



# Rotary Club of Santa Rosa West



## Bulletin

### The Path to the Renaissance of Traditional Chinese Culture, Nan Su, Asian Art Foundation

October 31, 2011 by Smita Martinez

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#### Coming Up:

11/7 - Dark  
11/8 - Annual  
Veteran's Day Event  
@11:30

11/14 - [Craig Schulz](#)

11/21 - [SRJC Culinary Arts Program and their new building.](#)  
[Betsy Fischer](#)

11/28 - [Santa Rosa Community Health Centers.](#) [Laurie Lynn Hogan](#)

12/5 - [Social Media.](#)  
[Kerry Rego of Santa Rosa West Rotary](#)

12/10 - Xmas Party  
@ the McDonald's

12/12 - Santa Rosa  
Gang Task Force,  
Ellen Bailey and  
Georgia Pedgrift

12/19 - Christmas  
Message, Andy  
Springer, Pastor,  
Church of the Oaks

12/26 - Dark for  
Holidays

1/28/12 - Crab Feed

[View full calendar](#)



[Interact Club](#)

at Chops Teen Club

President **Janet Coddling** called the meeting to order by ringing the grand bell and welcoming us with cheers and smiles.

Mr. **Harry Rubins** led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Our enlightening Rotary Moment was shared with us by **Ralph Lassa**. His wise words reminded us to be free and say what we want. Those who mind do not matter, and those who matter do not mind.

Our lovely greeter for the day was **Carol Lueck**, making sure she meets everyone in the club as a Red Badger.

President **Janet** thanked **Terry Galazzo** for being cashier, **Kris Lepore** for setting up, **Louie Capuano** for selling raffle tickets, **Jim Valinoti** for taking photos, **Smita Martinez** for writing the bulletin and last but not least **Mr. Willard Richards** for arranging our awesome program.

**Mr. Gary Lucas** was awarded with the "Rotarian of the Month" award for his outstanding and unwavering dedication to the club.

We had three guests join us for the meeting. **Ron Sparrow**, Branch Manager at First Tech Federal was introduced by **Gail Johnson**. **Brian Petro** is interested in joining our club and was introduced by **Dave Wattell**. **Bryan Fikes** is also interested in joining the Rotary Club of Santa Rosa West and was introduced by **Darcie Fellows**.



## Announcements:

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Due to the Veteran's Day event occurring on November 8th, our club will be dark on November 7th. A reminder for the 11/17 SCARC dinner was communicated.

**Tarina Hall, Ginny Pitts** and **Matt Delaney** recently attended the Festival of Brotherhood in Mexico. They will be giving us a summary of their trip soon.

**Darcie Fellows** gave us a reminder about the Interact Club's November 5th DeMeo Park cleanup activity. The last Interact meeting held on October 28th entailed decorating pumpkins for distribution to the Silver Crest Senior Community Center. The Interactors helped decorate the Center for the seniors to enjoy.



*Darcie reports on Interact activities*



*See Harry for Bangkok raffle tickets*

Other updates were as follows: **Harry Rubin** – raffle tickets for sale with prize being a trip to the International Convention being held in Bangkok; **Kris Lepore** distributed flyers for our annual Crab Feed fundraiser with the theme of "Jumpin' Crab Flash" and **Pam Davis** led the bidding for advertising on the back of our Crab Feed raffle tickets. Mr. Bryan Fikes with Zenergy Works won the bid with a whopping \$1,000! Go **Pam** and **Bryan**!

## Craft Talk

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**Carol Leuck** gave her craft talk as part of her Red Badge checklist. She moved to Santa Rosa 27 years ago and has 3 daughters and 8 grandchildren. She was a Team in Training coach for 5 years. **Carol** started her own business 6 years ago. It is called Best Wishes and is located on the corner of Marlow Road and Piner Road. It contains an official Post Office center at the back of the shop.



## Recognition

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The following folks were fined and required to share why.

**Scott Bartley** was fined \$20 for his birthday on November 1st.

**Lidio Tropeano** had to part with \$20 because his wife has a November birthday on the 5th.

**Lidio** has a nice dinner planned.



*Scott*



*Lidio*



*Jeff*

**Jeff Ray** was also fined for \$20 for celebrating his 33rd wedding anniversary. He gave us all a chuckle when he realized it could have been his 32nd. Hopefully his wife is not reading this.

**Susan Nowacki** celebrated her 12th anniversary in our club and had to pay \$20 for that honor.

Lastly, **Ken Prouty** had to fork over \$20 in celebration of his wife's November 7th birthday.



*Susan*



*Ken*

### **Program: Nan Su, Asian Art Foundation**

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Our Program Speaker, **Nan Su**, grew up in China and came to the US about 22 years ago. He came here to earn his Master's degree. He is a Writer and News Commentator and an expert on the Chinese culture. His presentation "The Path to the Renaissance of Traditional Chinese Culture" gave us an introduction to Chinese history and culture.

The Chinese culture is over 5,000 years, rich in the arts and philosophy. Carl Jie was the inventor of Chinese writing. Legend has it that he had 2 pairs of eyes. One set to observe earthly occurrences and the other set to observe heavenly occurrences.

**Nan** talked about the famous Emperors and Architects throughout their history. He also talked about the introduction of art, medicine and acupuncture. The state of California was the first state in the US to legalize Chinese medicine and acupuncture.

What is culture? Faith and Humanity are the 2 main components of any culture. Confucius created the first private school in China and taught over 3,000 students. He was a Rotarian in heart and spirit with his philosophy focused around serving the right cause or not serving at all. He had 4 basic teachings: Be a good person, have strong family values, serve your country and help the world.

There are 3 teaching systems in the Chinese culture:

- Taoism which focuses on truthfulness and honesty;
- Confuciusism which focuses on love and forbearance and
- Buddhism which focuses on benevolence and compassion.

Americans cherish the same values of truthfulness, benevolence and forbearance.

During the cultural revolution of 1966-1976, monuments and statues were destroyed. 2011 marks the 90 year birthday of the Chinese Communist Party. Five religious leaders from various religions gathered to celebrate.

The Chinese regime is stronger today than it has ever been in its history. In 2008, China was the biggest debt holder.

The global movement is towards rediscovering traditional Chinese culture. The Shen Yu Performing Arts group, based in New York, is traveling to San Francisco in January 2012 to revive the lessons of Chinese culture through performing arts. This performance is brought to us by the Asian Art Foundation whose goal is to bridge the gap between Eastern and Western cultures.

The performers in the show are primarily 2nd generation Chinese people. The dancers are young, the teachers are university educated. With no opportunity to perform in China, the Shen Yu shows went global.

Your Bulletin Reporter:  
**Smita Martinez**



Your Bulletin Editor:  
**Jim Valinoti**

