

The Mecklenburg Missile

Comin' Atcha!

Kiwanis Club of Mecklenburg, Charlotte, Inc.

Organized August 5, 1952

P. O. Box 33573, Charlotte, NC 28233-3573

Missile Launcher: Bob Swanson

Meeting: Monday, April 20, 2009

Attendance: 15 Members; 2 Guests

Today's Program

Guest Speaker Tom Miron brought us much information about "ALS" - amyotrophic lateral sclerosis - better known as Lou Gehrig's Disease. It is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and the spinal cord.



Tim Miron

The progressive degeneration of the motor neurons in ALS eventually leads to their death. When the motor neurons die, the ability of the brain to initiate and control muscle movement is lost, and the patient soon dies.

There is no cure for ALS, and its cause is unknown.

You can find a lot of info about ALS online. One such web site is

<http://www.alsa.org/als/what.cfm>

Also, about our local chapter of ALS Association, known as the "Catfish Chapter:" (named for major league baseball pitcher Jim "Catfish" Hunter, a North Carolina boy):

<http://www.catfishchapter.org/>

NEXT MEETING

Monday, May 4, 2009. Usual time, usual place. Board meeting 11:30. All members are welcome to sit in on the Board meeting. Attendance is good for a "make-up" meeting

The importance of walking

Walking can add minutes to your life.

This enables you at 85 years old to spend an additional 5 months in a nursing home at about \$7,000 per month.

Golfer: "Could I get there with a 5 iron?"

Caddy: "Eventually, sir."

A line in a recent email from Kasey Jackson (the Kiwanis Magazine writer responsible for the articles about Raschale):

"Please remind people that her story in April magazine is only a small part of it the entire story is online at www.kiwanis.org/centerstage."

If you haven't already done so, we highly recommend that you look up this web site.

There are numerous reasons we should take great pride in this project, among them:

1. Its sole purpose is to provide treatment for young cancer patients from anywhere in the world to whom treatment would otherwise be unavailable, and they would simply be left to die.
2. It is 100% in keeping with the motto of Kiwanis International: "Serving the Children of the World."
3. It is 100% a KIWANIS project. We are not merely acting as "collection agent" for another charity.
4. It has already inspired new members to Kiwanis in our own Club, and been responsible for building at least one new Kiwanis Club: Belize City.
5. KIWANIS is the first word in its name.

And more

Secretary Frank visits Statesville Kiwanis

and brings home a check for \$1,000 toward our Kiwanis Pediatric Cancer Fund. They hope to send considerably more soon.



THANK YOU, FRANK,
AND STATESVILLE!

I like long walks - - especially when taken by people who annoy me.

Meets 12:00 Noon, 1st & 3rd Mondays: Crowne Plaza Charlotte Hotel - 201 S. McDowell St.

Web Site: <http://www.mecklenburgkiwanis.org>