



# Crow's Call



## District Governor

Jim Campbell

## Board of Directors

### Tom Port

President

(510) 878-2744

### Gary Daniel

President Elect.

(925) 785-9237

### Barry Toby

Secretary

(925) 224-7780

### Jeff Disch

Treasurer

(510) 410-4090

### Judy Lewis

Sgt. At Arms

(925) 648-0308

### Hermann Welm

Club Administration

(925) 838-8261

### Bill Harlan

Membership

(925) 457-6589

### Fred Nevarez

Intl Foundation

(925) 838-4334

### Marc Stillman

Service Projects

(925) 648-4376

### Kathe Mitchell

Public Relations

(925) 998-2310

### Don Jones

Past President

## Rotary Meeting - March 26th by Hermann Welm

.The "Aviator" called the meeting to order. He welcomed all present and reminded us that the RI President is D.K. Lee; his theme is "Rotary Makes Dreams Real!"

**Mike Gunning**, our Greeter, gave us a Thought for the Day, by Oliver Wendell Holmes: "Man's mind once stretched by a new idea, never regains its original dimension." He then led us in the Flag Salute, and Songmeister **Gary Daniel** led us in the singing of "America the Beautiful."

**Mike** then introduced the three Visiting Rotarians, **Larry Blair** and **Dany Gregory**, from the San Ramon Valley club, and **Mary Kay Foss**, from Danville.



**Visitors:** **Zhili Xu**, father of Cal High Student of the Month, **Zhuchen Xu**; Cal High Principal and teacher, **Marc Corti** and **Brian Barr**; **Gary Ware** and **Vanessa Chan**, of the San Ramon Valley Education Foundation; **Steve Enoch** and **Terry Koehne**, with the San Ramon Valley Unified School District; **Steve Refro** and his wife, **Tracy**; Honorary Rotarian, **Monica Henley**, of Christmas Tree Lot fame; and **Tommi Merimon**.

The long version of the Welcome Song was marginally-well led by **Marco Bronzini's** table.

### Good Times/Good News/Fine Free:

**Glen Weber** announced that his San Ramon Veterinarian Hospital was accredited by the American Animal Hospital Association; only 14 percent of the animal facilities in the U.S. achieve this recognition! Nine hundred standards of care are evaluated by the visiting inspectors.

### Announcements:

**Larry Blair** and **Dany Gregory**, of the San Ramon Valley club, announced their May 30 Valley Teen Idol event and invited our members to join them at this important fundraiser. (**PE Gary Daniel** is organizing at least one table of 10 for our Club; contact him if you wish to attend.) Also, if you know of any talented teens, tryouts are scheduled for April 26 and May 2.

**PP Dave Larsen** reminded all that there will be a Day at the Races on May 2; the deadline for signing up is April 2. Contact him NOW if you wish to attend.

The **Aviator** asked all to mark their calendar for the May 9 Bocce Ball Challenge.

**Bill Clarkson** announced that our Business Hall of Fame Luncheon will be on May 7; **Toyota** will be honored. Please plan on being there to thank them for their long support of Rotary.

**Service Above Self**

**Dennis Harvey** reminded members that the Sunny Glen Smoke Alarm Project will be held the morning of April 24. Sign up now for that three-hour effort to replace alarms and/or batteries for the seniors living in this community.



**PE Gary Daniel** gave a report on the first event attended by the newly-formed five-club "Rotary Alliance." The booth was set up at the Chamber's Business Expo and 26 people signed up for more information about Rotary! A very impressive outcome!

**"Spike" Stevens** announced that we are sponsoring two students for Camp Royal (**Brandon Coast** and **Christine Dang**) and one for Camp Venture (**Garrett MCue**). There is room for one more at Camp Venture, so contact her if you wish to nominate someone. The deadline is April 15.

**Recognitions:** The Aviator "recognized" **Dennis Harvey** for **Sharon's** birthday; **Dennis** was most reluctant to share what they had in mind to celebrate this event!

#### Pre-Program Program:

**Mike Prilutsky** introduced Cal High Principal and teacher, **Marc Corti** and **Brian Barr**, who in turn introduced **Zhuchen Xu**, Cal High's Student of the Month. **Zhuchen** has a GPA of 4.5 and is awaiting responses from both Duke and Cal Berkeley for next year. He intends to major in the biosciences. Further, he is a National Merit Scholarship Finalist, was named Best Newswriter last year, and is this year's School Newspaper Editor. Another amazing resume for someone as young as he!



The Aviator asked **John Tatum**, **Vanessa Chan**, and **Gary Ware** to come up. A very articulate **John** thanked those working on the Christmas Tree lot (including **Monica Henley**) and presented the San Ramon Valley Education Foundation with a check for \$51,500! **Vanessa** thanked the club for their continuing support and noted that this contribution is a major portion of the \$200,000 the SRVEF was able to distribute to classrooms this year.

**Dr. Bill** and **Guy Greco** next presented **Robin "Spike" Stevens** with her Blue Badge; she handled the recitation of the "Four Way Test" better than any of her recent predecessors (because she's a smart cookie!). Her hitting the ground running, including her efforts with the Cal High Interact Club and volunteering for the 2009/10 Board, was noted.



**Dr. Bill** and **Geoff Johnson** brought **Steve Renfro** to the front to be inducted into the Club. **Steve**, who along with his wife, **Tracy**, own the San Ramon Insurance Agency, related how he had to beat the door down to get in (he apparently did not grasp that we are a VERY exclusive organization!). But in the end his perseverance paid off and he prevailed.



**Program:**

**Bill Clarkson** introduced SRVUSD Superintendent Steve Enoch, who has been in this position for nine months, replacing **Rob Kessler**.



**Steve** gave us the District's statistics of 27,000 students, 2,300 employees, and a Budget of \$212 million and spoke about the academic success it has had. This includes an average API of 904, the highest of all large districts in the State. College placement is an impressive 90-95 percent, and 84 percent of the AP Classes taken by students are "validated" by the student passing that subject's exam, so that they actually earn college credit for that course!

He explained that the District's focus is indeed on the classroom and that the ratio of students to administrators is very high; 334 rather than the State's average of 244 and the County's 264.

He also spoke of the changes in education since many of us in the room were in school. The "Reality of Google" means that the teacher is no longer the resident expert of all things in that subject; each student has access to a vast amount of information, more than any one teacher could hope to know. In addition, teaching now has to address "The Three C's" of Communication, Collaboration and Creation.

Lastly, **Steve** gave us the facts about the Parcel Tax that will be voted on by mail-in ballot. The measure requires a 2/3 vote to pass; ballots must be received by May 5. It will replace the current \$90.00 Parcel Tax (which expires in June) with a \$144.00 tax (less than the \$166.00 request last year, which "failed" by a 64 percent positive vote).

**Raffles:** The Greeter's Gift, two bottles of wine, went to **John Tatum** and the Club Gift went to **Marie Galbo** (this Scribe standing in for the lucky **Marie** because of her having to leave early).

**Next Week:** the Greeter will be **Dr. Bill Harlan** and the Program will be **Lucky Sandhu** educating us on the new phenomenon of Social Networking Sites.

# *About Rotary!*

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

## Introduction (cont'd)

As Rotary, the pioneer of all service organizations, celebrates its centennial, it has 1.2 million men and women members in more than 31,000 clubs in over 165 countries around the globe. They comprise a dedicated army of humanitarian volunteers the likes of which the world has never seen, often accomplishing beneficial deeds that otherwise might never have been done. It is a force for world peace and arguably the most effective nongovernmental agency ever to bring relief from human suffering and eradicate disease on a global scale.

Paul Harris deserves the credit for the original idea, but without Manuel Munoz and Homer Wood, would this have been a one-club story? Without Chesley R. Perry there would probably be no Rotary International today, for he picked up the mantle just as Paul Harris fell into poor health and managed the association for 32 years. . . . . (The book) will tell of compassionate Rotarians whose love for crippled children led to the formation of the Easter Seals Society, and of adventurous Rotarians who explored both poles and the limits of outer space, then returned to serve as ordinary members of their local clubs. The book tells of brave Rotarians in France, Germany, Holland, China, and Japan who courageously continued their pursuit of Rotary ideals even when their lives were at risk -- and sometimes sacrificed. It will take you behind the scenes of the Polio-Plus Campaign and show the phenomenal organizational effort that resulted in "Rotary's finest hour," in which Rotarians raised more than \$219 million toward the goal of the total eradication of polio from every country on earth.

The Rotary River is wide and runs deep. No one can know where its journey will take it, but all who gaze on these waters can be proud of its source. It grows ever stronger because it offers men and women something they yearn for: the desire to help others; the determination to make a difference.

*(To be Continued)*

**Shared by Hermann Welm**



# San Ramon Rotarian of the Week



**This week, April 2nd, 2009, you will be greeted by Dr. Bill Harlan**

**Here are some things you should know about Dr. Bill:**

**Dr. Bill has been a member of our club since, April 1986**

**Classification: Higher Education**

I have lived in Walnut Creek for 37 years where I helped to raise my two kids. First Sergeant Will Harlan is stationed in Fort Lewis, Washington. He will, unfortunately, redeploy back to Iraq later this year. Will has two kids, Andrew and Katy, who live in Houston. My daughter, Nurse Heather Greenawalt, has a daughter, Erin, who is three and whose first words were, "Beat L.A." They lived in Antioch, so Grandpa Bill has frequent babysitting duties.

In my previous life I spent 15 years getting the San Ramon campus of DVC up and running. I still teach a class in Shakespeare on-line for the college. In addition I offer a series called "Shakespeare at the Movies" at Rossmoor. I also lead tours to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival during the year, which I've been doing for the last 33 years. Besides Rotary, I am active in the DVC Retirees' Association and am very interested in local history.

Rotary has been a great experience for me. I have served four terms on the Board, serve as a scribe for the Crow's Call and pen the Top Ten list at every year's Demotion. Among my other Rotary accomplishments are the Business Hall of Fame and the Student/Educator of the Month program.

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](mailto: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. mid

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:

April 2nd	Lucky Sandhu - Using Social Networking Sites
April 9th	Dave Lambert - African School Project

### Upcoming Events and Dates to Remember

April 11th	District Leadership Training
April 25th	Smoke Alarm Project for Sr Citizens
May 2nd	Day at the Races
May 9th	Bocce Ball Challenge
July 11th	District 5160 Awards Banquet, Corning
October 1-4	District Conference Lake Tahoe NV
October 10th	Carboload 25

### Schedule of Greeters:

April 2nd	Dr. Bill Harlan
April 9th	Steve Hart

