



Lamorindan



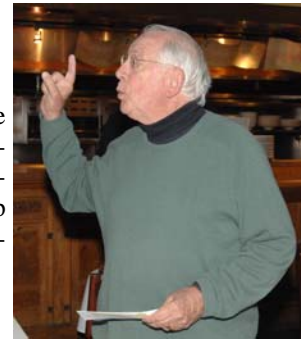
The Weekly Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Lamorinda Sunrise
Meetings Friday 7AM at Postino's Restaurant in Lafayette

April 6, 2007

Cal Lee — Reporter
Dave Dickson — Pictures
Patti Witalis — Publisher

FRIDAY'S GOOD

Being Good Friday, it definitely was time for the "A" Team, Rev. Ray Welles, to give the Thought. Ray feels the world would be very different if less emphasis were put on confession ("the old church OD'd on guilt") and more on forgiveness. He quoted a remarkable prayer by a nameless Jew, an unknown prisoner in Ravensbruch Concentration Camp during WWII, that forgiveness be bestowed on the oppressors when they come to judgment.



UNFORGIVING PRESIDENT

Apparently unmoved, the Pres proceeded to address various transgressions, showing little mercy.

Al Sevilla certainly transgressed, for all the world, or at least Central C.C. County, to see. On the front page of the Times, with no Rotary pin in evidence and no mention of LSR, he complained (to use a polite word) about the good people at CalTrans who are going to help protect us from bent wheel rims and broken axles by fixing the ever-disintegrating Highway 24 -- at night. Those good folks are even giving up their sleep to do this good work so there's less interference with the commute. But is Al giving up his sleep? No way. Being who he is, he'll probably throw cold water on the whole mess. The Pres was unmoved by Al's self-defense and shook him down for \$25. Al is lucky he didn't get SIX MONTHS for this.



Joanne Luscher and Ulrich according to Joanne, where Ulrich was victorious to guard our morals



celebrated their anniversary in the car, Maybe that's legal in Bend, Oregon, ous in a national cross-country ski race. But the Pres was here. It was a 24th anniversary, but the cost was \$30.

Even Patti Witalis felt the presidential wrath. What could be more innocent than having a new grandson named Joseph, home after a difficult birth? No mercy = \$20. Joseph will probably be a Kernel some day, and will figure out a way to avenge.



We never knew that John Fazel went to UCLA before going to Iowa State, but he said he didn't learn anything there. Apparently he didn't learn to be diplomatic toward higher authority, especially an old Bruin, but he was relieved of some punitive damages.

After all this, it was amazing, when the Pres announced there's a board meeting this Tuesday at 7:00 a.m. at Papillon, that the unsuspecting Alex Arnold, another of our halfway-members, actually indicated he might attend.

BUT A FEW NICE THINGS

Putting the forgiveness theme into action at last, Bob Riegg did something nice for the Pres,



which was certainly a one-way street today. He presented Rich with a priceless 1931 UCLA yearbook, courtesy of Bob's mother from that era. From then on, the old Bruin was a pussy-cat.

Then, Brad Davis, of Riley Warren with a treatment for a full thinking about it.



all people, did something nice—he presented Auction Maven gift of appreciation from the club. Riley will now get the full day at the Lafayette Park Spa. She appeared to melt just

Not to be outdone, Sgt.-At-Arms Chuck Kenney gave some free professional advice to everyone. Property taxes April 10!



And Charlie Franklin, Moms. Patti Witalis the War Zone (mothers



winner of today's Raffle, donated his winnings to the Blue Star translated that this is a group of mothers of kids deployed in who have actually lost children there are the Gold Star Moms).

Also a nice thing was that Int'l Director Thomas Peeks introduced our next Camp Royal student -- Darra Dickson (familiar last name?), 17, junior at Acalanes, peer counselor, New Crew (freshmen) leader, concert choir and chamber singer, Oakland Strokes, and InterAct.



Even the Pres got into something nice -- his pet C.E.I.D., intervening in early deafness, taking advantage of the curative possibilities from ages 0 to 5, thus saving gazillions in medical costs. The Walkathon is on April 21, needing folks for setup, registration and course monitors. Transporters the evening before would be good too. A signup sheet is floating around in cyberspace somewhere.

SUPER SUPERINTENDENT

Courtesy of the ever vigilant Buddy Burke, Dr. Pete Conora was quite a ride -- from the Roman Christians and Lions all about education.

Not only has he been in education, mostly at the top level, has only put in 55), but he is a very committed Rotarian.



took the floor, and held it firmly. And it clear into the future. But it was, and is, for 56 years (thus nosing out his wife who

When Pete started out, he came here in the mid-'50s which was a little while after the Romans. Orinda belonged to the Richmond Unified School District, and a Moraga school board member was famous for having a jug for meeting breaks. Not quite as much pressure in those days.

Not only did Pete cover a lot of time, but also a lot of ground, some of which was due to Rotary. For example, in Finland, he met the general who successfully fought the Russians in WWII, who was a Rotarian. But that was back when the Iron Curtain kept even Rotary out of the USSR, so when Pete was one of the first to go through the Curtain in that era, he lost his perfect Rotary attendance record.

He has spoken on leadership around the world, but says the best source of leadership training is Rotary. Post-PETS-Paul Fillinger could be seen nodding in agreement, a little shell-shocked.

One of the main thrusts of Pete's talk was how important it is to touch the lives of kids, particularly in the inner cities. This doesn't necessarily mean construction of classrooms. It means direct personal involvement and caring. It means communication, which incidentally would also be helpful in the current Hayward strike.

In response to Post-PETS-Paul's question about California sliding from educational top to bottom of the country in 40 short years, Pete again stressed lack of personal communication, at the grass roots level, in small clusters of administrators, teachers, parents and kids. Politics are anathema. All kids can learn if they have interest and purpose.

What do Acalanes, Sunol, Benicia, Montebello, Bellflower, Emery, Vallejo, Sacramento and Modesto have in common? They are all districts which have experienced this guy. (He brought the Emery, aka Emeryville, District in the '80s from bankruptcy to financial health.) He's now 78, energetic to say the least, and pondering his job offers.

GUESTS

Rudy Reich, Orinda Club
Dr. Steve (where's the sausages?) Wolfe, Concord
Alex Arnold, in limbo
Auction Queen Riley



UPCOMING

4/10: Board meeting, 7:00 a.m., Papillon
4/13: Mike Muir, grandson of John Muir
4/20: JoEllen Peterson, Raphael House and Sophia Project
4/27 TGITLFOTM Durler's home
4/28: District Leadership Training, Vacaville

5/4: Jill Buck, GoGreen Initiative
5/11: Lois Grandi, Playhouse West (great actress)
5/18: Amy Worth, MTC (formerly Orinda City Council), regional transportation
5/31 TGITLFOTM Reiggs home?

6/8: Shelley Sandusky, attorney, death Penalty in California
6/17-6/20: International Convention, Salt Lake City
NOTE: June TGITLFOTM will be on the first Friday of July!

