

May 10, 2012

This Week ACTSO Youth & Harlan Ward Pasadena Police Department Program Host: Julius Johnson

I keeping with the theme *In Support of Our Youth* and in recognition that this is *Bring a Guest to Rotary Week*, this Thursday's program features a twofer. We will be entertained by youth from the NAACP's Actso program. Plus we will be hearing from Harlan Ward.

A retired high ranking officer with our local police department, Ward is the current President of the Gamma Zeta Boule Foundation, An off shoot of the Sigma Phi Pi Fraternity, the Foundation is the 501 3 (c) Social Action arm of Pasadena's Gamma Zeta Boule.

The Foundation runs a mentoring program that trains our local Black young men on how to be successful in school and in life, (the LAMP program).

As founding president of the Gamma Zeta Boule Foundation, I am very proud and pleased to see what this organization is doing to make a

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View from the Hill by President Tony Hill

In Search of US Citizenship

Tuesday May 1 (last week) was a very important day for your humble President. I had my *interview* to determine if I would be a suitable candidate for US Citizenship. As most of you know, a personal project that I undertook in my Presidential year was to become a US Citizen. After all these years, I felt that it was time, and I thought what better way to celebrate my year as President but to go through the process of becoming a citizen, sharing my experience with you the members each step of the way.

So early last Tuesday morning I arrived at the Federal Building at 300 N. Los Angeles St, in downtown Los Angeles. I had been warned that, as part of the interview process, I would be tested on my knowledge of US trivia. Fortunately, I fell into a very special category of applicants who are over 60 years of age and who have resided in the US for more than 20 years. The benefit of being in this group is that I would only be asked 10 questions and I only had to get 6 of those 10 questions correct. Also I did not have to take the reading English test, the writing English test or the speaking English test. What a lucky break.

Well, even though they simplified things for me even more by only asking me a total of 6 questions, I did manage to answer one question incorrectly (but the interviewer gave it to me anyway). So here are my six questions, with the answers that I gave, in order, at the end of this article (It is your job to figure out my wrong answer):

- 1) What year was the US Constitution signed;
- 2) Name one of the two longest rivers in the United States;
- 3) Who inhabited the US before the Europeans arrived;
- 4) Who is the Speaker of the House;
- 5) What do we call the first 10 provisions of the Constitution;

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Creeters

May 10
Gordon Seyffert

May 17
David Smith

May 24
Wilbert Smith



Program Review

A Reminder of

A collection of remembrances and musings by Sammy Kayali, Gordon Seyffert and Jacquie Foreman

The Way it Was

Sometimes things happen. Our designated reviewer became very involved in listening and forgot to take notes. So I asked for input from our members, and Sammy Kayali and Gordon Seyffert answered my call. What follows is a combination of what they sent and your editor's musings during the presentation.

Dr. Gregor Quentin Edwards, President

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Hal Yorke Vocational/Youth Projects
Craig Cox Membership

Editor, Design & Typesetting Foreman Graphics
Photography Jacquie Foreman

of the Altadena NAACP, gave a brief history of the NAACP, beginning with its formation in the early part of the 20th century. He was at pains to point out that the formation of this important civil rights organization began with whites who were not in agreement with Plessy v. Ferguson and other Jim Crow-supportive rulings of the late 19th century, and who felt that some counter force needed to be present in the society of that day. The only black person on the original board of the organization was W.E.B. Dubois, and the initial thrust was not as broad as it is today, but was very *legalistic* in approach.

Out of such an emphasis came such figures as Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall. But it took some time before blacks reached the point of taking ownership of the organization. Edwards followed the development of the NAACP in some detail, but, throughout his treatment

of its history, he often returned to the theme that it had begun with cooperation between like-



minded people of different races, and that such an alliance was still needed and welcomed today. He spoke of the support that Altadena Rotary could give to spin-off organizations such as the Gamma Zeta Boulé Foundation, which is a social action component of its parent organization and

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May Programs

No Designation

Program Chair, Julius Johnson

May 10 - Discover Rotary - Visitor Day
May 17 - Business Plan Competition
May 24 - GSE participants from Chile
May 31 - To be Announced

June Programs

Fellowship Month

Program Chair, Ed Jasnow

Jun 07 - TJROTC Awards
Jun 14 - Teacher Mini-Grant Reports
Jun 21 - T-Jeffrey Piece, Stifel, Niclaus & Co., - The Warren Buffet Investment
Jun 28 - Demotion Party - An evening Event

Congratulations



Birthdays

05/05 - Ursula Moore
05/15 - Elsa Smith
05/18 - Craig Cox
05/30 - Susan Applegate



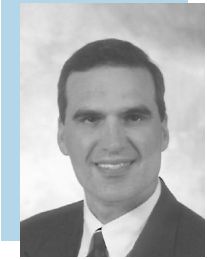
Anniversaries

05/18 - Tony Hill & Ann Rider
05/19 - Roger & Kathleen Anne Fennell

Chairmen's Corner

Each One Bring One is Here

by Craig Cox, Membership Chair



New member Wilbert Smith made a recommendation to have a meeting where everyone would make an effort to bring a guest – “Everyone Bring One.” The Membership committee embraced the idea.

Invitations have been delivered to the club and we are looking forward to a good turnout for May 10.

It is not critical that every member bring a guest on Thursday. Circumstances

and schedules may make it difficult. Understand that you have fully participated in this event if you have asked at least one person to attend. If you haven't, please really make a commitment to make that phone call before the meeting.

We have a lot to offer a service minded individual. We are a lot of fun. We have the best venue in the District. We have a lot of talent. Altadena Rotary Charities means more time can be spent doing outreach to the community than fundraising. So don't be shy.

Program

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which supports high school students who wish to pursue college educations — our Rotary club being especially interested in educational advancement.

His conclusion to his program presentation related the travails of a young black man who some decades ago found himself needing to travel from the Midwest into the Deep South on public transportation. Although this took place within the so-called Civil Rights Era, it was clear that the mere passage of laws restricting discriminatory behaviors had not changed the attitudes and actions of many whites in America. Only his training by his career military father in self-defense — coupled by his possession of an *Arkansas Toothpick* — enabled this young man to survive his journey intact.

As President Tony Hill signaled that his presentation time was at an end, Edwards revealed that the young man's experiences he had described were his. It was a powerful statement of the tremendous changes we have seen in this country in recent decades, but also a reminder of

the distance still to be traveled.

When Edwards spoke about being served a fly-infested hamburger at a lunch stand — which he paid for and never ate — it reminded me of an incident recounted in the autobiography of Richard Wright, *Black Boy*, that I read 50 years ago in an American Literature class. In Wright's case, he was working in someone's home who asked him if he liked molasses. When he said, “Yes,” he was served a dish of molasses with mold on the top.

When Edwards recounted his experience with a segregated men's room, saying that he knew by the smell coming

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This Week

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real difference in the lives of the youth they serve and get launched in to colleges across this country each and every year. I want their story shared with you. Please join us this Thursday and bring a guest.

View

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6) How many years does the President serve.

The interview turned out to be basically a friendly chat. The interviewer, originally from the Philippines, was about my age. We chatted about Canada and his trip there, about my being a divorce lawyer and he having been married for 27 years and having wanted to be a lawyer himself, about my kids and their college education and his kids and their college education and so on. He noticed my Rotary pin and we chatted about Rotary. I told him I was the current President of our Club. He looked up and said “I have a person who has been a permanent resident for more than 25 years, is a lawyer and is a Rotary President. Thank God I have such an easy case just before my lunch break.

I even took the opportunity to try to get him into Rotary, telling him about the Club Ray mentioned that is made up of former Philipinos. But he said he tries to avoid social groups due to the nature of his work. Oh well, I tried.

Anyway, after our friendly chat, and after he stamped numerous documents and had me sign many others, he shook my hand and told me that he had approved my application (even though I had given a wrong answer in the test). He said in about a month I would be invited to a citizenship ceremony at which time I would be sworn in as a citizen of the United States.

Well, I am not quite there yet, but I'm getting close. I will continue to keep you posted on my quest to become like all of you, a full fledged citizen of the United States of America.

(1) 1776; (2) Mississippi; (3) The Indians; (4) Nancy Pelosi (5) Bill of Rights; (6) Four.

Do you know which one President Tony failed to answer correctly? I thought I did, and I was right. The answer is below.
House.
John Boehner is the Speaker of the



MONEY MATTERS

by Linda Wilkes

Economic Update *Last Week in the News*

Pending home sales, a forward-looking indicator based on signed contracts, rose 4.1 percent in March, the highest level since April 2010, after an upwardly revised 0.4 percent increase in February. On a year-over-year basis, pending home sales in March were up 12.8 percent.

The Commerce Department announced that gross domestic product — the total output of goods and services produced in the US — increased at an annual rate of 2.2 percent in the first quarter of 2012. This follows a 3 percent pace of growth in the fourth quarter of 2011.

New home sales fell 7.1 percent in March to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 328,000 units from an upwardly revised rate of 353,000 units in February. The initial February reading was 313,000. The January rate was revised higher to 329,000 units. On a year-over-year basis, new home sales in March were up 7.5 percent. At the current sales pace, there's a 5.3-month supply of new homes on the market.

The Standard & Poor's/Case-Shiller 20-city housing price index — on a non-seasonally adjusted basis — fell 0.8 percent in February, after a 1 percent decrease in January. On a year-over-year basis, prices fell 3.5 percent compared with February 2011.

Orders for durable goods — items expected to last three or more years — fell \$8.8 billion or 4.2 percent to \$202.6 billion in March, the biggest drop in more than three years. This follows a revised 1.9 percent increase in February. Excluding volatile transportation-related goods, orders posted a monthly decrease of 1.1 percent.

Initial claims for unemployment ben-

efits for the week ending April 21 fell by 1,000 to 388,000 from a revised 389,000 the prior week. Continuing claims for the week ending April 14 rose by 3,000 to 3.315 million.

Upcoming on the economic calendar are reports on construction spending on May 1 and factory orders on May 2.

Insight Now *Think Positive to Win*

In this month's edition of *InsightNOW*, Prospect Mortgage's Chief Performance Officer Todd Duncan spoke with Stacey Alcorn, national motivational speaker and successful real estate professional. They discussed her book, *Tuned In: Eight Lessons to Sales Success*, about how a positive mindset and dedication to continued learning can turn today's challenges into a world of opportunities.

Noticing that many novice real estate agents were posting amazing numbers while their more seasoned colleagues were struggling, Alcorn concluded that the difference was relatively simple: *attitude*. Like the main characters in *Tuned In: Eight Lessons to Sales Success*, which is told in story form, the less experienced salespeople didn't hold negative beliefs ("It's never been this bad"; "Business might never come back!"), while the longtime pros allowed that baggage to almost paralyze them.

One way that Alcorn says we can shift negative thinking to positive thinking is by learning all we can. By reeducating ourselves, taking the time to attend conferences, listening to motivational CDs, and especially by reading, we can avoid stagnating and bring something new that customers will respond to. Duncan heartily agrees, "We're never done learning." Alcorn notes that, in addition to adopting

an upbeat mindset, the main things her top performers are doing right now are prospecting constantly and adapting to social media (Facebook, Twitter) and other technology.

Both Duncan and Alcorn stress the value of reading motivational business books. ○

Find Linda Wilkes on line: <http://www.myprospectmortgage.com/lwilkes>

Program

Continued from p.3

from that direction that he would chance using the other one, I was reminded of hearing about the *Golden Out of Order Plan* probably in an American History Class.

The *Golden Out of Order Plan* was a scheme thought up by Harry Golden for a department store in North Carolina. **Out of Order** signs were hung on the *White Only* drinking fountains, forcing all shoppers to drink out of the same water fountains.

The signs were left up for at least two years. The *designation signs* were removed from all *working* fountains. By the time the *Out of Order* signs were removed, all of the patrons were happily sharing the available drinking fountains.

My father, a pharmaceutical research chemist, grew up in Tennessee, one of four children of immigrant parents who were quite poor and eeked out a living by running a dime store in the poor section of town. I remember asking him how people could treat other people like that. His answer was astonishing to me: "It's easy when you don't think of them as people." No, that was not my father's philosophy, he was just explaining *The Way it Was*. ○

The 1940 Census and Work

But there's another aspect of the 1940 census that I found to be eye-opening. And it's the question that pertains to how many hours one worked per week, and of how that varied from place to place and from industry to industry.

I think of myself as having developed into a good worker, and to a large extent it means that I learned how to harness my talents for maximum effectiveness, as well as how to put in a *good day's work*. But it wasn't always so for me.

In growing up, I rarely had an opportunity to observe to any degree what it meant to work. My father traveled as a manufacturer's representative. My mother was never employed, and engaged only in what could be called *club work*. My paternal grandfather lived in another city, and my maternal grandfather was a busy executive who no doubt never even considered bringing a grandchild with him to tour his company with him and/or to observe his day at his side.

Thus, in retrospect, it shouldn't have been surprising that I began my entry into the world of work with less than exemplary results. The summer after my last year of high school I managed to land a summer job as a *board boy* reading ticker tape (back when it existed) and marking prices on a wall-size chalk board in a brokerage office. But I was more concerned with making it to break time than I was with mixing with the firm's clients to learn of their specific investing interests. In the fall I was *replaced by automation* when a new electronic display was installed. I doubt I was missed.

The following summer I really learned *how to work* for the first time, as the boss

made sure I and my cohorts were always busy at something. Still, it took several years until I really hit my stride. Maybe it's the same for most, although I think many never learn.



In 1940, it was different. What brought it home to me was that my wife had two great-grandmothers living at the time. Both were living on farms. One was aged 74, and the other was 81. I couldn't see the farm schedules, which should become available after a time. But the population schedules presented some stark data. The 74-year-old had worked 60 hours in the previous week, while the 81-year-old — someone whom I would have expected to be retired — put in 30 hours herself! Now, *that's* work. In comparison, farmers of middle age worked 60 hours in the week reported.

Then I saw how city folks, who were fortunate enough to have salary or wage jobs, had a workweek that I could begin

to recognize as a forerunner of what was to come for many in the still-remote prosperity of the 1950s. 44- and 48-hour weeks seemed the norm for the ordinary salaried worker, while a trust officer worked only 38 hours. Only the 30-something grocer (albeit one whose father-in-law was the owner and president of the firm) worked 72 hours for the week. My corporate CEO grandfather worked 80 hours, and topped the list, but he was well compensated for his efforts.

The average urban men associated with my family earned from \$2,160 to \$3,900 for the year 1939, at a time when earning more than \$5,000 annually put you in the top 1 percent of earners. Without access to the farm schedules I can't know what farmers grossed, as their income was not from salary and wages. But I suspect it was much less than salaried men in the cities. And, unless one were a key executive and/or someone with a probable ownership stake to protect, it seems they'd spend considerably less time at work than if they had still been on the land.

That's sobering. But then, those who grew up seeing work *up close and personal* would never have needed to learn how to work — as was my experience. And now young people with mountains of debt from their college educations can have the misfortune of graduating in the midst of a major economic downturn. Salaried jobs can then be hard to find. Another argument for job creation through entrepreneurship!!

If you're your own executive, and have an ownership stake to protect, then finding work and *learning to work* shouldn't be a problem.

JOB CREATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

by C. Ray Carlson

Will there be Seconds?

Last February I was helping one night at a bad weather shelter in a church gymnasium in Pasadena. As I entered the dark

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dark. There were eight mothers sitting on benches with babies in their arms, waiting to enter the gym at 7p. I was assigned to scooping salad onto plates of lasagna and placing them on the counter for collection by the homeless.

After the mothers and their kids had been fed, they were bussed to a church in Altadena to spend the night. At 8p, the large crowd of 200 other homeless who had gathered outside were allowed to enter in single file, frisked by hefty security men and a woman for knives and guns and drugs.

As they came for the plates of food, I tried to keep smiling as I looked many of them in the eyes and could see their hopelessness and desperation. A few said "Thank you." Most were just glum. Some, looking at the portions on the plates, asked, "Will there be seconds?" I was glad when someone behind me shouted "Yes!"

They were obviously hungry. I wondered if we had enough food? If not, could only three security people control the crowd?



Even worse was word that the bad weather shelter would cease March 1, even though there would be many cold nights thereafter. But far worse was the revelation that there would be **no bad weather shelter at all next winter! No funds from the City of Pasadena!** And the number of homeless this year had greatly increased to an estimated 1,200. Where were the other *thousand* that night?

A friend, Andy, who had invited me to volunteer, asked if Rotary Clubs might donate money and volunteer? I suggested he join Rotary since he was also interested in helping with *Job Creation and Entrepreneurship* in Mexico. He did — one of the new e-Rotary clubs. I suggested to one of the leaders of the shelter program that they solicit donations of \$12/bed-&-dinner. Among the 200,000 residents of Pasadena/Altadena there surely

are ample potential donors.

As I pondered over what I had experienced that night, I thought of my wife's experience as a young child of 4 or so when she was staying with her alcoholic grandparents because her parents had separated during the Great Depression and her dad was working in a coal yard. She was neglected and hungry, so she went from door to door of the rooming house to beg for food. Her life changed for the better when her dad turned her over to the court and she was committed to



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where
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I also
recalled
how Past

Rotary International President Herbert J Taylor and his wife started a soup kitchen near downtown Chicago during the Great Depression, and though president of a 254-employee factory, Taylor personally served food to the long lines of hungry and unemployed. We along with 33,000 Rotary Clubs recite his 4-Way Test every week. "**Is it beneficial to all concerned**" is one of those ways.

The needs around us and around the World are so great, and potential new members of Rotary have endless opportunities for **Service Above Self**. Our growing *Job Creation & Entrepreneurship* program is one every Rotarian can participate in, sharing his/her business-savvy with the New Generation.

Your Invitation to

Catch the Vision!
and Make It Your Own

Saturday, May 12 -- 9a to 1p
Altadena Town & Country Club

Continental Breakfast Provided

to plan

***OUR FUTURE
FOR THE
NEXT 3 YEARS***

*With help from the District Facilitators, all the members of
our Rotary Club of Altadena will examine our organization as it now
exists and work together to come up with ways to make our club stronger
and more relevant and set goals for the next three years to help us achieve success*

Guest Facilitators from District 5300
Frank Cunningham • Dennis Franklin
Gene Hernandez • Chris Montan

\$20 Venue Fee
Sign up on ClubRunner