

# Rotary Club of Santa Rosa West

## Bulletin for November 29, 2004 SR City Council Member John Sawyer

By John Meislahn

### Beginnings

**President Jim** brought the masses to order with a sharp rap on the rotary bell.



**Pledge:** Bob Marigo performed this task with wonderful precision.



**Invocation:** Gary Lucas pulled another one out of his pocket and gave us a very wise quote from the famous Greek philosopher-*Desophocles* to the extent that man should be proud of something and happy with something else.



**Greeter: Robin Mars** introduced a gaggle of Downtown members and most notably - **DG Bruce Campbell**, Sunrise President - **Steve Worthen** and SR East President **Linda Christopher**. No guests attended today.

### Announcements and Such:

**David McDonald** was called on to tell us Grant Requests are still due 12/31/04 for monies from our club. See David for more details

**Tarina Hall** gave us a crab report. Thanked those who brought in Silent auction items today and acknowledged a \$300 cash donation from **Rich Pratt**. Next Monday and ongoing meetings you can still bring your Silent our Live Auction item.



**John Meislahn** so eloquently told everyone to RSVP to the Holiday Party at the **Hinton's** house on December 12<sup>th</sup> 5 pm. And told everyone of the great Fireside at McDonald-Leavitt Insurance hosted by David and Kim. A great time with great food. John then told everyone that **Harry Rubins** has also donated \$800 cash to the crab feed.



**Harry Rubins** then piped in that he will match up to \$800 to those people who would like to contribute to the Foundation if they have already filled their \$140 commitment for the 2004-2005. Other restrictions and rules apply - See **Harry** for the scoop.

**Jeri Arnold** is looking for ideas on the High School Speech contest. A new theme that would be intriguing for us all to listen to would be great. See Jeri for more info.



**Bob Zeni** (of Crab Feed Ticket Fame) Thanked those who are major Sponsors.... reminding **Mike Merrill** that **Maureen** forked out \$1000 to be a sponsor. Tables are going quickly so see Bob with your ticket/table requests.

**David McDonald** spoke once again on the subject of dictionaries. They are late coming in and he will keep us posted on when the sticker placement and distribution to the local schools will be happening.



**President Hinton** then informed us of a few upcoming meeting dates:

December 20<sup>th</sup> – meeting will be normal with Penngrove House Makeover as speaker

December 27<sup>th</sup> – we will be DARK

January 3<sup>rd</sup>- regular meeting will commence

February 15<sup>th</sup>-SR Rotary Clubs Centennial Meeting - Vineyard Creek Inn @ \$25 a person and spouses welcome. Rick King, past Rotary International President will speak.

**DG Bruce Campbell** was then asked to come to the podium with Presidents **Steve Worthen** and **Linda Christopher**.



**Bruce** told us of the Grants that are available to Rotary Clubs and the \$33,000 available to the district this year. He then presented a \$4,800 check to the clubs that will go to the Kids Street Theatre for a handicap lift. Once the lift is installed, the venue will be able to book more events there to raise additional funds.

Chris Young announced that the bell ringing is all set up for December 16<sup>th</sup> at the Coddington mall and all spots are filled.

## Recognition



**Gary Leopold** was seen back at lunch from a long reprieve. He tells us he has been babysitting in Oslo, Norway for 3 weeks! He has 2 grandchildren living there and decided to visit his son. He also had a birthday while he was gone and turned 62 years old. Mr. President asked what all this was worth and **Gary** responded with \$40.



**John Withers** has also been missing in action the last few weeks. **Prez Jim** asked about a certain 22,000 sq/ft building that John might have sold recently... John says he sold his SR Warehouse and can now travel comfortably to Cotati to rest... The Prez asked **Mr. Marigo** what the going rate is on selling/leasing a building and Bob said a cool hundred... **John** offered a dollar and then reneged that and put up \$100.

**Susan Nowacki** was looking a little too tanned for the winter months and was called on to see where she might have been. She also celebrated a "29<sup>th</sup>" B-day in Hawaii for 10 days visiting both Kauai and Oahu. **President Jim** being the gentleman he is would not disclose how old Susan might be getting, but did disclose she is getting close to **Ralph's** age on her next B-day!!!!



**Ralph Lassa** was another lost soul found at Rotary. He also had a B-day this week that was rumored to be around 60ish. Fee is \$20



**Gil Lucas** recently went on a "business trip" to Las Vegas and also was absent with the flu. As our club is a little hard of hearing, it sounded like Gil went to a Stripper meeting but we quickly found out it was only a Distributor meeting. Distributor meetings only cost \$25 but **Gil** would be remiss as a Rotarian if he did not empty all his information... He has also had a Birthday, and Anniversary, children's B-days and a trip to Sturgis (where he may or may not have kept his clothes on). New fine for all this -\$50

**Roger Olson** was then made to cough up \$20 for his -Bday a month ago on Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>.....what ever happened to B-day's costing \$5???

## Raffle



The lucky ticket for a \$400 prize went to **Marv Hyman**.

**Marv** graciously declined the marble pull and had Janet reach to try and win the money for the Club. She came up with the wrong color. Mr. President then seized the moment of good will by **Marv** to exploit his upcoming wintering to Palm Desert. **Marv** will be golfing and having Starbucks with brandy.....(the old desert rats get liquor in their coffee it seems) and will be gone 6 weeks. The fine went from \$25 to Marv

offering \$100.

So the morale of this story is...

If you wish to give the club your marble pull expect to be fined if **Janet** picks the wrong marble.

**Scott Bartley** won the prized wine and donated it to the Crab Feed! Luckily **Scott** was not fined for this good deed....What great SR WEST ROTARIANS we really have....

## Program: SR City Council Member - John Sawyer

**Susan Nowacki** then introduced our newest SR City Council Member - **John Sawyer**. **Lee Pierce** was also supposed to be present but had a last minute conflict. John has owned Sawyers News for 20 years and his Grandfather started the business many moons ago in SR. John ran for the Council because he wanted to give Service back to the city. The Customer Service aspect of our City Services can always be improved he tells us.

John went over some obstacles about getting Courthouse Square redone and more friendly to pedestrians then vehicles. The cars would find another route around the new square and the "undesirables" that hang out in the area now would eventually go away with increased business and foot traffic- so studies show.

He thinks that new area would be used by many local events that use the stage area and grounds now. More office space would also turn to retail or food service. If this plan were to happen the time frame might coincide with the freeway widening somewhere in 2007-2008.

John then answered a few more questions before we ran out of time and got a "30"second history lesson from one of our Founding Fathers, **Carson Mitchell**.

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