

Kiwanis

GREEN BAY – DOWNTOWN, Founded 1917



KIWANIS KEY

Weekly Newsletter of the Kiwanis Club of Green Bay – Downtown

CLUB MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2016

A total of 13 members, guest Lorna Wood, plus our speaker and his two demonstration partners, gave us a total of 17 attendees. Emmet led us in prayer, and Vice President Anne led the meeting and songfest. Four songs this week: Hey, Look Us Over, Grand Old Flag, two verses of The Packer Fight Song, and a special Happy Birthday to Dal Wood, who was back after several months, recovering from health issues. Lunch consisted of Chicken Cordon Blue, Potatoes, and Peas.

Lindsay Tafelski was in the news regarding his new Job at Bank Mutual. Happy Dollars from Joe, plus \$20 from Dal, who was happy that he was back with us for our meeting. Great to have you back, Dal!

Dal gave a “mini-presentation” about the storied role of prayer in the founding of our nation. He told of how the Constitutional Convention of 1787 became contentious and almost deadlocked in forming the draft constitution. After weeks of hard work, the representatives of the colonies were near giving up and disbanding in failure (and thus, no United States of America!). Benjamin Franklin, then 81 years old, offered a prayer, asking for Devine guidance. Several days later, he proposed a compromise which was debated and accepted by the convention. The Constitution, after ratification by the colonies., became the supreme law of the new nation. Dal suggested that, in view of the disregard of the principles of our founding document in recent years, that prayer might be needed again.

Our Guest Speaker this week was Steve Vickman, from the Mediation Center of Green Bay. The Mediation Center was started in 1996, and deals with conflicts between two parties. This could involve Small Claims Court actions, evictions, landlord/renter complaints, neighbor conflicts, customer/vendor disputes, family disagreements, and workplace issues. The purpose is to try to resolve these matters and keep them out of court.

We were given a demonstration of a sample mediation. The mediator seeks a middle ground and cooperation between the parties in conflict in order to reach an acceptable resolution of the dispute. Each party gives their version of the conflict, without interruption. The mediator is neutral and attempts to lead the parties to a mutually agreeable solution. The mediator always want to take emotion out of the process. Everything that is discussed is confidential. Eight out of every ten cases that the Mediation Center deals with are successfully resolved. If a resolution cannot be found, the parties are free to take the matter to court.

Steve Schneider has next week’s program, and will host a speaker from Altrusa House.

by Bob Rowan

