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**December 3, 2024 meeting.**

Attendees: Harry Redford, Harry's Mom, Doug Petee, Jim Abram, Eddie Weaver, Sharon Grodi, Mike and Inga Costello, Kevin McCormick, Tom and Evelyn Cooper, C.J. Schwartz, Dave Krawetzke, Henry and Alice Hinojosa, Bill Schoenlein, Rick and Diane Krueck, Tony and Linda Homolka



***Holiday Greetings to all,***

The members and guests of the Southeasterners Chapter of the Forerunners gathered for a Christmas luncheon at the Monroe Grill again this year. We all took part in a fun quiz to test our memories of events at J. R. Whiting. The winner was Kevin McCormack with 15 out of 20. Kevin also challenged the creators of the quiz on one question and we agreed he was correct. (You know those Operators 😊)



Our Chapter mission, in addition to maintaining relationships with old friends, is to raise funds for donation for a local charitable organization. All year long, at each monthly meeting, we have a 50/50 raffle and at Christmas time, we do extra fund-raising to increase our total. This year, we have a total of \$266.00 to give. The group agreed to support the "Let's Build Beds" organization. Member Doug Petee has been a volunteer with them for several years. His team delivers beds to children in need. From their website:

Our mission is:

*We believe that every child deserves a bed of their own to sleep in at night. We believe that every child is full of infinite potential. We help children by providing a bed & empowering them to assemble it and be successful.*

*Our build events are both fun and rewarding. We provide all the safety equipment and tools so volunteers can show up and focus on turning a pile of lumber into headboards and bed rails ready for delivery to local children.*

*Every child deserves to have a safe and comfortable place to sleep at night. A place of their own to dream. Our volunteers deliver and help the child setup their new bedframe. Then we place a new coil spring mattress on top along with a new set of twin-size sheets, comforter and pillow so it's ready for them before the volunteers are out the door. Our beds are carefully crafted to meet the growing needs of the each and every child. Our volunteers are dedicated, hardworking and care about the children in our communities.*

The Southeasterners will submit application for matching funds from the CMS Foundation. From the website:

***Double the Donation's software supercharges fundraising by helping you automatically identify, tag, and track matching gift revenue opportunities.***

*Our turnkey integrations make it simple to leverage matching gift automation alongside your existing technology. Connect our tools directly to your donation forms and CRM to stay on top of every match-eligible donation, empower donors to submit their requests, and measure success along the way.*

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***We want to thank members, Inga and Mike Costello for contributing to our event. Inga supplied us with two platters of Christmas cookies and Mike offered a hand-made wreath made from greens straight from the Drummond Island Forest. We loved the cookies and raffled off the wreath to winner Alice Hinojosa!***



We want to send birthday greetings to our friend, Ralph Luft, who happens to be a Christmas baby. He was not feeling well so we send our best wishes for double holiday greeting!

We will resume regular monthly meetings at the Monroe Grill on **Monday, January 6<sup>th</sup> for breakfast at 9:00 AM.** See you then!

***Happy Holidays!***

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Homolka