



Bentonville - Bella Vista

March 5. We had a VIP visit us today! Becky Wood, 2nd (Soon to be 1st), Vice Governor of District Eight. Lucky for us she had an opening in her schedule and decided to spend it with us!

We were informed that it was time to dig out our wallets and pony up our yearly dues. Money well spent I think. Our club is getting things done!

Our "I" report candidate today was Judy Lemoine. She describes herself as "Feisty" and was described by others as always upbeat, a good Altrusan, and a party girl! She is semi-retired, only doing the occasional blind & shutter jobs. A definite NO... pickled herring. There were quite a few of her fellow Altrusans shaking their heads in agreement with that one! She has always wanted to learn to paint, play the piano, and be taller! If Judy wins the lottery she will pay off her house and then share the wealth! Three things she can't do without? (She had made notes on this), her phone, her car and (with a prompt from Bobbie P.), her husband.

Lisa Eldridge has once again made us proud. Her water colors are beautiful and apparently we aren't the only ones who think so! Lisa got the wonderful news that her painting, "West of Eleven", will receive the Hardie Gramatky Memorial Award from the American Watercolor Society, and was chosen for the traveling exhibition as well. Lisa has described it as the "Watercolor Oscar". Bravo Lisa!

March 7. We joined with the United Way to help the Dolly Parton Imagination Library by hosting a luncheon. The "Bags for Books 2013" event was a great success. Justin Minkel, the 2007 Arkansas Teacher of the Year, was there to give a view of life in the classroom, "Justin style". This man needs to be cloned! Also on hand was Sherrill Douglas, our "Dolly Parton" of the day. We should be able to get books for 552 kids, double what we are currently providing! One of these books goes to a child every month, free of charge, until he/she turns 5. The topping on the cake?, our own Karen Robbins was the MC!

Valerie