

BECON
10/11/19

Chilly one out there this morning – maybe a record low? I think our numbers for breakfast were down a bit because of that.

Guests

- Rob Lowe – guest of Brian Hafner and works at First American Title – or is it First Montana Title, or is it St. Elmo's Fire? Definitely First American Title☺
- Terri Todd – from Gratitude in Action – our speaker today.

Announcements

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- Rene' reminded us to please "buddy up" when working our shifts so that folks are not traveling to and from the parking lots alone – particularly the ladies. Look out for our girls please gentlemen. Maybe some ride sharing, or maybe someone could do a shuttle from the front doors to cars or just walk a friend to their car. Thanks!
- The Halloween Pub Crawl is schedule for Nov. 2 starting at 6 pm with the location to meet TBD. There will be a trolley or bus available (space limited) and signups are through 10/25. \$15/head.
- The Vet's Day Chili Cook-off is Nov. 9 with proceeds going to the Vet's Meat Locker. This event has a \$10 entry fee (free for Veterans) and that gets you a bowl of chili and cups to sample all of the entries – more cooks are still needed - contact Tanner at tcrit001@gmail.com if you would like to enter your batch of chili! 2 crockpots full are required. The Veterans Meat Locker will also be selling playing cards for \$10 each for a drawing to win a pistol.
- Note that there is a sheet on the front table with a list of all Club members that is being used to indicate whether or not you are till savvy that us Beer Captains can use when assigning duties for work shifts. We kind of get in a rut using the same people for running the cash registers at Metra and some of these folks would occasionally like to do different things once in a while I'm sure. So if you can run these machines (there's not much to it), please let us know by marking this sheet in the affirmative. If you have not attended breakfast lately, please let Rene' know so she can mark you on the sheet for the Beer Captains.
- Rene' threw out the idea of bringing in a couple of bins to collect food donations for United Way in a Cat/Griz contest kind of way – one **Cat bin (yay)** and one **Griz bin (boo)**. The consensus was, it sounds like a good idea, so please start bringing in some food to fill these bins.
- The monthly Board meeting is on Tuesday, which means next Friday's meeting is all business so NO GUESTS please.
- Stacy reminded us of the 34th Annual Festival of Trees coming up on Dec. 5 – 7 at the MetraPark Expo Center.

Speaker

Terri Todd was our guest today and spoke about the non-profit her and her husband founded 16 months ago called Gratitude in Action (GIA) that (taken directly from their flyer) "helps people get off the street into a setting that promotes and encompasses much more than just the absence of alcohol and other

drugs. It promotes the attitude that a joyful and productive life is possible without alcohol or mood-altering drugs. They offer a safe, structured sober place to transition into a new way of living.”

GIA offers a place to live (Ignatia’s House) for chronic drug and alcohol abusers and also runs a thrift store to not only help alleviate poverty and improve the lives of families and individuals that will shop at the store but also provides the GIA tenants a place to work and provide job skills. GIA will come to your place and pick up items (gently used clothing, furniture, home décor, books and housewares) for donation to the store and items can also be dropped off at 10 S. 30th between 10-6 M-F and 10-4 on Saturday.

Terry provided some pretty astonishing success statistics for their original group of eight tenants in terms of the numbers that have stayed sober, found jobs and reconnected with their children. Their initial success is far better than the average national recovery percentage that Terry attributes to providing a family like atmosphere and environment at Ignatia’s House (named after a nun who worked at the Akron hospital during the period when AA was established) that allows tenants to recover and start living productive lives.

GIA is self-funded – the tenants pay rent – although donations of gift cards for undergarments, socks, hygiene and bedding products, bus passes and winter clothes are accepted. \$150 scholarships (1 person for 1 week) are also accepted.

GIA is holding a fundraising Gala at the Big Horn Resort on Nov. 9th with the theme “Baby it’s Cold Outside” with cocktails and appetizers starting at 5:30 and dinner at 7 (yes cocktails – although Terry told us that 1 in 10 Americans suffer from drug or alcohol addiction, the other 9 are OK to have a drink – in moderation of course). They will also have a silent auction (maybe a live auction as well?) with some nice items including a diamond ring and Broncos football tickets (maybe the Broncos will be playing someone good – wait, it’s Detroit . . . well a pro football game is fun regardless).

Have a great weekend.