



# Rotary Club of Santa Rosa West

## Bulletin for August 4, 2008 The Hathaways & The Hintons Go To Africa

By Chuck Stark

### Preliminaries



**PRESIDENT DAVE**, obviously feeling very confident, skipped town for a junket to Las Vegas. With a whole different set of emotions, our secretary **JANET CODDING**, was off on her honeymoon to the Dominican Republic. Meanwhile, back in Santa Rosa, what are we mere table-Rotarians left with, but Hawaiian Shirt Day, while our leadership enjoys the real thing. In any event, **CHRIS PARR**, feeling particularly tall and frisky, led a dynamic meeting and **FRED ZMARZLY** found a new comedy role filling in as secretary (more on this later).



We were graced with the presence of **JAN HATHAWAY, SHARON HERNDON, TODDIE DODSON** and **CAROLYN HILTON** as guests of Rotarians. **JEFF BOAL, LARRY MIANO** and **DON MCMILLAN** were Rotarian guests from other clubs.

### Announcements and Such:

**GAIL JOHNSON** gave an enthusiastic report on her recent visit to Brazil regarding our former Rotary youth exchange student, HAFA, who is now in her second year of pharmacy school. Who could believe that we all knew her as a 16 year old and now she is now age 22.

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#### Coming Up:

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

9/1 - Dark

9/8 - District Governor's Visit



**JEFF RAY** received kudos and shared them generously with the many people who helped him put together the golf tournament and social and barbecue at Galvin Park on August 1, 2008. Overall, it was one of the best turnouts and one of the more enjoyable social events on our club calendar. The golf was characterized by great comradeship in the teams collaborating to use **Jeff Ray's** final directive to make up your own rules as you go if you don't like the rules he handed out. An interesting turn of events was the longest drive being won by one of our own, **MATT DELANEY**, exceeding **Louis Capuano's** son by about 20 yards.

### Recognitions

Chris Parr then tore into the audience, starting with **LOUIS CAPUANO** asking him what was the worst job he ever had, and he quickly responded, shoveling oysters from 3:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for \$1.50 an hour for his grandfather's factory. Why that cost him \$25.00 I don't know, but thank GOD for Rotary charities.



Meanwhile, **KEN DANSIE** got recognized for \$20.00 because of his photograph and quotation in the North Bay Biz newspaper commenting that there is now a switch to international accounting standards due to the rising power of the Euro.

**SCOTT BARTLEY** got fined \$5.00 for his "incredibly stupid" political comment, notwithstanding this was recognized as double jeopardy without the defense ever being raised.



Next in line was an audacious statement by **Chris** to **KEN KUSHNIR**: "Everybody's afraid of you, but I'm not!," followed by a compliment on how good he looked, but--- noticing a bruise on his face recognized him for \$10.00 for tripping over a hose in his garden. Obviously the quality of mercy is never strained at Santa Rosa West.

**PP Chris** next asked **DARCY FELLOWS-HANSON** to introduce herself a little more as our newest member. She was just inducted on July 14, 2008. She is a girl's gymnastics coach and while she is not coaching any Olympic stars she does coach some very graceful competitors. **Chris** warmly collected \$20.00 for that introduction.



Maybe it was because I had a new perspective trying to record all this, but it seemed to me **Chris** was reaching a new level of efficiency and moved right into "**bragging bucks.**"

**CHUCK BAKER** volunteered accomplishments for his daughter in ecological filmmaking.

**BRIAN HERNDON** with **Sharon** present announced that she was soon to be a grandmother. What about you **Brian**? No mention of you being a grandfather. Are you still in shock about poopy diapers being in your future?

**GINNY PITTS** had two subjects to share, as only she could share: She is in the process of getting a new mini margarita machine (Someone yelled from the corner of the room that perhaps John Palmer might bid on the old one at the crab feed.), and secondly, **Ginny** was in awe (presumably as a youthful flashback), having worn 3-D glasses with her grandchildren while recently taking them to Journey to the Center of the Earth.

**CHRIS YOUNG** shared that he has been living with three belligerent teenagers for some period of time and he is very happy to be sending them off to school next week. Sounds like **Chris** needs a little Dr. Phil time.

The foregoing represents the collective eclectic humor of the Santa Rosa West Rotary Club on August 4, 2008.

### Raffle

**CAROLYN HINTON** got to choose the marble, but unfortunately got a blue one instead of the black one. Louie Capuano was the lucky recipient of a Double Gold Best of Class Cabernet Sauvignon from the club's stash of raffle gifts.

### Program: Out of Africa, or What Happens When You Get Tired of Watching The Nature Channel

In March and April, 2008, **Jan** and **John Hathaway** and **Carolyn** and **Jim Hinton** spent three and a half weeks in South Africa, Zambia and Botswana, including some time in Capetown. **Jan** apparently took over 1,200 photographs and John made a compilation of those into a quite beautiful and informative slide show with an appropriate soundtrack of African animal and musical accompaniment.

We saw shots of Table Mountain, penguin colonies and the three game reserves and "camps", Royal Wakalani in South Africa, Mambo and Chobe in Botswana, and Victoria Falls in Zambia. When the Africans refer to a camp you should think of it more as the equivalent of a sheik's tent. Obviously our two Rotarian couples did not rough it and wanted for nothing.



**Jim Hinton** offered the introduction and after four attempts, **John Hathaway** did finally get the microphone and narrated the slideshow. There was one point when Jim wanted to interrupt to explain the difference between the male and female lions to us and why they were separated by an electric fence in case we didn't know this from the images. It's always great to have Rotarians provide the program and give you these little personal touches.



Perhaps the best summary of the program, was given by **Fred Zmarzly**, when he indicated that this was probably the best travelogue he has ever seen in his entire life, and he wanted to thank **John** and **Jim** because it probably saved him \$5,000.00 to \$7,000.00 because now he doesn't have to take Alberta. They can just arrange to look at the slideshow. It truly was amazing how the guests at the reserves could be within mere feet of the wild animals in their natural habitat (sometimes answering the call to nature side by side unknowingly) and not ending up on each other's menu.

After all, "Ramar of the Jungle" was one of my favorite children's shows.

Until next week,

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**Jim Valinoti**

