

eCone

Meeting: Oct. 22, 2009

Presiding Rotarian: Mary Bellefeuille

Visiting Rotarians: none

Guests: Bob DiPietro brought his business partner Anthony Rudick, and Vicki Tomatis brought her daughter-in-law, Olivia Kelly of Tomatis Photography

eCone correspondent: Evan Tuchinsky

Inductions & Honors

Douglas Martens, formerly a Rotarian in South County, rejoined the organization as a member of our club with his induction by our president, **Mary Bellefeuille**. Doug is a Willows native of undisclosed age (only hint: Willows High Class of '61; do the math with an abacus in his honor). He's been in the heating and air-conditioning business since 1975. He received his Rotary pin from **Dean Fender**, to whom he'd given a Sponsor pin.

Curtiss Landers was presented with a Sponsorship pin by **April Mendes**.

Dave Bermann, **Jerry Laskey** and **Art Pollock** received Paradise Club press passes from **Mary** in recognition of their status as official photographers. They were created by **Sherry Swim**, who about now wishes she hadn't ... (more on this later).

Red Badger Chris Pillsbury was at the meeting. He was able to turn his Red Badge in for his blue Badge. Yahoo! Hope to see you at more Rotary meetings, Chris!!!

Presidential Trivia Contest

First correct e-mail answer to Mary (pmbellfay@comcast.net) wins a Wild Card Make-up! This week's question is:

Who is the choice for 2011-2012 Rotary International President, when and where did he/she join Rotary? (hint: the Rotarian magazine)

Last week's winner: A long, well-researched answer to "Who was the first United States President to be photographed?" came from, of course, a photographer, **Vicki Tomatis**. (Short version: John Quincy Adams, though James Buchanan was the first to have inauguration photos taken.)

Updates

Foundation Minute: Bill Mannel wanted to show a video about polio eradication in advance of World Polio Day on Oct. 24, but the Web server did not cooperate. So, instead, he gave some stats – Rotary Foundation has given \$800 million since 1985, which has immunized more than 2 billion children worldwide – and is ordering a video to show at a future meeting, titled *The Final Inch*. Plus, he reminded us that the Rotary Foundation's event at Golden Gate Fields is Dec. 5. Details at www.rotary5160.org. (Correspondent's note: Check your mail for *The Rotarian*; the cover story is about polio survivor Itzhak Perlman.)

Membership Minute: Brian Gray shared the good news/bad news situation of the membership committee. Good news: More than a dozen people have stepped up to join the committee. Bad news: More than a dozen people have stepped up to join the committee – i.e. 15 or so people with different availabilities. A meeting will happen soon, he says – "one of these nights."

Public Relations Minute: Casey Taylor had no announcements, but ...
Fake Bonus Points: 100 to John Touchette (Rotary sticker on his car)

Announcements

Softball: The playoff game is tonight (10/22) at 7:45 p.m. at the big field on Moore Road. Come cheer on the mighty Rotary squad as it takes on some young whippersnappers from whatever whippersnapper place they're from!

NOTE FROM PRES: 5 Rotarians and their families were there to cheer on team of 7 Rotarians and friends. 🎵 THEY ARE THE CHAMPIONS, 🎵 THEY ARE THE CHAMPIONS – of the league.....🎵

Pumpkins: The weigh-in will be Oct. 24, 1 p.m., at the Paradise Garden Center on Clark and Buschmann. Prizes will be given for the largest, smallest and medium pumpkins. Bring the kids, grandkids, nephews, nieces and anyone else who likes big orange things! (So recommends Don the Jeweler.)

House of Sports: Curtiss Landers has collected the entire \$4,000 club members have donated for the Paradise High athletics fundraiser. Badger him (pun intended) for your tickets if you don't get them by next week's meeting. Speaking of which ...

Halloween Hat Day: At the Oct. 29 meeting, wear a hat apropos to All Hallows Eve.



That's next week!

Buffalo's benefit: As many of you know, Norton Buffalo is battling cancer. Tom Gagne encourages everyone to show their support by buying tickets for the Nov. 22 benefit concert at PPAC, where tickets are on sale. Details in today's Paradise Post.

Crab Feed: Pam Gray reminded people to remember that the event is the first Saturday in February. Tickets will be \$50 and will go fassssssst.

Josefa: Our exchange student is eager to explore beyond the slivers of California she's seen. If you are going on vacation and have room for a friendly teen, please keep her in mind. (She loves ice cream and would love to see a football game.) Contact Justin Miley, and fill out an authorized consent form on the Rotary site.

Upper Ridge Fire Safe Council event this Saturday in Magalia, 11:00 – 3:00. Great family outing opportunity.

Christmas bell ringing: Jim Johnson announced that our annual bell ringing day is December 19th. Lots of hands went up showing interest, so I am certain Jim will be getting you on the sign up list. Do I hear challenges to the Exchange Club for monies raised????????????

About those lunches ...

A note from President Mary: If any member has an idea for lunch menus, please email me. All ideas are welcome (open-face sandwiches? bigger salad bar?), as the Elks would like suggestions of what we want.

Recognitions (a.k.a. Fines)

With so many announcements (see above) and a notable speaker (see below), there was no formal recognition section. That doesn't mean Mary didn't ring the bell, however! To wit ...

Sherry Swim: Names misspelled on two of the three press passes. **2 bells**

John Senior: Cell phone ring detected. **1 bell**

Speaker

Assemblyman Dan Logue

Topic: California's economy – how do we get out of this mess?

Assemblyman Logue, whose district includes the Ridge, described himself as a “free-enterprise legislator” who believes strongly that “less government is better. I put my trust in you ... government serves you.” He is a former Marysville Rotarian who had to leave the club when he was elected as a County Supervisor because the two meetings conflicted, “and I didn’t want to be fined to death” for missing Rotary lunches.

After detailing his happiest day in the Legislature – bringing together Holocaust victims and WWII veterans who, like his father, liberated concentration camps – he discussed the efforts of the Economic Recovery Team, a bipartisan group of legislators. Holding hearings in Nevada, he heard accounts from business owners who left California because “the regulatory authority is so draconian that we can’t compete on a global scale. Business in California is death by 1,000 cuts.” He has posted a study on his Assembly Web site (accessible via www.danlogue.com) concluding that overregulation costs the state half-trillion dollars a year -- \$40,000 per family – and 3.9 million jobs. It costs 20 cents more per dollar to do business in California (and 30 cents per dollar more to do business in the United States over elsewhere in the world).

“The state is hostile to business,” the assemblyman stated, and explained that if there’s no business, there is no money for education and infrastructure. “The economic engine in this state is being dismantled, and I don’t know why.”

He opposes “cap and trade” regulation, saying it will cost the state \$187 billion a year in lost output and will quadruple the cost of energy. He also opposes AB 32, regulating greenhouse gas emissions; tradewinds bring pollution into the state from other places without such stringent regulations. He cautions against putting too much faith in alternative energy – “if you bet your economy on green tech, you’ll be sorry” -- and estimates next year’s state deficit at \$8 billion.

His concluding message regarding his efforts at economic recovery: “We are beginning to get allies we’ve never had before. People are getting it. We need you to stand up and get behind us.”
