has extraordinary talents in its members and we all have great expectations for the Rotary Club of East New Orleans. The sponsor club, the Rotary Club of New Orleans, was well represented by Anne Keiffer, the daughter of legendary New Orleans Rotarian Irv Zoller.

Congratulations to those clubs on the coast that participated in the 11th annual Cruisin' the Coast. The Rotary Club of Edgewater crafted some commemorative t-shirts for the event. And speaking of the coast, Dr. Hank Roberts has an excellent program on his G-LED project with the Caribbean. For decades Dr. Hank has had several service projects with this part of our hemisphere. His Rotary Club of Biloxi has given him \$5,000 seed money to lift the project off the ground. If you would like a good program that could at the same time become a project in which you would like to share, contact Dr. Roberts at hankr@cableone.net .

Perhaps you remember my mentioning in some of the official addresses the disappointing article in National Geographic's August issue, "Should New Orleans Be Rebuilt?". To offset that discouraging piece, let me invite you to read an upbeat two-page advertisement in this current issue (November-December) of National Geographic Traveler, "New Orleans Rises Again." It portrays Shell Oil Company and its quandary when its downtown office building was uninhabitable after the hurricane. It could have moved everything to Houston, where so many oil companies are headquartered. But it remembered its fifty-year history with the Crescent City and chose to remain. What is more, it made sizeable contributions in building Musicians Village, covering four blocks in the Ninth Ward, and also subsidized Jazz Fest last year. This is the kind of spirit that Rotary admires. In fact, it's the kind of spirit that reminds Rotary of Rotary. Thanks, Shell Oil and all of the others who believe in our wonderful district.

May our acts of sharing become a part of the history that some future governor fifty years from now will look back upon and say, "They truly understood the spirit of Rotary!" Let's do it!

Rotary Shares!

Milton Wheeler, DG6840