

**Service Above Self**

# THE SILVER SAGE

**BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF SILVER CITY**

**Rotary**  
Club of Silver City



August 28, 2018

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[www.silvercityrotary.org](http://www.silvercityrotary.org)

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## Officers and Directors

<b>President:</b>	Peter Herzberg
President-Elect:	Francisca Reyes
Secretary/Treasurer:	Linda Telaak
Immediate Past President:	Suzanne Kavanagh
Club Service:	Suzanne Kavanagh
Community Service:	James Reynolds
International Service:	Thomas Bates
New Generations:	Wendy Spurgeon
Vocational Service:	Shane Coker
Sgt-at-Arms:	Jim Tindall
Senior Advisor:	Leslie Bush



**BE THE INSPIRATION**

## Schedule: Future Meetings, Service Projects and Special Events

<b>September 4, 2018</b>	Rosie Higgs - Honduras Trip
<b>September 11, 2018</b>	Dr. Joseph Shepard – WNMU Update 1:15 pm – Foundation Board Mtg.
<b>September 18, 2018</b>	Paul Moore – Minorities' Welcome in the Episcopal Church (Dissertation) 1:15 pm – Club Board Meeting
<b>September 25, 2018</b>	10:30 am – DG Linda Woodward meeting with Club Board DG Linda Woodward – Club, District and Rotary International Issues
<b>September 27, 2018</b>	5:30 pm – Introduction to Rotary Reception

## Meeting Notes

**Peter Herzberg** called to meeting to order at 12:15 pm. **Jack Herndon** led us in the Pledge of Allegiance, **Rosie Higgs** gave the invocation, and **Suzanne Kavanagh** led us in the 4-Way Test recitation.

## Visiting Rotarians

**Merritt Helferich** from Fairbanks Alaska returned after having been in Alaska for a few weeks.

## Guests

### Peter Herzberg

- Introduced our speaker, **Melissa Amarello**
- Welcomed Carlos Lucero of Western Bank once again



*Vern Larson, Peter Herzberg,  
Suzanne Kavanagh*



Vern Larson was here at the invitation of **Paul Moore**.

Ashley Herndon was introduced by **Jack Herndon**.

**Francis Reyes** brought Rotary Youth Exchange student Jan.

## Exchange Student Report



Jan reported being quite tired because of an exhausting schedule of football training. The team won its first game in Springerville by a score of 13-18, but Jan did not get into the game. The next game will be Friday evening at 7:00 pm at Silver High against Bowie.

Jan also told us that he attended a pool party with the Deming Rotary club and that he is looking forward to the exchange student gathering in Ruidoso in a couple of weeks.

He was asked how things were going in school, and he told us that most of his courses were easy and a bit boring except for Junior English, which is a challenge because his command of the English language is not at the same level as that of his

fellow students in the class.

## Strategic Plan

**Peter Herzberg** reminded us that the Strategic Plan draft had been circulated by **Peter Falley** and he asked for a vote of approval. The Plan was approved unanimously.

## Rotary Announcements

**President Peter Herzberg** made the following announcements:

The trip to Juarez took place over the weekend. The group, consisting of **Peter Herzberg**, **Vern Larson**, **Francis Reyes**, and **Tom Bates**, stayed in El Paso overnight and then went to Juarez the next day. They were accompanied by Rotarians from the Rotary Club of El Paso Camino Real and from a Juarez Rotary Club. Also along was **District Governor Linda Woodward**. They visited the neighborhood center where homeless kids are able to gather and be fed. It's a bare cinderblock building that initially did not have electricity, plumbing, or other conveniences. The Rotary Club of El Paso, Camino Real has been responsible for upgrading it so that it is now a useable facility. Rotarians brought gifts of various kinds. They then went to see the hospital where children in need of heart surgery are evaluated for referral to Chihuahua where the actual surgery is performed. Each operation costs \$3,500.

He also talked about the Adopt-a-Median project which is moving forward, although only he and **Francis Reyes** have so far worked on the median. The Rotary sign is up, and a good deal of work has been done to clear the median, but more help is needed. Vern Larson and **Rosie Higgs** agreed to help this Thursday at 9:30 am.

### **Sunny Kellerman**

- Reminded us about the Introduction to Rotary reception at **Peter Herzberg**'s home on Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30 pm. She circulated a sign-up sheet for the reception.
- Told us that a new line dancing group was forming, with the first meeting scheduled for September 5<sup>th</sup>

In addition, a sign-up sheet for Fairgate was passed around.



## Program



**Sunny Kellerman** introduced Melissa Amarello who is a relative newcomer to Silver City, having moved here about a year ago. Melissa's lifelong fascination with snakes led her to work on a variety of projects on natural history and conservation of reptiles in Arizona,

California, and Mexico. After witnessing how negative attitudes can stifle conservation efforts, she incorporated education and outreach into her research to foster appreciation for snakes by sharing stories and videos of their behavior in the field. She is co-founder of Advocate for Snake Preservation (ASP).

Melissa's talk centered primarily on showing how rattlesnakes take care of their young. Rattlesnakes give birth directly. They do not lay eggs the way some snakes do. The babies stay with their mothers for the first 7 to 14 days to the point where they shed their first skin and wander off by themselves.

Melissa showed videos of snakes caring for their young and protecting them from predators. She also showed how snakes can harvest water from their bodies when it rains. She pointed out that protection of the young is not always confined to the mother but can also involve other snakes and even adult males.

She told us that people's attitudes toward snakes have not changed much over the years, even though attitudes toward other feared animals have improved. People continue to be quite afraid of snakes, even though snakes only tend to be dangerous when they feel that they are being attacked.

Then Melissa got out her pet snake to share him with the group.



*Francis Reyes handles the snake.*





*Melissa Amarello with snake Peter Herzberg Suzanne Kavanagh*



*Melissa Amarello with snake*

*Wendy Spurgeon*



*Paul Moore with the snake*

*Melissa Amarello*



*Leslie Bush with the snake*

## **Raffle**

**Peter Herzberg** won the raffle.

## **Attendance**

We had 20 of 29 active members in attendance, or 69%.

## Gallery



Rosie Higgs

Max Higgs

Tom Bates



Peter Falley

Helen Shoup



William Knuttinen

Jack Herndon



Wendy Spurgeon

Jim Callender

William Knuttinen

Jack Herndon



Francis Reyes

Kate Watson



*Jim Reynolds*

*Merritt Helfferich*

*Jim Tindall*