



# Crow's Call



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Earl Kilmer

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### **Hermann Welm**

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### **Mike Prilutsky**

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### **Robin Stevens**

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### **Marc Stillman**

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### **Tom Port**

Past President

## **Rotary Meeting - July 16th by Garth Riopelle**

The second meeting of our Lord, "The Bard's," reign was called 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!"

**Patti Hennigan**, our Greeter, gave us a Thought for the Day, with a quote from Mahatma Ghandi:

*"You must be the change that you wish to see in the world".*

Quite appropriate for these times and food for thought.

She then led us in the Flag Salute.

**Steve Renfro** led the group in a rousing rendition of "The Welcome Song."

**Visitors:** In addition to those who will be introduced later in this document, present were:

**Ken Anderson**, a "Guest of Rotary," invited by **Hermann Welm**; **Phil Gram**, guest and confidant of **Paula Silva**; **Chris Gayler** (son of **George**) and **Sam Parwiz**, of J. Rocklife Reality, who were both guests of **George Gayler**, and **Sarah Myers**, daughter of **Susan Myers**.

President, "The Bard" Bill, got down to serious business when he announced that his Bard's Head (aka-Shakespeare's bust) went missing after the last meeting. Nobody has been able to track the valuable statue down, although an all points bulletin has been issued. "The Bard" is working on a conspiracy theory, although no members of the club testified to knowing its whereabouts. His Granddaughter, **Erin**, was truly heartbroken when she found out about the bust's disappearance. We will have to wait to see how this mystery unfolds!

**Red to Blue Badge Ceremony:** **Hermann Welm** was asked to lead **Paula Silva**, through the final hurdle to becoming a Blue Badge. **Paula** was asked to recite the "Rotary Four Way Test" and she breezed through it without a hitch. **President Bill** feels Paula will make a great Rotarian. She has already significantly lowered the average age and increased the average IQ of the club! Great job, **Paula!**



**Service Above Self**

## **Announcements:**

Our Rotary club received three awards at the District Conference in Corning:

**Platinum Award** - The San Ramon Rotary Club was awarded this prestigious award as our club raised and donated the most per club member (\$400) to Rotary International. We were able to achieve this recognition due to a very generous gift given last year by **George & Darlene Gayler**.

**Recognition of Membership Development Initiative** - we were awarded this honor due to our innovative approach in attracting new members to Rotary. Our club along with the five other Rotary clubs in the valley formed The Rotary Alliance to educate and attract new members to rotary. **Gary Daniels** spearheaded this for our club and his efforts have paid off as the number of Rotarians in our club has increased nicely.

**Certificate of Service for District 5160 – PDG Stan Smalley** was awarded the Certificate by **President Bill**. **Stan's** contributions at the club level and district level have been enormous and he was duly recognized.

One other award of note was the award for the "Coolest Tux" at the conference. This was worn by **PDG Mark Von-H**, although those sitting at the table with **Guy Greco** felt he should have at least been in the running with a tie. Nice job gentlemen!

District Training will be held in Fairfield on August 15<sup>th</sup>. For those that are interested please speak with Dr. Bill.

**Geoff Johnson** is hosting members of the GSE Team from Mexico and is looking for help with housing, events, transportation, translation, and entertainment for the team.

The District Conference this year is on October 2-4<sup>th</sup> in South Lake Tahoe. This year's location has a lot to offer so lets get everyone ready to attend.

**John Sims** opened the books for contributions to The Rotary Foundation for this Rotary year. **Horace Crawford** was the first to get his contribution in this year. Way to go **Horace!!! Dr. Captain Sims** will be glad to accept our yearly contribution to the foundation. We can all make his job easier and his podium time less if we get those contributions in soon. Sound tempting?

**Karen Stepper** is looking for any Rotarians interested in serving on the Veterans' Memorial Hall Committee. See **Dr. Bill** for Contact info or call **Karen** (925-998-8866)

Banners -- if anyone has any banners from visits to other clubs please turn them in as soon as possible. A new flag with all of the banners that were collected from other clubs will be made to highlight the interactions our club has made with other clubs throughout the country and world.

## New Member Induction:

**Hermann Welm** introduced and inducted our newest member, **Annie Gibbs**. **Annie** was given her pin, plaque and roster. She, being our newest member, was greeted into the club with our "secret handshake". We are honored to have her as a club member.

## Recognitions:

**Marc Stillman** was recognized for his apparent "religious retreat" to St. Lucia, which also included a whirlwind stopover in Miami. Sounds like a lot of "Sun and Fun." **Mark** is now in the process of paying his tithing to the club in the amount of \$30 US.

**Steve Wilcox** was notably missing from "**The Bards**" first meeting. When questioned as to why he was AWOL he said he "just could not get his family back from Maui". Likely story, but our gracious Lord "**Bard**" was willing to let **Steve** escape without a fine, if he could only translate what "Maui no ka oye" meant. **Steve** gave it his best with the translation of "Maui, can I stay another week?" Close but no cigar, as it actually translates to "Maui over everybody". **Steve** graciously accepted his fine before **Dr. Bill** could ask him for any further Hawaiian translations.

**Horace Crawford** was spotted and admitted to eating lunch on July 10 in a downtown Walnut Creek restaurant called the "Counter". Aside from being at a notorious "Burger Joint", **Horace** was accompanied by someone of questionable character. This Scribe thinks that **Dr. Bill** may still need to get to the bottom of this story.

**Marco Bronzini, Kathy Gailey, Judy Lewis, Randy Perkins, Fletcher Thames, Dennis Garrison, Susan Myers, Stan Smalley, Walt Trembley, Nancy Vinson, Mark VonH, and Steve Wilcox** were all missing for **The Bard's** Coronation. Wow!! All were asked why Macbeth was the shortest of the major tragedies. The only one with any explanation was **Susan Myers** who noted that she just could not awaken her sleeping baby Sarah. It was a good effort but apparently not the one that **Dr. Bill** was looking for. All were fined \$30 just the same.

## Pre-Program Program:

**Dr. Bill** introduced **Garrot McCune** who spoke of his Camp Venture experience. **Earl Barry** was a notable camp counselor who welcomed the camp attendees by having them learn team building by forming the "Longest Human Chain". This helped break the ice upon arrival at the camp and demonstrated how the campers could work together to help one another. The purpose of the camp is to give students the entrepreneurial experience needed to allow them to go out and start a business in the real world. During his stay at the camp, **Garret** learned to do this by creating his own business. The business model that his team created was a Health Care Computer System that focused on simplifying and streamlining patients' care in medical offices. Along with creating the business model, he put together the financials and business plan to get the company moving.

**Garrot** spoke of the many wonderful entrepreneurial speakers provided by the Camp. His favorite was **Jeff Yeildon**, who most memorably spoke of the 4T's. "Take Time To Think". **Garret** will look forward to using the valuable tools he gained from Camp Venture in his future career.

## **Program:**

Our very own **Dr. Fletcher Thames** gave today's program on Modern Eye Care.

Diagnostically, lasers are now the state of the art way to look into the eye for early detection of health or disease. The laser offers a 200-degree view of the back of the eye as compared to a 30-degree look using the ophthalmoscope. The new laser method allows the examiner the ability to look at the eye more in its entirety. The critical structures Optometrists examine and treat are the Macula, optic nerve and the blood vessels on the Retina. Different disease processes can be diagnosed earlier using the Laser imaging. Athrosclerotic changes show up as reddish blood vessels that suddenly turn golden in color due to the plaque (fatty) building up and clogging the blood vessel. Emboli or complete blockages will turn the vessel white. Floaters, those annoying shadows that move in the clear layer of the eye are caused by junk floating over the Macula and obstructing the vision. Hemorrhages in the eye appear as small bleeding areas outside of a blood vessel. Some systemic diseases, such as Lymes Disease, show up as extrusion of the optic nerve, caused by an increase of pressure in the spinal fluid.

Wet and Dry Macular degeneration can be differentiated due to the macular bleeding that is observed with Wet Macular degeneration. Lastly, Diabetes Mellitus, a disease of excess sugar in the blood, causes new vessel growth in the eye that are weak and fragile and spill blood into the eye causing scarring. Luckily, lasers can be used too not only diagnose the above diseases but can be used to treat or reverse many of them.

**Dr. Thames** then digressed to his bird watching hobby, which is hard to characterize whether is a passion or a perversion. We viewed pictures of birds, some real, some not, in all different poses and positions. I think everyone's favorite slide had to be the one of the "fornicating blackbirds with no sound required". No need for further explanation. **Dr. Fletch**, in the end, confessed that the only "Birds he was concerned with are those that he finds on a golf course". Or did he mean "Birdies?"

**Dr. Harlan** recaptured the audience's attention by introducing the literacy team that consisted of **Steve Hart, David Quick, Paula Silva, Crissy McConnell, Cho Tang, and Lucky Sandhu**. Each of these Rotarians was selected to oversee and support a literacy project with funds donated in the name of the meetings speaker. In recognition of his very interesting program, **Fletcher Thames** was given the first of the Literary Certificates.

**Raffles:** The Club Gift and the Greeter's Gift somehow were both won by **Hermann Welm**. Controversy regarding a fixed raffle was averted when **Herm** opted for the very nice bottle of Mumm Napa Champagne over the Club Gift of \$20. **Lucky**, lived up to his name, by collecting the club gift that was reallocated by **Herm**. Congratulations **Lucky!!!**

## **Next Week:**

Greeter: **Dr Susan Myers**

Program: Darlene Kittredge - Crime Free Program



# San Ramon Rotarian of the Week



**This week, July 23, 2009, you will be greeted by Dr. Susan Myers**

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

**Sue has been a member of our club since, March 2003**

**Classification: Chiropractic Services**

Born – Castro Valley, CA

Raised – Hayward, CA

Education: BS Physical Education CSUH

Doctor of Chiropractic – Graduated Summa in September of 2001

Business: Began practicing in San Ramon December 2001

Moved practice to Hayward in 2007

Family: Married Jan 2002

One child – Princess Sarah born February 29<sup>th</sup> 2008

Hobbies: Martial Arts – Kajukenbo since October 1986

Backpacking/Camping

Weight Training/Exercise

# About Rotary!

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

The Seed is Planted (cont'd)

*(It's now March 23, 1905, and from four original members just five weeks earlier, the group has grown to 15 and is conducting its third meeting, and its first "business" meeting, in Silvester Schiele's coal-yard office.)*

The first question addressed was what they would call themselves. There was no shortage of suggestions. Some members felt the club should reflect their community: Windy City Roundup, Chicago Fellowship, . . . . ., and the Chicago Civic Club were proposed. Others argued the name should have a business ring to it, such as the Booster Club, Friends of Business, Men with Friends, . . . . and the Trade and Talk Club.

None of these names generated much enthusiasm, although they were apt descriptions of the group's purpose. Other proposals included the Blue Boys and the Conspirators. The Round Table earned several votes, but not a majority. Then Paul Harris quietly made a new suggestion. They had already agreed to rotate meetings between (*sic*) members' places of business, with leadership of each meeting also rotating to the man hosting that meeting. Why not call themselves the Rotation Club? They knew they were on to something, but that name sounded a little clumsy. "How about Rotary Club then?" suggested Paul. The name was unanimously approved.

*(To be Continued)*

## ***Did you Know?***

That the role of women in Rotary had been discussed almost from the beginning. At the first convention in 1910, there was a rumor that the Rotary Club of Los Angeles had a ladies auxiliary, which was hotly denied by that club's president. Stated a Kansas City Rotarian, "I think it's a hard enough job to handle two or three hundred men, without having anything to do with the ladies." The press had a field day with that sentiment! Including a headline: "Rotarians Ban Fair Sex: 'Unmanageable.' "

Over the years there were several "Women's Rotary Clubs," but Rotary International continually challenged their use of the word "Rotary." A large international movement of "Inner Wheel" clubs avoided that confrontation, however, this movement never caught on in the United States.

U.S. clubs had their "Rotary Anns," generally composed of spouses of Rotarians, but having no official status within the Rotary organization. Many found the term endearing; many found it demeaning!

In 1978, the Rotary Club of Duarte, California, brought the matter to a head by inducting three women. A lawsuit followed and proceeded -- with back and forth decisions -- thru the courts until the U.S. Supreme Court, in May, 1987, ruled 7-0 against Rotary International (and the many other service clubs, including women's clubs, who had supported RI's position).

**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](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. lgc

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:

July 23rd Darlene Kittredge - Crime Free Program

July 30th Mark Curtis

August 6th Phil Toste - Rugby: The Game & Culture

### Upcoming Events and Dates to Remember

August 15th Family BBQ - Gary Sloan's Home

September 22nd SRRC's 25th Anniversary Gala

October 1-4 District Conference Lake Tahoe NV

October 10th Carboload 25

### Schedule of Greeters:

July 23rd Susan Myers

July 30th Fred Nevarez

August 6th Annie Gibbs

