



# Rotary Club of Santa Rosa West

## Bulletin for October 9, 2006 Tall Ships of the West Coast

By Ginny Pitts

### Preliminaries



Our dear Past President **Chris Parr-Feldman** rang the bell and gave us her most enthusiastic welcome to the club. She filled in for current President, **Chris Rosell**.

**Gary Lucas** pondered the moment and said lovely things about friends and such. **Brian Herndon** introduced visitors from far away downtown club, Mark Burchell and Shirley Ward.

**Bill Fisher** introduced his guest, **Jeffery Gilman** from the Redwood Gospel Mission. **Phil Talamantes** had a friend from Met Life, sorry, can't remember his name. **Dale Sipe** had his lovely wife, **Teddy** by his side.

**Terry Galazzo** let her guest do his own intros, **Matt Delaney**. Welcome!

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### Coming Up:

10/23 - TBA

10/30 - DARK

11/2 - 6th Annual Annual Tribute to Veterans: The joint meeting of Rotary & Kiwanis Clubs of Santa Rosa at the Santa Rosa Veterans Building - 11:30AM to 1:30PM

### Announcements and Such:

Our brave chairman of the "Pirates of the Crabbibeian" **David McDonald** gave info on the big event. Come to the Grace Pavilion at the Fairgrounds on

January 27, 2007 and have a swell time. We can't put on a great fund raiser without great donations. Please call **David** with live and/or silent auction items. Tickets should be on the way soon. **Ken Kushnir** is in charge of live auction and he's looking for a little help from his friends. Give **Ken** a ring to make this a fun event.



**Tarina Hall**, our fun loving fellowship chair announced next Fireside at the Humane Society November 1st from 5 to 7pm. The society will highlight the Forget Me Not Farm on the premises. There will be plenty of food and wine bring your spouse or significant other and Phil T., no, you can't bring your dog!



**Ginny Pitts** reminded everyone to buy a \$15 ticket to the 6th annual Vets Luncheon at the Vets Building on November 2, 2006. Guest speaker will be **Michael Pritchard**, a well known comedian with a program on "Coming home after you come home." You're not going to want to miss this program. The club has committed to 70 tickets. If you cannot go, buy a ticket and give it back to **Ginny** who will give it to a vet in a nursing home. Thanks for your help.



Past President **Chris** announced The Group Study Exchange team is accepting applications due October 16 for team members to go to Guadalajara. You have to be between the ages of 22 and 40 yrs old. Contact **Chris** for more information.

**Bo Kirshner** shared an e-mail that the Jaws of Life that we donated to a village in Mexico really saved a life recently. There was a terrible collision where the Jaws of Life pried open a vehicle and saved a person's life. It's really a great feeling knowing that good things happen in life.



## Recognition

Past President **Chris** wasted no time coming around with the traveling mike to search out victims who "needed" to be fined. First on her hit list was **Susan Nowacki** who just returned from a fabulous vacation to London, France, where she stayed with exchange student Sarah who was accepted at medical school. From France she and husband **Dean** headed to Athens and on to a cruise around the Greek islands. **Susan** graciously gave \$140 to the Foundation.



It was **Bill Dodson's** turn, wearing a Cal baseball cap and nursing a scratchy throat due to lots of cheering when Cal beat the Oregon Ducks. The next day was the 49ers game. It's a wonder he can talk at all. \$20 to the Foundation.

**Bob Zeni** was next for a birthday on October 17th. How old, **Bob**?? He volunteered info on his last trip, "chasing history", and drinking thru out Germany. We presume this was for Oktoberfest??? \$140 to the Foundation.



**Mike Moore** took his lively wife Jan to Disneyland for her birthday. What a mental picture. **Mike** with Mickey Mouse ears on!! \$140 to Foundation.

**Brian Herndon** 'fessed up to wife Sharon's birthday on October 5th with a trip to the city for dinner and Teatro Zinzani. How fun! Another fine of \$140 to Foundation.



Big congrats to new member **Pam Davis** for receiving her red badge at the Bartley BBQ. She generously paid fine of \$140 to the Foundation in addition to her membership dues. Thanks **Pam!**

Our other newer member, **Ruth Lincoln** finally got her cast off and enjoyed it by having a BBQ at Doran Beach. She was happy to wade, cast free and had nice walks on the beach. \$20 fine.



**Harry Rubins** should be a happy Rotarian! Most of the fines collected went to the Foundation. Good going.

## Raffle

The raffle hit the big time this week with \$775 and 7 marbles, but alas, **Phil Talamantes'** guest did not succeed in pulling the big black one. Next week, buy lots of tickets. \$800 bucks and 6 marbles!! **Marv Hyman** was the winner of the

bottle of wine which he in turn donated to the crab feed. That's great **Marv**, because we had no wine to give you.

### **Program: Tall Ships of the West Coast**

Susan introduced our guest speaker, **Steve Priske**, a historian and model ship builder on Tall Ships of the West Coast. Steve told us a fascinating story of going to Coos Bay Oregon to investigate 17 crates of old glass plate negatives of tall ships running up and down the west coast delivering lumber and such. Along with 1500 negatives there were also hand scrawled notes explaining each negative.



What a find! Like **Steve** said, "This discovery will shake up the maritime world forever!" Instead of staying for several months, Steve stayed for 3 years unlocking secrets from 1859 to 1903. No one thought clipper ships were built on the west coast.



He discovered some of the fastest ships of the day were built in Oregon. Coos Bay broke ground on a new maritime museum and **Steve** will donate all the negatives. Back in 1859 Meade Simpson was a ship builder in San Francisco, followed by his sons and cousins. They started building clipper ships to send lumber across the sea and worldwide. Routes started in North Bend, Oregon to San Francisco prior to heading to Australia via Hawaii. And what better name with which to launch a ship but from where it hails!



By 1880 Coos Bay was a full fledged company town. Men were paid in chits that were redeemable at the company store. It took 25 to 30 ship mechanics to build 180 to 200 foot clipper ships. Captain Simpson built the last ship in 1902 called the North Bend. Steve had beautiful pictures to accompany his lecture. In addition to being a full time maritime historian, and an almost life long model ship builder (over 40 years) he is currently writing a book, "Tall Ships of San Francisco" to be published soon. You can reach **Steve** via his website, [www.tallshipsofsanfrancisco.com](http://www.tallshipsofsanfrancisco.com).



What a fascinating topic and lots of good sleuthing into the history of our west coast.

One last thing, our own **John Withers** sleuthed out some interesting information regarding notices of default increases from the 2nd quarter of 2005 to the 2nd quarter of 2006. These figures represent housing defaults:

Increases:

- In Southern California 69.5%,
- In the bay area 37.1%,
- In the central valley 85.1%,
- In northern California 97.8%
- And statewide 67.2%.

Thanks John for this timely information.

That's it. See you next time around.

Your Bulletin Reporter:

**Ginny Pitts**



Your Bulletin Editor:

**Jim Valinoti**

