



Hoof Beats

Kiwanis Club of the Horse Heaven Hills

PO Box 6798, Kennewick, WA 99336

www.HorseHeavenKiwanis.org

August 17, 2009

Edited by: [John Lawson](#), [Donna Underwood](#), [Doug Brown](#)

If you have an announcement, advertisement, or article you'd like included, contact one of our editors.

Remember, there is always more information about our club on our website at www.HorseHeavenKiwanis.org

President Jo Harrington opened our August 17 meeting. Doug Brown gave our invocation.

We had a five-member delegation from Richland Kiwanis: Jim Thornton, George and Bette Evans, and Jim and Ginger Vetrano. Doug Brown's guest was his brother Cliff Brown. Our speaker, Tom Roach brought two guests from his law firm: Carlos Villarreal, and Kevin Criddle.

Birthdays, Anniversaries & Brags

Donna Underwood was wrangler.

Wayne Underwood enjoyed his shift on the J&S train this weekend trading engineer/conductor duties back and forth with Don Barnes. He said it was great to have Marilyn Hyde back again and everyone appreciated her. Then he took a moment to recall the anniversary of his first date with Donna.

Dale Green said he had an extra dollar today and so he could brag about that. Jo Harrington reported on the success of the 2nd Harvest golf tournament and said that it was also time to celebrate her brother's birthday.

Don Barnes seconded Wayne's appraisal of the J&S weekend. Phil Slusser's granddaughter celebrates her ninth birthday. Carolyn Lawson noted that when she talked with one of the folks from the ARC picnic, he said that he had a good time when our people drove the train through the sprinklers at Columbia Park. Doug Brown noted that some of our J&S clients didn't pick up on the joke when he and Gene talked about using the cushions for floatation in the event of a water landing.



Steve Beckman won the weekly raffle and donated his winnings to our Foundation.

Announcements and Coming Events

Special Things We Did Last Week

The J&S is now "wearing" all of its new business sponsorship signs.

The proceeds from the ARC benefit weekend were combined with a nearly equal amount from Youth Services to purchase a \$1000 donation 12"x12" tile in the new ARC building to commemorate our Kiwanis Club.

Meetings

The J&S Committee will meet after the regular club meeting.

The Youth Services Committee will meet following next week's regular meeting.

J&S Volunteers Needed (always)

Jim Hyde circulated the sign-up sheet for [J&S volunteers](#). More volunteers are needed this weekend.

SOS: Save Old Spectacles

Donna Underwood has the SOS box available for donations at all our meetings. Bring in your old glasses.

Membership

Don Barnes reminds us that we are all membership ambassadors.



Benton-Franklin County Fair

Information Booth

Our volunteers have fully staffed the information booth schedule. Notify Doug Brown if you need to make any changes for any reason.

We have a training opportunity schedule for Thursday, August 20 at the fair grounds Office beginning at 5:30. All volunteers are encouraged to attend. This is an opportunity to learn some of the information you will be asked to convey. Doug has e-mailed all members with the details.

Doug will also provide some additional discussion at next Monday's meeting.

Interclubs

August Interclub Calendar:

Kennewick Club – Leo's, Kennewick

Tuesday, August 25th at noon

Cindy Morris will speak about the reopening of the Children's Museum at Broadmoor Mall complex in Pasco.

Talk to Sarah Longan or call her (582-5856) if you have questions about our interclub program. We will plan for two more interclubs during September.

Other division 54 clubs' speakers for August:

TCI Fridays Noon - Clarion Hotel

8/21 - Adrienne Deen, *Kids Day*

8/28 - Suzanne Heaston, *Vit Plant*

Pasco Thursdays noon – Red Lion

8/20 - Cindy Morris, *3 Rivers Childrens Museum*

8/27 - Dennis Kreid, *Chernobyl reactor stabilization*

October 24th Dinner Dance



Members are already selling tickets for the

October 24 Dinner Dance. [Doug Brown](#) has books of tickets that you can sign out to sell (price: \$40 per ticket). The proceeds from the dinner dance will be donated to the Arc's Youth Programs and to the Mid-Columbia Reading Foundation. In addition to selling tickets, we need "*experiences and consumables*" for our live auction to be held during the dance.

If you don't plan to sell tickets yourself, you can purchase individual tickets at the sign-in table during our regular meetings.

Next Week's Program :

Lynn Tegeler: Leadership Tri-Cities

This Week's Program:

**Tom Roach: Immigration –
12 Million Illegal Aliens: How Did We Get
To Where We Are And Where Do We Go
From Here**



Tom Roach

Tom Roach was born and raised in Pasco. After law school, Tom worked in Washington D.C. as a legislative aide before returning to work in the Tri-Cities where he began full-time practice of immigration law. Tom also has served our community with the Boy Scouts Blue Mountain Council, St. Patrick School and United Way, as well as a Regent at Seattle University and a director at Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital in Pasco.

The focus of Tom's well organized talk was our country's *12 million "uninvited guests"*, the many

undocumented workers in the United States today. This is a topic with lots of misinformation being circulated. Tom sought to provide some facts to counter often accepted myths about the situation today.

How we got to 12 million illegals

Tom recalled the day before the hispanics began moving into this area for jobs. The hard work, low pay jobs were getting done by displaced workers and teens. But after WWII, that workforce began to evaporate. People didn't want to apply for or accept those kinds of jobs. But the work was there to be done. Hispanics began crossing the border to take the jobs no one else wanted to take. The economy still creates these “undesirable” low wage jobs, jobs today's American workforce isn't interested in doing, even in times of high unemployment.

The economy creates 500,000 low-skill jobs per year. Americans don't apply for them. And our government only offers about 5,000 legal green card opportunities per year. The huge disparity in average income between Mexico (and other countries) and the US creates an economic pressure, that today is met by a largely illegal workforce.

5 Myths

1. Illegal aliens take American jobs—But these are not the jobs Americans seek or are even willing to apply for.
2. Illegal aliens don't pay taxes—Tom explained how they do pay sales tax, and usually have income tax social security tax and medicare taxes withheld. Property taxes are paid as well, renters pay through the rents levied by landlords.
3. Illegal aliens don't learn English—while it is hard for 1st generation aliens to learn English and assimilate, their children do learn English and move into the mainstream culture.
4. They don't contribute to the US economy. They're here for the welfare—But illegals aren't able to collect welfare precisely because they are undocumented.

5. So why not just come here legally?—Our government has created barriers that limit legal green card workers to a tiny fraction of the demand for workers. Our economy depends on them but we won't let them come legally, so they come illegally.

What are the solutions?

- Develop a legislative program to assimilate most of the workers we already have.
- Create a Social Security Verification system that is mandatory for employers.
- Create a flexible system of green cards or work permits to fill the needed demand for workers.

Tom stressed the importance of these solutions being addressed *as a whole*, and not piecemeal, which could only make the problems worse. He concluded his presentation with an lively Q&A session.

During the Q&A session, Tom offered couple of observations. First, although we already have an efficient system for employers to verify SSNs, Congress deliberately leaves it optional because many of their constituents need to employ illegal immigrants for economic reasons. Second, the impact that illegal immigrants have on hospital emergency rooms should be seen as part of a wider problem. That is, millions of poor people in our country lack of any other access to health care.

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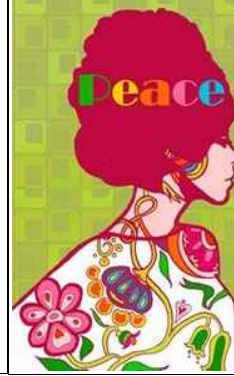
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