

Rotary Notary

August 31 2011

CALENDAR

- SEPTEMBER 7-No Meeting (Labor Day)
- SEPTEMBER 14-Tallgrass Film Association- Lela Meadow Conner
- SEPTEMBER 21-Intrust Bank Arena-Scott Neal Assistant GM
- SEPTEMBER 28-Steve Pershall-Rotary Foundation

BIRTHDAYS

RUTH ANN MESSNER	9/6
ANGELA GEORGE	9/7
SCOTT POST	9/11
RICHARD STRUNK	9/11
GREG FRANKEN	9/12
JOHN VETTER	9/15
FRED THURLOW	9/16

SPEAKER: Fire Chief Gary Curmode

If you need emergency service, help is six minutes away, 90% of the time. That's the goal of Sedgwick County District 1 Fire Chief Gary Curmode. "We are coming in on the citizens in the worst times and we are trying to make it better," said Gary, who has served as fire chief for the past 16 years, directing 145 paid personnel and a \$15 million budget. He supervises fire prevention, the emergency medical service delivery system, fleet maintenance, fire suppression, and public education/fire investigation.

"Fire is 5% of our call volume but it's the most expensive," Gary said. For

example, a new fire truck is around \$600,000. Fortunately, there's a 10-year vehicle replacement plan and they try for an additional five years of standby service. "We take excellent care of our vehicles for you," Gary said.

Sedgwick County is over 1000 square miles. District 1 covers around half that.

The fire crews work 24 hours on 48 hours off. "We don't just wait for fires," Gary said. "One thing I never cut from the budget is training. Training is an investment, not an expense." The crew might begin the day with 90 minutes of physical therapy. This, Gary said, helps overcome the rigors



Gary has ascended Pikes Peak 36 times

of the job and possible lost days of work due to injury and fatigue. "It's not just putting the wet stuff on the red stuff," Gary said. Many of the fire crews are highly educated, a necessary ingredient to operate the technology which is part of modern day fire-fighting.

More from the Chief

Fire Chief Gary Curmode says that for a house of between 900-2000', it takes approximately 14 staff and several pieces of equipment. For a similar-sized business, up to 20 may combat that fire.

During the summer heat wave, there may be as many as two house fires daily. And there are the equally challenging crop fires.

An ambulance often accompanies a fire truck,

Gary said, because of possible health needs. Gary said the ambulance ensures ABC: Airwave, Breathing, and Circulation. "We have a very high emergency route service," Gary said.

I don't deserve this award, but I have arthritis and I don't deserve that either

It was all **Kevin Rathert** all the time today.

Greeter-Kevin Rathert

Prayer-Kevin Rathert

New Paul Harris Fellows-Kevin Rathert introduced **Lynn Jeane** and **Tom Morris**.

The \$1000 Fellowships were established in 1957 and save and invigorate lives throughout the world. By the way, Lynn has announced his retirement from the Kansas Heart Hospital. If he's going

to donate one grand every time he retires, we wish he'd retire more often!

Announcements-Bob Hadley received a standing ovation when he announced this would be his last time he gives the Announcements. Bob said **Dan Waller's** baseball team, the Wichita Wingnuts, is in the post-season playoffs...**Angie George** has been named a certified great home-seller...**Duke Evans** attended a cerebral palsy fund-raiser.

Business Brief-Reuben Saunders runs the outstanding art and framing store, Artworks at Piccadilly Square. "I get to see and frame and handle some incredible art collections in the community," Reuben said. He packaged Barry Sanders' Heisman Trophy, he framed and hung hundreds of pieces for the Cox Communications building, and he's doing a similar large project for the new Wichita State dental school. Reuben is a 27-year lymphoma survivor and a huge North Carolina fan. Reuben said, "If God is not a Tar Heel fan, why did he make the sky Carolina Blue?"



Reuben loves art and Heels

I took an IQ test and the results were negative

*New member proposal-*The following new member will be asked to join our club if there is no written or e-mail objections: Joe F. Goetz, Jr, professor of accountancy at Newman University, proposed by **John Vetter**. Joe is a former Rotarian in several clubs, including

vice president of the Downtown Rotary Club in 2009-10. Joe is a Paul Harris Fellow.

*Fireside following the renovation-*We have a Fireside on Sept.

14 at the Broadview Drury Inn downtown. Check the results of the remodeling project. We'll return to Wichita Country Club on Sept. 21 for a presentation on Intrust Bank Arena.

WORD DUH JOUR

Inviolable (adjective)

[in-VIE-ah-lah-bahl]

Secure from attack or trespass

You know you're old when the candles cost more than the cake

Thom Steele took a two-week back-packing trip to the Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico when he was 16. He repeated the trip recently, 35 years later, though Thom doesn't look a day over 50. Thom was accompanied by his son, almost the same age as Thom



Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

three decades earlier.

They hiked for hours per day up mountains as high as 12,000'. At least once, Thom asked the obvious question, "Why am I doing this?" He lost 25 lbs. during the adventure.

Also during the trip, they learned to throw tomahawks, shoot black powder rifles, set beaver traps, and hypnotize chickens. The hypnotizing chickens bit worked so well today that several of us under hypnosis even laughed at **Bob Hadley's** jokes during the Announcement portion of the program.