



Lamorindan



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

April 4, 2008

Cal Lee — Reporter
Tom Black — Photos
Patti Witalis — Publisher



"Rotary gives ordinary people the opportunity to do extraordinary things."

*Sir Clem Renouf
Past President, Rotary International*

THANKS, MIKE

Mike Edwards knows how to hurt a guy. Back from 4 months in Hawaii. Had to endure 70-degree weather all winter. Was not accustomed to arising at our ridiculous Friday time of the morning. His thought, not surprisingly, was that if you keep thinking good things for yourself and others, they will happen.

Easy for him to say.



IS THERE A PATTERN HERE?

Our last new member was Krys Laine. Our newest new member, after the suspense built up for some time, is Chris Lane. Hey, we need some diversity. But we're overjoyed to have them both. This morning Chris got the usual hand-wringing welcome after receiving some Rotary keepsakes and congratulations for joining this exclusive 1.2 million member organization. His sponsor Thomas Raeth said Chris was generous to the Auction, was to wear his pin at Contra Costa Stationers at all times, and his Red Badge undoubtedly will be very temporary.



VISITORS MAKE THEIR MARK

Always a treat to see the Man In Black, **Donn Black**, first mayor of Lafayette, the greatest imitator of the Marquis de Lafayette, and most importantly (to the Prez) an Oregon State Beaver.

Noteworthy also was **Chuck Vogel**, a member of 8 weeks' standing in the Lafayette noon club. He likes Rotary. He drew the white raffle ball.

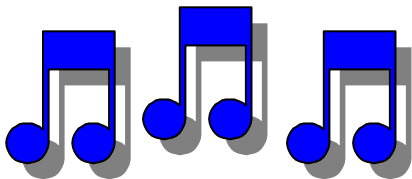
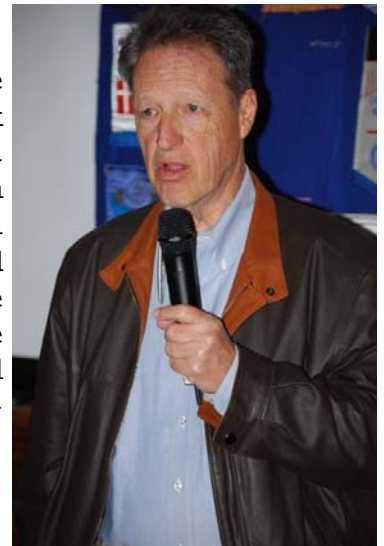
MEMBERS BABBLE

The very same Thomas Raeth was breathing deeply. In Hamburg, where he'd been visiting his mother's family including the great-grandmother (crossed the Atlantic in the 1800s???) , not many folks were wearing those patches to quit smoking. But he had a good enough time to kick in some Euros to the Foundation.



Pat Flaharty, in charge of Membership this year and the whole club next year, announced that we have 4 new members this year with several more in the pipeline. He also touched on the mixer for the new club at the Hungry Hunter. This club, for somewhat younger folks, will meet on Tuesdays at the 5:30-6:30 cocktail hour (Rev. Welles, of all people, muttered it's for alcoholics). It will be at Hungry Hunter until May, then move to 1515 Restaurant & Lounge in Walnut Creek. You can make up there.

Bob Riegg's views on Madagascar have changed. As we all know, he used to think they were somewhat backward. He found out very differently from the GSE team which just visited from there. He took them on a tour of the UC Public Health building, and concluded they are really With It. The Prez, who hosted the group, thanked everyone for NOT volunteering to host, because he had such a wonderful time with these two Madagascan ladies.



Oh, yes, the Prez didn't forget Glenda. He announced that her Diablo Symphony will be giving an all-Beethoven program at the Leshner Center on Sunday at 2:00.



EXALTED MEMBERS BABBLE

Well, that is to say, these directors said profound things about their avenues of service, this being a Club Assembly meeting.



Prez Paul started it off with one of his unique photography shows. He managed to make the subject of Leadership interesting. The pictures included The Lopez Family (not Steve Lopez), a bouquet of flowers with burnout, his own garage and office, himself as a timid kitten and a killer mouse, The Wig, and others even more inexplicable. Well, he's still our Leader.

Jim Brencic is the Program Man. The programs are classified as Informational and Motivational, which in turn are International and local. For some reason, Expose Yourself apparently is in a separate category. Anyway, Jim would appreciate being informed of potential speakers by email; he'll do all the follow-up.

Walt Nelson, Club Service, is an early riser. (How did Mike Edwards ever do this stuff?) His setup crew gets to work at 6:30 for our pleasure. Other categories covered in this important directorship are greeter, sergeant-at-arms, thought for the day, TGITLFOTM, board meetings, historian, and Reno.



Tom Black is our modest publicity man. But he did say our biggest "hit" of the year came not from his efforts, but a call Paul received out



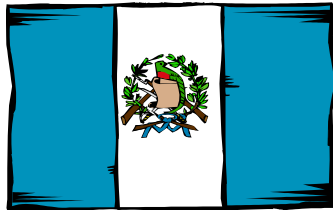
of the blue from French Embassy, specifically a Walter Cronkite type. The result was a vignette filmed at the Petanque Court, although our club may be in danger because the film was also a diatribe against the Bush foreign policy. Tom's territory also includes the newsletter, and he mentioned with appreciation Kevin Croak and Patti Witalis who put it together, and new scribe Ron Brown.



Dave Dickson doesn't look like Chuck Yeager, our secretary, but Dave was here and Chuck wasn't. Dave knows all about it. Secretary is like a plumber, keeping track of information nobody cares about, including membership, reports to RI, and attendance.



Ernie Furtado definitely is into \$\$\$\$. He's treasurer of both the club and the Endowment. He announced that the Auction netted over \$40,000. But it's never enough. He immediately served Chris Lane with his first club billing, 7 minutes after the poor guy was inducted.



Skip McCowan, international service, recalled a few projects: dental equipment to Vietnam, aid after the Nicaragua hurricane, Yugoslavian farm for impaired women. And maybe most importantly, Common Hope (formerly Godchild Project), construction in Guatemala, where Skip and others will be going this fall. GSE and Youth Exchange are other important areas of international service. Lastly, Skip urged attendance at the Peace & Conflict Resolution school at UC Berkeley on the morning of April 19th, where there will be a dynamic speaker. Our sponsored representative from Venezuela, Domingo Gutierrez, will be there.

George Chaffey, standing in for Thomas Peeks, community service, is a hands-on man. Somewhere he picked up the saying, "It ain't the same to talk about bulls as to be in the bull ring." The bedrock of Rotary is community service. Our job is to make Lamorinda a better community, to touch the local people, to make ourselves relevant.



Richard Shearer, before heading off to court in his handsome suit and his toothbrush, mentioned a little hands-on coming up at the Garden Park Apartments (Brad Davis's baby) on April 19th. Whether it's trying to construct a basketball hoop or doing something really useful, it's the very best bonding opportunity.



The meeting then disintegrated into questions, complaints, accusations, and nonsense. A couple of good ideas came from a new member (Krysten, getting involved in multi-club project such as Agape Village) and a very old member (Fazel, doing more stuff together with InterAct).

Skip had the last word. Are we having an exchange student next year?



Think about it!

Briefly Noted
Saturday, April 05, 2008



I will never use the phrase "herding cats" again in a negative way. Friday morning proved it could be done: a bunch of independent guys with their own ideas of how it should be done and resistant to rehearsing or rigid time requirements fell in line like a precision marching band and all played the same tune—"Rotary Shares!"

The beautiful thing about it was there was enough time left over to hear back from the members. There were some excellent ideas suggested. There was a spirit generated that I can't describe except that it was positive...it was special...I think it was what Rotary is supposed to be.

Thank all of you for contributing.

See you Friday. Com see a local-girl-makes-good. Bring a successful woman friend. She will be impressed.

Paul



VISITING ROTARIANS

Bill Pugh, Benicia
Chuck Vogel, Lafayette
Angelo Costanza, Moraga



GUESTS

Donn Black, goes back to Revolutionary times
Robert and Teresa Riebs, Fillinger friends (we'll forgive them)
Simone

UPCOMING

4/11: Dr. Gloria Duffy, president, Commonwealth Club
4/18: Dyan Bender
4/25: Expose Yourself: Chuck Yeager and good old TBD
4/24 - 4/26: District Conference, Sacramento

5/2: Stanley School volunteers
5/9: Michael Mataraza, psychology of speaking & persuasion
5/16: Linton Johnson, BART Media & Public Affairs
5/23: Christing Herbert (Dan's niece), Peace Corps in Zambia
5/30: Expose Yourself: Dave Dickson and TBD

6/15 - 6/18: Rotary International Convention, Los Angeles



George enthusiastically advises all Rotarians to attend the International Convention in LA