

Rotary Club of Santa Rosa West

Bulletin for September 20, 2010 "Energy Program that Creates Jobs" Rod Dole, Sonoma County Treasurer

By Anne Abrams

Preliminaries



President Bill Dodson called the meeting to order with a whack of the bell at about 12:25.

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Coming Up:

10/4 - Meeting: Tom Boylan,
Modern Marketing on the Web
and Internet

10/11 - TBA

10/18 - Club Assembly

10/25 - TBA

Pres Bill thanked the following for making our meeting possible: Cashier: **Janet Coddling**; Greeter: **Lidio Tropeano**; Set-up: **Gary Lucas**; Tickets: **Chris Young**; Moment: **Ralph Lassa**; Photos: **Jim Valinoti**; Bulletin: **Anne Abrams**; Program: **Jim Benoit**.

The pledge: **Mike Merrill** led us in the salute to our flag.

The Rotary Moment: **Ralph Lassa** quoted **Rod Dole** who once said that "harassment and energy- wasting is not the essence of life, just lean back and relax."

Visiting Rotarians and Guests:

Lidio introduced our visiting Rotarians:

John Jones, CPA from the Sunrise Club,

Valery Gistalt and **Michael Nugent** from Sonoma Valley and

Jackie and **Don McMillan** from the Downtown SR Club.



Lidio

Laura Burher introduced her guest Attorney **Stephanie Hemmi**, with the firm of Carl, Mackey, Powers and Ross. We also welcomed returning Rotarian **Duncan Holt** to our meeting today!



Laura introduces Stephanie



Duncan returns

Announcements and such...

Rotary Dues are now due! Talk to **Jim** or **Bill** about a payment plan so that **Bill** can plan his Rotary year with money in the bank.

Sally Ember, representing the Volunteer Center informed us of an opportunity to participate in "Schools of Hope" a program that supports our Santa Rosa schools. "First Grade Reading is Key to School Success". Sally is looking for volunteers to tutor 1st grade students in reading. Tutors are supported and given training. They hope each volunteer can dedicate one hour of time per week to tutor each of two children for 30 minutes. The program hopes to expand next year and the year after in grades 2 and 3. This program helps children be good readers by 3rd grade. If children are not successful by grade 3, many children fall behind further and often drop out of school in later years. For more information contact bfisher@volunteernow.org. This program is supported by United Way of the Wine Country and the Volunteer Center of Sonoma County.

September 27, next week, our regular meeting will be dark in order to hold the Bartley BBQ hosted at **Jim Valinoti's** home on Vine Hill Road (just off of Guerneville Highway West). **Casey** will be cooking for us assisted by **Scott Bartley** and others. **Scott** will unfortunately be unable to attend due to a League of Women Voters event. We'll miss you, **Scott!** (The sacrifices people make in order to run for office...!)



Jim provides the directions

SCARC will be meeting on Sept 30 in Monte Rio. Bill, Chris, Janet and David will form a car pool for the event.

On Oct 9 our Rotary club is hosting a rest stop for the Gran Fondo bike ride. We are still looking for volunteers so let **Chuck Stark** know you are available to help at a rest stop soon to be announced.

October 15-16 is the Institute for Leadership program in Ukiah. This highly effective program will not only help you gain more leadership skills in your business but in your life too. **Mike** and **Maureen Merrill** are a big part of this program. It is highly recommended by those who have participated before.

On **October 23-24 Viva Rotary is celebrating the Rotary Foundation in Calistoga.** Engineers Without Borders are lighting up the **Ferry Building in SF on Oct 24 for Polio Plus** with the Bay Area Rotary Districts. There will be a bridge walk and car pools to the event.

Phil Talamantes announced that on November 9 is the Veterans Day luncheon at Vets Building. Many clubs including ours will be dark on 11/8 to attend the event which attracts over 700 vets and Rotarians for lunch as well as a speaker (a female general this year). Tickets are \$15.



Phil



Harry

Harry Rubins is selling raffle tickets for the Rotary Foundation supporting efforts to eradicate polio. This year the foundation hopes to collect \$150 from each member. So get your raffle tickets from Harry.

Mike Moore announced that long time Rotarian, the "Super-ninga of Rotarians", **Bob Marigo** is being honored by completing a Paul Harris award for his grandson and soccer scholar **Brandon Quinn**. **Brandon** is the son of **Linda** (one of **Marigo's** four children). If you can help with a donation to the Foundation to honor **Bob** in this way please talk to **Harry Rubins**. Anyone who knows Bob, who understands his uniqueness and dedication to Rotary, will want to join this effort to honor him and his grandson **Brandon**.



Mike announces honor for Bob Marigo



First Place Chris

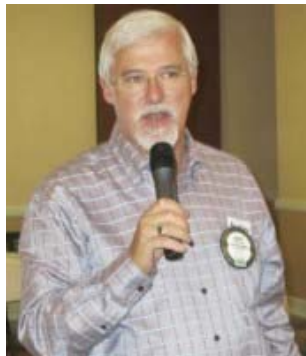
Cyclist and Rotarian **Chris Parr-Feldman** finished first place in the women's triathlon relay team. The race was in Ukiah and she rode her bike over 22 miles. This week she

also rides for the "Rotary Chain Gang" on a ride to benefit multiple sclerosis society. Congrats Chris on a great effort!

Pam Davis is hosting a "Fireside" on Saturday Sept. 25th from 11AM to 1PM at North Bay Corporation. Enjoy an informative "behind the scenes" tour of the sorting facility and see what happens to all that stuff you pack into your blue bin. Important to wear heavy shoes, they are required. There will be refreshments and uni-cycle riding by **Pam** and crew. Oh, maybe not; there is a trivia contest however. See you at 3400 Standish Avenue in SR on Saturday, next.



Pam's Fireside on Sept. 25



See Scott for your yard ornaments

Scott Bartley paid \$25 to announce yard ornaments are available for your lovely, conspicuous, well-located, front yard. Please remove them after Election Day so he doesn't get bombarded. Grab one at the door today or contact Scott.

Raffle:

Barbara Larson drew for a black marble and missed. **Chris Rosell** won the wine.



Taking home the wine

Program: Sonoma County Energy Independence Program (SCEIP)



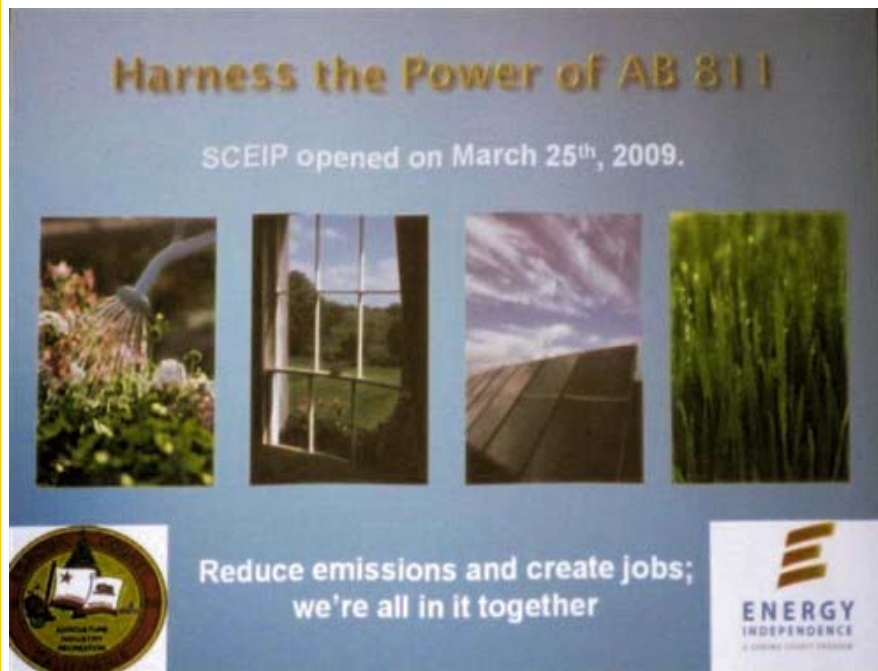
Rod Dole, Sonoma County Treasurer



Past President Jim Benoit ('87-'88) introduces our guest speaker.

Rod Dole has held the office of Treasurer, Auditor, Controller and Tax Collector for the County of Sonoma for the past 25 years. Each year he has run un-opposed and has been elected to office. Today he spoke on the Sonoma County Energy Independence Program (SCEIP). **Rod** has been an advocate and spokes person for this program, a pilot program, speaking on its behalf before the US Congress Ways and Means Committee and Banking Committee. The plan aims to reduce our energy and water consumption, while creating new jobs.

AB 811. The program provides incentives to businesses and homeowners by funding retrofits to homes and businesses through the tax assessment process. The funds are paid back as a tax assessment at the time taxes are collected twice a year over a period of ten to twenty years.



SCEIP opened in March of 2009 and has been a major success thus far with \$100 million (\$45M of county treasure and \$55 mil from the water agency being utilized at 7% interest (fixed) for improvements to properties that save water use and energy. The program is self-sustaining and uses no tax dollars.

One snafu has been that Freddie and Fannie Mae have filed a suit opposing the project as it sees the county "make loans" in competition with banking industry. It's a case of "they were for it and now they are against it." **Rod Dole** recommends people send emails to President Obama, Barney Frank and Chris Dodd in Washington to advocate for this program that is working so well here in Sonoma County.

So far 1100 properties have been retrofitted saving energy costs, reducing their water usage, while creating 377 new jobs. 50% of these have been solar energy conversions. 25% has been for dual pane windows and other structural fixes. Other projects create cool roofs, improved HVAC systems, and tank less hot water systems.

There are more than 65 eligible measures for funding including solar, HVAC systems, cool roofs, process water use reduction, lighting and control systems, insulation and envelope sealing. If you have developed an idea involving a process or equipment not currently on

the eligible improvements list, you may apply as a custom measure. Improvements must be made to existing buildings – new construction does not qualify.

The financed amount becomes an assessment attached to the property, not the owner, and is paid back through the property tax system over a term of 10 or 20 years.

An onsite energy audit is required to participate. PG&E has a dedicated energy efficiency evaluator available for free onsite audits for businesses to help you determine the most efficient route to maximize your investment. You may also want to check with your local water provider to see if free water conservation surveys are available. The delivery and treatment of water comprises twenty percent of the State's energy use, so reducing water use also reduces the use of energy.

To find out more about this exciting program, please visit the website at www.sonomacountyenergy.org or contact **Rod** at rdole@sonomacounty.org or 521-6200.

Your Bulletin Reporter:

Anne Abrams



Your Bulletin Editor:

Jim Valinoti

