

Rotary Club of Santa Rosa West

Bulletin for November 8, 2004 Boom, Bust & Recovery

By Tarina Hall

A truly late edition.....My apologies fellow Rotarians for the lateness of this recap; but, alas, my computer has been on the blink and required a major transplant to bring her back to life! And since this is "old news" I will keep it brief.

Beginnings

President Jim called our meeting to a timely order at 1:30 and invited **Jeff Ray** to lead us in the pledge.



Robin Marrs provided our Rotary Moment.



Bill Dodson effectively hawked raffle tickets; **Joe Perez** was our Audiophile; and **Chris Young** handled the set up – he's getting darn good at it!

Today's gracious greeter was **Chuck Baker**. Our guests were few, but fabulous: the lovely **Susan Silverman** and once again, **Ron Malnati** from Citibank.

Announcements and Such:

This month's Association dinner will be hosted by Santa Rosa Sunrise at Fountaingrove

David McDonald and his wife **Kim** will host for an "East meets West" Fireside at their offices on November 18th.

Ron Street and our exchange student **Jose** were off to the Cal basketball game courtesy of **Ken Prouty**.

John "The Beard" Meislahn reminded us that the Centennial Day luncheon will be on 2/15 at the Vineyard Creek. This event will serve as our meeting that week and tickets are \$25. **Ron Street** was the successful bidder from our club for ticket sponsorship. Thank you Ron, and good luck!!



Crab Feed Round-up Day will be Monday, November 29th. Please raid your wine cellars for a few bottles of great wine; contact your business associates and bring in all the booty to support our efforts. **Gary Lucas** will be there to accept your donations

Scott Weiss reviewed the Press Democrat supplement featuring "Celebrate Rotary – 100 years" See Scott for advertising opportunities



A special thanks was offered by **Ginny Pitts** to all who attended the Veteran's Day

luncheon.

Craft Talk



A real highlight to today's meeting was the Craft Talk from **Past President Louie** who shared with us his "boring" life! With a BS (hmmm) degree in Petroleum Engineering, Drilling, he joined corporate America with Signal and in '74 came to Santa Rosa to open their Geothermal office. Having a short attention span, he landed at Thermogenesis, a Hughes Corporation in '77 and in '79 opened his own consulting business – ThermaSource. The rest is history – a wonderful

history that he shares with his beautiful wife, Linda and their four children.

Recognition

President Jim invited **Mike Moore**, who was having a "bad hair day" to assist him with Recognition. Perhaps the bad hair inhibited Jim, as the recognition was quite limited...for Jim!



For starters, **Mike Moore** recently returned from a "Fall Colors" cruise, sans **Marigo**, which clearly improved the time away for Mike and Jan - \$100.



John Meislahn, while on a family trip to Illinois, was side-tracked to St Louis and forced to attend game 3 of the World Series - \$100 to the Foundation.



Louie Giacometti hosted Jose to a wonderful car show and was featured in the PD article about the Vet's Day luncheon -\$25

Raffle

Anne Abrams couldn't find the elusive black marble but **Rich Pratt** was able to snag a bottle of President Jim's fine wine.



Program: Boom, Bust & Recovery

Brad Bollinger, Press Democrat Business Editor, was our guest speaker and offered a snapshot of the Sonoma County business picture – past, present and future.

Boom Times – the late '90s

- Many high wage jobs
- Venture Capital money was gushing into the area
- Telecom buyouts reached \$17.2 billion
- Agilent's business was ballooning

Bust Times – the early '00s

- By '01 jobs were down
- Venture Capital money virtually dries up
- Technical arena hit the hardest
- Only growth in hospitality – usually low paying jobs

Recovery –

- Unemployment is stabilizing
- Venture Capital is regaining interest
- Well educated work force – on average
- Growth industries include Healthcare, Finance, Professional Services Tourism and Start-ups
- However, with a 1% job growth rate, it will still take us 8 years to reach levels at the turn of the century.

President Jim adjourned the meeting at 1:30 – Good Job!

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