

THE CITY SALESMEN'S CLUB
Selegram



Meeting Date: August 17, 2021

Location: Hoover Country Club

Presiding: Hank Spencer

Prayer, Pledge, & Creed Led by: Keith Keller

GUESTS: Clint Aust brought by Andy Evans

THANK YOUS: Started by Johnny Self, Jr.

HEALTH REPORT: Daniel Gallegly's 5 year old son has COVID and it's likely his 3 year old and 18 month old have COVID as well. Howard Whatley has a mild COVID case. David Pearce's dad got COVID and was hospitalized but he's back home now. Tom Meter will trust his urologist on his prostate cancer treatment. 13 of Kevin Barber's 25 movers have COVID.

APPROVAL OF LAST WEEKS MINUTES: Approved as submitted.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: 2nd reading for Matthew Stewart of Dick's Sporting Goods. He is store manager. Club sponsor is Joseph Habshey. Birthdays: Philip Webb (8/18).

TREASURER'S REPORT: Pay your bill or Guido will call you.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: None.

ATTENDANCE REPORT: 46.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Need an electrician. Stay careful with COVID. Paul Dangel brought a non-formal motion to end meatloaf as a lunch option. It sounded like the motion passed verbally.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES: None.

PROGRAM: Mike Lorino of Contri Bros. Gift Baskets and Flowers presented. Mike has been a member since 1993, and he's married to Bonnie with 2 kids. Mike is an Eagle Scout committee member. Joseph Habshey wanted Mike's cousin to join City Sales but the cousin couldn't do it, so Mike joined instead. Contri Bros. is a 3rd generation family-owned business. Contri is his mother's maiden name. Contri Bros. Food Baskets was the first modern grocery store on the east side of Bham. Mike's father and Uncle Raymond ran the store as Mike was growing up. In 1973, the owner of Stockham Valve wanted fruit baskets for his whole company, and Mike's dad and uncle would make them after they closed for the night. Then the President of Liberty National wanted a 2 lb chocolate box. So, they sort of got into the gift basket business as a fluke. Mike started with the family business in 7th grade, and he has been with them ever since, except for a 5 year period after college when Mike worked at Unilever. Mike and Uncle Raymond's son-in-law bought out Raymond in 2000. There have been a few times when business has been very difficult; namely right after Sept. 11th, in 2008, and COVID. After 2008, Mike had to grapple with his cousin committing suicide. After COVID, there was no business for about 2 weeks. Then, Jim Kline had an order for 75 gift baskets for his customers, and so Contri Bros. started advertising COVID Baskets. Mike credits Jim Kline with this idea. Contri Bros. does flowers, gift baskets, fruit baskets, hams, turkeys, and can do custom baskets as well. They ship all over the country. Mike gave some great stories from the past about how the

business formed, as well as all the ups and downs associated with it. Mike also gave a very moving account of when his cousin committed suicide and how he had help to not only get through it personally but to keep the business going.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Dick Coffee presided as sergeant. Matt Gray collected money this week because he manhandled Andy Evans. Brian Lindsey was late. The back right table was rowdy (all fined \$1). Ernie Daw left his glasses in the car. Andy Evans was fined for inappropriately touching Gary Sheffer. Johnny Self, Jr. was fined for invading Ben Blackerby's personal space.

JACKPOT: \$29 won by Tim Hightower.

GREETERS AND PRIZES: Andy Evans won by David Pearce
Dan Weingarten won by Britton Eveland

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM: Dan Weingarten of Birmingham Marbleworks.

NEXT WEEK'S GREETERS: Dick Coffee and Don Matthews
Prayer led by Tim Hettich