



VOL LXXVIII

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EDITOR: Don McMillan

Our Program For September 28th:

THE CALIFORNIA BUDGET CRISIS

POLITICAL GURU BRIAN SOBEL EXPLAINS IT ALL?

FLAMINGO RESORT HOTEL, WEDNESDAY, 12:00 NOON

Finally, the hard reality of underfunded public pension plans has hit the fan in California, in Sonoma County, and around the nation as the just-released individual data of the unfunded (or over-funded) retirement benefits of the public sector's elite is the top story of media everywhere, looking for the scapegoats of the day on which to blame our economic problems. The eclectic Brian Sobel has agreed to explain the problems that are becoming clearly evident to virtually every voter in California. Media commentator and consultant Sobel has been vice mayor of Petaluma, a candidate for the California Assembly, and a career political appointee to multiple government agencies and boards of directors at state, regional, county, and city levels. Next Wednesday's Rotary program should be fascinating and controversial at the least.

www.santarosarotary.com

UPCOMING PROGRAMS....

Oct. 5, 2011: Rotary Changes People's Lives Oct. 12, 2011: Dr. Bob Woodbury-

Advances in Laparoscopic Surgery

Oct. 19, 2011: Mark Burchill—Rotary Means Business

CHECK OUT THESE LINKS

Visit our website at www.santarosarotary.com

Check out District 5130

Explore the Sixth District boundaries and links

Visit Rotary's Foundation page

View the 2011-12 California Budget

OPENING CEREMONIES:

Hiz Honor, **Knoel Owen**, led the crowd in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. **Cathy Vicini** then introduced a more somber tone (who can be more somber than The Judge? But I digress) with a heartfelt invocation in re-membrance of our recently departed and beloved **John Brown** mentioning that it is important to be able to know someone without even having to have a conversation with that person.

VISTING ROTARIANS

Due to a delay in the usual order of things for our meeting caused by our ever-intrepid **President Marnie**, the editor did not catch which of our club members introduced the visiting Rotarians, but the editor did catch—be-tween bites of salad—who was visiting with us: Stevenson Atherton, wealth management—an oxymoron these days?, but I digress again—from the St. Helena club, Greg O'Brien, YMCA, from the Petaluma Rotary Club, and Steven Davis, retired DDS, from the Santa Rosa Sunrise club.

GUESTS OF ROTARIANS

Our President did remember to ask our club members to introduce their guests. We had a bunch! Kathy Barr and Sylvia Coombs from Leadership Santa Rosa; Cecil Humes introduced his wife, Gerry Humes (apparently Cecil's personal chauffeur) (how long is he going to be able to milk this shoulder for free rides?); Knoel Owen introduced newly-appointed Judge Brad DeMeo; Kerrie Chambers introduced Greg Gallegos; and our own foreign exchange, Pauline Beck, also joined us for a very un-French, but tasty, lunch (more to follow).

SUNSHINE REPORT

We again were made aware of **John Brown's** passing, but his Celebration of Life will take place at the First Presbyterian Church on Pacific and McDonald Avenues on Saturday, October 1st at 11 am. Come early as it is expected that there will be a throng of people attending who knew and loved John. A reception at the Church and then **Eileen Carlisle's** home will follow.

NEW BLUE BADGE

Prez Marnie proudly took \$10 and a red badge from Kerrie Chambers and presented her with her Blue Badge in return. Way to go Kerrie!



President Marnie and new Blue Badger Kerrie Chambers

SECRET GREETER

Stephan Passalacqua (a/k/a Mr. Hoof-in-Mouth) perhaps followed the 4 Way Test too far by stating that a Lady in Red (also a blonde and cute), **Suzanne Drace** caught his eye and will (infamously?) be the recipient of a free lunch next week. Please come to see if Stephan is wearing that lunch!

RAFFLE

New Red Badger, Jerry Shimp allowed Gerry Humes to try to win the big jackpot (around \$190), but all she got was the \$10 second place prize. I bet that was bigger than the tips Cecil has been doling out to his limo driver!



Gerry Humes tries her luck with Jerry Shimp

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wayne (Social Media Guru, Social Host, and Computer Whiz) Rowlands agreed to host a social on Thursday, September 22nd at his palace, picking one of the hottest days of the year to do so. Hope everyone made use of the pool...intentionally or unintentionally!

Aloha, **Will Haymaker**, **a/k/a Hola!** Will now, again announced that the World Community Service Committee is planning a trip as part of our Project Amigo participation, to Colima, Mexico from March 3 through 13, 2012. If anyone is interested, please contact Will ASAP so that he can begin to organize our trip.

Big Daddy Warbucks—Will Haymaker—also announced that the Joint Charitable Projects Committee is now accepting applications for grants to non-profits in our community. The deadline to submit applications is October 31st this year! If you have a question contact Will or **Ted Wilmsen.**

Vickie Hardcastle (of the "It takes two Wallys to equal one Vickie" fame) announced that today (9-21-11) was the last day to take advantage of the \$2 for \$1 Rotary International Paul Harris Fellow donations. If you missed it this year, just be patient, Vickie will be back next year with the same pitch!!

Karen Ball announced (with Pauline Beck's assistance) that Pauline is trying to raise funds so that she can par-ticipate in some of the side trips that the exchange students like to take to see the U.S.A during their year's resi-dence. Sooo, there will be dinners hosted by Karen and Pauline at Karen's home. Seating is limited and the price is \$30 per person

or a bargain price of \$50 for a couple. If you're interested please let Karen and Pauline know immediately, if not sooner. I heard that the menu theme will be French such as Ratatouille and French Kisses (but I may have imagined that last part). etc.

Eileen Carlisle announced that there will be a "Remember John Brown" social at her house on Wednesday, September 28th at 5:30 pm.

Carmen Sinigiani announced that our club will be again participating in the Gran Fondo on October 1st. We will be hosting a rest stop and need additional volunteers for that rest stop. October first is less than a week away, so contact Carmen immediately. Oh, by the way, rumor has it that Carmen volunteered for yet another rest stop...which means more volunteer by that Saturday.

Nick Knickerbocker announced that the 2011 Annual Veteran's Memorial Luncheon is set for Tuesday, No-vember 8th at the Vet's Hall in Santa Rosa at 11:30 am. Price is \$15 for lunch and there will be a grand show. As in years past, when you purchase a second ticket one more veteran can attend, be recognized and thanked for their service.

OUTSTANDING STUDENT

High School Recognition Chair **Bill Hatcher** introduced Laurie Fong, the principal at Montgomery High School

who in turn introduced the Vikings' outstanding student, Karl Nimtz. Karl is an obvious underachiever who sports a 5.0 GPA while participating in varsity baseball, as pitcher and centerfielder (It's always good to be



Bill Hatcher introduces outstanding Student Karl Nimtz

strong up the middle on the diamond!) Plus basketball. He is a Scholar Athlete of the Year and participates in a multitude of service work in our community. (Marnie quipped that he must feel very honored to be recognized by a group like us because some of us (at least the Prez) needed five years to accumulate 5 points in a GPA!

RECOGNITIONS

This week's humble bulletin editor (what's his name?) got zapped \$15 for being photographed in a prestigious fullpage advertisement for Summit State Bank wearing his Santa Rosa Rotary Club shirt, Rotary pin, and tie! Go

figure! The editor's partner, Doug Shureen—a Sunrise Rotarian fined \$10 in absentia for being in the same photo...without any Rotary insignias!

Larry Miyano coughed up \$100 for the Club's Local Foundation and \$100 for the Rotary International Foundation for having had the audacity to go to New Zealand and Fiji. I heard something about a wedding, but the Prez showed no mercy.

Local Tooth Dr. **Dan Bornstein** then got into a dogfight with the Prez over a dog-napping mother-in-law. Apparently Dan and his mother-in-law are neighbors of **President Marnie**, who complained that Dan never talks to her, except at club meetings. Dan shot back that he talks to her all the time in the neighborhood, but she just doesn't listen! Last I heard Dan and Marnie were headed to a full session at Recourse Mediation. I'm not sure that any \$\$\$\$ got extracted in the exchange.

President Marnie recognized **Troy "Adonis" Carrington** for participating in an endurance race at Squaw Valley this past summer.

ROTARY LEGEND JOHN BROWN

The Rotary Club of Santa Rosa Foundation will include the late **John Brown** on the list of "Rotary Legends" as a result of the many contributions being received by the Foundation in John's memory. Contributions can be sent to the Foundation, PO Box 1513, Santa Rosa, CA 95402. John's sons, Barry and Brian, will be notified of all contributions to the Legends Fund in John's memory.

IN MEMORIAM

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, October 1, 2011, at the First Presbyterian Church, 1550 Pa-cific Avenue in Santa Rosa for John E. Brown, Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps Reserve, President (1989-90) and longtime Rotarian. Service to country and service to his community defined John's years on this earth. Rotary, The Salvation Army, YMCA, Boy Scouts, and the Sonoma County Museum are only a few of organizations who benefitted from John's leadership, his time, and his generosity throughout his half cen-tury in Santa Rosa. John is survived by his sons, Barry and Brian, and his many friends. Forever.

PROGRAM

Past President Steven Olson moderated a summary of the Rotary Club of Santa Rosa Foundation operations.

Twenty-two years ago, **John Brown** and **Sam Saunders** conceived of a dream to create the Club's Foundation to fund community projects. The Club incorporated the Foundation, which is run by a board of directors that is separate from the board of directors for the Club.

ROTARY MAGAZINE QUESTION September

Last year 16 clubs in Arizona, New Mexico and California raised \$35,000 towards the \$200 Million Challenge. How did they accomplish this?

Answer in page 12.

However, to be on the Foundation's board of directors, you must be a member of our Club. Current officers are Steve Olson, President; Eileen Carlisle, Vice President; Jeanne Levin, Secretary; Wally Lowry, Treasurer. Other board members are Sam Saunders, Vicki Hardcastle, Joy Parker, Sam McMillan, Bill Rousseau, Bob Stone, and Ted Wilmsen.

The Foundation funds projects approved by the Joint Charitable Projects Committee that includes scholarships. Steve stated that the Foundation has decided to fund \$13,000 of community-based grants to local non-profits, \$10,000 in scholarships and \$2,000 for the Jamison Agricultural Grant. Steve reported that it has been the dream of the Foundation and our Club to reach a principle balance in the Foundation of \$1 million. As of June 30th the value of the principle was \$987,000.

The Foundation's costs are only 3 percent of its budget. **Jeanne Levin** stated that she likes giving money to our Foundation because of that low percentage for overhead as compared to other non-profits. She also likes the planned giving aspect where donors can make the Club Foundation a beneficiary.

Steve gave an example of a non-Club member's donation by Genevieve Pluth. Ms. Pluth designated in her estate plan \$75,000 to create the Genevieve Pluth Education Fund. The Foundation is targeting income from this fund to pay for the purchase of the dictionaries for the third graders. The Foundation also received bequests from Carol Schaffner and Woody Mikesel of a total of \$80,000. This money is used to fund two scholarships every year in the amount of \$1,500 each.

This week's photographer:
Kris Anderson

The Foundation also receives "Legacy Society" gifts in the name of a deceased member or as part of an estate plan.

Matt Everson stated that he was referred business by Jeanne Levin and, as a thank you to her, made a contribution to our Foundation in her honor.

Another example of scholarship money being donated to the Foundation is the scholarship fund created by **Debra Smith**, the Holly Plummer Scholarship Fund, designated for a transfer student from SRJC to a four-year university. **Ray Dorfman** also created a scholarship that funds two \$1,500 scholarships a year in the honor of his father, Joe.



Norm Olson, Robby Fouts, Genie Delles, Debra Smith, Sam McMillan and Creed Wood

The ever-dapper past governor of District 5130, Norm Olson, recognized Rotarians who made donations to the Foundation this year: Genie Delles, Robbie Fouts and Debra Smith, \$1,000 Silver Status; Sam McMillan, \$5,000 Gold Status; and Creed Wood—a bequest to the Legacy Society in his IRA to the Legacy Society to fund a scholarship in Christopher Wood's honor to benefit a junior college student transferring to a four-year college with a business management major with an emphasis in entrepreneurship. In closing, Norm and Steve thanked all of the members who have made contributions to the Foundation this year.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Marnie concluded with a quote from Gilda Radner: "I'd rather much more to be a woman than a man because women can cry, wear cute clothes and be rescued off a ship first."

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Kaylan Banerjee Rotary Club of Vapi , Gujarat

GOVERNOR, DISTRICT 5130

Maureen Merrill Rotary Club of Windsor

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Jack Abercrombie P.O. Box 505 Santa Rosa, CA 538-4770

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