

Rotary Club of Santa Rosa West

Bulletin for August 2, 2010

**A visit from the City Council Chambers -
Gary Wysocky**

By Michael P. Merrill

Preliminaries



President "Wild Bill" Dodson opened the meeting with a ring of the bell at 12:25pm and a call to recognize us as the club with the "best members!"

Pledge: PAM DOMINO led us in the pledge



Rotary Moment: JULIE NATION inspired us with a childhood bit of wisdom – long remembered!

Visiting Rotarians: PHIL TALAMANTES introduced our three visiting Rotarians: Two from Santa Rosa Sunrise; **Stacy Drucker-Andress** and **MINI NEWMAN** plus our old favorite **Pierre LaGOURGE** from Sebastopol.

Introduction of Guests: PAM DAVIS introduced her guest **MARY MUNAT** who has a business that provides for the "Greening" of events!

[PDF Version for Printing](#)
[Last Bulletin](#) | [Bulletin Archive](#)

Coming Up:

8/9 - District Governor's Visit

8/13 - [Golf & BBQ Social](#)

8/16 - Ben Stone, Executive Director, Sonoma County Economic Development Board

8/18 - SRWR Board Meeting @ Italian Affair

8/23 - Jonathan Coe, President/CEO, SR Chamber of Commerce

8/30 - TBA

9/6 - Labor Day (Dark)



Phil



Pam introduces Mary

Announcements and such...



Jeff



Gail



PE Janet

JEFF RAY advised that we were filled up with Golfers [40] and that 65 people will be attending BBQ at our 17th Annual Golf & BBQ Social.

GAIL JOHNSON reminded us that our Youth Exchange Student is arriving in time for his welcoming party on August 18th. He is from Belgium and is being sponsored by SANTA ROSA WEST, SANTA ROSA and RANCHO-COTATI Rotary Clubs and will be coming to us in the week before Thanksgiving!

President-Elect JANET CODDING reminded people to attend the ROTARY MEANS BUSINESS social at her home this coming Wednesday from 5 to 7pm. Come and share your "networking skills" to grow Rotary.

DIANE WINSBY reported that the "Birthday Girls Lunch" netted \$1720 for the Santa Rosa Food Bank – Serving 75,000 people in Santa Rosa 57% of which are children under the age 12 years!

President "Wild Bill" reminded us that next week was our visit from the **District Governor JIM FLAMSON** and his wife **KATHY**. The Board will meet with **Governor JIM** at St Rose at 10AM for a business and reporting session first. He then called on **Assistant District Governor David McDonald** who advised us that **All** of the club and spouses are invited to a reception at **PDG MIKE MERRILL's** home on Sunday August 8th from 4pm to 7pm.



Diane



ADG David

Recognition

SMITA MARTINEZ received her Blue Badge and was promptly fined \$25 for her new job as executive-director of the Sotoyome Resource Conservation District.



"WILD BILL" then moved on...

JIM VALINOTI for "going north" up the inland passage to play with the Eagles ("on every corner") and the grizzly bears ("to be avoided") - \$25;



Jim



Doug



Pam

DOUG ANGELO for winning the big raffle pot – *again* – who gave \$40 to the Food Bank Fund, still - \$25;

PAM DAVIS for supporting youth agriculture activities by patting "Betsy the goat" on the head while she was on her way to wearing freezer-wrap - \$25;

PHIL TALAMANTES for surviving two weeks with 3 grandchildren (all girls under 12) and Faye from Madrid to Pisa savoring wine and olive oil all the way - \$25;

And lastly –our "**Covert Council Person To Be**" **Scott Bartley** seen here practicing his now famous "duck and covertness" move was recognized for braving the rapids of public service - \$25.



Scott the "Covert Council Person To Be"



Scott "The Recognized"

Scott not only us advised that the Bartley BBQ was on schedule for September 27th but in the same breath he mistakenly took on his former tablemate the former Bill Dodson, now known as **PRESIDENT WILD BILL DODSON** in a foolish attempt to turn the tables and fine our new President. Wild Man Bill made quick work of Scott, reminding him that he had "been there, done that, and that Homey don't play that!" Scott recanted and ponied up the \$25 indicating that because of Bill's service in walking a precinct for him he was happy to oblige.

Raffle

BOB REINKING drew both winning tickets and a blank for the lucky marble; but passed along the bottle of wine to our guest **MARY MUNAT** – what a gent!



Program: A visit from the City Council Chambers - Gary Wysocky



Santa Rosa City Council Member,
GARY Wysocky



Introductory remarks courtesy
of **Will Richards**

GARY is a CPA by profession, has been a youth coach, has taught at Sonoma State and Piner High and was the founder of the Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition.

GARY opened with budget facts; advising that the SR General Fund is down \$22M from last year to \$108M. He noted that the other major fund is the Capital Improvements Fund which remains at \$200M. 2/3rds of the GF is labor cost. The City is in "give back" discussions with most of the unions that are very tough – but the City needs to learn to say "no!" The Firefighters and Police Civilian Tech Unit has already agreed to sizable "give backs" but the others are resisting.

GARY opposed the Lowe's project because he believed that the long term economics did not pencil out. **GARY** is a strong supporter of SMART and believes that with the development of the Railroad Square and Coddington Stations it will be a major economic driver in the future – while helping to solve the north-south commute issues.

GARY is also a strong supporter of revitalizing the downtown area and believes that the unifying the town square is a necessary aspect of that process.

And, yes, he still believes in more bicycling – although he owns "too many" cars, he only logs 6000 miles per year in them – to stay close to neighbors and open up the gridlock!

Your Bulletin Reporter:

PDG Mike Merrill



Your Bulletin Editor:

Jim Valinoti



Ok, so once again it's time to play "I've got the best caption for that photo."

Here's two photos. Send me your caption for:



Photo #1



Photo #2

Best one gets a bottle of wine from me.....not all will qualify so make 'em good!

