



# Rotary Club of Santa Rosa West

## Bulletin for July 21, 2008 He's getting the hang of it!

By Chris Parr-Feldman

### Preliminaries



**President David McDonald** opened his second meeting precisely at 12:30 PM, welcoming all to the Rotary Club of Santa Rosa West, the coolest club in District 5130! Hooray for us!

**Pete LaMonica** led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and **Bo Kirschen** gave us our moment, "yesterday is past, tomorrow brings the future and today is a gift, because it's the present..." (That's how I remember it.)

Hey! New table cloths!



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#### Coming Up:

7/28 - Karen Whissen - Teaching experiences at the Sonoma County Jail

8/1 - 15th Annual Golf & BBQ Social - [Details](#)

8/4 - Jim Hinton and John Hathaway discuss their trip to Africa

8/11 - Dr. Mark Netherda - HIV work with Orphans in Namibia

8/17 - BBQ social at Mike and Maureen Merrill's house in Windsor. Bring spouse, grandchildren. If it's warm, we swim! Details to follow.

8/25 - SOS (Save Our Students) Program, John Palmer

8/25 - State of the City and Update on Gang Issue - Former Mayor Jane Bender and Ernesto Olivares

#### Visiting Rotarians:

Charter Member **Bill Fisher** did the honors today by introducing us to **Vickie Hardcastle**, SR; **Kim McDonald**, 1st lady, but member of SR East; Gentleman from India? (and then the president asked if anyone was taking notes for the bulletin. No one raised their hand, so I volunteered. Unfortunately I didn't get all of the guests names.)

**Guests: Brendon McDonald**, son of **David & Kim McDonald**.

Buddies **Chris Parr** & former Petaluma Director of Plan Administration **Pam Tuft**



## Announcements and Such:

December 13 - holiday party at **President David's** home.

July 31 - SCARC BBQ dinner at Dutton Ranch hosted by Sebastopol Sunrise. \$35 per person. Let **Janet** know by July 25 if you wish to attend.

### Sunshine Report –

**Tarina** announced that **Dee Marigo** was released from the hospital today after exploratory surgery. A card signed by the members was mailed.



## Recognitions

**Scott Bartley** – (\$20) in the paper, again regarding the reunifying SR square.



**Chris Parr-Feldman** – (\$20) for her red streaked hair? Not completely. Chris said she did this to be different and because she is in training to do the bike ride in the "Waves to Wine" on September 15. The ride benefits Multiple Sclerosis. **Chris** is dedicating her ride to her daughter, **Julianna**, and Rotarian **Jennifer** of Petaluma Valley, both who were diagnosed with MS six months ago. **Chris** will do 50 or 75 miles for the cause.

**Pam Davis** – (\$25) was promoted to liason officer. Way to go **Pam** and congratulations! Did that come with a raise?



**Louis Capuano** – (\$20) the **traveling King Louie Capuano**, has been to Florida, Louisiana, Colorado, New York and he and **Linda** met in Salt Lake City to fly home to California. All this flying around for his ever mushrooming company, Thermasource. I hope there was some fun and enjoyment thrown in somewhere?

### Bragging Bucks:

**Pam Davis** is getting her braces off.



**Ruth Lincoln** reported that her daughter, **Amelia**, survived her trip to Lima, Peru, completing her outreach project. **Amelia** was also chosen to attend Girls Nation from 500 girls who attended California Girls State. She is one of two high school juniors selected to attend Girls Nation from California. She represented Ursuline High School and was selected by the American auxiliary Chapter 21 Interview Panel. **Ruth** and **Tom** are just beaming with pride. Congratulations to **Amelia** and her parents.

**And from the MIA Department**.....comes these faces without text entries. (*Past District Governor Mike Merrill bragged about something.....guess it wasn't important enough for one of his closest confidants to comment on though.....-Ed @ seems to me it had something to do with his lovely wife @ Maureen) I also do recall that Past President Jim Hinton was on his feet with microphone in hand revealing something to us as well.....hmmm could it have been the recent addition of henna to our reporter's bob? - Ed @*)



Uh-oh....somebody's phone is ringing. **President David** took a survey and we all agreed that it will cost \$20 every time your cell phone starts ringing. Pay up **Gil**. Help! It won't stop. **Gil** says to give him a break because it is a new phone and he is still learning how to operate it. Warning: turn off your phone before the meeting starts.

## Raffle

**Brendan McDonald** got the chance to pick the lucky black marble. Sorry, not this time. **Mike Merrill** won the bottle of cabernet. Yummy and lucky!



## Program: Community Needs Assessments

**Pamela Tuft**, Past President ('97-'98) of The Rotary Club of Petaluma Valley & current Assistant Governor.

Needs assessment led to greater things such as the Adopt A Village Program in Uganda. The Rotary Club of Petaluma Valley added a scholarship program to students graduating from the 7<sup>th</sup> grade enabling them to attend boarding school. It only costs \$136 a year to send a child to boarding school. Without an education, there isn't much hope to a better life. The average age in Uganda is 45 years.



**Pam** handed out a Community Needs Assessment form that can be used in choosing our club projects. If you didn't get one of her fliers, here it is:

### Community Needs Assessments

#### Resources

- City or county General Plan
- Parks and Youth Master Plans
- Good Old Fashioned Windshield Survey
- Community Foundation

#### Contacts

- City or county Planning Departments
- City or County Parks Departments
- School Superintendents/Principals
- County Health Dept. (Child Services)

#### Community Input

- Home Owners Association
- Neighborhood Groups
- School PTAs
- Sports Associations
- Local Church Groups

#### Ideas

- Park Enhancement
- Play Structures
- Plazas, benches, fountains

#### School Improvements

- Planting Gardens
- Library
- Dictionaries

#### Community Enhancements

- Education/Information Kiosks
- Junior Achievement
- Scholarships

It's all about listening. Some helpful hints:

- Contact Key people
- Don't tick off city officials
- Ask for waiver fees or ask for the non-profit discount

After some questions from the floor, **President David** gave **Pam** a lovely bottle of wine for her informative presentation and time.

Meeting adjourned at 1:35 PM

Your rusty but willing bulletin reporter,

Your Bulletin Reporter:  
**Chris Parr-Feldman**



Your Bulletin Editor:  
**Jim Valinoti**

