

September 24, 2014

It was the largest crowd for an Installation Dinner we've had in five or six years and I think we have Mike Marxer to thank for that, apparently he hasn't lost any of his phone sales skills since retiring from Merrill Lynch. The Dearborn Country Club is always a beautiful venue and lived up to its reputation again this year with a wonderful evening.

Kerry started us off with a "Good Morning Viet Nam" moment, followed by Ray leading us in a rousing "God Bless America". That's when Norm astounded us with his ability to remember and introduce by name everyone at the dinner (most of us have trouble remembering our own names half the time). It was good to see Bob Zakar and his wife Nancy this year and Gay Gardner showed up for his 2nd meeting in a month, a record for him.

Following a short but sweet blessing by Norm (also a rarity) Linda, or as she's affectionately called now, "The Big Goober", gave us a up to date rundown on the peanut sale. Jerry Assenmacher won the Top Street Sales award again with a staggering \$1,656.96 in donations. He was honored with the first of our brand new peanut awards (the company that made the old awards went under).

Seems all four of our new members; Janel, Adrienne, Larry and Renan were on the streets selling peanuts this year and all four reached their individual targets for the year by the end of the weekend. The two snout nosed kids, Adrienne and Renan, seem to be battling it out for the most over target trophy this year, but watch out for Janel, she found some old papers buried under the porch of her fathers house and could use them to be a come-from-behind dark horse winner. Larry did well on the streets but when he tried to raise money from his "The South Has Risen" cohorts he found out they spend all their cash on chewing tobacco, radiator whiskey and romantic tractor pulls with their first cousins.

At the other end of the scale are the two longest serving members of our club. Pat Abbott and Jack Demmer were recognized for putting long hours out on the streets at an age when most members switch to only corporate sales. Both men have been selling on the streets so many years they don't quite know how to stop doing it. Pat uses the "if you give me money I'll stop starring at you" technique and Jack offers discount oil changes and tire rotations with every bag. Well you know, what ever works, I just look pathetic hoping drivers will feel sorry for me.

Special attention was given to two of our long time members and the wife of a long time member that didn't make it through the entire year. Bob Itin and Mike Suiter were both long time members and active volunteers that died unexpectedly and much too soon. Deanne Baker, Rick's wife of 46 years was also a long time volunteer that passed unexpectedly in the last few weeks. May all their soles rest in peace.

Our new Lt. Governor, Jeanette Christe, did her first official swearing in ceremony in her new job with rave reviews. She inducted new Board Members Jerry Assenmacher, Adrienne Zain and Mark Vitagliano, Past President Kerry Manseau, President Mike Marxer, 1st Vice President Don Killian and 2nd Vice President Linda Michalek; Richard Nettlow will take Linda's unexpired Board spot. Ed Chielens and Al Holmes were sworn in as Secretary and Treasurer after both their parole appeals were denied at the district court level (their sins must be numerous).

Kerry led us down memory lane with his accomplishments over the last year, which were many, but the thing that seemed to excite him the most was the fact that he had finally reached his parole date. For the next year, instead of running the whole show his only duty will be to screw with Mike every chance he gets. Mike on the other hand is thrilled to be taking over the

presidency, kind of like a brand new Miss America for the first few weeks of her rein before some old boyfriend comes out with naked pictures of her and a one armed midget.

Kerry, you did a great job, I even saw you forcing a smile with the Tea Party candidate when you really wanted to cut his nuts. Membership went up, first time in years, and we have a little money left at the end of the year, maybe we should be running you for political office.

Mike, you got your work cut out for you but it's evident that you're up to the job and we're all behind you. We're also looking forward to the naked pictures.

Norm and Richard finished up the evening by leading us in a rousing chorus of "We of Kiwanis" (it's "We" guys, try to remember that). And Gary Gardner closed the meeting by leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Up Coming Events:

October 1st – Board of Directors Meeting

October 22nd – Peanut Sale Team Competition cookout. It's the end of the team competition so bring in all your peanut money. We also decide the "Top Sales" and "Most Over Target" winners, but we still take peanut money till the end of the year.

Anyone who isn't confused here doesn't really understand what's going on.

Love & Kisses
Babydoll