



This Week's Program November 14, 2013

Presenter: Lou LaPorta and Rick Watson

Program: The Henderson Historical Society (HHS)

The city of Henderson Nevada is one of the great untold stories of western expansion. A city built from the imagination of founders who saw potential in the natural resources and uncommon beauty of the landscape and sky, Henderson has a proud and dynamic history. From the founding of Basic Magnesium, Incorporated (BMI) in 1941, a plant that supplied much-needed magnesium ingots to the WWII effort, to its emergence today as the second largest city in Nevada, Henderson has always been a place to call home.

The Henderson Historical Society (HHS) is a gathering of like-minded individuals who share a deep respect for the city's history and are actively engaged in protecting the stories, photos, and folklore from Henderson's past. A virtual, online association, the HHS provides a place for supporters to explore the character, charm, and events that built this great city.

President, CEO

Louis (Lou) F. La Porta has lived in Henderson since his honorable discharge in 1945 from the US Air Force where he served as an Air Force Bombardier during World War II. At the time, he and wife Elaine lived off base at the Henderson Townsite. At the end of the war, the newlyweds decided to remain in Henderson and the small community of 3,500 people, mostly young families, became their lifelong home.

Lou's dedication to family and community made living in Henderson and watching it grow from a tiny federal enclave in 1945 to a thriving municipal incorporated city in June of 1953, is at the heart of his passion for the Henderson Historical Society. Part of the original team that steered the town into cityhood, Lou served as a Henderson Councilman from 1953 to 1959, served on the Clark County Commission from 1960 to 1969, was President of the Henderson Chamber of Commerce, and Board Chairman/Trustee of St. Rose Dominican Hospital.

Rick Watson

Education

Bachelor of Science, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, 1964
Master of Education, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, 1968

POSITIONS HELD

Clark County School District:

- Elementary School Teacher grades 3 through 5
- Clark County School District Federal Programs Department
- Elementary School Principal, Clark County School District for 22 years

Southern Nevada Water Authority

- Education Programs Support for the Southern Nevada Water Authority, 2000-2003.

HONORS

- Namesake of Fredric W. Watson Elementary School
- A Director of the Henderson Historical Society

Green Valley High School - Student of the Month

Sergeant-at-Arms:

11/14 Dave Jockman
11/21 Frank King
11/28 No Meeting

Weekly Bulletin Scribes

11/14 Nancy Dailey
11/21 Susan Johnson
11/28 No Meeting

Rotary Recap

By: Christine Smith & Michael Soden

November 7, 2013

President Soden started the meeting with the pledge and a Rotary moment.

Dave Chase sported a stunning bright yellow and blue Polio March vest. In Districts 5300 and 5330 Rotarians raised \$103,000. With the matching funds from the Gates Foundation our District alone has now contributed over \$300,000 this year to the fight to end polio.

Lauren announced our guests.

Neil Davor from Olympia, Washington visited.

Hayley Hobbes our Silverado student of month joined us with her parents Susan and John Hobbes and her grandmother Helen Safford.

Hayley is an accomplished Silverado HS senior. She has a 4.8 gpa, takes advanced placement classes, is well-liked by her teachers and fellow students, and is committed to everything she does. She is a great writer and helps other classmates with their writing. She is the vice-president of the National Honor Society, a member of Interact, the senior class treasurer, and actively involved in Student Council.

She is a violinist and loves calculus because it is challenging and interesting. Hayley will be attending USC to study to be a clinical neurologist. WOW! We are proud of you, Hayley!

Larry Skaggs tested the group at our trivia knowledge. We failed at knowing that the first Paul Harris Fellow was named in 1957.

The usual latecomers (you know who you are) stepped up to the wheel and raised money for the club. Mike Peterson – what, no Rotary pin on that shirt you sported on the Indiana football field? Pay up, young man!

Many happy bucks – mostly for our Student of the Month. Caroline, Russ and Larry are all happy to be travelling with their spouses to fun locales. Don't forget to take the club monkey with you! And happiest of all was Ashley and Mike!

Judge Susan Johnson introduced our guest speaker – The Honorable James Hardesty, Nevada Supreme Court Justice.

Justice Hardesty ran for the Supreme Court in 2004. He was the coach of the National Fast Pitch tournament champions and past president of the Sparks Rotary Club and five-time Paul Harris Fellow.

The Nevada Supreme Court has the largest caseload of any Supreme Court in the country. Each justice handles approximately 357 cases per year. Three-judge panels review 1,000 to 1,100 cases a year. This caseload inhibits the necessary careful review of cases.

Nevada is the largest state without a Court of Appeals. In November 2014 there will be a ballot initiative to form a Court of Appeals in Nevada. This court will serve as a second review of the state's District Court.

Currently our Supreme Court justices spend considerable time working on inmate litigation and driver license litigation cases. Is this the best use of the justices on the court? With the current system, 56% of all appeals take more than six months and 29% take more than one year to be heard and decided by the court.

Justice Hardesty told us that the operating cost of a Court of Appeals will be offset by funds reverted back to the State by the Supreme Court. Since 2009 the Supreme Court has reverted approximately \$6.5 million back to the State. The judges will be housed in the Regional Justice Center so no new facilities will be needed.

Interesting talk, Justice Hardesty! We hope you will visit us again soon.

Santa Hoolihan won the raffle for the day, but did not draw the joker.

We bid adieu with the Four Way Test.

Until next Thursday -- be well and be safe.

Visiting Rotarians

Neil Deboer - Olympia Washington

Guests

Jim Hardesty

Elba Rocha - Assistant Principal Silverado HS

Hayley Hobbes - Student of the Month

Susan Hobbes

John Hobbes

Helen Safford

Club Leaders



Michael Soden
President



Jack R Ewing
President-Elect



Shelia R. Callum
Vice President



Melinda Margolis
iPast President



Jay Larsen
Secretary



Jim Servino
Treasurer



Lauren Robydek
Sergeant-at-Arms



Christine L. Smith
Club Director



Larry Skaggs
Club Director



Caroline A. Orzes
Club Director, Public Relations Chair

Nancy Dalley

Club Director, Membership Chair



Susan Holland Johnson
Club Director, Rotary Foundation Chair



Robert D Frizell
Projects Chair, Club Director

Birthdays



Nelda Manna
November 13



Nancy Dalley
December 02



Weldon E. Havins
MD JD
December 09



Jay Larsen
December 11

Wedding Anniversaries



Shelia R. Callum
Nov 16



Frank King
Nov 29

Events

November 2013

11/12 - November Board of Director's Meeting
11/14 - Weekly Meeting: Henderson Historical Society
11/16 - Pittman Wash Clean up
11/21 - Weekly Meeting: Miss Petroff
11/28 - Weekly Meeting: No meeting

December 2013

12/04 - Opportunity Village Magical Forest - Halloween - 1st night
12/05 - Weekly Meeting: Club Assembly
12/10 - December Board of Director's Meeting
12/11 - Opportunity Village Magical Forest - 2nd night