

EAGA Business Builder

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June 08, 2021

No speaker today. We are just starting to shake off the bad dust acquired over of the last 14 months.



The headline of the EAGA bulletin for March 17th, 2020 read “Today the room was empty and the lights were out”; and the first sentence of the article gave the reason: “There were no members in attendance today because, at the direction of our host venue, who was operating under the guidance from the New Mexico State Health Department, our Tuesday breakfast gatherings have been cancelled through April 7th”. During the approximately 645,120 minutes (or 448 days) since then, we have operated in a weird, sometimes blurry, sometimes painfully clear, Twilight Zone of an existence. In reading that March 17, 2020 sentence, from a June 8, 2021 perspective, there are two glaring problems with the wording: Using the term “guidance” made an incorrect implication that our government had a good understanding of how civilization should proceed to get through the situation; and “April 7,2020” would not be the date of our return to Tanoan for weekly breakfast meetings. All these weeks later (64 weeks to be exact), we now know that the light at the end of the March 2020 tunnel was indeed a train. And it came roaring through with a vengeance. There is absolutely no need to get into the details here. Today, however, our membership is finally reaching the real end of that tunnel, and is emerging into a ‘new normal’. (Let’s be clear. In case this article is referenced 448 days from now, we think that we are at the end of the tunnel, and we think that the worst is over, but this information is not intended to be a guarantee of anything just yet). Along the journey there have been casualties among our membership, our friends, and our individual families, but through the camaraderie and spirit of the EAGA organization we are still moving forward toward positively good things. And WE ARE BACK! Today, June 8, 2021, we are resuming our Tuesday breakfast meetings at Tanoan. The format is a little different. Burritos, cinnamon rolls and nut bread slices are all pre-packaged, so no ‘serve yourself’ yet. That extra helping of bacon sneaking onto your plate will have to wait a little longer. But we did get to form the traditional lines on both sides of the food table, and though still wearing a mask and socially distanced, unless of course you have been fully vaccinated or have already survived having the virus, or whatever the ‘clear’ government ‘guidance’ specifies these days. So ... WE ARE BACK!...and today President Mark Abramson was presiding over our meeting as we returned home. High on the agenda were proclamations of our great appreciation to some specific members that were very instrumental in helping our organization get through the pandemic situation. THANK YOU!- to Jukka Jumisko for his technical knowledge, persistence, and dedication as he pulled us into, then through, the online virtual meetings. He arranged for the platform and he was always there to coordinate and manage the remote meeting sessions. His energy and efforts gave us a much needed place to kind-of gather and stay in touch. THANK YOU! - to Randy Baker for providing our group with a physical place to meet as soon as the regulatory structure allowed. There may have been the required masks, the requested contact tracing forms and the social distancing as directed, but Randy and his staff made it all work so that we could sit in small groups, have a good meal with friends, and actually get together to experience that great EAGA companionship in person. THANK YOU! - to the speakers that made presentations at our meetings during those tough times. The virtual settings, and even the socially distanced in person meetings, each had their own set of challenges or quirky feel to overcome. But without those volunteers who made the effort to help us out, the meetings may have floundered, and the successful progress would have been much more difficult. THANK YOU! - to Past Presidents Kit Turpen and John Mead for their great leadership throughout a very unclear 2020. President Turpen was at the helm in March 2020 when the lights got turned off. Two months into his term and the plans, activities and general clarity of it all were whisked away. But Kit’s positive attitude and determination lead us through the confusion and forged a route for us to continue on. When President Mead took the reins in July, there was still a tremendous amount of uncertainty everywhere. John’s enthusiasm and confidence was contagious and provided the organization with energy to fight the fight. THANK YOU ! - to all of the members that were on the Board of Directors during the past 64 weeks. Your advice, guidance and positive contributions were the basis for the decisions that caused EAGA to continue on its beneficial path to now. THANK YOU! - to Executive Director Mario for his constant efforts to make certain that EAGA remains a well respected and professional organization. Most of what he does, though usually behind the scenes, is the basis for a substantial amount of the success of our group. THANK YOU! To current President Mark Abramson. When his presidency began five months ago, the pandemic, and what citizens were allowed to do, were still very much in flux. Mark’s efforts throughout his term have been instrumental in getting the membership an ability have regular in-person meetings, and one can presume that now he is feeling a little teary eyed (as teary eyed as Mark ever gets) at seeing it all come together...The Rio Bravo gatherings were great, and were the boost that we needed at the time, but, still, it was a different venue than what we remembered as ‘home’ . So once again, we move back on our trek to get to some semblance of pre-March 2020. And we are getting ever closer...because - WE ARE BACK at Tanoan again. THANK YOU to the sixty members in attendance today. Is EAGA A GREAT ORGANIZATION, OR WHAT?

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- ◆ At today's meeting we held an election for the positions that are coming available on July 1st. Congratulations to our two new Board Members: Raul Rodriguez—Kings of Wrap and Scott Peck—MP Group, Inc
- ◆ Our next meeting will be at 7:00am on June 15th at the Tanoan Country Club. Tanoan is following CDC guidelines regarding COVID. If you are fully vaccinated you are not required to wear a mask. There is not a way to confirm who is fully vaccinated and we will rely on the honor system.
- ◆ The 2021 Summer Bash will be Saturday, July 10th, at the Turpen's property in the south valley. Google Maps can direct you to El Nido Farm on El Nido Amado Rd SW. Sign up sheets will be available at our Tuesday morning meetings in June. Please make plans to attend this great event. The committee has already planned for games, good food and, as always, a very fun time. There is no charge for EAGA members and their spouse/significant other. Fee for guests will be \$30 per individual / \$50 per couple.
- ◆ Speaking of the Bash Committee: Their next meeting will be at 5:30pm on June 22nd, at the home of Kit and Toni Turpen. Committee members, please confirm that you will attend so that Kit can plan appropriately. To RSVP, call Kit Turpen or Pat Maloy. Their phone numbers are in the committee chairman's emails from last week—and are also in the EAGA directory.
- ◆ Upcoming speakers:

June 15 th	James Jaramillo—Coba Investments
June 22 nd	Scott Peck—MP Group
June 29 th	*** <i>Speaker needed</i> ***
July 6 th	NO MEETING - 4th of July Holiday
July 13 th	*** <i>Speaker needed. We can use your help.</i> ***
July 20 th	*** <i>Speaker needed. We can use your help.</i> ***
July 27 th	*** <i>Speaker needed. We can use your help.</i> ***
- ◆ Please consider speaking at one of our Tuesday morning meetings. As you can see from the list above, we need speakers for every meeting after June 22nd. We certainly could use your assistance.
- ◆ At their last meeting, the Board of Directors has made the decision to increase quarterly dues for Qtr 3 and 4 to \$300 per quarter.
- ◆ Please make a note that there will not be a meeting on July 6th in honor of the 4th of July holiday.

Reciprocity:

Thank you to Darryl Mooreland—DLM Collission. Darryl did various repairs and fix-ups on an old truck that my grand daughter will use as she starts driving. Very reasonable prices.

John Menicucci—Berger Briggs Real Estate

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