



Rotary Club of Santa Rosa West

Bulletin for September 22, 2008 Introducing the Children's Museum of the North Bay

By Jim Hinton

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.

Pledge: Bo Kirschen did a fine job of leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Rotary Moment: Chris Rosell quoted the Dalai Lama for us.



Our Greeter Ken Dansie introduced **Larry Myano** and **Clarice Bolles**, our visiting Rotarians. Our guests were **Toodie Dodson** and **Pam Davis'** guest **Casey Williams**, who may become a member (let's hear it for 'The Cool Team')

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Coming Up:

9/29 - Bob Erlach, Colonel in the US Army Reserves, Dentistry in Iraq.

10/6 - Santa Rosa Main Street and Courthouse Square Reunification, Bill Dodson

10/13 - Bringing the Best Independent, Classic & Foreign Films to Sonoma County, Ky Boyd, Owner of the Rialto Theater

10/20 - Jim DeLaney, Matt DeLaney's grandfather, an Olympic silver medalist in the shotput at the 1948 London Olympics.

10/22 - Strategic Visioning Session - contact Mike Merrill

10/24 - Santa Rosa Rural Cemetery Tour - RSVP Ginny Pitts

10/25 - Denim & Diamonds - Downtown Club's Fundraiser - details from Jim Hinton or Peter Lamonica

10/27 - Bill Fishman discusses the huge migration of Jewish settlers who came to Petaluma to become chicken farmers and the Japanese farms they saved during WWII.

Announcements and Such:

Pres David thanked **Ken Kushnir** on behalf of the membership for the wonderful meal he prepared for the Bartley BBQ. The applause confirmed it!

Ginny Pitts announced that there will be a social gathering at the Franklin Cemetery on October 24.

Past President Chris Rosell bestowed winnings from the Bartley Barbecue Football pool to **Barbara Larson**, and to **Ruth Lincoln**



Harry Rubins, our Rotary Foundation genius reminded us that it's time to contribute toward our club goal of \$140 per member for this year. Harry wants 100% participation. Go find your checkbook please!



Jim Hinton announced that the Downtown club will have their annual fundraiser on October 25th called 'Denim and Diamonds'. Tickets are \$70 each. Remember that the Downtown club sold a bunch of tickets to its members for OUR event last January. It's our turn to reciprocate and **Clarice Bolles**, who sold most of those tickets, was in the audience. Pony up for a good cause!

Tarina Hall, executive director of Rebuilding Together, thanked those members who spent part of their day last weekend helping those who need it in our community with home improvement projects. The day was a big success.

Chris Parr-Feldman, membership chairperson for District 5130 no less, rallied the membership to produce more members. The club is divided into teams and the team that brings the most members into the club will be treated to a dinner at Dave's house prepared by his board of directors!



Phil Talamantes has tickets for the [Veteran's Day lunch](#) at the Vet's Building in November.

Program Chair Susan Nowacki announced that we will be dark on November 17 but we will join the Downtown Club at the Flamingo Hotel on Tuesday, November 18 for a special program. More details to follow.

Recognitions

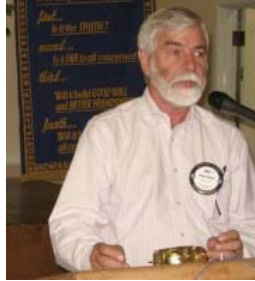
No time for recognition today.

Raffle

Scott Bartley had the winning ticket but managed to avoid the winning marble. **Marv Hyman** won the great bottle of wine and promptly donated it to the January fundraiser.

Program: Introducing the Children's Museum of the North Bay

Bill Dodson opened the program by noting that, as Co-Chair of the annual auction event, he needed to find an organization that was under funded, cross cultural, serves a large population segment and could offer opportunities for 'brick and mortar' participation. We learned last year that having a charity focus generated more revenue (remember the success raising funds for the Roseland University Prep School). After checking with a number of sources he was directed to the Children's Museum of the North Bay (CMNB). He then introduced his guests **President Collette Michaud** and Board Member **Julie Ratto** from the Children's Museum.



Collette started the program with a video presentation of what a children's museum is all about. The Rotary Club in Portland Oregon started that community's museum and now sees over 200,000 visitors per year!



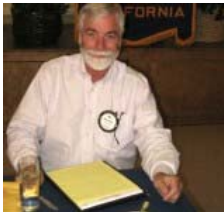
The CMNB is in need of a permanent home base. Presently the service is operated by volunteers from a trailer called 'Museum of the Go' and will participate in more than twenty events this year. Each event will involve over 160 children.

So, what is a children's museum? It's a place of discovery. The CMNB is designed to address the curiosity of children from preschool age to young teens. They are exposed to science, math and technology. The work/play stations involve an activity that develops cognitive thinking skills and introduces children to concepts that can have a lasting impact of their interest in school and point them in directions that can foster careers. It's hands on, quality family time (parents get excited too!) and fills a large hole that is increasingly recognized in formal education, namely, that 80% of elementary school teachers spend less than one hour per day on science; 16% spend no time at all!

Julie Ratto addressed the audience as the museum's chief fundraiser and told us they are looking at a couple of potential sites in Santa Rosa for a permanent home. They are raising funds for that purpose and generating funds that will allow the facility to operate on a daily basis. She very much welcomes Santa Rosa West Rotary's participation in their development. She suggested that our members may know of others who might help as well. They're looking for approximately 5,000 square feet of space with parking.

For a look at their activities, go to: <http://www.childrensmuseumnb.org/>

Your Bulletin Reporter:
Bill Dodson



Your Bulletin Editor:
Jim Valinoti



Details for November 6, 2008

The Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs of Santa Rosa
Proudly present the

8th Annual
TRIBUTE TO OUR VETERANS

A Special Luncheon Honoring America's Veterans
Thursday, November 6, 2008
11:30 am - 1:30 pm



Veterans Memorial Auditorium
Santa Rosa, CA

-Keynote Speaker-

S.R. FOLEY, JR.
Admiral USN (Ret.)
Former Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet

Music by the Santa Rosa High School Band

Rotary and Kiwanis members are requested to host a veteran.
Contact your club's representative for tickets and/or the name of a veteran to invite.
Veterans may contact any Rotary or Kiwanis Club to obtain tickets.

Tickets \$15.00 each

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