



# Lamorindan



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

May 2, 2008

Tom Black — Photography  
Cal Lee—Editor  
Kevin Croak — Publisher

## FLAVORS A BIT WEAK?

Paul's idol apparently is another Paul, Mr. Harvey. Such a thoughtful man — yet the Prez said this wasn't a Thought for the Day, but a story. Lengthwise, he was correct, as Brad Davis repeatedly observed. The gist was that Prez Paul took his grandson to Coldstone, and despite the Fillingier blood raging through his veins, the lad eschewed all those exciting flavors and toppings in favor of vanilla. Where did Paul go wrong? Here there was a break before "the Rest of the Story", in true Paul Harvey fashion, to build up the suspense to a fever pitch. Guests were introduced. Paul then continued that he and Zuzka were the only ones at the District Conference, with all its flavors and experiences. Presumably the rest of us were deprived of flavors by not showing up. Or something like that. Well, the telling was vintage Fillingieresque.



## BIRTHDAYS SHIFTING; MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE RETURNS

Hays Englehart read his birthday list perfectly. Only trouble is, the list wasn't quite perfect. Rod Ford-Smith was accused of being a birthday boy on 5/2, when his actual birthday was 2/5. Joanne Luscher figured it was finally time to speak up about her 2/1 birthday which had gone unobserved. (Some of us would rather not observe birthdays.) Anyway, Rod was also accused of passing a big securities test, which was true, so he either enjoyed recognition or suffered a fine, however you look at it. Ken Kosich received the distinguished and unique Marquis de Lafayette Award for his work navigating the Great Ship Auction; his heartwarming response was to growl that we have to work harder next time. He also showed his softer side by acknowledging his and Patti's 28<sup>th</sup> anniversary, which he spent fishing with his son. Maybe the Marquis award isn't so unique, since Tom Black was also given one (and fined) for being a streetwalker for the Auction.

## THESE SWEET YOUNG THINGS

Zuzka was taken to see the Giants by the McCowans, and thought those ballplayers were pretty neat. She also dined at the Moraga Country Club with the Furtados, and the next night at Chez Fillinger with the outgoing and incoming presidents. Following this report, Don Reichert, with a faraway look in his eye, thought taking out three 18-year-olds was pretty neat.

## MISCELLANEOUS

A somewhat laid-back meeting. Chuck Kenney arrived late (shocking). Patti Witalis and Steve Ware were chastised by the Prez for talking (even more shocking). Nobody read the new issue of the Rotarian except Hays Englehart, who identified Route 66 and Rotary Shares as the hot topics. He is now forgiven for the birthday fiasco. The Prez, who is a thorough researcher, revealed that on the last page of the magazine, the Rotary Club of Silverdale, WA, was mentioned as raising \$93,000 by tossing some rubber duckies into a river. What a piece of cake -- all we need to do is dig a river, a great hands-on project.



John Fazel tells Brad Davis that the sardine he netted while surfing off Fiji was "about this big." Obviously, Brad isn't buying it.



## OPPORTUNITY DOES INDEED KNOCK

Jeff Adams is ancient history, but the Opportunity Knocks he created at Stanley Middle School 15 years ago is going much stronger than ever. An impressive was given by coordinator Toni McShane, advisor Laura Waal,



and a most impressive group of 4 kids: 7<sup>th</sup> graders Courtney Neff and Rachel Bowers, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders Drew Gaylord and Olivia Murphy.

Stanley has about 1,200 kids. All are potential members to give back to the community. About 150 to 175 are active, and they have generated about 3,500 hours of community service.

There are incentives. 6 hours of service gets a student a \$2 gift from Chow, 12 hours from Jamba Juice, 18 hours from Flipperburger, 24 hours from the book store, and 35 hours a trip to Great America (55 kids made it this far).

They look for, and create, projects. They watch the paper and follow up on possibilities, and have a lot of return business. Let us count the ways: CC Food Bank, Art & Wine Festival, reading at Lafayette Convalescent, Reservoir Run, book fairs, judges and scorekeepers, peer counselors, Lafayette Library, among others. One of the most interesting and helpful services is being special buddies of special students at lunchtime with puzzles, playing ball, etc.

An outgrowth of Opp Knocks is Global Relief Outreach (“GRO”), presided over this year by Drew Gaylord. All the Auction-obsessed Rotarians sat up and took notice on learning that GRO raised \$60,000 this year. The group has a lunch meeting once a week to decide and work on more global projects. Among their interests have been Hurricane Katrina, the 2004 Tsunami, Heifer International, coin drive for breast cancer, clothes for the homeless, water purification, a playground in Colombia, and Budd McKenzie’s work in Afghanistan. They manage their own budget. They’ve received “best example” awards.

How can we help? Get the word out about Opp Knocks! Also, Don Reichert lent a helping hand by encouraging students, when they get to 11<sup>th</sup> grade, to consider Camp Royal.

After this inspiring presentation, did the Prez end it on a high note of his own? Well, not exactly. He had to say that we didn't quite have the check for Opp Knocks today, but don't worry, we're good for it. He also had to admit that we've lost our marbles, no great surprise, except he was referring to the Raffle. A marble-less Raffle was conducted as a grand climax to the day.



Tay Wheeler takes catnap while other members listen intently to speaker presentations



As an amazing display of his speed — Tom Black shows how he can set down his new Nikon, snap the shutter and push everyone else out of the way so that a self portrait can be done



Hays Englehart reacts to month-old bagel he ingested moments earlier.



Al Sevilla attempts to soothe lower lip burned on Postino superhot coffee. He says he won't sue because then the club would have to meet at his house

## VISITING ROTARIANS

Rudy Reich, Orinda (GIVING away 4 tickets to their Wild Wild West Show, May 17)  
Waite Stephenson, Moraga



## GUESTS

Nancy Poland, again  
Mike Wilson, again  
Irv Ford, Brad's neighbor  
Ryan Hanna, with driver's permit, Pop looked nervous  
Katie Rose  
The Stanley School contingent (above)

## UPCOMING

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.  
6/6: Jay Lifson, Lafayette Chamber of Commerce  
6/15 - 6/18: Rotary International Convention, Los Angeles  
6/20: San Francisco Rotary, 100 years of Rotary history  
6/27: Expose Yourself: Kevin Croak and TBD

A May 30th TGLIFOTUM celebration hosted by Tamra and Gillett Johnson is being contemplated — more details to come next week



**Gordon Spahr of Boy Scout Troup 200—spoke of his Eagle Scout project which involves efforts to keep our creeks and rivers free of toxic runoff from our streets and places of work. What was not mentioned was his acceptance at the US Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. His father— John Spahr, a graduate of the Air Force Academy, is proud to see Gordon meet the high standards of this institution and follow in his footsteps.**

## Briefly Noted

By da prez

Saturday, May 03, 2008



Sometimes I get thinking how *special* Rotary is, like it is *so* much better than anything else—like *better* than Kiwanis, or the Catholic Church or *all* the United Nations' humanitarian programs!

Well, not quite. But it is easy to become so self-involved that you forget the big picture. There are a lot of good efforts by a lot of good people happening in a lot of places.

What a great reminder we had Friday. It was like a Middle School Rotary Club that came to visit us and tell their story. What a list of activities the 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> graders accomplish at Stanley Intermediate School!

Wouldn't it be wonderful to fast-forward 25 years to see what those four students who spoke to us Friday would be doing for the world? And all the other students just like them.

I wish our Rotary Club could support a lot more Opportunity Knocks programs around the world. (Maybe we could get Jeff Adams to be our traveling ambassador!)

See you next Friday. Bring a friend.

Paul



Paul Fillinger, who supervised publication of the first edition of the Oxford English Dictionary, points out misspelling to scribe Cal Lee. Cal graciously expressed his thanks.



Bob Riegg tells guest Irv Ford that Ron Brown, a club newbie, had the gall to steal his coffee mug and then DRINK FROM IT!