



Rotary Club of Santa Rosa West

Bulletin for June 8, 2009 Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation

By David Wattell

Preliminaries



President Dave McDonald called the meeting to order at the St. Rose Meeting Hall at 12:29 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance: David Wattell.

Rotary Moment: (A spur-of-the-moment replacement) by former rodeo star **Carston Mitchell** on, "...why horses love their cowboy partners."



Michael Moore introduced two visiting Rotarians both from the Downtown Santa Rosa Club, **Sam McMillan** and red badge **John Brazil**. There were two (2) Guests of **Rotarians**.

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Coming Up:

June 15 - Sonoma Mountain Village, Tina Montgomery

June 22 - Sebastopol Sunrise's Ecuador Project, Bob Swift and Jerry Meshulam

June 28 @ 5 pm, Debunking, Wikiup Swim & Tennis Club

Announcements & Such

Michael Moore stood his ground and went on to announce that twenty years ago today (June 8th), he and two other **SR West** members were inducted at the same time and at least one is still a member. The mysterious two-some were: **Jeff Ray** and **David Wattell**.

To counter **Michael's bull**, **President Dave** announced that three other **Rotarians** joined ten (10 years) ago. They are: **Gail Johnson**, **Dale Sipe** and **Harry Rubins**. However (in this writer's humble opinion), **Michael's bull** won out.

President Dave also announced that this week's Board Meeting would be his last and that the **Club's Polio +** goal of \$1,000 a year for the next three years, was met in the first year for a total of \$3,000. **WELL DONE!**

Jim Valinoti was named **Rotarian of the Year** to a standing ovation. **Jim** has been a stalwart supporter of **The Rotary Club of Santa Rosa West** for many years. Inducted in February of 1982, his service to Rotary International began immediately when he was appointed by District Governor **Sid Berlin** to the District Group Study Exchange Committee for what was then District 513 (the last digit of 0 was added to our District when it was split some years later). **Jim** has continually managed the output of the Club's Weekly Bulletin and overseen the Club Website as well, since their inception in 1996. He is a **Past President ('97-'98)**. He is also a Wine Broker, and his passion for Rotary is matched only by his passion for wine. The license plate on his silver MBZ reads **'WINE BNZ'** and he is known as one of the friendliest members in the club. Some one pointed out that **Jim** wasn't wearing socks, but hey, **Jim** is I-TAL-i-an ☺. Actually, a recent collision with a door separated one of his - and there in lies the explanation for the sandals - toes. (And Yes! You can only imagine the pain!) **Congratulations Jim!**



President Dave made two presentations of monies collected from this years **Crab Feed**. A check for \$4,000 was presented to **Building Together**. Accepting the check was **Tarina Hall** and **Terry Galazzo**.



A second check in the amount of \$10,000 was presented to **Children's Museum of Sonoma County**, and accepted by **Collette Michaud** and **Julie Ratto**. Incidentally, the **Children's Museum of Sonoma County** provided the working volcano center pieces that adorned each table at the **crab feed**. **Ms Ratto** also announced that **Bill Dodson** is working with the museum on a new building project.

Recognition

Ken Prouty was fined \$5.00 for a sky trip and spending time in New York City. While there he saw the NY Philharmonic and Billy Elliot.



John 'Wayne' Palmer was fined \$45 for heading 'north to Alaska' for eleven days on a cruise ship and for a new Chevy.

Chuck Olson was fined \$45 for working too much.

Louis Capuano was fined \$10 for their 40th wedding anniversary (June 8th). **Lou** has four children and four grandchildren.

Bragging Bucks:

Louie C. again (\$5) for his son getting married.

David Wattell (\$10) for daughter's MA degree from University of Kent (Canterbury, England).



Jim Hinton (\$10) for grandson's MVP base ball record.

Ruth Lincoln (\$10) for Amelia's valedictorian-ship and UCB finalist (no surprise).

Von Von Dermehden (\$5) returned from extended trip.



Ken Prouty (\$10) for granddaughter attending American University, studying Arabic and internship with IRS.

Bill Fisher (\$5) for grandson's graduation from kindergarten.

Gail Johnson (\$5) for health note regarding available vaccination for shingles.

Dale Sipe (\$0) for Sunshine Report regarding **Teddy's** return home from 14 days at Kaiser.

Raffle

Today's Raffle: 2 marbles and \$825.00

Doug Angelo had the winning ticket and drew the black marble. He enjoyed a clean sweep by winning the bottle of wine also. His secret – buy 30 tickets.

**Program: Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation**

Scott Bartley introduced the program that featured a presentation from the Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation with office locations in San Francisco, Fresno and Burbank, California. Presenting today on behalf of The Burn Foundation were **Svetlana Granvold**, burn survivor and Champ Camp CIT (more on that later) and **Jessica Derrick**, Director of Development.

The foundation was founded in 1971, by the parents of Alisa Ann Ruch who died as a result of burns after being accidentally doused with BBQ lighter fluid. Her brother also sustained burns but recovered.



The foundation was created in part to enhance the quality of life for burn survivors. It also serves to educate people (especially children) on the precautions and dangers of fire. It promotes three common principles: a) cool a burn; b) stay low and go; c) stop, drop and roll.

The foundation created "Champ Camp" in 1985 that provides a place where burn survivors (ages 5 to 20) can come together for one week each summer and share with other survivors their experiences without feeling shame or embarrassment because of how they may look or feel. The camp is free to all participants who come from all over the country. Last year, 164 kids attended. The camp promotes participation and continuation of personnel within the organization through its CIT (councilors-in-training) program. One presenter, Svetlana Granvold, is currently a burn survivor and CIT. She has attended the camp ten times and wants to "pay forward" to others by becoming a CIT.

For more information about the foundation and what they accomplish please visit their web site at: www.aarbf.org.

Bulletin Reporter:
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Jim Valinoti



Flashback:

The Three Caballeros.....who were those guys in the white hats?????

