

3-1-2018

Greetings,

Following are minutes of our Elfun Society CA North Inc. mandatory “Annual General Meeting of the Membership” on 2-28-2018. It was held in conjunction with the Elfun Monthly Luncheon at the Three Flames Restaurant in San Jose, CA. The meeting summarized our chapter status (current financial position and membership level), Elfun activities in 2017, a look-ahead at 2018 planned activities, and an overview of other Elfun chapters.

Jim Leonard, President, presided over the meeting. There were 21 Elfuns present. Elfun Board members present were: Jim Leonard, Fred Wasseem, John Armenta, and Gretchen Zane. Since our by-laws state that Board positions are held for 2 years, and we had an election in 2017, there was no election held.

Chapter Status:

Jim related that our chapter has approximately \$63,000 in funds, and 336 members. We are expecting that those numbers will increase after the 2nd dues letter (reminder) is sent out approximately mid-March.

2017 Chapter Activities: Jim reviewed the activities in 2017:

Monthly Board Meetings are held at the GE facility in San Jose. Meeting minutes are available upon request.

Monthly luncheons included speakers on the following topics: Silicon Valley – how and why it happened, commercial airline practices by a Delta Airlines pilot, UBS Certified Financial Planners, Ed Dawson (Wells Fargo) and a speaker on “living a long and healthy life”, and our Annual Meeting. There were also social luncheons.

Field Trips and events included the 29th Annual Yosemite Camping (led by Gretchen Zane and Fred Wasseem), GE Digital in San Ramon (led by Geoff Smith and Jim Leonard), US Federal Reserve (led by Bob Benich), and a wine tasting/dinner at Zanatto’s Market (led by Dave Wilmer).

Education tutorial: Ed Dawson (of Wells Fargo) arranged a talk on “Computer Technology”.

Volunteer activities/projects: Our volunteering includes AARP Tax Aide (led by Fred Wasseem), Honor Flight (led by Carl Stewart and John Armenta), Almaden Elementary tutoring (led by Fred Ikemoto), Rebuilding together (led by Tim Christman), VA BBQ at Palo Alto Veterans Hospital (led by Carl Stewart), Lions Eyeglass collection (led by Yogi Dayal and Matt Polomik), Lego Robotics (led by Earl Nichols and Yogi Dayal), MESA Competition at SJSU (led by Yogi Dayal and Jose Casillas), toiletry collection (led by Gretchen Zane).

Member Services: We continue to offer the “Great Elfun Shred-Out” to members (led by Matt Polomik and Tom Ruffo). Our Elfun website (led by Matt Polomik and Willard Roit). Our website highlights upcoming activities and photos/writeups of past activities. Visit our website at: www.ElfunNorCal.org

Appreciation: Jim expressed appreciation to the following Elfuns:

Garrett Harms (GE facility manager in San Jose) for his support in providing a conference room for the Board's monthly meetings, storage for various volunteer activities, reprographics, and for providing the site for our annual Elfun Shred Out; to Geoff Smith at GE Digital for arranging our field trip to San Ramon, the tour and lunch; to Dave Wilmer (Board treasurer) for tracking membership dues and related data, and generating financial data for our annual tax return; to Fred Wassem for arranging our monthly luncheons and sending out monthly updates; to Yogi Dayal (chapter Vice President) for his leadership and enthusiasm; to Matt Polomik and Willard Roit for maintaining our website; and to the membership who came to this Annual Meeting and for Elfuns who have given us their long-term support. Of course, we also appreciate Jim Leonard for his leadership as chapter President.

2018 Chapter Look Ahead: Gretchen Zane reviewed the proposed 2018 activities.

Monthly luncheon speakers already lined up include topics on: impact of new 2018 tax laws (already done in January), home fire and earthquake safety, a technical talk on social media, Wells Fargo financial talk, planning trips with tips for seniors, and UBS financial talk.

Field trips and events planned include: 30th annual Yosemite camping weekend, tour of Filoli Gardens in Woodside, wine tasting/dinner at Zanatto's Market in San Jose, a golf outing, San Jose Giants baseball game, Bocce Ball in Los Gatos, a mystery dinner, and a San Jose Chorale performance.

Additional ideas to consider: There was a straw vote (by show of hands) on other possibilities. Following are those topics in which interest was expressed: AMES Research Visitor Center, talks on gardening and various technical topics, return trip to US Federal Reserve in San Francisco, visit to Mount Umunhum in San Jose, tour of San Jose water reclamation plant, and a review of health insurance annual renewal issues.

Overview of other Elfun chapters in US: Gretchen noted that after Global Elfun was liquidated a fraction of US chapters chose to continue functioning. There was no formal global organization, although in the beginning there were monthly teleconferences. Those teleconferences no longer occur. We believe that the following chapters are still functioning: Binghamton, Boston, California North, Cincinnati, Florida, Greenville, Schenectady, Syracuse, Wisconsin, and Utica. No one (or chapter) has stepped up to lead a network between chapters.

Activity leads:

We are always looking for new activities and activity leads. If you have any suggestions, or would like to help lead the charge, please contact any member of the Elfun Board. You can also let us know at a Monthly Luncheon or reply to the monthly email.

A list of Elfuns present at this Annual Meeting of Membership will be attached to these minutes in our Elfun file.

Best regards,
Gretchen Zane
Secretary
Elfun Society, CA North