

Rotary Club of Santa Rosa West

Bulletin for June 29, 2009 President David McDonald's Last Meeting

By Bill Dodson

Preliminaries

President David McDonald eloquently called the meeting to order of this very fine chapter of a great (the best!) organization at the St Rose Meeting Hall.



Of course, the attending membership responded with a loud request to be led by our REAL president, **Susan Nowacki** because, as reason dictates, **David** could no longer be President because he had been debunked the previous day! (Note that David was indeed debunked at host **Pete LaMonica's** Wikiup Swim and Tennis Club.

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Coming Up:

7/6 - DARK

7/13 - President Susan Nowacki

7/20 - Military Intelligence Work,
Teresa Norton USAF Reserve
Major

7/27 - Return to Viet Nam, Gary
Lucas

8/3 - Latest findings on Leukemia
and Lymphoma, Jeff Clark

8/10 - District Governor Kirk
Brown

We all enjoyed good drinks, good food and good fellowship, although the festivities didn't include a traditional dunking in the pool. We won't let the next President get away with that one.) However, **President David** refused to give up the throne as it was still June of his year so he carried on accordingly.

In true unorthodox style (*something your Bulletin Editor is not unfamiliar with himself.* ☺) **Lame-Debunked Duck President David** set a precedent by removing the podium and taking up residence along with his incoming and outgoing secretaries at the "other" head table. Other noted guests at that table were **Louis Capuano** and **Ralph Lassa** who apparently was standing too close to the LD President & got fined!



Sally Tomatoes gave us their best rendition of a Cinco de Mayo Day meal that saw heaping plates of custom built soft tacos with all the fixin's.

Pledge: **Ken Kushner** was asked to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Egged on by his culinary compadre **Scott Bartley**, he refused, emphasizing his disagreement with a familiar hand gesture, and then said he would lead the pledge **only** for the REAL president (clearly this was not a done deal yet) when...**Susan Nowacki** claimed the situation as her own and lead us in the Pledge.



Rotary Moment: **Gary Lucas** once again provided us with a thought provoking Moment.

Our Greeter: **Ralph Lassa** who earlier lay in wait for the battered and debunked **President David** and greeted him personally at the door, did the honors of announcing our visitors: **Kim McDonald** and outgoing **President Dan Drummond**, were our guests from the Far East Club, **Vicki Hardcastle**, from the Rotary Club of Santa Rosa Club, and **Don Johnson** from the Windsor Club were our visiting Rotarians.



Guests: In spite of being incredibly tired, **Lou Capuano** did manage to arise from a deep slumber to introduce his guest **Jim Hanson**.

Announcements & Such

Darcie Fellows wasn't here but fellow red-badgers **Tracy Kline** and **Kris Lapore** had tickets available for Darcie's Dogs for Diabetics Fundraiser for July 25. **Pres Dave** got hands raised to buy the tickets and they were gone in no time. Nice work for a good cause!!

Well, this qualifies more as recognition, but **Lou Capuano**, **Jim Hinton**, **Chris Parr-Feldman**, **Fred Zmarzly** and **David McDonald** (**Chris Rosell** wasn't there) gathered together at the front of the room to present to their secretary **Janet Coddling** a lovely gift of jewelry in acknowledgement of her abilities on their behalf for six years. Janet's comment went something like "If you can be a secretary to a lawyer, you can be anyone's secretary." She felt honored indeed. We'll see, the lawyer is **Jim Hinton** and he takes over as secretary next year. What goes around comes around?



Craft Talks

Tracy "Kung Fu" Kline was born in 1980 and raised in Santa Rosa, graduating from Santa Rosa High School. Considering herself happy and content, she spreads contentment to others by helping people, a major goal in her life. She graduated from Sonoma State, and has found happiness helping others by setting up reverse mortgages through Sequoia Pacific Mortgage Co. She met her husband of one year through the web site Match.com six years ago. She recommends this approach over the cocktail bar scene and is happy to be a Rotarian because, like herself, it helps people.



Kris Lapore thanked **Casey Williams** and **Pam Davis** for introducing him to Rotary. Originally from Long Beach and then San Jose, Kris arrived in Santa Rosa in 1977 after graduating from San Rafael High School. He drove a delivery truck for Granny Goose and repaired copy machines for eleven years before getting his real estate broker's license in 2006. As his mother is also in real estate, Kris comes by it naturally. His office is just south of Lucas Wharf in Bodega Bay. Kris met his wife in 2002.

Raffle

Our Pres had four tickets pulled today. A bottle of wine went to **Pam Davis** and the next two tickets belonged to **Casey Williams** who picked up 2 bottles of **Ginny Pitt's** son **Randy's** famous Randy Zin!



John Withers tried to pick the right marble but got the left one instead.

Recognition

No time for recognition today.

Program: Random Disclosure

There wasn't a program today. Instead it was random disclosure time.



Lou Capuano noted the recent article in the Press Democrat about drilling at the geysers relative to potential earthquakes was, in fact, not full of facts. Scare tactics to sell newspapers was Lou's take on the article. He pointed

out that the new project designed to increase the amount of electricity generated at the geysers has built in safeguards and we shouldn't worry about the drilling proposed. He also noted that the reporter apparently didn't interview anyone from the US Geologic Service or workers at the geysers or anyone within his company that works at the geysers.

Scott Bartley was given a chance to explain about his recent recognition in the Press Democrat relative to his accusation that two of his fellow Santa Rosa Planning Commission members votes to not approve the proposed Lowe's store on Santa Rosa Avenue "didn't pass the smell test". This is all about their involvement with an organization that seeks to impede development of big box projects that don't meet that organization's criteria for approval. Scott pointed out that these two members were on their board of directors. **Jim Hinton** asked if in fact their involvement in said organization was a blatant abuse of power. Well, we can all form our own opinion on this one.

Finally, **Pam Davis** was acknowledged by **President Dave** about her first six months as a new member of the Sonoma County Planning Commission. She says she is just getting her feet wet and the big issue regarding the Dutra Asphalt plant can't include her because of a conflict of interest.



Well, we made it through another year as 'The Cool Club that Gets Things Done and Has Fun'. We all look forward to another successful year under the new leadership of **President Susan Nowacki**. See you all next year.

(Oh, and before we finally leave this year behind, I guess it would bear mentioning that there was a small "informal" ceremony that took place near the end of the meeting. Outgoing President David made our President "in-waiting" Susan Nowacki official when he pinned her with her new Club President Pin & her special "Susan headgear.")



Not to be outdone, Susan responded in kind by FINALLY retiring David from his Presidential duties in Rotary Year 2008-2009 by bestowing upon him his Past President's pin. Great Job David! Now Susan, let's get on with 2009-2010!!! Ed)

Bulletin Reporter:

Bill Dodson



Bulletin Editor:

Jim Valinoti

