

Rotary Club of Santa Rosa West

Bulletin for October 5, 2009 The Role of the Pawn Shop

By Tarina Hall

Preliminaries



Here we go again, and ain't we got fun!! As always President **Susan** welcomed our guests and members with her regal and winning smile! Darn that girl is good and really should wear that tiara!

What a treat to have **Dale & Teddie Sipe** back on the scene. We have missed them so much and were pleased to see their smiling faces.



Who is on first...

Bo introduced our only visiting Rotarian, **Paul Hamilton** from the downtown club.



But the a ton of fun was had with the inclusion of past Rotarians **John Meislahn** and **Terry Evans**.

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Coming Up:

10/12 - Peter Witter, The Seals
Role in Underwater Warfare

10/19 - Shelter Boxes, Jim
Carriere from the Rotary Club of
San Rafael

10/26 - Carole Van
Aelstyn, California End-of-Life
Counselor for Compassion &
Choices

11/2 - Jean Irwin, a speaker from
PETS who will discuss her
experience teaching the deaf to
speak.

11/5 - Veteran's Day Celebration
with all clubs

11/9 - Dark (due to Vet Day
change of venue)



Oh and **Duncan Holt** was another prominent figure. Fortunately, **Darcie** put it all in perspective with her on-target "moment."



Behind the scenes, **Chris Young** sold raffle tickets, **Chuck Baker** did set-up, **Anne Abrams** and **Bill Dodson** were our photographers, **Will Richards** was our cashier.

Announcements & Such

Tell me about it...

Mike Merrill, and his fellow Rotarians **Chuck Baker**, **Chuck Stark**, **Anne Abrams** and **Chris Parr-Feldman** participated in a rest stop in Duncans Mills this last Saturday. This fundraiser will support Forget Me Not Farm and Keep the Tour in Santa Rosa.



Janet Coddling and her handsome husband **Rene**, hosted the first of our Friendship Dinners – over the edge food and what we learned about one another was fun and amazing.

Vets Luncheon is scheduled for 11/05 at the Veterans Hall.

Paul Harris Foundation Dinner will be 11/14 and Cliff Dockerman will be the guest speaker.

A fund raiser is scheduled for **October 20th** at the Rialto Theater to support Polio eradication.

Wednesday, October 21st – we will have a 5:30 tour of the new library at SRJC and a Happy Hour after. Thanks to **Chuck Baker** who will provide the necessary parking passes prior to the event.

Matt Delaney was presented with a hand crocheted baby blanket created by the wife of DG Captain KIRK.



Getting to Know You

Brad Leslie, our newest Red Badger, stepped up to the podium to share a little about his past and present. Clearly an over achiever, he excelled at academics and sports. He graduated from high school with **Doug Angelo** then moved onto CSU Turlock to earn a BSBA. Brad has been a mortgage broker for over 20 years and is currently associated with Wells Fargo Bank. We are fortunate to have his energy, interest and creativity as part of our future...and I loved the fact that he ended his presentation with a "Blonde Joke" How fun is that....nope I am dying my hair purple next week...stand by! ...or not



Recognition ...

Let's Rat Out On Our Buds....aka Recognition

Jim Hinton just returned from North Carolina – a delightful respite in the vacation home of **Ken Dansie** - \$20



Phil Talamantes watched the glaciers calving on his recent cruise to Alaska - \$30

Ken Dansie, after wining and dining the **Hinton's** and **Hathaway's** celebrated his sister's birthday in Bermuda - \$30



David Wattell celebrated a birthday with his wife and family in Las Vegas - \$30. Oh and there was a mystery lady that you should ask David about...hmmmmmm.

Joe Perez did not bike the Gran Fondo, but he did fly it – how fun=\$20

And the winner is...

And the winner was not ...Ginny who could not find the elusive black marble; but...



Von once again went home with a lucky bottle of Albertina.

Program: The Role of the Pawn Shop, Michael Hyman

Today's speaker, **Michael Hyman**, second generation proprietor of Pawn Advantage was introduced by long time member, and father of the speaker, **Marv!** Clearly a proud father and dressed to the nines – lookin' so good Marv!



Well, the comment that **Michael** never met a microphone he didn't like was so right on target – this is a man who clearly loves his business and is eloquent communicating their market position and dispelling any preconceived notions about that business.



While everything was peppered with **Michael's** unique and engaging humor, he was very effective in explaining the fascinating history of the business. Did you know that pawning is the second oldest recorded profession? Wow! Actually, pawning goes back thousands of years and was the natural and respected form of lending seen in early China, Italy and other European nations. Respectable references are found in many forms of literature.

Fast forward to the current state...This is an industry that is highly regulated, and therefore trustworthy. Actually it is a multi-faceted industry that deals in buying, selling and loaning. This writer was fascinated by the breadth of and complexity of this noble profession. Take a moment to visit Pawn Advantage and explore the possibilities.

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Bulletin Editor:

Jim Valinoti

*(via the good ship Sea Princess,
just off the coast of Cuba today)*

