

# Brian Connett Nevada Department of Corrections



Brian Connett is the Deputy Director for the Nevada Department of Corrections, with primary responsibility for Prison Industries which operates businesses within the prisons called Silver State Industries. For a time, Connett also was the Department's Public Information Officer.

Connett has over 28 years of operations and management experience in the correctional industry field and more than 10 years' experience on the Board of Directors of the National Correctional Industries Association.

Connett is passionate about his work with correctional industries and loves changing the lives of staff and inmate workers through their training and hard work.

Prior to joining the Nevada Department of Corrections, Connett spent almost 18 years with the State of Florida's prison industry program in increasing capacities, responsibilities and positions.

Connett served as President of an investment and construction firm specializing in the purchase, development and sale of unimproved land for housing.

Connett holds a Bachelor of Arts in Marketing with a minor in Finance from the University of South Florida.

Deputy Director Connett moved to Nevada early in 2007 and resides in Las Vegas.

# Las Vegas Rotary Club Mission:

Teaching Youth to Succeed through Literacy, Education & Life Skills Development





MARCH 23, 2017

# **TODAY'S PROGRAM**

**BRIAN CONNETT** 

**CALENDAR** 

**SCRIBE** 

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

CARS FOR A CAUSE

MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

HIGHWAY CLEAN-UP

CIGAR SOCIAL PHOTOS



# **WHAT IS ROTARY?**

Rotary is a leadership organization of local business, professional and civic leaders. We meet regularly to form friendships and work together to improve the local and international community



**David Thorson** President 2016-2017

**CLUB OFFICERS 2016-2017** President **David Thorson** 

President-Flect

Michael Gordon

Immediate Past President

**Mary Ann Avnet** 

Secretary Treasurer

**Deb Granda Tom Brooker** 

**ELECTED DIRECTORS** 

**Kirk Alexander Gina Gentleman Deb Granda Janice Lencke Dave Lester Anil Melnik Melanie Muldowney Carolyn Sparks Robert Telles** 

Past President Representative **Russ Swain** 





# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Rotarians.

Given the topic of today's speaker being about the incarceration system, I thought this was a good opportunity to remind us all of the incredibly important work our club does with our partners on a daily basis through our youth literacy programs.

You may recall from my first presentation as Club President that the State of Arizona actually uses 4th grade reading scores as their most accurate predictor of future prison bed requirements. A few other sobering statistics about literacy:

- 1) Of adults with low literacy skills, 43% live in poverty.
- 2) Fully 70% of all prison inmates are in the two lowest levels of literacy proficiency.
- 3) Estimated annual cost to taxpayers of problems associated with illiteracy is \$20 Billion - (with a "B"!).
- 4) The odds of lifelong literacy problems are very high if reading skills are not developed by 3rd or 4th grade.
- 5) 85% of low-income students who attend high-poverty schools fail to reach proficient level in reading by 4th grade.

To quote Apollo 13 Astronauts – "Houston, we have a problem!" - And how.

So today as we learn about how the State of Nevada addresses the result of this catastrophe, know that you and your financial contributions are directly focused on one of the root causes of the problem.

One more reason to be a proud Rotarian!

David Thorson President 2016 -2017 Las Vegas Rotary Club



"Gift to Rotary" Program!

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# **CALENDAR**

ROTARY EVENTS ARE LISTED IN RED / GUEST SPEAKERS & PROGRAMS IN BLACK

**Brian Connett - Dept. of Corrections** Wetzel Awards at Nellis AFB

**Highway Clean-up** 

3/30 Nehme Abouzeid - Las Vegas **Golden Knights** 

4/4 **Breakfast With Books, 8:15am** 

4/6 **Old-Timer's Day** 4/13 **Tim Mullin - USO** 

4/20 Valedictorian Lunch

**District Assembly, Victorville, CA** 

Cars for a Cause Show

4/28-4/30 RYLA

5/19-5/21 District Conference, Palm Springs

**Debunking Party** 



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**Proud Sponsor of** the 2nd Annual Las Vegas Rotary Club Car Show





### **PAST PRESIDENTS**

Les Saunders Bill Ferron\* 1924-25 Dr. Harold Bover 1971-72 1925-26 1972-73 A.A. Hinman\* Angelo J. Manzi<sup>3</sup> Frosty Mildren 1926-27 Keith Ashworth 1973-74 Fred Hesse\* 1927-28 Robert E. O'Connell 1974-75 Dr. F.M. Ferguson\* 1928-29 Don Ashworth Dr. William S. Park\* 1929-30 David F. Welles 1976-77 Charlie Dimock\* 1977-78 1930-31 James J. Corev\* Leo McNamees 1931-32 Darrell Luce 1978-79 A.E. Cahlan\* 1932-33 Albert H. Purdue 1979-80 1933-34 Michael Hoover 1980-81 Douglas Dasheil\* Marion Earl\* 1934-35 Donald L. Aikin 1981-82 Dr Roy Martin\* 1935-36 Joseph J. Buckley 1982-83 K.O. Knudson\* 1936-37 Irwin Kishner 1983-84 Frank Gusewelle\* 1937-38 James Cashman III 1984-85 Tom Connolly\* 1938-39 Mike Meyer 1985-86 Archie Grant\* Doug L. Peterson 1986-87 Otto Underhill\* 1940-41 M.J. Wiens, Jr. 1987-88 Keith W. Bassett\* 1988-89 Brvan Bunker 1941-42 Cyril Wengert\* 1942-43 Kenneth E. Miller 1989-90 Fred O'Donnell\* 1943-44 James M. Gamett 1990-91 Robert L. Moore Frank Case\* 1944-45 Victor Shurtiff\* 1945-46 Robert L. Forbuss 1992-93 1946-47 1993-94 Max Kelch\* Gary A. Martin Ed Ciliax\* 1947-48 John A. Smith 1994-95 Lorin Ronnow 1948-49 Caty Crockett 1995-96 Clifford R. Beadle 1996-97 Leonard Fayle 1949-50 1950-51 Ralph J. Rohay 1997-98 Allve Lawson\* Harry Allen\* 1951-52 1998-99 Dr James M Jones Les Edwards\* 1952-53 Tom A. Thomas Wayne Kirch\* 1953-54 Tom J. Krob 2000-01 George Boman\* 1954-55 James E. Hunt 2001-02 Spence Butterfield<sup>3</sup> 1955-56 James R. Tucke 2002-03 Walt Hunsaker\* 1956-57 Kathy Dalvey 2003-04 Ted Brandt\* 1957-58 Steve Casev 2004-05 Julian Moore 1958-59 Ned Phillips 2005-06 Ray F. Culley 1959-60 Brock Fraser 2006-07 C.T. Harris 1960-61 Randy Campan Ollie Gardner 1961-62 Russ Swain 2008-09 Tom Underhill\* 1962-63 2009-10 Karen Whisenhun Vern Willis\* 1963-64 Tom Axtell 2010-11 Ward Wengert 1964-65 Sharon McNair 2011-12 Bill Southard\* 2012-13 Randy Donald Dr. Vince Sanner 2013-14 1966-67 Ginger Anderso 2014-15 Walter Wehner 1967-68 Steve Linder Mary Ann Avnet 2015-16 Harold Wandesforde 1969-70



2016-2017 RI President John Germ District 5300 Governor Luciano de Sylva







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# **MEMBER**



Our greeter Jennifer Lier, aka Marilyn Monroe poses with Jim Jones, Bob Werner and Deb Granda.

Robert Fisher presents

our invocation.

**Rob and Sarah Brown** 

announced the upcoming

highway clean up.

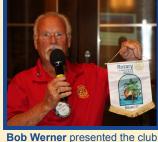


Of course John Ingeme wants a solo picture!





professional singer, leads us with a banner from a Mexican Club that he attended.





Matt Nelson enjoys his Birthday song from Marilyn capped off with a kiss.



President Dave awards multiple PHF's to Randv

Campanale, Bob Fisher and Larry Tomsic.

Janice Lencke showed one of the raffle prizes for the Car Show.



Annie Nounna wins the Lawry bucks.



on the test site visit in May.



Past President Jim Hunt misses his chance at the Joker.



Our member Jerry Engel introduces our illustrious speaker Ben Lesser a Auschwitz camp survivor.

# **RAFFLE AMOUNT** \$ 5,626.00

Jennifer, being a

in the National Anthem.

### **Randy Boesch**

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# he Officers for the 25 Club

**HIGHLIGHTS** 

President - Chris Bennett VP - Erik Astramecki • Secretary - Taiya Thompson The 25 Club meetings are held on the 1st Thursday each month at 11:15 A.M. at Lawry's The Prime Rib



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# **SCRIBE**

# MARCH 16, 2017

- President David Thorson called the meeting to order.
- Bob Fisher gave the invocation. Jennifer Lier, aka Marilyn Monroe led the club in singing the the National Anthem. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the Sergeant-at-Arms was 25 Club VP Erik Astramecki.
- There were (2) International Rotarians, (1) Visiting Rotarian and (7) Guests of Rotarians were introduced.
- The drawing began at \$5,369.00 plus this week's donations. The winner gets half the pot and half goes to the Las Vegas Rotary Foundation. Ticket Winner: Past President Jim Hunt who won \$10! Lawry Bucks Winner: Anne Nounna.
- · Janice Lencke announced that Deb Granda is sponsoring the map at the car show and **Bob Fisher** is donating air time on Vegas Observations for the raffle. There are still opportunities to donate items to the swag bag.
- Jennifer Lier, aka Marilyn Monroe sang "Happy Birthday" to Matt Nelson and then auctioned off a performance for \$600 which will go into the LV Rotary Foundation.
- President David Thorson presented Paul Harris Fellowships to Larry Tomsic (PHF+5), Bob Fisher (PHF+1), and Past President Randy Campanale (PHF+3).
- Mike Warrington, a Rotarian from England gave a presentation on Rotary In Britain and Ireland (RIBI).
- Katie Decker introduced teachers from Hollingsworth, Walter Long and Bracken Elementary Schools and announced that Bracken had received a national award for Magnet School of the Year.
- Bill Stieren announced that there will be a tour of the Atomic Test Site on May 24, 2017. The event is free. You will need to fill out security forms in advance and bring a photo ID.
- Deb Granda announced that District Conference is May 18-23, 2017 in Palm Springs. The hospitality theme is "Latin America." Please let **Deb** know if you have any suggestions on how we can win best decorated suite.
- Sarah Brown announced that the next Highway Clean Up is on March 25, 2017 at
- Jerry Engel gave a heartfelt introduction for the speaker, Ben Lesser, a holocaust survivor. Ben was born a Jew in Poland in 1928 along with (7) other siblings. When the Nazis invaded, he and his family were relocated to a ghetto that was soon to be raided by the Nazis. His family escaped to Hungary, but they couldn't escape the Nazis who invaded and relocated them to Auschwitz Labor camp where they experience unspeakable horrors. Ben was one of (2) survivors in his family and has written a book to remind people of the atrocities committed by the Nazis. "Living A Life That Matters: From Nazi Nightmare to American Dream," was nominated for a 2015 Audie Award for best inspirational non-fiction audiobook.
- President David Thorson presented the speaker with a Sole Power Award and adjourned the meeting.





Please contact Marie Walsh at reeze@cox.net = 702-897-5248 With Any Questions

# 25 CLUB HIGHWAY CLEANUP PROJECT

Once every quarter, on a Saturday morning, join fellow Rotarians clean up our designated stretch of Highway 159 across from the entrance to Bonnie **Springs Ranch** 

March 25th 8:00am

enjoy fellowship while doing something really important for our environment and community



Quarter The 1st Quarter Wetzel Awards will be held at Nellis Air Force Base TODAY,

March 23rd at 3:00 PM

Please meet at the Visitor's Center located at the entrance to Nellis Air Force Base, corner of N Las Vegas Blvd and Craig Road, promptly at 2:30 PM if you need a ride to the site where the ceremony will be held. We would love to have as many of you as possible to share this cherished Rotary Club of Las Vegas event! RSVP to Jackie Thornhill if you can come, jthornhill2@icloud.com



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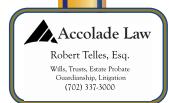
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# March 23, 2017

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District 5300 Club 813

Website: www.lasvegasrotary.com Email: admin@lasvegasrotary.com Executive Director: Shawn Noorda

# LAS VEGAS ROTARY FOUNDATION 2016-2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Thomas Thomas
President Elect: Larry Rouse
Secretary: Paul Kruger
Treasurer: Randy Campanale

Immediate Past President:

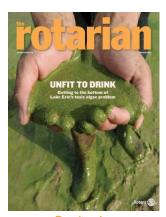
**Steve Casey** 

Senior Members: Paul Maffey

Ty Hilbrecht

Trustees: Jerry Engel

Bob Fisher Michael Gordon David Thorson



Don't miss
The March Issue of
THE ROTARIAN



- 1. Is it the TRUTH?
- 2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
- 3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?**
- 4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?



# MAKE-UP DAYS AND PLACES

Monday	Southwest	Lawry's Prime Rib	12:15 p.m.
Tuesday	Las Vegas Summerlin	TPC Club House	7:15 a.m.
Tuesday	Downtown	Hugo's (Four Queens Hotel)	12:15 p.m.
Tuesday	Henderson	McCaw School of Mines, 575 Lynn Lane	Noon
Tuesday	Mesquite	Oasis Club House	Noon
Tuesday	Las Vegas West	Canyon Gate Country Club	12:15 p.m.
Tuesday	Red Rock Rotary	No Regrets Bar (8349 W Sunset Rd #150)	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday	Pahrump Valley	Mountain Falls Grill Room	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday	Boulder City	Boulder Creek Golf Course	Noon
Wednesday	Moapa	Old Overton Gym	6:30 a.m.
Wednesday	Las Vegas Central	Las Vegas Country Club	12:15 p.m.
Wednesday	LV Spring Mountains	Siena Bistro, Siena Golf Club	5:30p.m.
		Town Center Drive south of Flamingo	
Thursday	<b>Boulder City Sunrise</b>	Boulder Creek Golf Course	7:00 a.m.
Thursday	Green Valley	Wildhorse Golf Club	7:00 a.m.
Thursday	Las Vegas Rotary	Lawry's Prime Rib	Noon
Thursday	Mesquite Sunrise	Oasis Golf Course (Red Room)	7:30 a.m.
Friday	North Las Vegas	Los Prados Country Club	7:15 a.m.
		Off Land Miles hater Decetion O James	

Off Lone Mtn. betw. Decatur & Jones

Las Vegas "Won" club meets the 1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th Friday of the month at 5:00pm at Fogo de Chao and the 2nd Friday at 12:00pm at 360 E. Flamingo.

Wheel Print: Bill Houghton, Horizon Print Solutions

Wheel Creative & Editor: Jeni Houghton, Horizon Print Solutions

Programs: Larry Tomsic Pictures: Jim Tucker

The Scribe: Jaime Goldsmith

# Rotary Web Sites

Rotary.org - Rotary International District 5300.org - District 5300 Site www.LasVegasRotary.com - Our Club Site



# Rotary At A Glance

Rotarians Members - 1,207,102; Clubs - 34,823; Districts - 538; Countries - 200+; Rotaractors Clubs - 7,868; Members - 180,964; Countries - 162 Interact Clubs - 18,005; Members - 414,115; Countries - 132