



Rotary Club of Gilbert, Arizona

June 25, 2020 7:00 AM

The Changing of the Guard in times of COVID



The Year of the Mahoney's 2020-2021

DG Elizabeth Mahoney Club President Debe Mahoney



Welcome to the Rotary Club of Gilbert Arizona

People of Action

Attendance: Scott Jones, Donna Backhaus, Debe Mahoney, Jim Schermetzler, Pat Schermetzler, Chuck Holland, George Pettit, Dave Hutchinson, George Pettit, Mark Grady, Mike Flores, Curt Ward, Dr. Vince Pellegrino, and Diana Tacey

Visiting Rotarian: Dave Brauchler

Guest Speaker: Kayla Kolar



Rotary Moment

Last Week Diana Tacey shared a story about Mike, a Prescott Rotarian who worked on a club project dealing with dire Navajo needs. They asked for the public to come and fill one 24 foot truck. From 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM the truck was completely full with personal care items. They also filled a second 21 foot truck.

If people didn't bring items, they brought money. The Rotarians did not expect the outcome and the club raised \$12,000. 25-30 people traveled to the Navajo Nation and, once there, they were met by members of the Army and Air National Guard who helped with the unloading and distribution. The best part, he said, was getting to visit with the people and hear their stories. And they learned, as we already know, that 30% of residents have no water and 40% have no electricity. Thank you Diana

Rotary Moment

This week Mike Flores viewed the second General Session of the Rotary International Conference. The speaker was a newsperson who spoke about having the opportunity to engage in this unprecedented time. Who could have ever thought that the world could change in a day as COVID-19 brought the whole world to a standstill.

He shared a 4 minute clip from the speaker.

Rotarians, however, have found ways to engage virtually. A lot of clubs are meeting this way now in the familiar format, complete with guest speakers.

He explained, and it is true, that Rotary's "North Star" will never change and that is Service. Rotarians are rolling up their sleeves and serving. Rotarians all over the world are quietly doing what Rotarians do as People of Action. This experience has taught us that we need to look at more "adaptable" club models. Thanks Mike.

For this talk, view the Rotary International Conference's Second General Session at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B48IEPpfyhs&t=809s>





Last week's Guest Speaker

Kayla Kolar – President and CEO of HD South

It was a pleasure again to welcome a good friend back to speak to Gilbert Rotary. Kayla Kolar. Originally opened as Gilbert Elementary School in 1913, HD SOUTH is the oldest building still standing in Gilbert and is the only one on the National Register of Historic Places. The Gilbert Historic Society had been meeting since 1960 and was incorporated in 1979 but had no official building to call their own. When the school closed in 1977 and the building became available, the historical society leased it from Gilbert Public Schools and opened the historical museum in 1982. Then in 1985, through the generous donation of Otto and Edna Neely, the Society purchased the building and the land.

The Gilbert Historical Museum was volunteer operated until 2005 when Kayla Kolar was hired as the first executive director. Over the next several years, the museum made great strides to become one of Arizona's premier community history museums. In 2010, the Society began searching for a new direction that would sustain them over time. The staff and board of directors held many strategic planning sessions and conducted many meetings with community stakeholders. They changed the name to HD South (Heritage District South)

With over 37% of Gilbert under the age of 19 and almost 25% over 50, a new programming model called Communities for All Ages (CFAA) seemed to fit this community. CFAA is an intergenerational model where the generations can learn

and grow together. The programs and events at HD SOUTH are designed for all generations.

There is a severe lack of Arts and Culture programming in Gilbert. With a population now of approx. 260,000, their new programming is filling a much needed void not offered anywhere else in Gilbert. Communities for All Ages offer such programming as:

- Art
- History
- Science
- Health and Wellness
- Music
- Literature

The Museum, Kolar explained, was “competing with ourselves for space.” Thus the Board of Directors embarked on a feasibility study and launched a \$2 million capital campaign to construct a Preservation Building, Remodel the existing exhibit space, Construct a new 6,500 square foot building to house CFAA programs and Redesign the outdoor courtyard. They have raised \$1.4 million from their private campaign phase, started the community campaign in February and then, in March, COVID happened. Kolar stated it might take longer to raise the funds but it WILL happen. The vision is to transform HD South into the new hub of Gilbert, a center for Arts and Culture.



They are grateful for a gift of any size. They are selling bricks in the amounts of \$125, \$250, and \$1000 . Groundbreaking is planned for September, and pushed back if not feasible. The project is scheduled to take 9 months.

For more information visit: hdsouth.org

Members asked a number of questions:

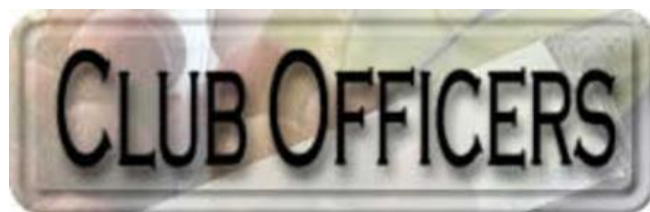
- July 6 is actually Gilbert' Birthday in its Centennial Year
- The Museum welcomes 8,000 visitors annually 50% are local residents and the other are visitors.
- They are open Tuesday through Saturday and will be closed in July to repair stairs in the building. They will re-open in September Tuesday through Saturday 9 AM to 4 PM.

We are grateful to Kayla for catching us up on HD South. Don't be surprised if we come looking for a venue for 2021 Trivia!

Virtual Installation of Vice-President Mike Flores

In regards to the changing of the Rotary Guard each July 1, for the first time in Gilbert Rotary History, President Debe had an installation ceremony for President-Elect Mike Flores.

Officers for 2020-202



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President Debe Mahoney

President Elect and Membership Chair Mike Flores

Secretary and Foundation Chair Curt Ward

Treasurer George Pettit
Immediate Past-President Scott Jones
Youth Services and Roy House Fund Chair Chuck Holland
Club Administration Donna Backhaus



Curt Ward was again pleased to bring forth for Club Sponsorship another candidate seeking a grant from The Rotary Vocation Fund pf Arizona, Josette Diaz.

She is 20 years old and a graduate of a high school in Phoenix. She now lived in Mesa with her 2 year-old daughter. She wishes to pursue the training for Medical Receptionist at East Valley Medical College. She is, described by Curt, as a “very welcoming person” who is looking forward to this career. Upon a motion by Curt and seconded by Donna, he club unanimously approved sponsoring this candidate for a \$2500.00 grant.



*Past District Governor, Present Governor, Incoming Governor
and Rotarians from all over the District – OH MY!!
Thank-you to ALL who visited our hospitality suite and club
members who hosted last Friday, welcoming District 5495.*

We had a great turnout of Rotarians coming and going. It was a lot of fun and thanks to Curt for anchoring what everyone wanted more information about, The Navajo Water Project. Great Job Curt, as always.



Lost Dutchman District of the **Grand Canyon Council** - Boy Scouts of America proudly serving the youth of Eastern council area in Arizona. Eastern Area - Mesa, Gila, Superstition, San Tan, and Desert Wells districts. Member Chuck Holland addressed the club concerning the Lost Dutchman Chapter. The Scouting program, overall is suffering in Arizona. 22 Districts have become 6. The Lost Dutchman Chapter pledged to raise \$140,000 to serve 1800 scouts with such activities as camps and buildings. Each scout was charged \$50. Their big fundraiser, set for April, didn't happen due to the pandemic and they only have 50% of their commitment. There are now only 12% or 1/8 funds available this year. He asked the club to consider a donation.

Chuck proposed using Roy House funds for the donation as it is directly benefits youth. We discussed taking \$1,400 out of that fund. George explained that the current balance of the House Fund stands at \$20,000. Upon a motion by George and seconded by Jim that we take a \$1500 donation out of the House Fund and forward it to the Boy Scout Council. All were in favor. We hope this helps.

July 2020 						
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Program July 2, 2020 7 AM on ZOOM

Colonel Robert Dulong

#MaskUpGilbert



My mask protects you,
and your mask protects me.