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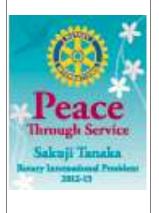
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ROTARY CONFERENCE MONTH



EDITORIAL

Submitted by Lina

Being a grandparent is complicated. I discovered that seven years ago after the birth of my first grandchild

The first grandchild is the one that changes your whole outlook on life and he or she brings incredible joy.

When I came back down to earth, I discovered one of the great misconceptions about grandparenthood. It's not just about you and your grandchild. Your relationship with your grandchild is embedded in the relationship with your adult child and his or her spouse. They are the gatekeepers to a successful relationship with your grandchildren.

The most important lesson I've learned since becoming a grandma is to nurture the relationship with your adult children as much as you do with your grandchildren. Simply put, you earn their trust by following their rules and respecting their decisions.

It's especially important in the early stages of your relationship when everyone is learning their new roles as well as the boundaries between these roles. We grandparents have to step back and respect the parents' right to make decisions and not make judgments as they learn from their successes and mistakes.

If you sneak around and conspire with your grandchildren, telling them not to say anything to mommy, it will come back to haunt you. I know -- I once gave my 2-year-old grandson a cookie and the first thing he did when we got home was to run and tell his mommy and I got into trouble for bypassing the 'no sugar rule'!

We grandparents are faced with a conundrum. We want to be buddies with our grandchildren and spoil them a little; but we don't want to be the enforcer who tells them they have to stop. I'd rather leave that role to my daughter so I can enjoy being the Funmeister. That's the privilege we grandmas get to enjoy.

The most difficult part of being a grandparent is finding out that the there are 'new rules' about food and what they can or cannot do. Somehow everything that we did years ago was now all incorrect! The next most difficult aspect was the leniency that the new generation are brought up with – suddenly bedtimes are more flexible – but that is all part of learning to be a supportive parent to your children's wishes.

If parents know we respect them and follow their rules, they'll trust us with our precious grandchildren. We all need to understand that we're part of a team and that the parents can be our allies

If grandparents and parents make a commitment to sit down and talk about their shared purpose, it will be a win-win situation for everyone.

MEETING OF 9 MAY 2013

Attendance	
Membership	24
Present	18
Make ups	1
Apologies	4
Attendance	75%

Visitors: Julie Rassmussen from Denmark, Justin Schonegevel (Wynberg Rotaractor), Lindsey Houchin and Lindsey Elkin (Ambassadorial scholars and our speakers), Alexia Morris (Claremont Rotaract), Lucian, Thasmine, Abigail (Retreat Rotaract soon to be).

Attendance to Biffy 082 468 7504 or aecon.e@mweb.co.za.

SLOTS

Graham got in his slots before running off to the Proms choir practice. Any insinuations regarding the fact that he "forgot" the jackpot, on the night that he wouldn't be there for the draw, are just nasty, and clearly, obviously, untrue. At that time he also mentioned that there were only 42 seats left for Saturday night, and 127 for Sunday. (Those of you involved at either night of Proms will know that we went on to achiving another sold out year)

String passed on a warning about what could happen when people tried to mix Rotary and politics, or alternatively what fate could befall you should you not want to pay for parking in our area.

Are welcomed Julie, who had previously visited us 4 years ago, as part of the delegation from Haugaland. She has continued being a supporter of our projects, for which he thanked her. Julie will be here for a few weeks.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Francois introduced our 2 Ambassadorial Scholars, Lindsey and Lindsey.

Lindsey Houchin comes from Bowling Green in Kentucky, which is the 3rd largest city in the state. Apart from the well-known Kentucky Derby, they are also famous for being the home of the Corvette motor car, and Kentucky bourbon. Apparently there are more barrels of bourbon, than people in Kentucky. As her main emphasis is on education, she is studying Education Reform at UCT. She has been involved in many projects both at home and also in Cape Town. At the end of her time here, she plans to teach English at a high school.

Lindsay Elkin (aka Lindsay no 2) is from Newton Square in Philidelphia. Prior to coming to SA, she spent 6 months in Israel, which was also where she completed her RI application. She is studying International Relations at UCT, while getting a very practical involvement working with refugees at the Scalabrini Centre.

They both thanked Rotary for the opportunity, and the support which they have received.

PROGRAMME

May 2013	Committee: Knight, Bredenkamp, Cleveland, Munday, Orsmond
16 May	Allison Ballard, Ambassadorial scholar from Washington, USA
17-19 May	Conference
25 May	Interact/Rotaract/Rotary action sports day
30 May	Social
June 2013	Committee: James, Danckwerts, Schreiber, Smith, Williams, Lidgley
6 June	Normal meeting: speaker booked – details to follow
13 June	Brett Glasby, SPCA Wildlife Unit: "Unusual catches" Also lots of visitors
20 June	Induction Dinner
27 June	Board meeting

DUTY ROSTER

	16 May	30 May (social)	6 June	13 June	20 June
Sergeant	Smith	Overbosch	Van Wyk	Gowdy	
Attendance Officer	Danckwerts	Danckwerts	Danckwerts	Danckwerts	~
Wynpress Editorial	Overbosch	Smith	Todd	Van Wyk	TION DINNER
Minutes for Wynpress	Cleveland	Danckwerts	Knight	Cleveland	
Compilation of Wynpress	Knight	Cleveland	Danckwerts	Knight	
Door Duty	Michalowsky	Munday	Hovstad	Smith	
Grace	Hovstad	James	Murphy	Knight	
Loyal Toast	James	Barnard	Knight	Michalowsky	
International Toast	Michalowsky	Munday	Overbosch	Smith	INDU
Speaker Introduction	Murphy	TBA	James	Jackson	
Speaker Thanks	Lidgley	TBA	Van Eeden	Bird	

JACKPOT

After the sense of hope that "tonight will be the night", maybe the less said about the Jackpot the better. The good news is that there is over R3000 waiting to be won, and with only 8 cards left, it's a good bet that somebody will be getting the cash pretty soon!

PRESIDENT'S QUOTE

Quoting from the Piano Man, Billy Joel, President Mike sent us on our way with; "I am, as I've said, merely competent. But in an age of incompetence, that makes me extraordinary"

"I'd rather laugh with the sinners than cry with the saints, the sinners are much more fun"

TAILPIECE

TEN GREAT FACTS OF LIFE

Number 10

Life is sexually transmitted.

Number 9

Good health is merely the slowest possible rate at which one can die.

Number 8

Men have two emotions :Hungry and Horny. If you see him without an erection,make him a sandwich .

Number 7

Give a person a fish and you feed them for a day. Teach a person to use the Internet and they won't bother you for weeks, months, maybe years.

Number 6

Some people are like a Slinky-not really good for anything, but you still can't help but smile when you shove them down the stairs.

Number 5

Health nuts are going to feel stupid someday, lying in the hospitals, dying of nothing.

Number 4

All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism.

Number 3

Why does a slight tax increase cost you \$800.00, and a substantial tax cut saves you \$30.00?

Number 2

In the 60's, people took acid to make the world weird. Now the world is weird and people take Prozac to make it normal.

And the Number 1

Life is like a jar of Jalapeno peppers--what you do today, might burn your ass tomorrow.