

Rotary Club of Santa Rosa West

Bulletin for August 10, 2009 A Visit with Our District Governor

By David Wattell

Preliminaries



President Susan Nowacki (mugging here with Assistant District Governor **Debbi Zaft** and District Governor **Kirk Brown**) called the meeting to order at the St. Rose Meeting Hall at 12:29 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance: Chris Rosell
Rotary Moment: Tarina Hall



Rotary Moment (Humorous): Ginny Pitts.

Ginny told a cute story about a fellow and his penguin and their trip to the movies via the zoo.

Able Bodied Photographer: William Dodson
(Thanks Bill -Ed Jim@)

Diane Winsby introduced two visiting **Rotarians**, plus **two**. Regular **Rotarian** visitors were **Roger Olson (Healdsburg)** and **Larry Myano (SR Downtown)**.



Two special **Rotarians** included **Debbie Zaft (Asst. District Governor)** and (Captain) **Kirk Brown (District Governor)**. Accompanying Captain Kirk was his wife **First Lady, Ellen. Debbie, First Lady Ellen, District Governor Kirk & President Susan** posed for a shot together.

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Coming Up:

8/17 - Bill Silver, Dean of the Sonoma State School of Business

8/24 - Past DG Mike Merrill, Adventure Biking in Western China - Out of Tiger Leaping Gorge!

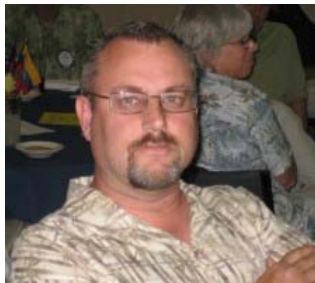
8/31 - Cathryn Couch, Founder and Executive Director of The Ceres Project

9/7 - DARK

9/14 - The Famous Bartley BBQ

9/21 - Karen Johnson, Director of the Charles M. Schulz Museum

There was one (1) Guest of **Rotarian(s) Doug Angelo's** guest, **Brad Leslie** (Mortgage Broker).



Announcements & Such

Harry Rubins announced that this year, the **GSE Team** will be going to India and that **Rotary** is looking for team members and a GSE Team Leader. The age requirement is between 25 to 40 years of age and offers the lucky participants an experience of a lifetime. (Ask **Bill Fisher**, who led a team some years ago.) **Deadline for GSE applications is September 11, 2009.**

On a different subject, **the deadline for turning in District-wide grant requests is due on August 31, 2009.**

President Susan reported on the success of the "District Governor's Social" (August 9th) held last night at the home of **Rotarian Ginny Pitts** where we honored the arrival of **District Governor Kirk & First Lady Ellen Brown.**

Chris Parr announced the advent of "yellow-blue" pages on **Rotary Club Web Sites.** The pages can and will be used for personal and business advertisements. **Chris** encouraged our full support of this upcoming program.



President Susan paid a special thank you to **Tarina Hall** for her continued **Rotary Projects.**

Jim Hinton reported that new billing statements will be arriving shortly.



Former SR West Rotarian **Roger Olson** announced that this year's Air Show will be on this coming Saturday and Sunday (August 15th and 16th). The theme is titled "**Wings Over Wine Country**". Information regarding the show is available via www.wingsoverwinecountry.org. Perennial favorite **Joe Perez** is taking a break from this year's event leaving **Roger** to fly solo. **Roger**, happy landings!!

Getting To Know You

President Susan introduced two Rotarians in the "Getting to know you" theme:

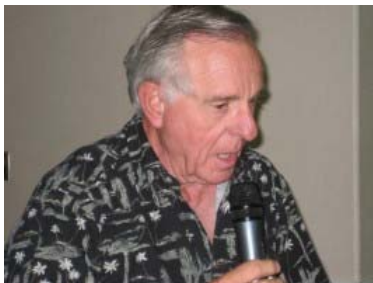
Terry Galazzo gave a mini craft talk telling how she became empowered when asked to teach some men in the art of using a backhoe. She also told how she started with SF Federal and through a series of mergers and acquisitions she is now working for Citi Bank as manager of the Santa Rosa Main office. **Terry** was asked to deposit \$20 to benefit our **Rotary Club**.



Gil Lucas grew up in Santa Rosa and later joined the Air Force where he served for four years. While in the USAF he learned how to fly airplanes and since has become instrument rated as a civilian pilot. After the service he became a member of the teamster union before he switched careers to vacuum sales. (The Kirby advertisement cost him \$20, as well.) **Gil** has two children but his pride and joy is a granddaughter named Rosilynn Lorilee.

Recognition

Jim Hinton was fined \$25.00 for a trip to Rome and a seven day Wind Star cruise throughout the Med. The cruise included Capri, the Greek Islands and Croatia. **Jim** said that he was forced to make the trip after experiencing the first two weeks in his new position as **Club Secretary**. No one felt sorry for him.



Ken Dansie was fined \$25 for making a business trip to the Carolina's and coming up with nothing else to talk about.

Chris Rosell was fined \$30 for heading north to the San Juan Islands for three weeks. He added another \$50 for an addition to a **Paul Harris**. Hey **Chris** did you see any Orca's?



Barbara Larson was fined \$25 for spending a week without a blackberry at Lake Pillsbury. Or was that without Pillsbury cake mix at Lake Blackberry. In either case **Barbara** said that she had a good time. (I like chocolate cake myself.)

Fred Zmarzly was fined \$25 for some gold and silver medals he found along the highway.



Chris Parr was recognized but not fined for her many recent trips on behalf of **Rotary**.

Peter LaMonica was fined \$50 for a fishing trip to Alaska. **Peter** estimated that the fish caught equated to \$100.00 per/lb. As in **Peter's** style, he offered to share his most expensive fish as a donated item to next year's crab feed auction. Way to go **Peter**.

And the winner is...

Today's Raffle: 19 marbles and \$425.00. **Louie Capuano** drew a clear marble. Sorry **Louie**. **Doug Angelo's** guest, **Brad Leslie** won the wine.



Program: District Governor Kirk Brown

Assistant District Governor Debbie Zaft, introduced the program that featured a presentation from our new District Governor, **Kirk Brown** and his wife First Lady **Ellen Brown**.

The newly appointed DG grew up in Santa Rosa (Montgomery HS, class of '62) and later received a master in business administration. Other notable facts about Captain Kirk was that he earned his way to an Eagle Scout (with a God & Country Award) and as a student at Herbert Slater Jr. High, he survived a class with **Bob Zeni**, as his teacher.



District Governor Kirk Brown began his comments by telling a story about two brothers who lived on adjoining properties but whose personal relationship with each other had grown apart to a point where neither brother wanted to look at the other. The first brother had a mote built to separate their properties and the second brother hired a carpenter to build an 8' high fence so that he wouldn't have to see his brothers' property. To his great surprise, the carpenter instead built a bridge connecting both properties. As one would expect, the brothers reconnected and forgave each other.

A point of this story was to place emphasis on the need for all **Rotarians** to continue to build bridges within their individual communities and international communities as well.

The first of two bridges cited by **Kirk** was the gender bridge built by **All Rotarians** that finally allowed women to join **Rotarians** in the mid-1980's. The second bridge was **Polio Plus** where **Rotary** bridged with other organizations (UNICEF, World Health, Gates Foundation, etc.) to eradicate polio throughout the world. (There were reported only 700 cases in 2008 worldwide.)

DG Kirk Brown emphasized **Rotary Internal President, John Kenny's** new theme of the "**future of Rotary is in your hands**", and as **Captain Kirk** would say "**to boldly go where your club has never gone before**".

Bulletin Reporter:
David Wattell



Bulletin Editor:
Jim Valinoti



Addendum:

As today was the scheduled day for our annual visit from the new District Governor, The Santa Rosa West Rotary Club Board of Directors met with DG Kirk prior to the regularly scheduled meeting to discuss the "state of the club", what President Susan Nowacki's plans and goals are for the club this year and what recommendations DG Kirk had for our President, Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs.



At the request of President Susan, each of the Board Members and Committee Chairs had prepared a written presentation on their areas of responsibility for the year that had been compiled and put together in a 75 page report that was provided to **DG Kirk** prior to his arrival for this annual club review.