

# Rotary Club of the Valley of the Moon

*Number one Mid-size Club in District 5130 - FY 2008-09*

6572 Oakmont Drive, Suite A, Santa Rosa, CA 95409

Volume XII Issue No. 17 Frank Sites, President November 18, 2011

[www.valleyofthemoonrotary.org](http://www.valleyofthemoonrotary.org)



The **Four-Way Test** of things we think, say or do:

Is it the **Truth**?

Is it **Fair** to all concerned?

Will it build **Goodwill** and better **Friendships**?

Will it be **Beneficial** to all concerned?

## OPENING

President **Frank Sites** rang the opening bell at 7:30 a.m.

The flag salute was led by **Jack Monahan**.

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

**John Derby** gave us  
"The Wisdom of  
Football Coaches"  
(excluding Joe Paterno):

- Knute Rockne/Notre Dame: "Show me a good and gracious loser and I'll show you a failure."



- Bear Bryant/Alabama: "I make my practices real hard, because if a player is a quitter, I want him to quit in practice, not in a game."

- Bobby Bowden/Florida State: "After you retire, there's only one big event left and I ain't ready for that!"
- Wally Butts/Georgia: "In Alabama, an atheist is someone who doesn't believe in Bear Bryant."
- Shug Jordan/Auburn: "Always remember . . . Goliath was a 40 point favorite over David."
- John McKay/USC: "We didn't tackle well today, but we made up for it by not blocking."
- Knute Rockne/Notre Dame: "I've found that prayers work best when you have big players."

## VISITING ROTARIANS AND GUESTS

Sgt-at-Arms **Jerry Dion** let us know there were no visiting Rotarians, however, **Randy Ruark's** guest Bob Jackson of Lafayette has submitted his membership application and her other guest, MiMi Jones is considering as a member. Also present was **Todd VanDenburg's** guest, Suzanne Waxman, who is being inducted this date as a member. **Frank Sites** introduced his guest Anastasia Schuster, who provides speakers for organizations and has been responsible for a couple of our recent speakers. Also present was **John Derby's** guest Bob Chapman, an Oakmonter and past president of the Oakmont Village Assn. John & Bob play guitar with the Oakie Folkies.

## PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Frank** reminded us that the District Governor's Reception is Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at the Wild Oak Saddle Club. The reception itself is free, but drinks will cost you. Come and socialize starting at 5:30 p.m.

Also, please come to our Holiday Dinner on Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at the Quail Inn. Cocktails at 5:30 and dinner at 6:30. The price is \$37.50 per person and there will be entertainment. Contact **Pat Gooler** or **Karen Sites** soon to sign up.

**REMEMBER: THERE IS NO MEETING ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25<sup>th</sup>. HAPPY THANKSGIVING!**

No pin check today, but please try to remember to wear your pin EVERYWHERE. Conversations are often started when people spot your pin and question you about it. Get the word out about Rotary!

## DIRECTOR REPORTS

### New Generations:

**Caroline Keller** brought the Sierra Youth Center calendars for 2012 to sell at \$15 each. The photography was all done by the girls and each month has a different quote. Also, there are only 6 wreaths left to buy at \$20 each. A sign-up sheet was sent around for volunteers to help the girls cut greens and assemble the wreaths. The calendar and wreath projects are part of their Small Business Management program.



we'll be doing vocational coaching with several field trips to businesses such as a visit with Roy at Calvary Tire to learn about mechanics and

**Barb Spangler** reported on R House. This year, we did vocational counseling that was successful with a trip to Oliver's Market where the students were shown the different aspects of working in the market. Next year,

running a business, plus to McDonalds, Target, etc. These young people only need to be exposed to real life to discover what's out there for them.

## FUND RAISER

### Crab Feed

**Mike Isola** wondered if any of us would recognize him without his 'crab' hat, which is missing. Big news . . . it's that time again **ALREADY!**



The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Crab Feed will be Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup>. It's time to get started looking for sponsors, donations of goods and moolah. There



will be a Silent Auction this year.

**John Derby** will try to bring in leftover programs from last year's feed, which were splendidly produced by Todd VanDenburg. We can use these programs to reel in new sponsors. How could anyone resist such a splendid and glorious presentation of their business? Letters will be mailed next week to potential donors and we need "ambassadors/members" to follow up with phone calls to each of them. There was a meeting today at Oakmont Travel for those interested in getting started. We all need to pitch in and do our part for this very important fund raiser.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

### Friendship Alliance

**Cynthia** reported on our meeting at her office last week. One member of our group suggested we do some Christmas caroling to needy folks in Oakmont. We all agreed that we liked the idea, so now we need volunteers



to form several groups to sing. The dates will be December 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. Cheryl Faix at Oakmont Gardens has asked us to come around to their place during the dinner hours and regale them with our cheerfulness and vocal delights. We don't have much time to get this put together, so whether you can carry a tune or not, we'd need you to help us out. Call Cynthia at WeCare and volunteer. A notice will be put in the Oakmont News. This sounds like fun (maybe a small amount of brandy would help loosen up our vocal chords on a cold winter's night. How jolly would that be?)

### Women's Recovery Service

**Gay Weir and Jeppe Juhl** visited the Women's

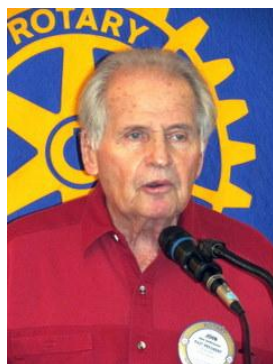


Recovery Service in Santa Rosa last week. This organization helps alcohol and drug dependent women (and their children) get through their time of crisis. They even supply temporary apartments for the women, who are quite

needy. If you're willing to help, they're in need of books, toys, diapers, etc. Contact **Gay** or **Jeppe** for more information.

### Flowery School

**John Heilbronner** is still asking for volunteers to read at Flowery School. Some of the kids have learning disabilities and just need that extra little help. It's very rewarding to be a part of this. Call John if you have time on Thursdays from 9 – 11:30 a.m. You only need to be able to read at a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade level!



### OTHER REPORTS

#### Veteran's Day Luncheon

**Dan Grow** reported that our club's turnout at the luncheon was the biggest ever and we hope to do this well again next year. It was a huge success.

### SCARC Dinner

**Val and Cynthia** attended Rohnert Park/Cotati's SCARC dinner at Sally Tomatoes Event Center on Thursday and found it very interesting. Their



club has a Senior Help program. They have lots of great ideas to help seniors in their area. Their committee has more than 50 volunteers who go out and help with small repairs, cleanups, yard work and visitations to those in need. One

woman they helped had broken her neck and had no help for 2 years. Her yard was a disaster. The club sent over 20 volunteers, who spent just 3 hours cleaning up her entire yard, plus visiting with her. She was so very appreciative. There are so many needs in a community like ours and we hope Rohnert Park/Cotati Rotary will be an inspiration to our club.

The SCARC dinners are on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of every month and hosted by a different Sonoma County club. Try to attend an occasional dinner and learn what other clubs are doing, plus meet new people and socialize. It's always interesting. The next SCARC dinner will be hosted by the Sonoma Valley club on January 26<sup>th</sup>.

### VALLEY OF THE MOON CHILDREN'S HOME

**Francine** asked me to include this item in the bulletin: The Children's Home is thrilled with the small suitcases and backpacks received from our club. They need more, PLUS they're in dire need of small, collapsible umbrellas . . . you know, the kind that fit in a pocket or purse. Bring them

to any meeting or to **Francine's**.

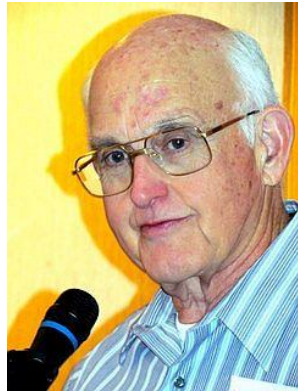


### New Member Induction

**Todd VanDenburg** brought his guest Suzanne Waxman to the podium to be inducted into our club. Todd said “Every day in Rotary is a great day, but now it’s better because we have new member Suzanne.” Val pinned both Suzanne and **Todd** and we welcomed **Suzanne** into our fold.

**Anniversary & Birthday Recognition**

**Arnie Lamb** and his wife celebrated an anniversary. Kind of low key, I’d say. They went out for nice dinner, checked the theaters for a movie they might like. . . gave up on that idea, rented a DVD and went home.



**HAPPY DOLLARS**

**Al Blake** gave in honor of his son’s last night playing timpani with the symphony due to upcoming surgery. Al thinks we should start an “Occupy Oakmont” movement.

**RAFFLE**

**Paula Schnelle** had **Marjorie MacLeod** draw the ticket for the \$146 pot. **Ken Young** didn’t draw the Joker, but gets a free breakfast.



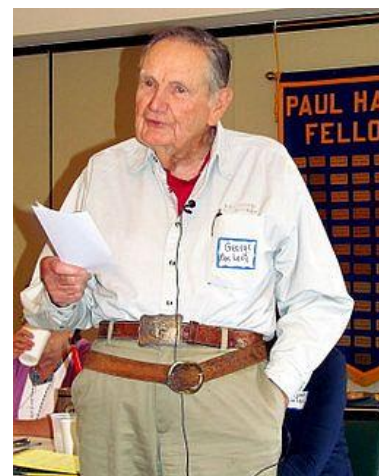
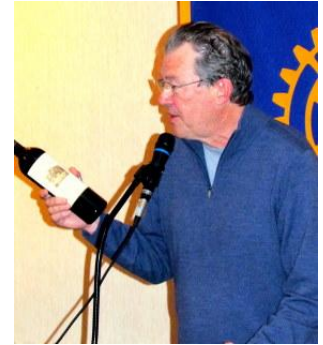
**GUEST SPEAKER**

The **MacLeod Family Vineyard** was represented today by



our favorite speaker, the family patriarch, **George MacLeod**, who just turned 90, along with his lovely daughter-in-law **Marjorie**.

**Marjorie** started by gifting our club with 3 bottles of their best wines, a hat and chart on **How to Communicate with Wine**. These items were auctioned off at this meeting by **John Brodey**. The first was the hat and chart, which went to **Todd VanDenburg** for \$30. The next was a 2008 Sonoma Valley Merlot, which went to **Karen Armstrong** for \$35. Then a 2010 Sauvignon Blanc, which was 100% from their vineyard, which went to **Ron Nicholson** for \$40. The last was a 2009 Zinfandel, also 100% from their ranch and went to **Barb Spangler** for \$40. Thank you, **MacLeods**, for the gifts that kept on giving to our club.



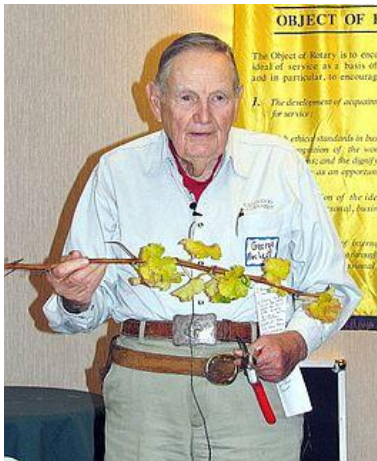
The amazing and energetic 90 years young **George** took the floor to entertain and teach us about his ranch and making wine. As always, his sense of humor got us charged up from the get-go when he wondered out

loud why we would bother having him as a speaker for the third time?? Didn’t we learn the first time? He reminded us that he worked for **Monsanto Industries** until retirement. They were goal-oriented, thus his lofty goal of retiring to **Sonoma Valley** and planting a vineyard.

**George** claims his ranch flies 3 flags:

- 1- Commercial
- 2- Retirement Project Out-of-Control
- 3- Proclaimed Workaholic Theme Park

George wanted to teach us the theory of making wine the Artisan way. He brought with him Zinfandel grapes from his ranch for each table



and demonstrated how to tell if a grape is ready to be picked. He asked Val to be Miss Fruit Acid and Anne to represent Miss Sugar. Fruit acid is like the tartness in an apple – without it wine would have no character. Sugar is produced by photosynthesis



during the sunlight hours, beginning at 70 degrees and ending at 90 degrees. Fruit acid is produced at night and loves cool nights. Sugar is referred to as Brix. We were instructed on how to taste his grapes and they were yummy.



George's presentation, as always, was such a great visual and sensory delight as well as a learning experience. He explained to us how the grapes are judged and where "Two Buck Chuck" comes into play with an inferior harvest. This year's harvest produced A+ in quality, but C- in quantity.

Marjorie presented us all with an invitation to come to the ranch for a tour and tasting. The complimentary tours are given on a seasonal basis by George with Marjorie's help and are 2 hours long with a limit of 8 people per tour. The tours are by reservation only. Be prepared to ride in the back of George's pickup on bales of hay with frequent stops to hear him talk about his children, the vines. Also, at the top of the hill, you'll enjoy a picnic of bread, cheese, fruit & chocolate paired with several wines that George will tell you about. He's very proud of his family and retirement endeavor and delights in talking about it to all. George thinks he may live forever, but perhaps will change his goal to moving to Oakmont to chase women!



Google the MacLeod Vineyard website to learn more, get directions and see photos of their ranch. It's definitely a wonderful treat and enjoyable 2 hours.

## Closing

Frank thanked George and Marjorie MacLeod for their entertaining talk. A book for the Whited Elementary School library will be donated in their name.

The closing bell was rung at 8:50 a.m.

## MEMBERSHIP

1<sup>st</sup> Posting for New Member Bob Jackson.

**Share Rotary with your friends.** We should invite business friends and neighbors to a meeting. Who do we do business with, what neighbors do we know, what former Rotarians could be asked to join us? **Clip and save the invitation below to give to a friend, neighbor, or business associate. Please tell or email Todd VanDenburg if you are bringing a guest.**

Guests and potential Rotarians are invited twice at the Club's expense.

**MANY PEOPLE SAID THEY WOULD HAVE JOINED ROTARY HAD SOMEONE ASKED THEM!**

**Cut and put in your wallet**

You are invited as a guest of \_\_\_\_\_ to attend a breakfast meeting of Valley of the Moon Rotary. The Club meets Friday mornings at 7:00 a.m. at the Quail Inn Restaurant 7035 Oakmont Drive in Oakmont.

Anyone interested in joining Rotary is encouraged to contact our Membership Director, Todd VanDenburg at [todd@thevandenburgs.com](mailto:todd@thevandenburgs.com) for information

**FUTURE CALENDAR EVENTS**

11/25 – **DARK** due to Thanksgiving

12/2 – Regular Meeting

12/8 – District Governor's Reception, Saddle Club

12/9 – District Governor Maureen Merrill's Official Visit

12/16 – Club Holiday Dinner at Quail Inn

12/23 – **DARK** – Happy Holidays

12/30 – **DARK** – Happy Holidays

**ERRORS & OMISSIONS**

Please submit any corrections or omissions to Jack Monahan or Star Power for insertion in the next bulletin.

Editor: Star Power  
(E-mail – [starpower7@att.net](mailto:starpower7@att.net)  
or phone 707-537-9382)  
Publisher: Jack Monahan  
Photographer Jack Monahan



President Frank displays a club flag he acquired during a recent trip to the East Coast



Welcome Suzanne Waxman, our newest club member

President: Frank Sites; President Elect: Barb Spangler;  
Secretary: Val Hulsey; Treasurer: Arnie Lamb  
Sergeant-at-Arms: Jerry Dion

VOM Rotary Club Directors:  
International Service – Ron Nicholson  
New Generations Director – Caroline Keller  
Community Service – Jeppe Juhl  
Vocational Service – Jean Swegle  
Club Service – Les Holve  
Fund Raising – John Derby  
Foundation Director – Gary McClernan  
Membership Director – Todd VanDenburg  
Public Relations Director – John Brodey