

Rotary Club of Santa Rosa West

Bulletin for April 4, 2005 Relief for SRI LANKA

By Chris Parr

Beginnings

President Jim called the meeting to order to a full house of visiting Rotarians and special guests precisely at 12:30 PM.

Where's the flag? A...Ha! Here is **Gary Lucas** to the rescue! A rather small flag but it served the purpose.

Bill Dodson was once again on hand to sell the raffle tickets with **Bob Harris** on pix. **Chris Young** did room set-up and **Steve Wright** was the cashier. **Fred Zmarzly** gave us our moment with a quote from former USA President Harry Truman.

Scott Weiss, one of our younger members, was the greeter for the day and introduced our visiting Rotarians: **DG Bruce Campbell** and **1st Lady Helaine Campbell**, both from Sebastopol Sunrise; **PDG Del Raby**; of Santa Rosa Sunrise; **Shaw Whitney & Helen Perkins Whitney** from Middletown Club; **Jack Levar** and **Mary Farha** from Santa Rosa Downtown; last but not least our speaker for the day, **Joe Dacanay** of the Napa Noon Club, Whew!



Jack Levar

Special guests: Pat Withers, John & Carolyn Withers, Jr. "What's going on?" inquired the senior John Withers. (He happened to be sitting at a different table). I didn't know my family was coming. Mystery at Rotary.....

President Jim reported that the District Assembly was outstanding with many informative breakout sessions and inspiring speakers. **PE Chris Parr-Feldman** did a presentation on Public Relations and assisted **Maureen Merrill** from the Windsor Club in Memorable Meetings.



Shaw Whitney

Announcements and Such:



PE Chris P-F announced that the **District 5130 Centennial Conference** is scheduled for **May 19 – 22** at the **Double Tree Hotel** in Rohnert Park.

The theme is: **Around-the-World in Rotary Ways.**

Start the celebration off right with Sports Thursday.

Something for every Rotarian and their family. Great fun followed by an awards banquet with keynote address by renowned former USF Basketball coach Jim Brovelli and much more!

Friday- the journey begins around Rotary World right here in district 5130. Lunch features great speakers, entertainment and fellowship. Afternoon plenary sessions focus on Club and District service projects in our local communities. Join us for the Mardi Gras Masquerade Ball featuring GATOR Beat and don't miss fellowship in your favorite hospitality suite. Or, visit all of them!

Saturday – The journey continues with a look at the needs and service opportunities of Europe, Asia, Central and South Americas. Panels will show how local Clubs are working to address the needs of our world. Our key note speaker from the US State Department will discuss Land Mine Removal. Join us for breakfast with the Russian GSE Team. Lunch will be in Asia. We'll celebrate the *Presidents' Ball* with an authentic Latin Fiesta. Education...Inspiration...Fellowship...Celebration!

Sunday- Our Centennial Conference culminates with a look at the Middle East and Africa, followed by a celebration of our Rotary Youth Exchange Program. Join our district's exchange students and nationally know comedian Michael Pritchard at the Rotary Youth Exchange Brunch. Pick up your registration form at the back table.

Chris Young – April is volunteer month and we have several projects of which to choose from: Rebuilding Together, FISH, Valley of Moon Children's Center, Habitat for Humanity (April 23). Chris will be making announcements every week until he has all of us signed up for something. He is asking for only 10 hours of your time to do some good for others who aren't as blessed as we are.

Chris Young – also had the Club's attendance report card. Are you a 100%-er? You can make up any missed meetings by attending other clubs, a board meeting, a project meeting, District Assembly, District Conference, or on-line at www.rotary.org



John Meislahn – April 16th is our Club's **40th anniversary party**. The gala will be held at the Wild Oak Saddle Club at 5:30 PM – spouses and significant others are welcome! \$40 will cover the open bar, dinner with wine and "a walk down memory lane" with the "mahvelous" Meislahn. Sign up and give your checks to Janet.



PDG Del Raby – Sunday, April 10th a Peace Scholar seminar is being held at the Wells Fargo Haas School of Business at UC Berkely. Street address is 220 Piedmont Avenue across from the football field. There will be about 15 scholars there to talk about their ongoing experiences. A reception will follow and you can attend that for \$10. For more details, please call Del at 838-6701. He would love it if any of you can take time to come and meet these wonderful young scholars.

ROTARY MYSTERY SOLVED:

President Jim called to the podium **Harry Rubins (club Foundation Chair)** and **DG Bruce Campbell** who then called **John & Pat Withers** to the podium to honor them for their steady and considerable investment to the Rotary Foundation. A crystal with etched doves and olive branches along with name were presented. Pins with jewels in them were gifted to each of them as well. The senior John was surprised and finally understood why his family was in attendance. Thank you, John & Pat, you're the "BEST".



Of course all of this pomp and circumstance led to **Harry Rubins** reporting that our goal is \$140 per capita. At this time we are at \$131 per capita (65%) in Foundation giving. He has a barometer to help monitor and visualize our growth.

Harry has generously set up a matching program for the next 4 meetings. Anything above \$140 will be matched. He was the first to take advantage of this because his daughter, Holly, just gave birth this past weekend to a beautiful little baby girl, her first child and Harry's first granddaughter. He couldn't stop smiling. What a guy! Thank you, Harry, not only for the wonderful job that you do for Foundation giving but your generosity to us all.

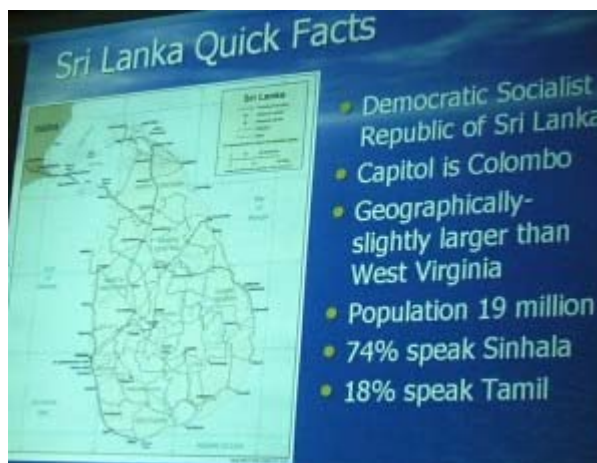
Raffle

Pete Lamonica had a chance to win the \$475 but alas, he didn't get the black marble. Darn! Don Ling won the bottle of wine.

Program: Relief for SRI LANKA



Joe Dacanay
from the Napa Noon Club





Joe Dacanay and Caroline Upton upon hearing about the devastating havoc caused by the tsunami, volunteered immediately to see how they could help. Their mission: Emergency Medical Care. They were there from January 8th to the 23rd. Both have EMT experience and with the help of the three Rotary clubs of Napa, Calistoga Rotary club, Queen of the Valley Hospital, the Napa Register, the Napa County Sheriff's Search & Rescue and many private donors, they were able to raise over \$10,000 in direct aid for tsunami victims.

The need was overwhelming and immediate: more than 30,000 people had died with more bodies being discovered every day. The possible outbreaks of cholera, typhoid, dysentery or malaria were very real. At the same time there was an uneasy truce between the government forces and the LTT (Liberation Tigers of Tamil), a separatist group vying for political power. Combine that with newly exposed minefields and an infrastructure badly beaten and hanging by a thread and what you have is a potential for a disaster beyond comprehension.

The most common ailment was the tsunami rash. Having fungal creams already on the bandages and cough syrup dispensed in plastic gloves helped in making sure nothing was wasted. Through interpreters, hand gestures and broken English, they heard stories of terror, lost loved ones, whole families and schools totally wiped out. Stories of attempts to save their children only to have them washed swept away from their grasps, crying never to be seen again. They were prepared to take care of the victims' physical needs but woefully inadequate to deal with their grief.



Dacanay and Upton attended to the medical needs of the refugees at two different health camps, Colombo and Kalmunai, conducted by Dr. Loganathan. They also participated in countless Non-governmental Organization (NGO) meetings with relief organizations and government representatives to keep abreast of the ever-changing flow of information regarding the camps.

Medical emergency needs are finished and rebuilding starts. Per DG Bruce Campbell Rotary District 5130 has raised \$125,000. We held off in dispersing funds until we knew where our funds would be put to best use. A portion has already been sent to Thailand and we will deal District Rotary to District Rotary in Sri Lanka. There are 61 Rotary Clubs in District 3220, Sri Lanka.

Thank you Joe, for this eye opening presentation, and for your participation in the Relief for Sri Lanka. For further information please email: joelightworks@comcast.net or log onto: www.reliefforSriLanka@blogspot.com

Your Bulletin Reporter:
Chris Parr-Feldman,
 Pres. Elec....trified



Your Bulletin Editor:
Jim Valinoti



Duty Roster

Task	4/18	4/25	5/2	5/9
Cashier	Kim	Kim	Kim	Kim
Set-up	Jim V	Chris Y	Ron M	Chris Y
Greeter	Fred Z	Ed B	Ed B	Bob M
Tickets	Ed B	Bob M	Bob M	Fred Z
Moment	Gary L	John M	Louie C	Harry R
Photos	Bob H	Bob H	Bob H	Bob H
Bulletin	Bill G	Scott B	Bill D	Scott W