

# Rotary Club of Santa Rosa West

## Bulletin for November 14, 2005 Experts on Korea Speak

By John Meislahn

### Preliminaries



Call to order: 12:29 pm

**Pledge:** **Bob Coleman** led us in the pledge

#### Coming Up

11/19 - [Rota Rock Cafe](#):  
District 5130 South Foundation  
Celebration

11/21 - Petaluma's Old Adobe,  
Sara Skinner

11/28 - 40 Years at Los Robles  
- Bill Fisher and Others  
Reminisce

12/5 - Steroid use and the pain  
of losing a son - Ray & Denise  
Garibaldi

**Rotary Moment:** **David Darling** spoke about a 4<sup>th</sup> grade chair and there is a reason we now can't fit into it.....

**Visiting Rotarians:** **Roger Olson** introduced the ever present Mark and Larry from the Downtown Club who visited our venue with a few others as well. **Guests:** **Jim Hinton** introduced the speakers, one speakers wife-**Susan Lister** and his wife **Carolyn Hinton** (who is the hostess of our SR West Christmas Party on December 4<sup>th</sup>-5pm-Potluck!)



## Announcements and Such:

**John Meislahn** announced it is not too late to get your tickets to the Foundation Event on Saturday November 19<sup>th</sup>: The Rota Rock Café. Lip Syching by our very own club...see Harry Rubins for more info.



**Harry Rubins** was then called to the podium to receive a check in the amount of \$5,085 to the Rotary Foundation from the Bartley BBQ proceeds for the last 2 years. **Harry** then acknowledged **Scott Bartley** and **Ginny Pitts** who have graciously hosted the event and donated the funds back to our club.

## Recognition

No fines today as the speakers will need extra time.

## Raffle:

**Scott Weiss** was the lucky one to pull from the marble bag but then had no luck or marble.

**Barbara Larson** got the buttery chardonnay for the runner up gift.



## Program: Korea

**Jim Hinton** reintroduced our 3 panel speakers discussing the current climate of Korea. They were:

**Chong-ghee Ahn**-US Korean Embassy Economist  
**William Hammack**-US Dept of State office of Korean Affairs

## James Lister-Korean Economic Institute



**Mr. Ahn** spoke first; he reported to us that Korea has the 11<sup>th</sup> largest economy in the world. They produce such items as Automobiles, ships, electronics, semi-conductors and is now a democratic country.

Korea is an example of a good success story as they have benefited a lot from the US and have taken on many of our values and political ideas.

They have also gained our military support.

Korea also has the 3<sup>rd</sup> most troops in Iraq behind the US and the UK. The APEC conference is now proceeding with dignitaries meeting in China and Korea. Recent Anti-American media seen in Korea is most likely not the sentiment of the majority of the nation.



**William Hammack** was 2<sup>nd</sup> up and discussed his role as a Chemical Engineer in the negotiations with North Korea on disarming the nuclear arsenal. N. Korea has had a nuclear program for over 20 years but not one kilowatt of energy was evolved from this leading us to surmise that the program was solely for nuclear arms.

The APEC (Asia Pacific Economic Conference) going on now will help the powers handle nuclear arm control in N. Korea. APEC is made up of China, Russia, Japan, US, N.Korea and S. Korea.

Only time will tell whether N.Korea stays in the guidelines set forth. And a unification of N & S is not feasible economically as neither side shows trust in the other.



**James Lister** works with the Korean Economic Institute which is funded by S.Korea. He feels trust is important to be gained by the N. Korean's as they feel they are a target to be invaded. We will know progress is being made if we see US dignitaries entering N. Korea to discuss options.

The US and S. Korea are very close as the US has given a lot of economic and military support over the years and trade has also been prolific between the 2 countries.

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