



Crow's Call



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Past President

Rotary Meeting - January 7th by Hermann Welm



The "**Bard**" called the meeting to order. He welcomed all present and reminded us that the RI President is John Kenny, of Scotland; his theme is "The Future of Rotary is in your Hands!"

Gary Sloan, our Greeter, gave us a Thought for the Day, with: "Have patience with all things, but most of all, have patience with yourself!" He then led us in the Flag Salute.

PP Dan Jones led the group in a rousing rendition of "God Bless America."



Visitors: In addition to those who will be introduced later in this document, present were **Don Carlsen**, with Toyota, **Don Miller**, **Anne Tontz**, **Erin Tontz**, and three gentlemen currently going through the Application process, **Chris Gayler**, **Mark Ballock** and **Chip Pearson**.

Visiting Rotarian: **Jay Tontz**, our Speaker today, from the Hayward club, **Ira Hillyer** from the Walnut Creek Club, and **Jim Coleman**, President of the Danville/Sycamore Rotary club. A Rotarian from the Dublin club joined us late, and this Scribe was unable to catch her name.

The visitors were welcomed with the "short version" of the Welcome Song.

Good Times/Good News/Fine Free: much to do; no time for this!

Announcements:

The Bard reintroduced his "Little Willie" to the club; he (that is, the little guy) having mustered his courage to once again face the membership!

Jim Coleman introduced **Matt Dotzler**, who will be applying for a International Youth Exchange position with the District. "**Spike**" **Stevens** also spoke to the attributes of this High School junior.



Carolyn Degnan alerted all to the January 28 evening (6:30 to 8:00 pm) presentation by John Assaraf, on "Smart Growth." This event is sponsored by the San Ramon Chamber, Diablo Valley College, and the City of San Ramon. Tickets are available on-line at:

<http://www.ci.san-ramon.ca.us/parks/theater/default.htm>.

Recognitions: much to do; no time for this!

Service Above Self

Pre-Program Program:

Dr. Bill and Horace Crawford introduced the “Honorary Rotarian” program to those present, and asked each Sponsor and Honoree to step up:

Mark Corti, principal of California High School. (**Bill Clarkson**, sponsor, represented by **Mike Prilutsky**).



Steve Enoch, Superintendent of Schools, SRVUSD. (**Bill Clarkson**, sponsor, represented by **Mike Prilutsky**).



Mike Conklin, founder and President of Sentinels of Freedom. (**Hermann Welm**, sponsor).



Jeff Church, Environmental & Safety Leader/CarboLoad Rep, Toyota Motors. (**Don Jones**, sponsor).



Bob Desautels, ATI Architects & Engineers, and former Rotarian. (**Horace Crawford**, sponsor).



Brian Lindblom, former Chief of Police, City of San Ramon. (**Rick Probert**, sponsor).



All were thanked, roundly applauded for their work on behalf of the community, and handed framable certificates commemorating their selection. Most importantly, each had an individual picture taken of themselves with the esteemed **Bard**!

Program:

Jay Tontz, Dean Emeritus, Cal State, Hayward, and currently teaching Economics at DVC, gave his annual presentation of his predictions for 2010. But first he assessed the accuracy of his 2009 predictions, which were not too good! He was OK on the Stock Market rising, but was expecting both Consumer Confidence and the Availability of Credit to have improved much earlier than is actually happening (they're only now showing some signs of rising from the ashes!). His biggest disappointment was that he had expected the \$800 Billion Stimulus Package to have increased job growth by now, and therefore that Disposable Income would have been rising. This has not happened!



He went on to explain that all economists use the “Keynesian Model,” which calls for such traditional solutions to recessions as the Feds reducing interest rates, Government spending in excess of tax revenues, and institutional solutions such as shoring up the banking system and tax cuts. These efforts are meant to increase Aggregate Demand in the economy.

The current status of this recession is that economists believe that it has “bottomed out,” although there is some disagreement as to whether this bottom is the first of a “W” curve, or a true bottom, as in a “V” curve or a “U” curve. The Stock Market, for instance, which is a leading indicator of economic growth, hit its low point in March, 2009. Inventories are low, and businesses’ capital spending will start to happen as sales slowly start to increase. Similarly, at some point businesses will be hiring workers once again.

His predictions for 2010:

Home prices will start to rise because of the extension of tax credits.

Wealth will increase, particularly as a result of further growth in the Stock Market (maybe as much as 35%).

Disposable income will increase because the Stimulus Money will finally start to work.

Job growth (rather than job contraction) will start to happen by April, with as many as 100,000 jobs being created per month for the balance of the year.

Historically low interest rates will remain for a while.

Corporate profits will start to rise.

Local government spending will remain down, but growth in spending by the Federal government will offset this.

The world economy -- now significantly influencing the US economy -- will rise by 2 percent.

Forecast: Real GDP Growth at 2.8%

Unemployment down to 9.5%

Inflation of 1.0% (=/- 0.5 %)

Long-term Interest Rates up 0.5%

Short-term Interest Rates up 1.0%

Jay will visit with us again on January 6, 2011; we can remind him of these predictions at that time!

Raffles: The Greeter’s Gift was won by **PP Don Jones**. The Club Gift went to **PP Guy Greco**. Neither really needed the \$20.00 -- they being wealthy -- but they took it anyway!

The Bard announced that “Little Willy” has once again gone missing! For shame!

Next Week: the Greeter will be “**Spike**” **Stevens** and the Program will be **David Quick** and the Job Shadow Program.



San Ramon Rotarian of the Week



This week, January 14, 2010, you will be greeted by Spike Stevens

Here are some things you should know about Spike:

Spike has been a member of our club since, April 2008

Classification: Financial Analyst

I work for Boston Scientific; am getting my MBA (will be done May 1st!!!); and am a Mom to 3 GREAT kids: Amanda, 23, attends McGeorge School of Law in Sacramento; Brian, 18, attends Chico State as a civil engineering major; and Rachel, 16, is a junior at Cal High, Interact Officer, and doctor want-to-be. Together we have lived in San Ramon since moving here from Kansas in 1995.

But...if you really want to know some things about me, here are a few tid-bits:

1. Birth name: Cheryl Robin Riley
2. Climbed on top of the refrigerator when I was 18 months old – and proceeded to fall off.
3. Got my hunting license when I was 12 or 13.
4. Took piano, guitar, clarinet and flute lessons, and don't know how to play any of them!
5. Originally a civil engineering major. Transferred to Accounting. A big regret.
6. Have a huge obsession with fire engines (especially the tiller trucks) and earth movers.
7. A Steve Young "healthy" stalker. (He's secretly my husband – he just doesn't know it).
8. Football supersedes *almost* everything.
9. Purple is the best color.
10. Can't whistle.
11. Red wine and Lays Potato Chips are a GREAT diet combination!
12. Fur coats and cowboy boots are absolutely an acceptable fashion statement.
13. A Bon Jovi, Steve Perry, and George Strait junkie.
14. Have had 2 never death experiences – age 6: complications from tonsillitis; age 24: toxic shock.
15. Never attended kindergarten, which explains my 5-year old maturity level.
16. Don't like bananas or chocolate.
17. First concert: In the 70's - Conway Twitty at the Trinity County Fair in Hayfork.
18. Lived in 10 different cities (or towns).
19. Have a bucket list: some items - drive the 48 states in the Vette; learn to fly fish; see the sunrise on top of Haleakala, learn to knit, etc.
20. Cross between Mitch Ryder's "Devil in Blue Dress" and the "redneck chick" Toby describes.
21. Have a fear of heights – no Eifel Tower or Empire State Building for me!
22. Tombstone is the best movie!!
23. Favorite pet ever: Harvey, my duck.
24. There can never be too many lights at Christmas time. The Griswold's have it right!

About Rotary!

An Excerpt from: A CENTURY OF SERVICE - The Story of Rotary International, by *David C. Forward*

The Architect and the Builders

(At the time of the 1912 annual convention, where Paul Harris was named "President Emeritus," Harris was not a well man. His health, his new marriage, and his law practice were all suffering.)

When Paul Harris passed the president's gavel to Glenn Mead of Philadelphia on 9 August 1912, he dropped almost from sight for a decade. He seldom attended conventions, although he always sent warm written greetings. In his address to the 1918 convention, President E. Leslie Pidgeon referred to this when he told the audience: "I thought at one time I might have the privilege of introducing the President-Emeritus, Paul Harris, even though my predecessors did not. But we haven't got Paul Harris here yet." Paul answered mail -- although much of his correspondence was handled through Rotary headquarters -- and made occasional visits to clubs of personal interest. "I am neither happy nor successful in the playing of a central part," he wrote in 1923. But even his fellow members in the Rotary Club of Chicago noticed his prolonged absences.

Paul Harris was unquestionably Rotary's father. He had the profound effect of creating and shaping its very existence and early years. But then he stepped back, and during his hiatus years the long-term philosophy of the organization -- almost all of which remains today -- was influenced by other men of vision and action.

(To be Continued)

Did you Know?

That "Classification" system in the Rotary concept began as a strict rule that there could be no two of the same profession in any one club. It was a good recruiting tool in that when one got an invitation to join a club, under a specific classification, you had a short time to respond or another person would be offered that position. Potential new members might have seen a business networking opportunity permanently slip away if they did not join.

While it still gives clubs an opportunity to recruit by reaching out to "missing" occupations, today the rigidity of the Classification system has been done away with in most clubs. One vestige, however, remains world-wide: you do not join as "Bank President," your classification is "Banking."

Shared by Hermann Welm

Meeting: Thursday, 12:15
Crow Canyon Country Club
711 Silver Lake Dr, Danville

Jim Livingstone, Publisher
(925) 216-1898 cell phone

e-mail: jwl459@comcast.net

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. fia

Is it the truth?

Is it fair to all concerned?

Will it build goodwill better friendships?

Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

Future Programs:

Jan 14th David Quick - Shadow Day

Jan 21st Robin Kelley - 40 Developmental Assets

Jan 28th Susan Heckly - Lindsay Wildlife Museum

Upcoming Events and Dates to Remember

January 24th/25th Reno Train Trip (CANCELLED)

February 11th **Valentines Day Program - (Bring your Favorite Valentine)**

Schedule of Greeters

January 14th Robin Stevens

January 21st Fumi Suzuki

January 28th Lauren Schall

