



Lamorindan



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

July 20, 2007

Rich Shearer — Reporting
Dave Dickson — Pictures
Kevin Croak & Patti Witalis — Publishers

July 20, 2007

Cal Lee and I drew straws to see who would write copy this week. The Club lost.

GUESTS & VISITING ROTARIANS:

With all the guests we had today, you'd have thought Cliff Dochterman was the speaker or something



- Dave Johnson (a Rotary Past President) and Marcia Johnson - guests of John Linneman
- Connie Linneman - ditto
- Eddie Roodveldt - Moraga
- Gene Vogel - Concord
- Brandon Day - Danville (and friend of Gillett Johnson)
- Kathe Nelson - Walt's better half
- Erling Horn - Rich Shearer gave him a breakfast card a while back, plus he lives near President Paul, so this former Mayor of Lafayette finally bowed to the inevitable
- Carol Chaffey - George's massively better half
- Jackie Welles - Rev. Ray's biggest fan
- Pat Riegg - Bob's chaperone-for-life
- Scott Spencer - husband of our newest member (more below)



And, of course, the one and only Queen Glenda, the grace and power behind the throne

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:



Skip McCowan was not at some legal conference or other for his anniversary for the first time in recent memory, so he and Linda had a lovely dinner at Lake Tahoe. Must be some dinner, as Skip offered up \$100 to the Foundation (I think the Rotary one, not the Club one, but I could be wrong) and \$20 to the Club. Rich Shearer then confessed that son Cameron had a birthday and gave \$20 to the Club's coffers. (It's a cheap way to keep Cameron off his back.)



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Our website Calendar will have even more info, but here is a fair sampling:

Friday, July 27, 2007: Meeting, 7:00 a.m., Postino. Yet another installment of the prize-winning “Expose Yourself” series. Brad Davis and Tom Black will tell us all their deepest, darkest secrets.

Friday, July 27, 2007: TGITLFOTM. 5:30 p.m. to ??? Brad and Carol Davis host this month’s fun-fest. Bring something to drink and bring something to nosh. Oh, and bring your Significant Other and potential members, too.



Friday, August 3, 2007: Meeting, 7:00 a.m. Postino. Imagine starting an international organization from your dining table!! Jill Buck, founder of the GoGreen Initiative, will tell us about uniquely making money for our schools while helping the environment. Check out www.gogreeninitiative.org

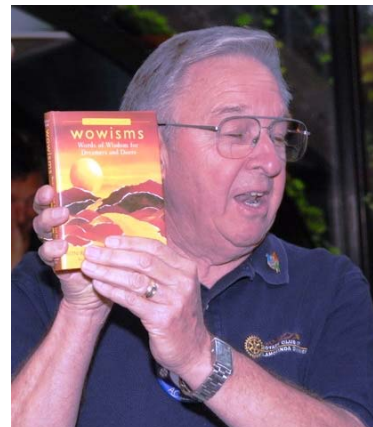
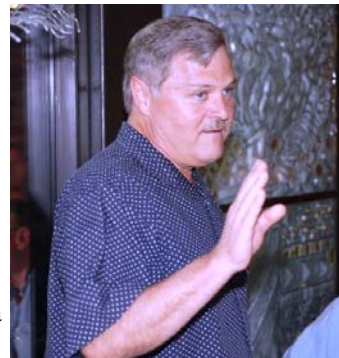
Friday, August 10, 2007: Meeting, 7:00 a.m. Postino. Ms. Niroop Srivatas, City of Lafayette Building and Planning Manager speaks on the direction of Building and Planning in Lafayette. Hear how the new Library, Mercantile Building, and development plans for the downtown core will be changing the face of Lafayette.

Tuesday, August 14, 2007: LSR Board meeting, 7:00 a.m. Lafayette Park Hotel - All are welcome (especially Red Badgers- hint, hint) to come help shape the decisions that guide the Club.

Friday, August 17, 2007: Meeting, 7:00 a.m. Postino. Here's one for all the environmentalists in the group. In September the Central Contra Costa Solid Waste Authority begins it's new food scrap recycling program. Lois Courchaine, Program Manager joins us to inform us on the program and to maximize participation. Get a glimpse into how and why recycling and waste management programs will be expanding in the future!

SOME TEST, THAT ONE:

We learned a couple of things about the Four-Way Test today. First, we learned that King Paul II thought that it was written on the forehead of King Paul I (Ret.), as he asked Dan Herbert to recite the Test whilst looking at Mr. Bettelheim. Second, we learned that Dan has some form of selective palsy that makes him turn his head towards the Four-Way Test banner when asked to recite the Test whilst looking at King Paul I (Ret.). Third, although this is just a hunch, King Paul II wants to encourage us to pay a little more attention to the Four-Way Test at our meetings and in our lives - a highly worthy endeavor, by the way - so you might want to comport yourself accordingly.



WE JUST KEEP A-GROWIN':



We had another New Member Induction today, as LaRay Spencer joined the storied ranks of Lamorinda Sunrise. Oh, but this wasn't just any old induction. LaRay was enrolled in LSR by none other than Past RI President Cliff Dochterman, who, rumor has it, has done this a time or two before. Cliff told LaRay, and reminded all of us, that Rotary is not a religion, a fraternity, or a secret society - just 1.2 million people around the world standing together for the simple purpose helping that world a little better for everyone. Thanks for the reminder, Cliff. And welcome to Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary, LaRay. We are delighted to have you. And thanks, John Fazel, for introducing LaRay to the Club.



WE JUST KEEP A-GROWIN' UP:

It seems like just yesterday that Dave Watson and Hayes Englehart were brand new Lamorinda Sunrisers, shy, retiring, a little uncertain of themselves. (Yeah, right . . .) But now, their maturation and advancement in the Club has led them to have been bestowed with that most prized of talismans: the coveted Blue Badge. Personally, I think it was the goat at the most recent Demotion that pushed them over the edge.



PROGRAM - WHEN DID YOU BECOME A ROTARIAN?:

Okay, it's an overworked phrase, but it really applies here: Today's speaker is one-of-a-kind. He has been a Rotarian for 48 years. He has been a Club President, a District Governor, a Rotary International Director, a Trustee of the Rotary Foundation for 6 years, including a stretch as Chairman. He is the author of "The ABC's of Rotary" and one of the pioneers of Polio Plus, the biggest and by far the most successful private health care initiative in history. He is also Paul Fillinger's doppelgänger and Brad Davis' personal entertainer. He is, of course, Cliff Dochterman, Past President, Rotary International.



Cliff noted that the Rotary Club in his Ohio home town was kind of small - so small that they didn't have room for the Four-Way Test, only a Three-Way Test: Is it fun; will it hurt anyone; and will anyone find out? He also compared his role at most Rotary functions as a Past RI President to that of the corpse at a funeral: indispensable to the proceedings, not expected to do much beyond showing up, and certainly not welcome to speak. Fortunately for us, he chose not to take that road today.

Cliff's question for us today: When did you become a Rotarian? He stressed that "becoming a Rotarian" is not the same thing as "joining a Rotary Club." It is more than attending meetings, having a meal, listening to a weekly program, and going on with the rest of your life. It means taking our motto "Service Above Self" seriously. It means being reliable, fair and decent in everything you do. It means looking for ways to help, to make the world a little better.

Cliff told us about Tom, a Rotarian in what was long the largest Rotary Club in the world, in Houston, Texas. Tom had been the proverbial RINO ("Rotarian in name only"). He declined to help out once too often, and the Club President made it rather clear that he needed to take on this project or find another group to join. So Tom finally accepted. His mission, take a young child from a poor family to the hospital. At the hospital, the boy asked Tom if he was God. "What makes you ask that?" "Because," said the boy, "my Mother was praying for God to help us, and then you came to our door." Tom left, but he came back - with stuffed animals for the boy and the other kids in his ward. He then left and picked up a bunch of groceries - and took them to the boy's Mother. Tom next called the Club President who had forced this task upon him, and reported that there was a great deal of work to be done in this poor, predominantly Hispanic neighborhood. Tom insisted that the Club needed to get to it, that the President needed to name a committee to organize the efforts - and that he, Tom, wanted to be the Chair.

Tom had been a Club member for years, but that was the day he became a Rotarian.

Now you don't have to travel to one of the five countries where the fewer than 1,000 new cases of wild Polio still occur each year (down from the 500,000 new cases annually in 125 countries when Rotary started Polio Plus in 1985) to give the two drops of vaccine to children and spare them from polio - though that is an incredibly satisfying way to reach out. You don't have to put in a well pump to supply safe drinking water in a village in Nigeria, although Cliff noted that at the dedication of such a well, a woman told the Rotarian dignitaries that "When Rotary gave us this pump for the well, our children stopped dying." There is plenty of opportunity to give of yourself and your talents - to become a Rotarian - a lot closer to home. (Hint: we have plenty of upcoming service projects that will fit the bill nicely.)

So, when do you become a Rotarian? When you can say to yourself that someone is having a better day or a better life because you are a Rotarian. Not just because Rotary exists, but because *you* are a Rotarian.

Thank you, Cliff, for telling our newer members and reminding the rest of us what it really means to be a Rotarian.

Briefly Noted

By Paul Fillinger

Any of you who didn't attend last Friday's meeting missed a good one—maybe the best of the year. Rotary's #1 speaker, Cliff Dochterman, delivered a memorable, emotional, inspirational message that kicked off our year in the best possible way.



And there is a good one coming up. Brad Davis, a few years ago, started the now famous Expose Yourself series. He was great, set a high standard. Come see him top his record.

And Tom Black. He can do anything. Come and see how much he's willing to expose—maybe his secret of how to get so many Lafayette merchants to just say yes to our auction.

And don't forget next Friday's TGITLFOFM, 5:30 at Brad & Carol Davis's home.

You'll never guess what happened to the thousands of paper back books donated by the Friends of the Library. Charlie Franklin will let you know this Friday.

Finally, send your wife or husband's email address to Chuck Yeager so they can have their own copy of our outstanding Newsletter to read. It's been pointed out that some of you are not sharing this news with your partner!

See you Friday. Dave Watson is going to spend five minutes talking about improving club communications this year. If you have an announcement, let me know Thursday.

