

Rotary Club of Santa Rosa West

Bulletin for January 25, 2010 The Arts Council of Sonoma County

By Michael P. Merrill

Preliminaries



President **SUSAN NOWACKI** rang the bell at 12:30pm for the LAST MEETING before the CRAB FEED to a full-house of Rotarians and Guests!

Pledge: Immediate Past President **DAVID MCDONALD**

Rotary Moment: Resident physician **RALPH LASSA** reminded us that "When we take on tough jobs, miracles can happen."

Joke of the Day: **BO KIRSCHEN** reminded us of the need to "dress appropriately" when working with the Moth Abatement Squad!



Past President **FRED ZMARZLY** did the honors today and introduced visiting Rotarian **Kate McClintock** from the SANTA ROSA EAST club.



Introduction of Guests: **DAN NOWACKI** neighbor with Catholic Charities and guest [but not a relative] of

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Coming Up:

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

2/8 - Ursuline High School seniors Natasha Qabazard and Stephanie Pires

2/15 - DARK

2/22 - Kay Schultz, Superintendent of the Mark West School District

PRESIDENT SUSAN; former member **BILL WILBUR**; **Lidio Tropenio** of Natural Clean cleaners guest of Charter President **BILL FISHER**; **JULIE NATION**, guest of **PDG MIKE MERRILL**; **BRIAN COX**, counselor with PINER HIGH SCHOOL and guest of **BOB ZENI**.

Announcements & Such

CASEY WILLIAMS, "Crab feed Chair Extraordinaire" deputized the remaining club members and "rounded up" the last few dinners in our final raffle item. Go CASEY!



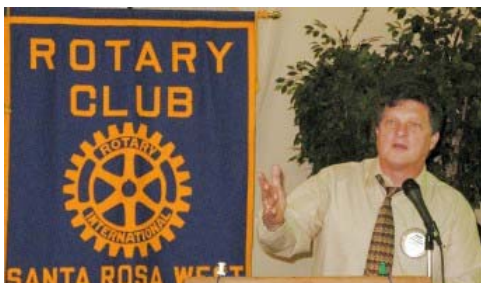
CHUCK BAKER, board member and Vocational Services Chair was our 'Getting to Know You' speaker: California boy, UCB Grad who traveled to Hawaii via Guatemala where he ran the largest power plant in the Islands – and met & married Barbara, before moving to Bakersfield [for their honeymoon – no doubt], and on to Santa Rosa and the Transmission Shop business.

BOB ZENI introduced our first two PINER HIGH SCHOOL "students of the month" and contestants for the Annual Academic Scholarships awarded to 2 of 8 applicants from the school by the Club.



Great presentations by **Brandon & Nicole!**

Immediate Past President **DAVID MCDONALD** reminded us that the Club continues to sponsor Boy Scout Troop 125 and is now sponsoring Cub Scout Pack 125 as well. The Troop always assists and supports us at the Crab Feed Event and is looking forward to it again this year!



Foundation Chair **HARRY RUBINS** reminded everybody to buy/sell/ trade their Crab Feed raffle tickets and "get the stub in so that they might WIN!"

Recognition

President Susan recognized **HENRY "Von" VON DER MEDHEN** for his 82nd birthday coming on 1/27/10. VON is planning on a Picklewurst Dinner as a celebration. We hope there is some good German Ale to go along with the feast. Happy Birthday VON!



Raffle

The bottle of wine went to **PHIL TALAMANTES**.

Alas in spite of a valiant attempt by **JIM HINTON**, the black marble remains unselected!



Program: The Arts Council of Sonoma County

Programs Co-Chair **MATT DELANEY** introduced **JENNIFER SLOAN**, executive director of the [Art Council of Sonoma County](#) who challenged each of us to remember an event with the arts that was "transformational" in our lives.



The Council provides a conduit to the State government, maintains a calendar of events of the arts [visual, performing, written & otherwise], coordinates the annual [Art Trails Event](#) and works with both the County Visitor's Bureau and the Economic Development Board in promoting tourism and local art activities.

Jennifer had some interesting points to leave us with:

- [1] The Arts Council has served Sonoma County for 25 years
- [2] Participation in Arts activities in the County has dropped by 38%
- [3] Three generations of students have not had Art in their required school curriculums
- [4] Arts programs share the same funding category as sports in school curriculums
- [5] There are 110 groups serving the arts in Sonoma County AND 16,000 artists
- [6] Last year Arts Events generated over \$3M in revenue in Sonoma County



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