



Mike Lowber is Installed as New President of Rotary Club



Mike Lowber was installed as the new President of the McAlester Rotary Club on June 30.

Mike Lowber became the 98th President of the McAlester Rotary Club last week.

Installing Officer Bruce Hall challenged Lowber and other officers to “be guided by the 4-Way

Test,” and the advice of past club officers, in making their decisions and plans.

The June 30 meeting was an evening meeting, held at The Meeting Place.

Karl Scifries is the new President-Elect,

and Gary Boyd was installed as Vice-President. Jim Henley was installed for another term as Secretary-Treasurer.



Installing Officer Bruce Hall installed new officers for the club, June 30. Photos by George Lampton

New Board Members who also were installed

included Retiring President Brett Smith, Loise Washington, Evans McBride, Clem Santine, Greg McNall, and Gail Watkins.

Smith thanked all those who served as committee chairmen for the past year. Lowber presented Smith with a Past President’s plaque, and an award as a Paul Harris Fellow.



Karl Scifries was installed as President-Elect and was congratulated by Bruce Hall, the installing officer.

Lowber Looking For Members To Work on Projects, It Appears

Mike Lowber, the new president, talked last week about needs of the club. “We have enough projects....” he said. “Lots of people want to help people....”

He appeared to be saying that we need more members, and that is apparently what he is going to talk about this week.

He named the “Flag Project” at the top of the projects list. But he also named several others as good ones. And he talked about a “new internet program,” which can be used to contact

members.

He plans to continue his description of what the club needs, this week or next.

He also talked about a “Work Day.”

Once there is sufficient membership, and an internet method of communications established, “It’s going to be wonderful,” he said.

(To be continued.)

Crowl Tells 1918 ‘Rivalry Story’ As Intro To Genealogy



Tom Crowl
Photo by George Lampton

Tom Crowl went back to 1918 to tell us about the “friendly rivalry” between the Rotary and the Lions Clubs, although he denies that he goes back that far, in a June 9 program, about the Pittsburg County Genealogical and History Society.

The Society started its publications with a survey of cemeteries in the county,

which was helpful to people trying to trace their genealogies in this area. Many of these people are former residents. Some write and some visit.

They appreciate the fact that people who work in the building next to the courthouse, are volunteers, and there is no charge for their services.

Answering their questions “may take 15 minutes or may take four hours,” Tom explained. But when they ask, “What do I owe you,” and the only charge is 10 cents per copy to make copies using their copy machine, and a sign on the wall says memberships are \$15, they often become members.

They get a copy of the Tobusky News three times a year for their \$15. Then when they have questions about their ancestors, they usually write. In fact, 50 percent of the 200 members live outside the county, Tom says.

The publications, also by volunteers, have grown to 30 or 40. One of the most popular is about “People and Places.” It has stories

Busy Schedule For Lake This Summer, Says Exec Director

There are lots of activities on the summer schedule on Lake Eufaula this summer. Connie Morris, executive director of the Lake Eufaula Association, told us June 2.

A Country Music Concert that has already been held in the Eufaula Cove area sold 9,521 tickets, 1000 more than last year. And a Big 12 Bass Tournament, won by OU anglers, was held for the first time on the lake. "They were all there," Ms. Morris said of the Big 12 competition, although the Colorado entries "did not catch a fish," she confided.

And a lake record crappie has already been caught, and given to the Lake Association, for publicity purposes.

The crappie weighed in at 2.6 pounds and was 15 ½ inches long.

The lake has a new marina and it's in Arrowhead State Park. And it is good place to eat, says Ms. Morris.

It is called "Area 51," and it is "just down from the golf course," says Ms. Morris. On June 20, there was a "10-mile yard sale," along Highway 9, at Longtown, with literally "something for everybody."

And on June 27, there was the "Festival in the Cove," with a non-motorized raft race, with a first prize of \$500. Sports Night and Bike Night as well as "Arts and Crafts" also were featured.

On July 4 there was a free concert on the Eufaula Cove huge stage and the 40th annual Eufaula Fireworks Spectacular. Stigler also had a "Fireworks Celebration" on the Fourth.

July 17-18 is the Battle of Honey Springs Memorial Run, the Fun Run and the Sanctioned 5K. (Info-(918)-473-5572.)

July 23-25 Eufaula Whole Hawg Day Rodeo, fairgrounds (Info-689-2791.)

July 24-25 Eufaula Whole Hawg Days, Posey Park (689-2791.)

July 25-Poker Run for Whole Hawg Days(689-2791.)

August

Aug. 2-Southern Plains Festival, Lake Eufaula Cove (618-6085.)

Aug. 8-Customer Appreciation Day, No. 9 Marina (452-3261.)

Aug. 14-15 State Prison Rodeo, McAlester (423-2550.)

Aug. 28-30 Dusk 'til Dawn Blues Festival, (473-2070.)

September

Sept. 4-6 Eufaula Indian Community Pow Wow and Homecoming (689-5066.)

Sept 5-Capt. Al's Fireworks, No. 9 Marina (452-3261.)

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about over 900 people who lived in this area in or before 1900. The book sells for \$40 or three for \$100.

About 25 years ago, someone in the society thought the carpet looked worn, and someone else thought the radiator-type heating was outdated. So the group applied for a grant, from the Puterbaugh Foundation. The foundation's board came back with a \$10,000 "matching grant."

So the volunteers got out and took pledges, and came back with

\$10,000!

The society had bought CDs with the funds from their publications and their \$15 memberships. So it used those to pay for part of the improvements.

Mrs. Clark Bass gave a microfilm machine, in addition to the bank's help in reaching the matching funds goal. And House Speaker Carl Albert's hobby was genealogy.

Tom invited us all to come up and see how it all fit together.



Musical Program

Peter Povey, Top Left, the Director of the McAlester Institute of Music, and some of his students, brought us a musical program by some of the students, on June 16.

Povey has a background all his own, as was related in an earlier newsletter.

On the guitars, Bottom Left, are D.J. White, Sean Spence, and a Crowder student.

Playing the harp Top Right is Mary Raunikar.



Editor's Note

The overcrowding of programs from June and July, in this newsletter, is due to people being gone during the summer.

Any programs missed will be carried during future editions.

2009 Rotary Flags Committee

Independence Day July 3
 Labor Day Sept. 7
 Veterans Day Nov. 11
 (See Sign-Up Sheet-Jim Thompson)