

# Rotary Club of Santa Rosa West

**Bulletin for March 29, 2010**

**Great Rotarians travel to a Great Country and do Great Work!**

By Darcie Fellows

## Preliminaries



Opening Bell rang at 12:30 by **President Susan**. Pledge was led by: **Immediate Past President David McDonald**.

Rotary Moment provided by **Chuck Stark**. "Poverty is the parent of revolution and crime." (Aristotle, 330 BC) More than 80% of the world's population lives in countries where income differentials are widening and 80% of the world's population are living on less than \$10 a day. In the US, BEFORE the recession, for persons under the age of 18, the most valuable and most vulnerable, the poverty rate was 19% and rising.

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### Coming Up:

4/5 - Santa Rosa Mayor Susan Gorin

4/12 - Rick Call, President of the Santa Rosa Junior College Board of Trustees

4/19 - Keith Woods, CEO of the North Coast Builders Exchange

4/26 - High School Speech Competition: "Project Civilization."



**Visiting Rotarians were:** **Mary Graves**, from Rancho Cotati, **Mike Flanagan**, from SR Downtown, **Kim McDonald** from SR East, **Dale Knight**, Rohnert Park, **Kathleen Archer** from SR East and **Jill Deporto** from Forestville. Welcome everyone!

**Guests of Rotarians:** Carol, Gabriel, Patricia, Betz Tyler, Connie, Rick, Wanda, Bart, and Diane ....all guests of **Chris Parr**! Rene; hubby of **Janet Coddington**, **Brian Rickerson** guest of **Bo Kirschen**, Tootie Dodson, guest of **Bill Dodson**, Kerry Rego was the guest of **Darcie Fellows** for the last time! Dennis Loveland, guest of **Brad Leslie**.

### Thanks to today's crew:

Door- **Will Richards**; Tickets- **Tarina Hall**; Greater- **Chris Parr-Feldman**; Set up- **Chuck Baker**; Bulletin- **Darcie Fellows**; Photos- **Jim Valinoti**.

## Announcements & Such

**Assembly reminder....Sat April 10th. Sign up now.**

**Casey Williams** was surprised when Foundation Chair Harry Rubins presented to him, a gift from the club, to fill up his Paul Harris fund, thereby making Casey a Paul Harris Fellow. Bravo **Casey!** You are a true Rotarian, and you well deserve this kind of recognition!



**Tarina** spoke about Rebuilding Together.... Thanks to those who already signed up to participate. **Jim Hinton** is house captain. The home is in the Journeys End Mobil Home Park. Please sign up for the work day itself, help with registration or help with a lunch run. Step up people!!!

**Sunshine Report: Dave Wattell** is in the hospital. Rotarians signed a card that was passed around. Wishing him well!

**President Susan** announced that the Press Democrat did a nice write up about our Career Day at Piner High School that was a great success! The kids heard stories about our Rotarians with different career-paths and much different backgrounds! It was a most informative and fun day for all.

## Getting to Know You

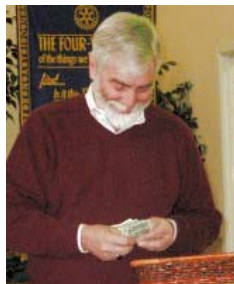
Our own hooker....

**Bo Kirschen!** (Rugby, of course!) told us an interesting story about his life and informed us that Rugby was like Sex verses Golf. A hooker is a position in Rugby folks! Turns out he was also a singer in Opera and in a rock band. Bo only has two regrets....not moving to Santa Rosa and not joining Rotary sooner.



## Recognitions & Bragging Bucks

**Jim Hinton, Peter LaMonica (AWOL), Bill Dodson, John Hathaway, & Jeff Ray**, all had a fun ski trip in Montana. They snowmobiled 63 miles, and had great time in the snow, skiing, food, friends and wine! That was worth a \$35 fine to **Bill Dodson**.



**Chris Parr-Feldman** was in the Paper a lot this week. She was fined \$10 for her great smiles in the Press photos.



Welcome back **Ken Kushnir**! He stayed away a while and was fined \$150 for coming back!

**Janet Coddington** just bought a Toyota Rav 4 small SUV. It cost her a \$12 fine on top of the sticker price.

**Ralph Lassa's** wife has a new horse. A mere \$35 fine, small in comparison to the costs of a steed like that!

**Ray Mattison** was appointed to a Cal. Legislative Affairs job of sorts. (I think)

**Henry Von Der Mehden** has carpal tunnel in his right wrist and he did it without working on the computer! He got it fixed; he will be "fine" soon. \$20 towards your pain, Von! :(



#### Raffle:

For a chance to win lots of money..... **Harry Rubins**.....Yet not today! :(  
The wine went to **Gale Johnson**!

#### Program: "Great Rotarians travel to a Great Country, and do Great Work!"

**Mike Merrill** and **Chris Parr** recently returned from Uganda with a District 5130 group. They were here today not just for the great company but to discuss the Rotary humanitarian projects in Uganda.



**Mike** and **Chris** showed us many fabulous pictures of their trip and gave us a fabulous run down of their great adventure. One of the pictures and reports was of the Bee project. It is a fairly new project they are working on; **Chris** and **Mike** got to see how they run the project and take care of the many bees.

They described their accommodations...no running water and all outside latrines. Humble but efficient, and they felt very touched and blessed they were staying with such great people.

They also went to some of the schools and saw how the students and teachers will write on the walls as part of the lessons. They commented on how the students were very patient waiting for their teachers to finish with other classes, and start theirs. Some of the classes took part outside, where the kids were just as polite and quiet while they were getting instructed.

There were many pictures of the clean water project. Deep holes were dug to accommodate the clean water pumps; then water was pumped to different places to get the clean water to the people.

They visited a brick making factory that employed 3-4 workers. They use the bricks made there to make stoves, which cuts the usage of the wood in stoves down by 3. There is also a lot of fish farming, chicken raising, and even a small brewery!

During their stay, **Mike** and **Chris** took part in seeing much of the wildlife....elephants, lions, zebras, monkeys etc. They got to travel in a convertible van so that they could better see these great creatures and also so Chris could stand on the seats to see better... an ideal vehicle to the vertically challenged. They also traveled down the Nile in a very small boat! They saw hippos, and crocodiles. (**Chris** was worried about the Hippos "smiring" her out.) Along the way they had a lot of problems with flies and mosquitoes, thank goodness for their shots. Our poor Rotarians were surely teased, tested and bothered by bugs and animals on their wild life trips, which they thoroughly enjoyed though.

**Mike** and **Chris** said their experience was one of a lifetime! Great job Rotarians!

Bulletin Reporter:  
**Darcie Fellows**



Bulletin Editor:  
**Jim Valinoti**

