



Rotary Club of Santa Rosa West

Bulletin for October 10, 2007 The Earl Baum Center

By Pamela Davis

Preliminaries



President **Fred Zmarzly** eloquently called the meeting to order of this very fine chapter of a great organization at the St Rose Meeting Hall.

Pledge: **Jim Hinton** did a fine job of leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Rotary Moment: **David Wattell**, quoting Gracie Allen, said "When I was born I was so surprised I couldn't speak for a year and a half."

Our Greeter: **Diane Winsby** was our official greeter and announced our two visiting Rotarians: **George Bachelder** and **Ted Whilmsen**.

Guests: **Chuck Baker's** guest was **Stony Newton** from the College Branch of the Exchange Bank.



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Coming Up:

10/8 - Sonoma County Recycling,
Pam Davis

10/15 @ 5:30 pm - Bartley BBQ

10/22 - Greenhouse Gas
Emissions, Sam Pierce

10/29 - John Samples on
Children's Language/ Learning
Center

11/5 - Safari West

11/12 - Global Warming, Fred
Zmarzly

Announcements and Such:

Pres 'Z' noted that **Ray Mattison**, **Bob Zeni** and **Michael's Jan Moore** are in the birthday zone. **Will** and **Nancy Richards** are celebrating their 41st anniversary and **Pam Davis** has been a member for one year now.

Bartley Barbeque is on October 15 at **Ginny Pitts** at 5:30 (or earlier if you would help set up).

There are only six tickets left for the Veterans Day celebration on November 8; see **Dave McDonald** if you want some.



Harry Rubins noted that 20 members have contributed to the Rotary Foundation and, in recognition of his and his wife's contribution to the golf tournament each year, the board voted to contribute the monies to complete **Jeff Ray's** second Paul Harris for **Cheryl Ray**. Well done, **Jeff** and **Cheryl**.



Pam Davis noted that next week she will present a program on the 'state of trash' (no, this isn't about election campaigns) and will lead a tour of North Bay Corps facilities at a Fireside on Tuesday, October 4 at 5:30. Bring a hard hat if you have one.

Jim Valinoti handed out sheets to help us coordinate and accumulate wine verticals for the crab feed. If you don't know what a vertical is, Jim will be happy to explain.

Crab feed co-chair **Jim Hinton** announced that **Jim Valinoti** has contributed \$1,000 toward the grand auction item which is the use of a villa in Tuscany in May 2008. **Chris Rosell** has matched that \$1,000. And **Harry Rubins** has contributed \$1,000 toward the crab feed as well. Nice work to all!!!



There will be a board meeting on October 9 at Josef's at 11:45. It's a good chance to see how the board operates if you haven't been to one yet.

Recognition

Jim Sullivan has been picking his one ton of Grenache grapes for his own label, so **Pres Fred** extracted \$10.

Dale Sipe was recognized for his hard work setting up for our meetings and making his lovely wife Teddy sew more tablecloths for the tables. His duties prevent him from traveling so he was fined \$10 anyway.

Ann Abrams has been busy getting her school in session so she hasn't been traveling except for her trip to Walnut Creek where she went over the new bridge and took some photos on her bird watching walks.



Raffle

John Withers had the winning ticket but, with only two marbles remaining, managed to avoid the winning marble. **Chris Rosell** won the great bottle of wine. Next week whoever buys the winning ticket automatically wins the \$850 prize!

Program: The Earl Baum Center

David Wattell introduced Allen Brenner, Executive Director and CEO of the Earl Baum Center, his seeing eye dog

Delta and **Phil Swetin**, Development Director of the Center.



The Earl Baum Center was started in 1999 on seventeen acres owned by a farmer named Earl Baum who was blind but ran his farm independently. Located on Occidental Road just west of Fulton Road, the EBC has grown to a staff of fifteen plus fifteen contract employees who provide services to clients from San Francisco to Oregon.

The Center has become the first place people with sight disabilities can get information and resources and lose the feeling of loneliness so common among people with vision challenges. EBC serves all ages and Veterans and provide a wide variety of services at the center and locations appropriate for many clients. These services include:

- Teaching skills for independence
- Ways to remove barriers
- Crossing intersections
- Cooking, cleaning and financial skills
- Communication skills

A community center with a low vision clinic is in the planning stages and will be used for large gathering activities and will provide advanced low vision diagnostic and treatment facilities.

There are no residential facilities on site but the Center is served by ParaTransit services. They have direct availability to Braille and books on tape resources through the Library of Congress.

Saturday, October 6th is their annual fundraiser called 'Walk for Independence and Dog Walks' starting a 9AM. For more information log onto <http://www.earlebaum.org/home.html>

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