

EAGA Business Builder

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September 18 & 25, 2018

The speaker at our **September 18th** meeting was Dale Armstrong—TLC Plumbing



Dale noted that he is proud of TLC's positive reputation and that the majority of his company's success can be attributed to its concentration on the welfare of the employees. TLC pays top wages and offers substantial benefits in order to retain the local industry's top workers. Good workers contribute to quality work and customer satisfaction. After the brief discussion of TLC, Dale spent the rest of his presentation discussing his new adventure - an organization called Viante New Mexico. The name is a made up word intending to present the attitude of moving forward. In 1999, Mr. Armstrong went to Santa Fe to observe our Legislature at work. He was very frustrated with what he saw. Lack of productivity; lack of organization; and a general lack of desire to improve the first two. Dale's frustration was so great that he didn't return to the circus for nearly 20 years. When he finally decided to go back again, Dale found that some of the players had changed, but the overall activities were substantially the same as he had encountered during his prior visit. Dale came back home with the same frustration that he previously experienced. Pretty much tired of it all, he figured there were only two options. Move to another state where the political forces are actually attempting to improve the lives of their constituents...or try to fix this state. Even though the former, at first glance, looks easier, Dale has chosen the latter. Sure he is a determined guy, but he is also practical. Going to another state would actually involve selling his company; moving he and his wife (meaning she would have to abandon her local activities and positions); since he likes to be near his children and grand children, he would have to move them too (and assist in finding replacement work for the bread-winners of those families). The practical Mr. Armstrong realized that the monumental task of changing the attitude of the New Mexico legislature could actually be more possible. So onward with that goal....Dale set up Viante to make legislators accountable for their actions (or lack of action). A general summary of Viante: it consists of 10 appointed board members. The board has been set to be as balanced as possible. There is age diversity; party diversity; and public/private industry experience diversity. The organization does not accept funding from outside entities and derives its operating money from individuals (presumably residents of New Mexico) through membership fees. The plan is to review legislation that would affect the areas of education; or crime; or quality of life, then analyze how each legislator votes on the particular bills. Viante realizes that, in order to have the necessary time to properly gather all pertinent data, they will not be able to present an analysis of every bill (there were 687 bills in the 2017 thirty day session) so the bills are reviewed in a general way, then trimmed down to 15 that will receive the detailed review and analysis and ultimate report. There will be five bills from each of the three areas of interest, as noted above, to make the final total of 15 bills. If you want to find out more about Viante, you can contact Dale Armstrong, at 505-829-9999 and/or visit their website viantenm.org.

There was not a speaker scheduled for our **September 25th** meeting .

Instead of a formal presentation, meeting attendees were invited to take the opportunity to move around the room to have a one-on-one visit with other members. There were many members that were seen using the time as intended. The discussions were not loud or boisterous, so it was out of the question for there to be sufficient eavesdropping to gather material to report. Mr. Campbell and his tonsorial tools were not available, so an early morning hair cut was out of the question; as was an off the books adjustment, since Dr. Zipper was not there either. However, since there was definitely NOT a rushed mass exodus from the meeting, it can be assumed that there were many positive and beneficial personal discussions that occurred.

- ◆ Rick Reese announced that the New Mexico Judicial Performance Evaluation Commission has published their final recommendations regarding votes for retention of judges. This election cycle, the Commission does recommend that some judges not be retained. To review the Commissions analysis, finding and specific recommendations, visit NMJPEC.org.

Contact information for Executive Director: Kevin Lorenzen

Phone: 505-771-9393

email: eagaed@gmail.com

Address: 8100 Wyoming Blvd NE;

Suite M-4 #345

Albuquerque, NM 87113

Business Leads:

None written down

Reciprocity:

Thank you to Chuck Mitchell—Ethrige Tire for helping my grandson check out a car he was looking to buy.
- Paul Losey—Covenant Schools of America

- ◆ Thank you very much to all the Trap Shoot Event sponsors. We had plenty of great prizes for everyone. A special thank you for the interactive display and computer from Dave Dworsky—Team 1st Technologies. Congratulations to raffle winners: Mike Skolnic who won the \$1,000 valued 2nd prize; and Steve Grant who won the Firearms Grand Prize. Congratulations also to our membership's top shooters: TJ Maloy; Pat Maloy; Stan Byers; Randy Baker; Terry Roberts.

- ◆ Second announcement of a potential new member:

DLM Collision
Representative: Darryl Moreland
Category: Auto Paint & Body Repair
Sponsor: Andrew Sanchez

If you have an objection to this company becoming a member, or if you have information that you feel should be considered during the application review process, please contact Membership Committee Chairman, Jack Zipper (jdzipper@comcast.net or 505-259-5959) as soon as possible.

- ◆ EAGA Balloon Fiesta Event will be from 5pm to 10pm on Saturday, October 13th. We have a reserved tent area at the south end of Balloon Fiesta Park. There will be catered food, beer, wine and soft drinks; a good time, and a great view of the final Balloon Glow of the Fiesta. Only 150 spaces are available on a first-come-first-served basis. If there are still slots available the week before the event, reservations will be opened up for guests.
- ◆ Our Christmas/Holiday party will be December 8th at Hotel Albuquerque. There will be more information and sign up sheets at our weekly meetings in the very near future. At this time you should consider whether or not you will be staying at the hotel the night of our event. A block of rooms, at a special rate, have been set aside for members. If you would like to take advantage of that offer, please contact the hotel directly. Per Hotel's instructions: *"For reservations, please instruct guests to call 1-800-237-2133 and specify that they are attending the EAGA Holiday Party Room Block. In order to receive the special group rate listed above (\$109.00 + tax), your guests must call on or before Saturday, November 24, 2018. After this date, any remaining rooms will be released to the general public. Individuals will be responsible for their own room, tax and incidentals."*

Badge Board Greeters

Oct 2nd	Laurence Saban—AED One Stop
Oct 9th	John Mead—John Thomas Jewelers
Oct 16th	
Oct 23rd	Barry Porter—Express Employment Professionals
Oct 30th	

Upcoming Speakers

Oct 2nd	Jukka Jumisko—WSI Web Enhancers
Oct 9th	Lawrence Saban—AED One Stop
Oct 16th	Barry Porter—Express Employment Professionals
Oct 23rd	
Oct 30th	

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