

Rotary Club of Santa Rosa West

Bulletin for July 20, 2009

Military Intelligence Work: Teresa Norton USAF Reserve Major

By Anne Abrams

Preliminaries



President **Susan Nowacki** called the meeting to order at 12:30.

She thanked the following Rotarians for their assistance with today's meeting:

Secretary: **Jim Hinton**,

Tickets: **Darcey Fellows** & Cashier: **Matt Delaney**,

Greeter: **Fred Zmarzly**,

Rotary Moment: **Chris Parr-Feldman**,

Photos: **Jim Valinoti**,

Bulletin: **Anne Abrams**,

Program: **Bill Fisher**,

Set-up: **Tarina Hall** and **Darcie Fellows**

Thanks, everyone for your assistance.

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Coming Up:

7/27 - Return to Viet Nam, Gary Lucas

7/29 - 5 to 7 pm. Social at Hyatt Vineyard Creek in outside bar with appetizers. See Ginny for details.

8/3 - Latest findings on Leukemia and Lymphoma, Jeff Clark

8/10 - District Governor Kirk Brown



The Pledge: **Brian Herndon** was called on to lead the pledge to our flag.

The Rotary Moment: **Laura Behren** offered the following Rotary Moment: "A positive attitude will not solve all your problems, but it will annoy enough people to make it worth the effort." -Herm Albright

Visiting Rotarians and Guests

Fred Zmarzly introduced several visiting Rotarians: **Ralph Harriman**, Pharmacist, **Bruce Campbell**, Past-District Governor visiting from the Sebastopol Club, as well as introducing our speaker **Teresa Norton, USAF Reserve Major**.



It was a full house with several guests as well: **Bill Dodson** introduced his daughter **Jennifer Steph** and his grandson **Creighton**. **Ruth Lincoln** introduced her daughter **Emilia Lincoln**.

Announcements & Such

President Susan announced tickets are still available for the Red Badge event next Saturday, a fundraising event for Dogs for Diabetics. There will be a Silent Auction, food, wine and fellowship. Also there will be a demonstration by one of these fabulously trained dogs. Please see **Kris, Tracey, or Darcie** for tickets and support this worthy cause.

The **District Governor will be at our meeting on August 10**. There will be a social event the August 9th at Ginny Pitts vineyard and home from 4-6 PM. All are welcome to attend and board members are especially encouraged to be there. Hawaiian Shirt day will be August 10 in honor of the District Governor's visit.

The **Bartley BBQ date has been selected. September 14** is the date so mark your calendars and save the date. President Susan announced her plan to invite former club members to the event. Please check in with her on this idea.

Susan mentioned Rotary service to community and called on Rotarian **Diane Winsby** to talk about a luncheon she held at her home last Friday.

Diane reported that several ladies of the Santa Rosa Rotary West club's membership met for lunch at her home in Windsor to celebrate five member's birthdays ([see photos](#)). **Diane** provided the lunch with the request that each attendee give a small donation to the Redwood Empire Food Bank of which she would give a personal match, and another match of her donation would come from her former employer Chevron Oil. Wonderfully, several members' companies added to the donation: First Community Bank gave \$100 and Santa Rosa Recycling & Collection, Inc. gave \$200; we thank them for their generosity. When the dust settled our little back yard picnic came up with a **total donation of \$1,125.00 for the Food Bank**. According to the Redwood Empire Food Bank's website this cash donation will allow them to distribute nearly \$5,000 worth of food to needy people in our community of which many are children, low income seniors and disabled people. Summer is a particularly busy time for the food bank as so many children who normally qualify to receive free school lunches are no longer in school and not receiving those meals. 40% of food bank recipients are hungry children. Not only did we enjoy a wonderful picnic lunch, and good Rotarian fellowship, we were able to help others in our community....thanks to everyone who donated, your generosity is appreciated. (*Thanks to **Diane** who covered all the overhead deliciously for this fundraiser.*)



Ginny Pitts announced a fellowship evening next week at the Hyatt Vineyard Creek. It will be a happy hour from 5-7PM. Jim Valinoti will send out an email with details when they become available.

Paul Harris Awards:

Mike Merrill and **Bruce Campbell** offered comments about how the Rotary Foundation connects service to the

goal of world peace and understanding.



Rotary was founded in 1917 for the purpose of providing fellowship among members and the club evolved into a powerful tool for world peace and understanding. One of the ways it encourages members to contribute is through the foundation where members are recognized with a special "Paul Harris" award for giving \$1,000 to the foundation.

This year there was a special incentive for clubs to match a Bill and Linda Gates donation. The club was challenged to meet this goal in three years. Our club with the skilled and enthusiastic leadership of Harry Rubins has met this goal in just one year!

The Paul Harris Awards presented today represent a total of \$26,000. The funds in addition to the Polio Plus project also awards peace Scholarships for college students to study abroad and become ambassadors of peace and good will. These funds honored with awards today is enough to fund polio immunizations for an entire city the size of Santa Rosa.

The following Rotarians were awarded their first Paul Harris award:

Ruth Lincoln, Diane Winsby, and Gary Lucas.



Additional awards were recognized for the following:

Lisa Ann Tabor (Louis Capuano), Susan Fisher (Bill Fisher), Creighton Rocklin (Bill Dodson), Dean Nowacki (Susan Nowacki), Lorelei Zmarzly (Fred Zmarzly), Susan Wattel (David Wattel), Tarina Hall, Chuck Baker, Gail Johnson, Gil Lucas, Chris Parr-Feldman, Bo Kirschen, Ken Prouty, Scott Bartley, Mike Merrill, Rich Pratt, and Jim Valinoti.

Those not present but earning awards will receive awards later in the year. Thanks for your efforts in contributing to a very successful year for the club with contributions. Foundation Chair **Harry Rubins** received special thanks from the club for leading our foundation efforts.

Raffle

Bill Dodson's grandson, **Creighton**, had the ticket to try for the black marble. When he didn't get it everyone cheered for him to get a second try but rules are rules. **Doug Angelo** took home the wine. (again!)



Recognition

Gill Lucas celebrated his 36 wedding anniversary and says he's "thankful she's there."

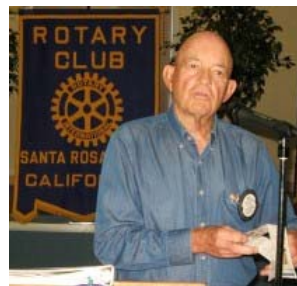


Matt Delaney celebrates that his three-year-old is now potty trained and is expecting a second child in January.

Mike Merrill recently celebrated a birthday and anniversary of family members with a trip to Nicaragua. **Diane Winsby** is grateful for the rescue of a soft ball team worth of 12 year olds from a dangerous riptide in Newport Beach.

Program: Military Intelligence Work with Teresa Norton, USAF Reserve Major

Bill Fisher introduced our speaker, **Teresa Norton**. Bill heard of her in an article in Press Democrat a few months ago and thought she would be an interesting speaker for Rotary and indeed she was.



Teresa comes from a small town in Pennsylvania and at 17 years old she joined the Air Force in order have an opportunity to get out of town and to travel the world.



At that time the only jobs available in her home town were: garment industry, cabinet making, and poultry processing. At that time females were enlisting at a ratio of 1:25 over male counterparts. Consequently she says she "never had to buy a drink."

Teresa enlisted and chose intelligence and Morse Code as the best opportunity for travel. After training in Biloxi, Mississippi, at Keesler AFB and Lackland AFB in San Antonio Texas, she was off to England for her first assignment.

Her service in military intelligence for the Air Force required her to track airplanes locations. She would "listen" to mid-east and Soviet Morse Code messages. Other assignments in Public Relations required her to follow the activities of unit members including the Air Force all star soft ball conference.

Her travels have taken her throughout the world: Greece, Europe, Oxnard , California, Aleutian Islands, Alaska, South Korea, Japan, and Anderson AF Base on Guam.

Teresa along the way married and is raising a 6 year old daughter. Her current work in the reserves is with local high schools.

We thank **Teresa** for her service to our country and for an interesting program.

Bulletin Reporter:
Anne Abrams



Bulletin Editor:
Jim Valinoti

