

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Nov 3

Health Scams & Frauds
Carolyn Cole

Nov 10

Drew Russo
Update of
Lynn Shelter Assn.

Nov 17

Mike Gemm
Suddes Group
Boards: Champions
& Passionate



Our \$830 Club Raffle Pot

was down to 7 cards today and "Honest Dave" Payton was asked to draw the lucky tickets!

President Steve's tickets were drawn TWICE and Steve put one back and asked that ANOTHER ticket be drawn and Jack Ryder was chosen now there are only FIVE cards left and the pot continues to GROW !!

President Steve

gave everyone a wonderful outline and overall history of Halloween - based in part from a book written by a Lynn author - the first history of the "holiday" ever written, it is said.

Ruth Edna Kelley- author of "The Book of Halloween" published in 1919. Born in 1893 in Lynn, was a resident librarian. She died in Marblehead in 1982 at the age of 88.

When she wrote the book, there were 1,900 English immigrants, 4,500 Irish immigrants, and 700 Scottish immigrants in Lynn.

Druids - were pagans, worshiped a god named Baal, thought that Oak trees were sacred (where the superstition of knocking on wood came from) **Samhain**, a harvest festival on Oct 31, sacrificed animals, in Gaul, they **sacrificed people** (prisoners of war and criminals) in a big wicker "man" that was built for the event!

Ritual fires were part of the festival, divining was part of the festival, and spirits abounded

The Romans, who had conquered Briton and Gaul, thought that the Druids kept them from totally ruling the people, **so they killed off the Druids and suppressed the religion.** Later on, Rome became Christian which helped the religion spread through the Celtic areas.

Samhain was replaced with "**All Hallows Evening**" the night before All Hallows Day, later to become All Saints Day.

The tradition of a festival at that time continued after Christianity came along,

a. Lanterns were carved in Celtic regions from turnips, though originally using a skull.

b. When Irish immigrants came to the U.S, they used pumpkins to carve. Pumpkins were more common, and easier to carve, but the tradition came with the immigrants.

c. "**Souling**" - In the Celtic regions of Ireland and Scotland, poor folks would go door to door receiving food in return for prayers for the dead.

d. **Costumes** go back to the old Celtic tradition of the pagans where they put on costumes to copy evil spirits.

e. "**Guising**" Scottish and Irish children went door

to door to be rewarded with nuts and candies for their rhymes and songs.

f. "**trick or treat**" was not mentioned in

print until **1927** in Alberta Canada. In **1934** it was mentioned in print in the U.S.

A change from guising.



Halloween in America

a. Tradition came from the Celtic immigrants who brought it from Europe

b. Early Puritans restricted observance of Halloween but the later waves of Irish immigrants following the potato famine finally brought the holiday to the U.S.

c. Early Puritans were part of the tradition of persecuting "witches"

d. The Italians brought the tradition of treating it as a somber night. They dressed in black and decorated skeletons

e. The German immigrants had a practice of decorating graves of the dead,

f. From our African population came the images from the voodoo religion

g. America in the 20th century commercialized it. Costumes, candy, trick or treat, parties, haunted houses, parades, decorating houses.

h. The holiday spread to Mexico where it is called "witches night-Halloween"

i. Australia and New Zealand. It did not take root much because at that time of the year, (it is summer and daylight late) so the whole effect of darkness and impending cold weather doesn't get created. They mostly have parties.



Egyptian club discovers the power of Microlending

If your Rotary club is stuck in a rut when it comes to vocational service, it's not alone.

Sometimes dubbed the "forgotten Avenue of Service," vocational service can be difficult for clubs to understand and implement.



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Atassi, past governor of District 2450 (parts of Africa, the Mediterranean, the Middle East, and Georgia) felt strongly enough about vocational service to make it a district-wide priority.

"Vocational service is important because it enhances values and faith in ethics," says Al Atassi, a member of the Rotary Club of Adliya, Bahrain.

The Rotary Club of Alexandria Sporting, Egypt, rose to the challenge by focusing on microcredit loans, literacy classes, and a sewing workshop to meet the needs of low-income community members, helping women in particular to start businesses and learn useful work skills.

Microcredit loans

"We gave loans to deprived women supporting large families," says past club president Heba Kabel. Club members made loans of about US\$85 to 20 entrepreneurs to launch small food or cleaning businesses. The loans were paid back in installments over the course of a year, and the money was then loaned out again -- turning the club's initial investment of about \$1,700 into a sustainable microcredit program.

The club also financed literacy classes, helping 75 women learn to read and write, and a sewing lab, which drew 45 women to sewing lessons every month.

Kabel notes that the club put a priority on efforts that would help community members increase their chances of finding a job.

"We made a big bazaar at the end of the year and sold their products," Kabel says, explaining that the proceeds went to the women.

Kabel, a Barclays Bank employee, also tapped into her own vocational skills by offering free lessons in financial literacy to several women whom club members had met through the vocational service initiatives. The financial advice helped the women make informed decisions about their new incomes, teaching them to allocate some for savings and giving them a better chance of sustaining their small businesses.

President Steve

announced the **DATE CHANGE** for our evening **FUND-RAISING DINNER AND PARTY!**

It will be at the **PORTHOLE** ON **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30th !!!**

(The Wednesday AFTER Thanksgiving)

*Save the date and be sure to bring someone with you **and sell those winning tickets!!***

Our New Board Meetings?



GREETERS' SCHEDULE

November 3 - Dave Richardson & Art Horgan
November 10 - Jim Harris & Jerry Bovardi
November 17 - Bob Kennedy & Rich Cuffe

Please remember, Greeters have to BREAK DOWN also !!