

EAGA Business Builder

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Today's speaker was Ken Easley — Empire Builders

Ken arrived in Albuquerque via a relatively long route. Started in Dallas where he grew up; then a short drive to Austin where he was involved in the construction of, among other things, the Texas Supreme Court Building and Attorney General Office building. Next, from Austin's hot climate, he took a somewhat longer trip to the not so hot area of Siberia, where he supervised the building of Siberia's Olympic Sports and Training Facility. Ken was involved in other estimating, logistics management and construction during his long stay there, but he says that it was not all work. He was able to get in some interesting and enjoyable travel around that part of the world as well. From Siberia, his final long trip to New Mexico, where he became the Area Manager for Flintco Construction; having a hand in various large and small projects, including building the Cancer Center and the UNM Pit renovation. Then, without another climate change, Ken moved on to become the chief everything of his own company - Empire Builders. His first self owned construction job was building Bee Hive Homes assisted living facility in Edgewood. Since then...sub-contractor for the steel frame and drywall portion of the Convention Center expansion; Title Max buildings in Albuquerque, Prescott, Flagstaff and beyond; and various hospital renovations throughout the state. Sounds like he and his side-kick painting guy, Bob Cote, are keeping relatively busy these days. (You remember the Bob - the altitudinally challenged thespian; painter and generally good guy). Still it is not all work though. Ken remains a homing-pigeon aficionado. He has been involved in this 'hobby' for quite a few years and most recently finished 7th in the world, as calculated by averaging his birds' flight times over 26 races. His birds also finished 35th in the prestigious 411 mile race across Africa, competing against pigeon owners like the Queen of England. Ken also answered the question: "When your American born birds participate in races across Africa, how do they know where to go?" . Ken explained the details and process involved. If you were not there and still want the answer, you will have to talk to Ken. I am not going to give it away here. When you do talk to him, be sure to ask about the small ID bands that need to be placed on the pigeon's leg before it is 6 days old, otherwise the band won't fit over their growing feet. Also ask him about the little jackets for the pigeons that need to race in Siberian climate. Back to the work aspect of Empire Builders - Although Ken may have gained some valuable experience and had some great times on his 12,000 mile circuit, we are glad that he ended up 650 miles from where he started. If you need a building built, or a construction project constructed, give Ken and his crew a call 505-934-2958.

♦ Welcome to our newest member: Mr. Randy Baker - DRB Electric.

- ♦ At our breakfast meeting next Tuesday (August 26th) we will vote on the By Laws that need be filed with the Secretary of State. There have not been any recent amendments to the By Laws, but we need to ratify the current version, which incorporates all prior amendments, so that it can be properly filed with the Secretary of State.
- ♦ President Kevin, and the Board of Directors, have launched two new programs. The first is a \$50 gift card for the most valuable lead provided to a recent speaker. The second is a monthly Open House to be held at one of our member businesses. Each month we will be invited for an inside view of the host business. The first will be on September 23rd at Maloy Mobile Storage. Specific details will be provided at upcoming breakfast meetings.
- ♦ *There will not be a meeting on September 2nd because of the Labor Day holiday.*

Contact information for Executive Director: Mario Hernandez

Phone: 505-239-0259

email: hernmar129@yahoo.com

Postal mail: 8100 Wyoming Blvd NE; Suite M-4 #345; Albuquerque, NM 87113

Business Leads:

Bimbo Bakeries is opening a bakery outlet store at 11601 Menaul NE.

Huntington Learning Center is moving from 8100 Wyoming NE to 8001 Wyoming NE.

- Lionel Specter - Zeon Signs

Reciprocity:

None written down today.

Give 'em hell, Mike! We are all in your corner as you wage the winning fight !

- ◆ Our September 16th meeting will be dedicated to potential new members.

Current members are encouraged to bring the representative of a potentially new member company to breakfast that day. The representative will be given an opportunity to speak for a brief time and provide attendees with information about the company. The program is intended to focus attention on our organization's desire to increase membership through the addition of qualified, reputable businesses.

If you are bringing a guest, please let Mario know so that we can plan accordingly for space and food.

- ◆ We are still in need of greeters. September and October dates are available. If you sign up to greet the arriving members, we will make sure to save you a good seat and a provide you with a good breakfast.
- ◆ Speakers for October and beyond are also requested. Please sign up for one of the slots.
- ◆ The on-line application is not working, so until we get it operating properly again, please contact Membership Committee Chairman Jack Zipper, or Mario Hernandez and they will provide you with an application form either on paper or via email. Jack's email is jdzipper@comcast.net. Mario's contact information is in the box at the bottom of page one.
- ◆ The next two EAGA events are:
 - EAGA Trap Shoot - Friday, October 17th at the Albuquerque Trap Club.
 - EAGA Christmas Party - Friday, December 5th at the Double Tree Hotel.

Badge Board Greeters

Aug 26th Mike Deveraux

Sept 2nd NO MEETING - Labor Day Holiday

Sept 9th

Upcoming Speakers

Aug 26th Larry Strickland — United Way of Central New Mexico

Sept 2nd NO MEETING - Labor Day Holiday

Sept 9th Dr. Beverlee McClure — Association of Commerce and Industry

Sept 16th Bring A Potential Member Day

Sept 23rd Kevin Lorenzen — Aflac

Sept 30th James Jaramillo — Coba Investments

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