

Rotary Club of Santa Rosa West

Bulletin for January 4, 2010 Happy New Year!

By Tarina Hall

Preliminaries



President Susan opened our first meeting of the New Year and new decade with the exciting announcement that **Matt Delaney** is the proud father of Carolina Jean who was born 12/20/09 and came in at 8lbs 2oz and 21.5 inches! Congratulations to all!!

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Coming Up:

1/11 - Club Assembly

1/18 - Efren Carrillo - 5th District Supervisor

1/25 - Jennifer Sloan, Executive Director, Arts Council of Sonoma County

1/30/10 - [Crab Feed](#)

2/1 - Tim Anderson, Government Affairs Coordinator with the Sonoma County Water Agency

Today's Team:

Jeff Ray – led us in the Pledge

Gary Lucas - shared a thought-provoking moment for the New Year

Darcie Fellows – Gave us a bit of Rotary Humor

Chuck Baker – did our set-up

Janet Coddling – was our Greeter

John Hathaway – sold Raffle Tickets for a new pot for the New Year

Jim Valinoti – was again behind the camera

Bob Zeni – played cashier and discovered a cache of \$206



Announcements & Such

President Susan announced that the January 11th meeting will be our annual Club Assembly. This is like our "state of the union" meeting where you will hear from Club Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs.

The Good – The Crab & The Ugly

Crab Feed Chair **Casey Williams** reported that things were coming together nicely for our up-coming fundraiser which is only 3 weeks away. **Harry Rubins** reminded everyone to turn in their ticket Raffle Ticket stubs and offered suggestions for selling more. **Janet Coddling** told us that 560 tickets had been issued and she too is looking for our money.



Auction Chair **Tracy Kline** provided an update on our bounty of auction items and asked that all additional items be delivered to her in the next week. Rotarian of the Year **Jim Valinoti** provided an additional 3 baskets (including two special picnic baskets) and they were snapped up immediately by **Kris LePore, Chris Young** and **Darcie Fellows** each of whom took additional baskets to fill with goodies. Thanks to everyone who has and will make a donation of auction items which will help us do our great work.



Chuck Baker was recognized just for being such a snazzy dresser!

Getting to Know You



Introduced by President Susan, **John Palmer** favored us with a craft talk update. Having just celebrated his 88th birthday, **John** shared some of the exciting details of his life, and his 45 year involvement in Rotary.

This Southern Boy began his professional career, while in college, as the writer, editor and publisher of a monthly newspaper. However, that career was short lived as WWII loomed and he joined the 34th Infantry Division and was involved in the invasion of Italy at Anzio. He was then selected to be the personal driver and assistant to a General and instead of seeing trenches and fox holes, he stayed in some of the finest hotels of Italy.

Utilizing the GI Bill, he attended Columbia University where he earned a Master's degree in English and taught at the graduate level. He subsequently earned his PHD from USC in psychology and counseling. All those sheepskins led to professorships at UCSF, Northridge and ultimately Sonoma State University.

Rotary has been an important part of John's life for over 45 years. Having been a Rotarian in Southern California, he was honored when **Bill Fisher** invited him to join our club. He served as Club President 1982-83 and is proud to have been an integral and active part of SOS and setting up the first drug abuse center in Santa Rosa.

John has been married to his lovely wife Ann for 54 years and has two sons.

Raffle

Raffle Time!... And the winner was not ...Chris Young who could not find the black marble among the pack of 25. **John Withers** was able to take home yet another bottle of wine.

Program: The Architectural History of Petaluma – A Pictorial

Our guest speaker, **Katherine J. Rinehart** received her master's degree in History from Sonoma State University in 1994.

For the past 14 years, Ms. Rinehart has worked in various positions within the fields of Cultural Resource Management and Historic Preservation and is currently employed by the Sonoma County Library.



She is the author of *Petaluma: A History in Architecture*, is a regular contributor to the *Argus Courier*, has her own business specializing in historic research, writing, and lecturing, and is past president of the Petaluma Museum Association's Board of Directors.

Petaluma was first established as a hunting and fishing village exporting their goods to San Francisco to sell to the gold rushers. By the 1850's the first brick & stone structures were seen and in 1871 Petaluma. Seen here in 1884, Petaluma had already become the largest city in Sonoma County, connected to San Francisco by rail.



New forms of commerce developed in the 80's and 90's with the introduction of hatcheries and dairies. By 1885 there were approximately 50 family run farms with hatcheries, typically 1-5 acres. And, 76% of California's dairies were in Sonoma County. Manufacturing became prominent in the 90's. Many of these commercial historical buildings still exist and some maintain National Registry status.



The turn of the century brought an influx of significant social architecture – the Opera House in the Queen Anne style, banks in the Mission Revival style, and hotels in Mediterranean Revival style. 1906 saw the completion of Petaluma's Carnegie Free Library, one of the first in California.



Petaluma is unique in its history, diversity and preservation of architecture. To enjoy the breadth of this bounty,

free walking tours are available May-October from the Petaluma Historical Library and Museum.

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