



Topeka Evening Sertoma Club

Club Number: 10456 • www.TopekaSertomaClubs.org

October-November 2010

Note from the President



Fellow Sertomans,

What a great event we had at the Country Club on October 26th celebrating 95 years of service to our community! An event made even more special by the our Regional Director John Cassida, our District Governor Michelle Wilson-Skinner, and a number of Sertomans from other clubs. We also took the opportunity to present Nancy Daniels, Executive Director of Big Brothers and Big Sisters, with a check for \$15,000 from the Duck Race. What a great day to be a Sertoman!

Special thanks go to Terry Beck and his committee for doing such a tremendous job bringing together all the details for a truly memorable evening.

On November 4th, a SafeEars committee headed by Terry Cuthbertson spent an entire day at Mission Valley School near Eskridge making hearing safety presentations to 16 different groups of students. It was an exhausting day but extremely rewarding as students from kindergarten through 7th grade learned the importance of protecting their hearing. The message was well received, and the kids were great. Congratulations to the entire team for a job well done!

As we enter into the holiday season, please give thought to the wonderful things we are able to do for local charities through the annual Duck Race and how you can be a part of it. Volunteers are needed in all aspects of preparation, so please step forward to help make the 2011 Duck Race the best ever!

Finally, please keep our service men and women in your thoughts and prayers, and have a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Yours in SERvice TO MAnkind
George Laliberte

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2010/2011 Club Officers and Directors:

- President: George Laliberte
- President Elect: Mark Braun
- Secretary: Deb Zimmerman
- Treasurer: Celia Cuthbertson
- 1st Vice Pres: Dave Howarter
- 2nd Vice Pres: Rob Richey
- Sergeant at Arms:
 - Vern Knobelauch
- Chairman of the Board:
 - Matt Dowd
- Board Members:
- 1st Yr Term:
 - Terry Beck
 - Debbie Escobar
 - Dan Hejtmanek
- 2nd Yr Term:
 - Jay Bachman
 - Mary Lenz
 - Dennis Handke

Meeting Summaries:

October 5 -

Sertoma Annual Fund Update, Presenter Terry Beck – Terry provided us information on the mission, goals, current budget, and funds distribution of the Annual Fund. The mission activities support hearing health programs through scholarships, grants, national heritage and youth programs to name a few. This year's annual fund goal is \$315,000. Last year's distribution was: Communicative Disorders Scholarships - \$45,000; Deaf & Hard of Hearing Scholarships - \$31,000; Community Service Grants - \$103,000. Annual Fund Gifts are received from individuals, members, clubs, corporations and foundations. Club annual fee is \$200. Topeka Evening Club has supported the Annual Fund each year since it began in 1962. Individual minimum desired is \$25, and Fellow is \$100. Our club pays the minimum of \$25, so that

we are 100% supportive of the AF, with an option for members to reimburse the Club Treasury for this fee. As a member of Sertoma, we are responsible for supporting the Annual Fund. Members that support at the Fellow level will receive a pin. Just think, if all 14,000 Sertoma members contributed even at the minimum level, the Annual Fund would surpass its goal of \$315,000 easily. More information on the Annual Fund may be obtained through the Sertoma web site at www.sertoma.org, or by contacting Terry Beck.

October 19 -

Big Brothers, Big Sisters, Presenter Nancy Daniels – Nancy provided a brief overview on the BBBS in Topeka. The organization has been in existence since 1904, and started in Topeka in 1968 as Big Brothers, then added the Big Sisters at a later date. About 125 youth are serviced each year. Volunteers are asked to make a 1 year commitment to mentor a youth, and can elect to stay with their youth for as long as they want. A typical program will follow the school year, with the setting primarily held at a school facility and meeting once a week. Generally, there are no scheduled activities during the summer months. BBBS is the primary benefactor of the Great Topeka Duck Race, receiving an average of \$18,000 each year from this annual event. Matt Dowd and George Laliberte volunteer as BIGS youth mentors. BBBS are always in need of additional mentors.

November 16 –

16th Annual Great Topeka Duck Race, Presenters Krystal Wiltz and Allyson Shove – Krystal and Allyson provided us a brief presentation on the status of planning activities for the 16th Annual Great Topeka Duck Race that will be held on September 10, 2011. The theme will be Ducky's 16th Birthday! They have started organizing the committees and are looking to get volunteer and leadership commitments as soon as possible in January. A schedule will be published soon after the holidays of the Steering Committee meetings. More information on these activities will be released soon.

Evening Club's Sponsorship Presentation to Community Beneficiaries, Presenter George Laliberte – We also distributed checks to the following community benefactors from funds from this year's Duck Race:

\$5,000 – Big Brothers Big Sisters, Nancy Daniels (photo not available)

\$1,000 – Boys Scouts, Rob Richey

\$1,000 – Capper Foundation, Phil Oliver

\$500 – Children's Miracle Network, Kara White

\$500 – Marian Clinic, Robert Trepinski



Special Events:

Sertoma Evening Club 95th Anniversary

The Evening Club celebrated its 95th Anniversary on October 26 with a grand banquet at the Topeka Country Club. Special guests included International President Dennis Lawler, Executive Director Steve Murphy, Regional Director John Cassida, Kansas Governor Michelle Wilson-Skinner, and Historian Don Parrish of the Manhattan Club. In addition to hearing about the history of Sertoma and the Topeka Evening Sertoma Club, the Program also included the presentation to Nancy Daniels of Big Brothers Big Sisters its share of the Duck Race proceeds. Below are a few photos of the event.



Topeka Evening Sertoma Club presents SAFEEars

George Laliberte, Celia Cuthbertson, Terry Cuthbertson and Carol Hamilton of the Topeka Evening Sertoma Club in Topeka, presented a SAFEEars program to the students at Mission Valley School in Eskridge, Kansas. A request for this program was made by the Speech and Language Pathologist Caryn Gustin to provide the SAFEEars program to kindergarten through grade 12 in conjunction with their alternative education day. The club members were split into teams of two, and each team presented five morning sessions and three afternoon sessions.

SAFEEars is a hearing loss prevention program developed by Sertoma, in conjunction with the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD).

SAFEEars promotes the important message that noise-induced hearing loss is 100% preventable. With hearing loss becoming more common in the United States, awareness programs such as SAFEEars, serve as an important catalyst to educate the public about this important health issue. The program strives to motivate young people and adults to take action against noise-induced hearing loss (NIHL) by understanding its problem and its solutions.

Before young people can understand hearing loss, they must understand that noise can be a major cause of it. Providing concrete examples and hands-on activities helps them understand that noise-induced hearing loss is real.

The information that we presented was well received, and the students had many questions. What a fun and interesting day!



George Laliberte & Terry Cuthbertson



Carol Hamilton



Celia Cuthbertson

Important Dates to Remember:

- Dec. 7:** Cancelled
- Dec. 14:** Holiday Party, Hosted by Dan and Julie Hejtmanek
- Dec. 21:** Cancelled
- Jan 4:** 5:45p – Program: TBA

Bernice will email and call for your RSVP one week before meetings. Please respond to her with your RSVP, so that an accurate head count for meals may be made.

If you have a suggestion for a speaker, please contact Mark Braun at mbraun@shawneecourt.org.

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Happy, Happy Birthday!:



October
Vern Knobelauch (Oct.12); Craig Blumreich (Oct.27)
November
Christine Taylor (Nov. 19); Dennis Handke (Nov. 22)
December
Joe Cox (Dec. 7); Celia Cuthbertson (Dec. 19); Mary Lenz (Dec. 25); Jay Bachman (Dec. 29)

Happy Anniversary!:

October
Tracy McDaneld (2006)
November
Carol Hamilton, Steve Lachowski, and George Laliberte (2008)
December
Lee Dodson (1999); Deb Zimmerman (2005)

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If any information is found to be reported incorrectly, please identify discrepancy to Deb Zimmerman at deb.zimmerman@bartwest.com. Newsletters will be emailed to members of the Topeka Evening Sertoma Club unless otherwise requested, and mailed to those without email. Please forward any special announcements you would like included in our newsletter.

More information regarding Sertoma may be found by going to the website at: www.sertoma.org and www.topekasertomaclubs.org

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Sertoma Evening Club of Topeka
Meetings held 1st & 3rd Tuesday each month
At Jayhawk Tower, Senate Room
700 Jackson St., Topeka