
Fort Smith Noon Exchange Club

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STATISTICS FOR February 9, 2007:

Presiding	Scott Monroe
Invocation	Barry McCormick
Guest Slips	Dave Atkins
50/50 Tickets	Bill Engles and David Kerr

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

--- Copies of the weekly newsletter will be available each Friday from the secretary.
--- Please let the secretary know when a fellow member is ill or otherwise infirmed.
---Membership still stands at 129.

PROGRAM:

The program was presented by Mat Pitsch, Vice President of Economic Development, Fort Smith Chamber of Commerce. While many seem to think that Fort Smith is on a downward path, many good things are happening here. For instance, more than a 1,500 jobs have been added in the past five years. Several projects have been completed such as the Experian Call Center, River Bend Industries, Southern Steel and Wire expansion, Courtyard Marriott, a new Sweet Bay Coffee and a new Geno's Pizza. Upcoming or in progress projects are the Marshal's Museum, Target, Kelley Highway Wal-Mart, The Autoplex, Sparks Hospital expansion, the LaQuinta hotel and Hiram Walker's expansion. There are some 18 businesses looking at Fort Smith including several manufacturing facilities, a pharmaceutical company, a Biomass to fuel company and a new Staples store.

HUMOR: Immortality

I recently picked a new primary care physician. After two visits and exhaustive lab tests, he said I was doing "fairly well" for my age. A little concerned about that comment, I couldn't resist asking him, "Do you think I'll live to be 80?"

He asked, "Well, do you smoke tobacco or drink beer/wine?"

"Oh no," I replied. "I've never done either."

Then he asked, "Do you eat rib-eye steaks and barbecued ribs?"

I said "No, I've heard that all red meat is very unhealthy!"

"Do you spend a lot of time in the sun, like playing golf, sailing, ballooning, or rock climbing?"

"No, I don't," I said.

He said, "Do you gamble, drive fast cars, or sexually fool around?"

"No," I said. "I've never done any of those things."

He looked at me and said, "Then why do you care if you live to be 80?"

FUTURE PROGRAMS:

2/16--- Paul Beran, Chancellor, UAFS

2/23--- Claude Legris, Fort Smith Tourism and convention Bureau