

eCone Digest

Meetings: March 25, April 1 & April 8, 2010

Presiding Rotarian: Mary Bellefeuille

Visiting Rotarians: Joni Ginno, Chico (April 1); Lenn Goldmann, Chico (April 1); Steve Lack, Pleasant Hill (April 8); Alan Sherwood, Chico (April 1 and 8)

eCone correspondent: Evan Tuchinsky

Inductions & Honors

Vicki Tomatis received her Blue Badge from President Mary on April 8, the week after her vocational talk. Well done!

Updates

Foundation Minute(s): Kathy Maxwell will continue to be available at meetings for members to check on their Paul Harris Fellowship status and, even better, make a donation. People who give by the end of April could win a trip to an overseas project locale; however, she says, “even if you can’t do it right away, give thought to the end of the [Rotary] year in June.”

Membership Minute(s): Dean Fender reinforced his message through weekly repetition – namely, new member orientation is April 13 at his home, and Bring a Buddy to Lunch is April 22. For the latter, please sign up with Dean so we’ll have enough seats and meals.

Public Relations Minute(s): Your humble correspondent is transitioning into the PR Chair position so admirably filled by Casey Taylor. At the committee’s last meeting, Vicki T. (she of the shiny new blue badge) stepped forward to create a Fan Page on Facebook, which already has members from inside and outside our club.

Fake Bonus Points: 200 to everyone who joined the aforementioned fan page; 50 to John Touchette for his Rotary license plate.

Announcements

Condolences: Thoughts and prayers continue to be with Ron Jones and Vickie Perez. Ron lost his son; Vickie lost her mom. Condolences go to both families.

Missing camera: Arthur Pollock is on the hunt for a CoolPic camera in a red and black pack. He's not looking to buy one, though he did offer to pay something — it's his very own camera, and "if you really want a reward, you get a reward" for its safe return.

Missing bell: April Mendes is well on her way to becoming a Blue-Badger after relieving the Durham Club of possession of its bell and gavel. We won't give away her secrets, but suffice it to say she secured it well and may well enrich the Chocolate Queen coffers.

District Assembly: Larry Hartt reports that the District Assembly at Butte College was an eye-opener. Clubs have a number of projects underway, and there's a great amount of cooperation. He calls our District "Rotary's brave new world — Northern California is on the map!"

Board meeting recap: 'Twas was an eventful morning, Mary relayed. The board considered a request from Quota to support the Boys of Paradise, for which John Backues is a nominee. Thanks to a commitment from Tom Baker's team, we'll have a booth at Gold Nugget Days. The club is also sponsoring the House of Sports, Paradise Adventist Academy's "Fiddler on the Roof" and the Feather River Hospital Golf Tournament. Finally, a month-long leave of absence was approved for Sherry Swim, and the leaves for Chris Pillsbury and Shelli Sinclair were extended through June.

Wild Cards: Would you love to have 10 wild-card make-ups on hand? How about if they were good through June 30, 2011? If so, and if you have \$100 for the luxury, contact Trevor Davis, who is selling such packs as a fundraiser.

All Rotarians at Work Day: Bill Mannel will have more details for the April 17 smoke-detector project at the April 15 meeting, but he knows 50 seniors have requested assistance — most for battery changes rather than full installations. With the number of Rotarians who signed up, the shifts should only be a few hours.

Exchange (the program, not the club): Justin Miley is assembling a Youth Exchange Committee to facilitate the program that's brought international students such as Josefa Cacaes into our community. Interested in helping? Let him know!

Keep your hands on the wheel: Our club will sponsor five teens in the Car Control Clinic on June 24. Stay tuned for more details.

News from the Islands: Char Mansfield sends word that she's doing well in Maui. She joined the local Rotary club and is playing a part in organizing a charity golf fundraiser. So, if you happen to be on the Islands on May 22 ...

Presidential Trivia

Here is Mary's challenge for this week:

"Two Truths and One Lie" for two members.

a) I graduated high school with Rick Crabtree

I LOVE to dance

I'm a great Rotarian

b) I am indescribable in one line.

Guess the identity of the person as well as his/her lie!

Remember, first **e-mail reply to Mary** with the correct answer yields a coveted Wild Card Make-up Card!!!

Recognitions (a.k.a. Fines)

John Backues: Had to borrow lunch money from Pam because he forgot his card and only had a \$100 bill in his wallet — "It costs \$1 more," he complained of the make-change charge (March 25). **2 bells**

John Backues: Bad grammar — "...in the bike" (April 8). **1 bell**

Justin Miley: Forgot something on his trip to Kauai. "Kids?" Nope, a Rotary bear. "Don't you play with bears?" Mary asked. "No," he replied, "I shoot them." (March 25) **2 bells**

Gil Gilbertson: The exploits of two grandchildren — one who, while learning to drive, got pulled over by a police officer who wanted to know if the teen had been drinking; another who got accepted into the Air Force Academy (March 25). **3 bells**

April Mendes: "Carpet convention?" Not really— a trip to Fort Bragg with the Bunco Girls," who "rented a beautiful house with lots of fun involved." How much fun? "Tremendous," she replied, netting a tremendous fine (March 25). **3 bells**

Brian Gray: "Nothing tremendous this week" ... except for needing to replace 40,000-mile tires after just 2,557 because of his tendency to burn rubber out of places such as Beyond Fitness (March 25). **2 bells**

Bob DiPietro: Left his glasses lying around (April 1). **1 bell**

Richard Irby: His daughter won ribbons in the Berkeley dance competition and his son was the emcee for the Rhythm + Motion event at PPAC (April 1). **3 bells**

Casey Taylor: Phone went off during a speaker. “I turned off my phone!” she protested, explaining that Kiley sneakily turned it back on. “She’s evil,” Casey said, “so I gave her daughter detention!” Nonetheless, a fine (April 1). **3 bells**

John Touchette: Corrupting Kiley, plus responsibility as guardian for Josefa, who has a habit of, shall we say, borrowing keys (April 1). **5 bells**

Casey Taylor & Kiley Patterson: Failure to mention their future Rotary aspirations when they, as Paradise High cheerleaders, appeared in the football game program (March 25). **1 bell each**

Casey Taylor: Self-promotion fee for announcing the Achieve Charter School’s “A Night in Paris” Fundraiser April 17 at 5:30 p.m. at the St. Thomas More Church Hall (April 8). **1 bell**

Doug Martens: Cell phone went off during Mary’s announcements (April 8). **1 bell**

Larry Lash: After getting fined **3 bells in absentia** the previous week, Mary called him out for his cell phone ringing during the speaker interrupted by Casey’s phone (April 8). **1 bell**

John Jans: His son set a land-speed record at Bonneville by going 372 mph on a motorcycle ... then asserting an obscure clause that “one does not fine the person who sponsored them in the club; you have to unring that bell.” It then rang two more times (April 8) **3 bells**

Vickie Perez: Daughter Jordan, in her first year at Chico State with the academic standing of a sophomore, won the Freshman of the Year award for the MESA engineering program and made the Dean’s List. **3 bells**

Evan Tuchinsky: Left the Northern California Ballet “Midsummer Night’s Dream” rehearsal schedule at the Bob Table the previous week (April 1). **2 bells**

Evan Tuchinsky: Two weeks without an eCone (April 8). **2 bells**

Bulletin Board

Relay for Life: Leading up to the cancer survivors' event will be a poker tournament May 15 at the Eagles Lodge. Contact Larry Lash for more information.

Speakers

Natalie Huberman, LeapingStone

Topic: Sustainable Primary Education in West Africa

At the March 25 meeting, Natalie presented a program on her Chico-based nonprofit, LeapingStone, which is building a school in the West African nation of Togo.

Why Togo? “I’ve traveled to lots of developing nations,” she explained. “Some places are content and not interested in change; and, other places, people feel beat-down and hopeless. In Togo, people want change and want to help themselves — they just need a helping hand.”

The site of the school is the village of Dedeke, which has a population of around 500 adults and 200 children. LeapingStone is partnering with the Catholic Church, which will supply teachers and maintain the facility. Students’ families will pay for books and supplies. Villagers will help with construction — some for pay.

In Phase 1, the foundation will be laid for six classrooms, three of which will be finished. In Phase 2, the other three classrooms will be finished and an administration building constructed. In Phase 3, latrines and hand-washing stations will go up.

LeapingStone (www.leapingstone.org) has collected \$30,000 for the Dedeke project. Supplementing fundraising efforts are S.H.A.R.E. cards, which supporters swipe at participating grocery stores and LeapingStone gets a up to 3 percent of the grocery bill as a donation. Natalie concluded by saying, “I can’t tell you how it makes me feel about the generosity of people in this area.”

John Touchette

Topic: District Database

No, it wasn’t an April Fool’s joke when Mary said her presidential predecessor would present the program (my alliteration, not hers). John gave a practical demonstration of the new and improved database section of the District 5160 site, which more and more will be of use to our own club.

The District site is at <http://rotary5160.org>. Either through the Quick links on the lower right of the home page, or through www.directory-online.com/rotary/login.cfm, you will get access to your personal profile.

Your username is your email address (which could be an old one if you've been in the club a while, so if at first you don't succeed, work backwards chronologically through your history).

Your password is your Rotary International ID, which is printed on the address label of the Rotarian magazine (and also in our club records accessible by John or Arnie).

Our club number is 451.

At the minimum, please update your basic information, select email preferences and upload a photo, lest John put up a photo of you that he likes more than you do. The profiles comprise the database that our club will use to compile directories, send out emails and myriad other possibilities.

John will have his laptop at weekly meetings, so if you're having trouble, he'll gladly help you get connected.

Steve Lack, Assistant Governor of District 5160

Topic: "Who Wants To Be a Rotary Millionaire?"

Assistant Governor Lack — a.k.a. "Mr. Excitement" — helped enlighten club members on Rotary trivia with an April 8 playing of a game he conducts around the District. The emcee asked a question of the audience, and the first person with the correct answer got to come on stage (OK, sit in a chair next to the Bob Table). We had 10 players and two winners, who received 100 Paul Harris Fellowship points for answering four multiple-choice questions correctly. As with the TV "Millionaire" game, each contestant had four lifelines.

Here's a quick recap of each contestant, the number of questions answered correctly and the final question he/she attempted. (Answers below.)

<u>Contestant</u>	<u>Correct answers</u>	<u>Final question</u>
Bob Gutafson	4	Where was the first Rotary lunch meeting?
Tom Gagne	0	When was the first Rotary convention?
Tim Elloway	4	Which club sponsored our club?
Kent Rasmussen	1	What was Paul Harris wife's name?
Vickie Perez	0	Occupation not represented in the 1st group?
Rob Anderson	0	Where was 1 st non-English-speaking club?
Will from Interact	1	Room # where 1st group first met?
Mary Bellefeuille	2	"Mankind is our business" — whose motto?

Greg Bolin	0	When was Wheelchair Foundation founded?
Jackie Gitman	0	What isn't an official fellowship?

*Answers (in order): Oakland; 1910; Chico; Jean; accountant; Havana, Cuba; 711; RI
President Rick King; 2002; poker players.*
