



Rotary Club of Santa Rosa West

Bulletin for December 1, 2008 Project Friendship, Peru

By Chuck Stark

Preliminaries



It was another Hawaiian Shirt Monday and with a sharp rap of the club bell, **President Dave McDonald** called the meeting to order at the St. Rose Meeting Hall at 12:28 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance: PDG Bruce Campbell.

Rotary Moment: Scott Bartley "...do all you can for others."



Chuck Baker introduced three visiting Rotarians, one from Lake Port and two from Sebastopol.

Special Guests included Past District Governors Bruce Campbell & his wife Helaine. We were joined later by Past District Governor John Blount.

There were eight (8) Guests of Rotarians.

Announcements & Such

Chris Parr announced that Rotary's Institute for Leadership will held on November 14 and 15th. See the web site for further details.

Janet Coddling is back on Buena Vista (street) approximately four blocks from where she used to live. She thanked all those in the club who helped her find her new house.

President Dave announced that this year's Club Christmas Party would be at his house on Saturday, December 13 starting at 5:30 p.m. President Dave and **First Lady Kim** will be the exceptional hosts that they always are. It is a BYOB/F/D party. The approximate address is that it is a *brown house* at the corner of Gordon and Cooper Streets (Santa Rosa). If in doubt, try www.mapquest.com.

Salvation Army bell will be ringing at Coddington Center on Friday, December 12 beginning at 10 a.m. Sign up times are still possible.

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Coming Up:

12/13 - Holiday Party @ David McDonald's

12/15 - Jane Bender/Ernesto Olivares, State of the City

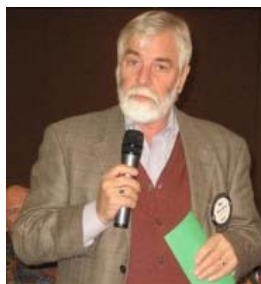
12/22 - Tanya Narath, Leadership Institute for Ecology and the Economy

12/29 - DARK

1/5 - Geology of Sonoma County

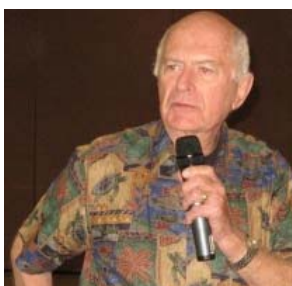
1/12 - Immigration Issues in Sonoma County, Richard Coshnear, Esq.

Ken Dansie picked up his raffle winnings of \$575 from a previous week. He later admitted that he has to share the amount with **Pete LaMonica**.



Bill Dodson requested donations for next years Crab Feed Event. Needed are both silent and live auction items. Also, the sale of raffle tickets will begin next week. This year's main prize is a trip to Tahiti.

Bob Zeni announced that **Crab Feed Tickets** would be available next week as well. This years cost is \$60.00 per person with sponsorship tables available for \$1,000. The desire is to sell 450 seats.



Chris Young said that entertainment for the event would include a DJ and a former Dobie Bros. singer.

Joe Perez recounted for us his visit to the Sacramento area to see his "getting up there in years" Dad, but was overwhelmed with his introduction to a fellow much senior to his Dad, chalking in at 112 years and still going strong This was Joe's message of hope to us all! *Great story Joe! (-Ed)*

Recognition

December birthdays (with zero fines) were recognized for John **Palmer** (a mere 88), **John Lassa**, **Ken Kushner**, and **Phil Talamantes**.

Casey Williams (red badge) received a Phantom Christmas Party invitation from someone he did not know. It turned out the invite was from **President Dave** for the Club's party on December 13.



Paul Harris Presentation

Special guests today for this presentation were **Past District Governor Bruce Campbell**, **Assistant Governor Helaine Campbell**, and **Past District Governor John Blount**, who is a Rotary International Board-Elect.

While we awaited **PDG John's** arrival (a heavily scheduled day after the holidays Monday kept him busy at his dental practice in Sebastopol, before dashing to our meeting in Santa Rosa), **ASG Helaine** took a few moments to discuss her association with today's Paul Harris Fellowship recipient, **Gianchristopher Valinoti**.



ASG Helaine recounted her awareness of **Gian's** project of donating medical supplies from Palm Drive Hospital to the Clinic in Uganda. This project was conceived of and executed by Gianchristopher with the enthusiasm and drive of a veteran Rotarian project chair. But no wonder, having grown up in a Rotary family and being a RYLA graduate, we would expect nothing less. Working in the Emergency Room of Palm Drive Hospital, Gian recognized an opportunity for a humanitarian project and quickly went about making it a reality. **Helaine** also shared with us a glowing letter of recognition and appreciation of **Gian's** work from his boss in The ER. Apparently they like him!

In the interests of time, **PDG Bruce** took the podium to do the initial Paul Harris presentation, beginning with a recounting of the benefits of **Rotary**, and of supporting **The Rotary Foundation**, and **RI** events.



Gian's father, **Past President Jim Valinoti** then took the podium to bestow upon **Gian**, his Objects of Rotary plaque, his Paul Harris Medallion, and not a moment too soon, **PDG John Blount** arrived to conclude the presentation of the Paul Harris Fellowship Award to **Gian**.

Past President Jim then thanked all who had participated, especially **PDG John** who has been the presenter of each of the **Valinoti** Family's fellowship awards

Raffle

For the second week in a row, **Jim Hinton** had the winning ticket to pull that black marble from the pouch. No cigar. Sorry.

Program: Project Friendship, Peru

Ruth Lincoln introduced her daughter **Amelia Lincoln** (a senior at Ursuline High School) and her classmate **Alyson Zegarra**. As noted both attend Ursuline where Amelia has a 4.43 GPA and desires to attend Boston College. Alyson's GPA is 4.41 and her desire is to attend Claremont College. Don't you just love over-achievers? What would the world be like without them.



Earlier this year, **Alyson** and **Amelia** made a **Rotary** presentation requesting grant monies to be used for "Project Friendship" to Peru. In all they received grants from **SR West Rotary** and from the Lake Port Rotary Club. There were also other corporate sponsorships where a product was donated.



Amelia



Alyson

Project Friendship took place in a small town approximately one-hour drive from the city of Santa Clara, Peru. The project itself was to provide a children's camp for a two-week period. They had originally estimated that they would have 30 to 40 kids at the camp. Instead, they had 75 to 80 kids and this number was supplemented by having 20 mothers attend as well.

Participating groups were formed based on age with each group given a certain color (red, yellow, blue) as a way of differentiating what each group would be doing at a certain time of the day. The main activities included story telling, snack time, games, and sporting events. Each group participated in each of these activities at different times throughout the day. A typical snack included bananas and oranges. At the end of each day, the theme of the day and its activities are translated into Spanish so that they can be used over again at future times.

There are certain wants and needs that the village has that could become projects for a **Rotary** club or for **Rotary International**. Items that are needed include a better kitchen facility, a new walking bridge, milk distribution; and a larger propane tank. **Amelia and Alyson** are currently conducting a shoe drive at their school and all shoes that are collected will be forwarded to the village.

Your Bulletin Reporter:
David Wattell



Your Bulletin Editor:
Jim Valinoti

