



# Crow's Call

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## Rotary Meeting - October 23rd by Kathe Mitchell

The "Aviator" called the meeting to order.

**Cho Tang**, our Greeter, led us in the Flag Salute. Thought for the Day was a quote by Sr. Winston Churchill: "The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity. The optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty."



**The Aviator** just back from an intense time management seminar let Cho be seated. I will add that the club is delighted that Cho has returned after a year's absence. His business, Excel Graphics has been a strong supporter and partner of the San Ramon Rotary Club since joining the club in 1997.

In the absence of Gary Daniel and Don Jones, **Geoff Johnson** was lassoed into leading the singing of "God Bless America." He even included a yaw hoo for a western punch.



No visiting Rotarians? A sign of the times? Tightening of budgets = less traveling?

Visitors: The always witty **Ms. Marsha Smalley** was the guest of her dashing husband PDG, **Stan Smalley**.

Also joining our club was **Joseph Trupp** from Russia. No one knew the reason for his visit but his table delighted him with American humor. He proved to be a very good sport and is welcome back anytime.

Speakers: **John Lind** and **Karen Stepper** Veterans Memorial Building of San Ramon Valley

The short version of the Welcome Song was lead with great Hawaiian spirit by our own Kahuna, **Walt Trembley**.



### Announcements:

District Conference, Concord Hilton, October 25<sup>th</sup> 11:30 am.

**The Aviator** put **Jeff Disch** on the spot asking him to provide a testimony to how worthwhile the conference. Turns out Jeff has a conflict this weekend so **Stan Smalley** provided worthwhile comments about the value and importance of this conference. Reminder Red Badges get free basic admission. Also, the Hospitality Suite is a "not to miss." It is hosted by the 680 corridor of Rotary clubs.



Africa Project: This international project is being lead by **Kathy Gailey**. She reported that our club has received commitments from other local Rotary Clubs to participate. It now goes to the District for matching \$. Excellent!! This will be the first international project from this club.

Job Shadow Program next week. Contact **Fletch** if you are able to host a student at your business.

Ambassadorial Scholar applications are being sought. Talk to **The Aviator** for details.

Holiday Party: Hosted by the so sociable **Linda & John Tatum**, Dec 13<sup>th</sup> at their home.

**Herm Welm** reported that on a trip to New Zealand he was inspired to propose a unique tile walkway at the new City Center. He has already presented his idea to the SR City Staff of placing 180 one sq foot tiles each representing highlights of one year. It would start about 1820 and show a significant event in the SR Valley or International event that affected the citizens of the Valley that year. Cost tbd by SR City Staff. The juices were flowing with questions and excitement, but the Aviator abruptly took back the microphone (another time management technique he leaned at the seminar.)



**Randy Perkins** provided a quick reminder that the Reno Train Trip is scheduled for January 25 & 26, \$275 per person. Returns 9 PM Monday evening.

**Mark Stillman** announced a hands-on project this Sunday at the Sr Center. We will be finishing up on the garden project by installing dividers, along with a large group of Cal High students. Lunch will be served.

Celebrate Youth Gala on November 1<sup>st</sup> supporting Chi Nguyen charity Viet Nam Health Ed & Literacy Projects. Call **Mark Stillman** for tickets to the gala that includes dinner, wine and dancing.



Camp Venture a District entrepreneur program held at the Maritime Academy is looking for attendees. Give recommendations to **The Aviator**.

**Recognitions:** The **Aviator** recognized (as in “fined”) **Gary Sloan** and his bride of 20 years for \$50. They traveled to Hawaii for the anniversary.



**Gary** then volunteered to p/u **Dr. Bill’s** forthcoming fine for being the big poker winner at this week’s game! **Dr Bill** bluffed **Dennis Harvey**.. many understand that **Dr. Bill** should not have to pay a fine. Bluffing **The Shark** is a real accomplishment!

Today was **Stan Smalley’s** birthday. He reported that this has been a memorable week: Tuesday, colonoscopy, Wednesday, dentist and tonight Chamber’s Wine & Dine.



**Walt Trembley** was fined for being photographed representing SR Chamber in publicity for the local mayor running for the Assembly.

**Program:**

Town of Danville Councilwoman Karen Stepper and John Lind from VenueTech Management Group, described the redevelopment plan for the new San Ramon Valley Veterans Community Center. A business plan is in place with the Town of Danville providing \$5 million, Veterans \$2 million and the County transferring ownership to the Town of Danville. The primary use will be for Regional Veteran organizations, secondary use as a Senior Citizens Center, and third level use as a Community Events Facility for the Valley. This project has been a very successful bi-partisan partnership of local interests. This is the largest project the Town of Danville has been committed to. This project will increase the current 6,000 sq ft to an approx. 12,000 sq facility. There will be two entries to maximize the utilization of the Center. This will be a public building with historical significance. A condition of the transfer from the County to the Town of Danville was that the project would be completed in 3 years.



Raffle Winners: **Mike Prilutsky** and **Dave Larsen**

**Next Week:** The Greeter will be **Robin Stevens**; the Program **The Shadow Program** and a **Halloween Party**



# San Ramon Rotarian of the Week



**This week, October 30, 2008 you will be greeted by Robin Stevens**

**Here are some things you should know about Robin:**

**Robin has been a member of our club since, April 2008**

**Classification: Financial Analyst**

Born in Hayfork, California, which is located in the middle of the Shasta-Trinity National Forest (and part of District 5160). Current population is about 2,600. Lived there for a short two years before my Dad was transferred to Orleans, which is part of the Six Rivers National Forest. At the time, Orleans had 600 residents. Attended a 4-room school, and had I graduated from 8<sup>th</sup> grade there, I would have been 1 of 9. My father, however, was transferred to the District Office, in Eureka, so we moved again – this time to Fortuna, which is just south. This was “big time” because we were moving to TOWN! My parents still live in Fortuna.

After graduating from high school, I attended the local JC for 2 years before transferring to Chico State. The transition was a little difficult at first because there were more students there than in Hayfork, Orleans and Fortuna combined! However, I got over it, and I graduated with a BS (trust me....there really is a dual meaning here) in Business Administration, with an accounting emphasis. My “minor”, of course, was “socializing” (i.e. Partying...remember, this was / is Chico). I was recruited by Fox & Company, a national CPA firm (they later merged with Grant Thornton), to work in their Stockton office, but lived in Lodi (I always smile when I hear CCR’s song, “Stuck in Lodi, Again”). I was once told, by a friend, that accounting is nothing but counting beans. Well, believe it or not, my first auditing assignment was Rhodes Bean & Supply. Yes, I was literally “counting beans” – something I will never be able to live down!

It didn’t take me long to realize I didn’t like auditing, and left the industry when I moved to Sacramento (two years later). It was here that my daughter, Amanda, was born (she has come full circle, I guess, since this is where she is living now). Stayed there for 2 years before being relocated to Kansas City (Overland Park). While in Kansas, I worked for Sprint for 6 years, and Yellow Freight for 2 years. In addition, this is where Brian and Rachel were born. People say you soon become acclimated when you move...well, that’s a bunch of BS. I hated the weather, and NEVER got used it! Was SO glad to return to California after 8 years!

Upon the return to California (San Ramon), I was recruited to return to Sprint – this time in the wireless division. I was the number 9 employee in California! What an experience! Truly the best job I have ever had. (It was

here that I was dubbed, “Spike”). Stayed there for 5 years before making a decision to “take a step back” in my career, and focus more on my family. This led me to a small bio-tech company (SuperGen) in Dublin where I stayed for 7 years before joining Boston Scientific in July 2008.

While at SuperGen, however, my personal life was dealt yet another blow when my husband passed away. Like with other “challenges” that have come my way, moving forward is the only option especially when there are children involved. I don’t have any great philosophical words, but I try to live each day to the fullest – and with a smile on my face.

Likes:

- Traveling – Hawaii is a favorite
- Baking / Cooking
- Theater – especially Musicals
- Concerts – Country to Rock N Roll
- Football
- Cheeseburgers
- Red Wine

Dislikes:

- Cleaning house – Thank goodness for Araseli!
- Filing / organizing – hate it!
- Snakes – GROSS! (I’ll call the neighbor if I even see one)!
- Anything that I have to program – GPS / VCRs / phones...yuck!!

As for my children - Amanda, as I stated, lives in Sacramento where she attends The University of Pacific, McGeorge School of Law. She wants to eventually work for the NFL (football is in the genes). Brian and Rachel both attend California High School. Brian is a senior and in the process of submitting college applications. He wants to get an engineering degree, followed by a master’s in architecture. Rachel is a sophomore and eventually wants to be a doctor, possibly specializing in pediatric oncology.

Newsletter of the Rotary Club of  
San Ramon

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**San Ramon Rotary**

## **Greeter Protocol**

When you are blessed with the duty of being our greeter, you should remember the following: (1) You should be at the meeting by 11:45 am in order to greet everyone as they come to the meeting. (2) You should bring a "greeter's gift". The gift should be approximately \$20.00 in value. (3) You will be leading the flag salute, giving the inspiration, and introducing the visiting Rotarians. It is a good idea to watch the visiting Rotarians sign in, so that you can ask them about any complicated names or classifications, or just plain BAD handwriting. vnb

### **Future Programs:**

October 30th Halloween Program - Shadow Program  
November 6th Gary Daniel - Club Elections  
November 13th Ed Duarte - Polio is the Challenge

### **Upcoming Events and Dates to Remember**

November 19th (Wednesday) - Six Club Meeting  
November 20th - Dark - No Meeting  
November 27th - Dark - Thanksgiving Holiday  
December 13th - Holiday Party at John Tatum's  
January 31st - Club Leadership Training

### **Schedule of Greeters:**

October 30th	Robin Stevens
November 6th	Ana Dominguez
November 13th	Lucky Sandhu

