

# Rotary Club of Santa Rosa West

## Bulletin for February 8, 2010

"Education Without Borders: Senior Project at Ursuline High School" with Natasha Oabazard and Stephanie Pires

By Anne Abrams

### Preliminaries



President Susan Nowacki opened the meeting at 12:30 inviting members with "The future of Rotary is in your hands."

She thanked the following for making our meeting possible:

Cashier: Bob Zeni  
 Set up: David McDonald  
 Greeter: Bob Reinking  
 Tickets: Janet Coddling  
 Moment: Gary Lucas  
 Photos: Jim Valinoti  
 Program: Ginny Pitts and Matt Delaney  
 The Pledge: Jeff Ray

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#### Coming Up:

2/15 - DARK

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

3/1 - Mark Doolittle, Support Our  
 Students

3/8 Dr. Doug Chase, DDS, Sleep  
 Problems, Neck and Back Pain

3/15 - St. Pat's Day Party

3/22 - Rotary Youth Leadership  
 Academy, Jim Underhill

3/29 - A Visit to USS Nimitz,  
 Timothy Delaney, Controller at  
 the Pacific Coast Air Museum

The Rotary Moment: Gary Lucas offered quotes from Dr. Joyce Brothers "A strong, positive self -image is the best possible preparation for success." and one from Norman Vincent Peale "A positive thinker does not refuse to recognize the negative; he refuses to dwell on it. Positive thinking is a form of thought which habitually looks for the best results from the worst conditions."

#### Visiting Rotarians and Guests:

We welcomed one visiting Rotarian, "Pro Make-up artist" and Structural Engineer, Larry Miyano.



We had several guests: Ginny introduced our speakers from Ursuline High School, students Natasha Oabazard and Stephanie Pieres, and Stephanie's mother Mrs. Pieres. Chris Parr-Feldman introduced her Hawaiian friends Ilene Otake, Pearl Iwada, and Mai Hashimoto. She also introduced Smita Martinez who called Rotary and is interested in our club. Her father was a Rotarian for 40 years and she traveled with him as a child to Rotary functions. Welcome Smita!! We also welcome Teejay Lowe from G and G Market. Phil Talamantes

welcomes Past President (1979-1980, Don Ling, to his table. Phil reports that he spoke with Bob Marigo and he is doing ok despite some rumors to the contrary.



### Announcements & Such

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There is a board meeting tomorrow at Joseph's as well as a brief Crab Committee check in after today's meeting.

Casey Williams, our Crab Feed Chair expressed his hope that everyone received and read his 15-page email thanking everyone for their support and cooperation on our crab feed event. He is creating a feed back data base for next year, whoever gets the pleasure of chair for the crab feed. He was happy "seriously" to participate in our great club tradition that the crab feed has become.



Harry Rubins thanked Pam Davis for inviting Casey to be a Rotarian in our club. What a fine contribution he has made this year as Crab Feed Chair!

Chris Parr-Feldman thanked everyone for the donations of pens and dictionaries bound for a village Uganda with Mike Merrill representing our club. The club will also send along \$100 for paper.

Bill Dodson our Incoming President for next year had named his incoming board for next year and brings the board to a vote by the membership. The board was introduced last week. Chris moved and Von seconded that the new board be approved. President Susan affirmed the new board is elected:

Bill Dodson, President

Janet Coddling, Immediate President Elect

Chris Young, President Elect-Elect

Susan Nowacki, Immediate Past President

Jim Hinton, Secretary

Barbara Larson, Treasurer

Gary Lucas, Sergeant at Arms

Tarina Hall, Club Service

Doug Angelo, Community Service Director

Matt Delaney, Program Chair

Jim Valinoti, Communications Director

Pam Davis, International Service Director

Ginny Pitts, Fellowship Chair

Chris Parr Feldman, Public Relations

Diane Winsby, Membership Chair

Mike Merrill, Advisor

Phil Talamantes, Sunshine Committee

Darcy Fellows: Vocational Service Director

Casey Williams: ???

President Susan announced that it is GSE (Group Study Exchange) time and we should be thinking about candidates for next fall's trip to Japan. GSE's mission is to provide cultural and business opportunities and develop professional leadership skills for individuals (non-rotarians) ages 25-40 years.

### **Bragging Bucks:**

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**Harry Rubins** celebrates that his youngest grandchild was one on Saturday.

Pam Davis is a grandma again and boasts to be the youngest grandma in Sonoma County.

Darcy Fellows has been traveling with her gymnastics team. They received individual 1sts in Stockton, 6 individual 1sts and a team 3<sup>rd</sup> in Oroville and In San Diego, 2 Firsts and 2 2nds out of 4,000 students competing. Next they are off to compete in Las Vegas.



Janet Coddling had the best day of her life on Saturday and feels truly blessed that her children and grand children were there to attend her niece's basket ball game on Janet's 63<sup>rd</sup> birthday.

We sang Happy Birthday to our February Birthday Rotarians: Janet Coddling, Jim Benoit, Terry Galazzo, and Harry Rubins.

Terry Galazzo is also a new grandmother and has 3 grand children born in the last 1 ½ years. She claims to be 22; there was a challenge on the four-way test.

Ken Prouty had a great ski weekend and didn't have to drive either coming or going. He is not divulging who the drivers are only to say their services wouldn't be available to everyone.



Casey booked Mike Merrill's place for the weekend and had a grand time with kids, dogs, snowballs.

Jim Hinton gave update on "Up", the movie. It may well be up for an academy award...stay tuned.



Jim Underhill described a program in Sonoma County at the SRJC that gives kids exposure to and experience with sports that they may not otherwise have. This is the 13<sup>th</sup> year. What an exciting experience for the kids to be introduced to a variety of sports.

#### Raffle:

Louis Capuano drew a blue marble, missing out on the big prize but had the opportunity to cheer the Black and Gold super Bowl winners, the SAINTS. It was a fantastic game for football lovers. Who dat! Bob Reinking won a won a bottle of zin.



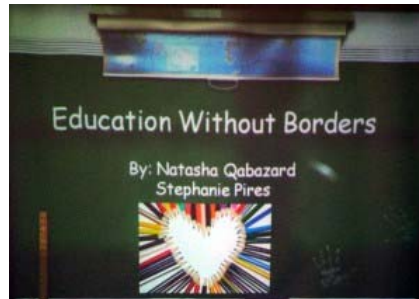
#### Program: "Education Without Borders: Senior Project at Ursuline High School" with Natasha Oabazard and Stephanie Pires

Ginny Pitts introduced our two speakers, two senior students at Ursuline High School. Natasha and Stephanie are headed for Lima, Peru for a week where they will excite and motivate under-privileged children to learn and to continue their education.

Three characteristics of illiteracy that are prevalent in Peru and other countries are: Parents, who are not educated, children are forced at an early age to work to contribute to the family's subsistence, and inadequate system of education for children. Youth enter the workforce at low-paying jobs and due to lack of education remain stuck there and the cycle continues.

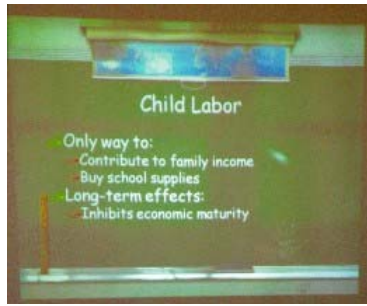
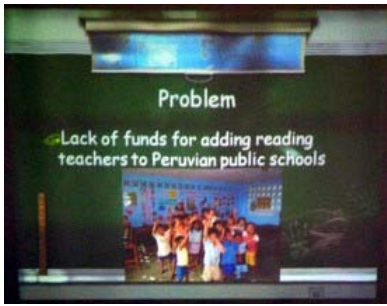


Stephanie and Natasha would like to change this because they recognize how fortunate they are to enjoy school and learning and know that through education nearly anything is possible.



Their trip will build upon the success of last years project to provide soccer camp to these same 40 children though a mentor program that will guide their activities and work in Lima.

The students are baking 500 cupcakes to raise funds for the students so they can take each child a backpack with school supplies. In Peru students must provide their own supplies and uniforms and for too many this precludes their attending school.



Stephanie and Natasha are also involved with literacy through Community Action Partnership in Santa Rosa mentoring students.

They invite Rotarians to become involved.

Bulletin Reporter:  
**Anne Abrams**



Bulletin Editor:  
**Jim Valinoti**

