

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. 23 Frank Sites, President January 27, 2012

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?

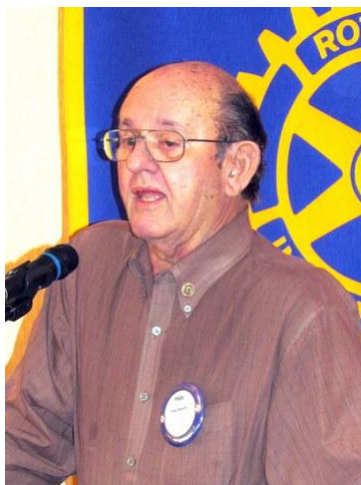
OPENING

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

The flag salute was led by **Phil Wigen**.
The Greeters today were **Phil Wigen** and **Jeppe Juhl**.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Paul Rasore related a true story and a silly one. True story: He has been taking a genealogy course and was searching for when his father entered the U.S. He was able to locate the manifest that showed his father entering the country at the age of 14 and the ship he came on.



Silly one: A little girl asked her Mommy “Where do people come from?”

The Mom told her that God made Adam and Eve and the people came from them. The little girl saw her father watching TV and asked him the same question. Her Daddy gave her a big talk about people coming from gorillas and apes. When the little girl saw her Mommy again, she wanted to know who was right – Adam and Eve or Daddy’s version of gorillas and apes. The Mommy said, “Oh, both are right. I was just talking about my side of the family!” (chuckle, chuckle)

VISITING ROTARIANS AND GUESTS

Sgt-at-Arms **Jerry Dion** introduced visiting Rotarian **Jody Drummond**, Club Service Director from Brainerd, Minnesota and, ironically, wedding coordinator for both of Frank & Karen Sites’ daughters back in the day when she lived in Santa Rosa. Our only other guest was our speaker Joel Hodge.

PRESIDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

President **Frank** called up our guest Rotarian, **Jody**

Drummond of Brainerd, MN to tell us about her club. Jody had lived here in Santa Rosa for 16 years, but now is in Minnesota, Land of 10,000 Lakes. Did any of us know how those lakes got there? Well, of course, it was from Paul Bunyan and Babe, his great blue ox as they left their



footprints all over the State. She presented us with her club flag, which pictured the fabled Paul and Babe.

Jody told us her club believed in “See a Need,



Fill a Need” and one of their recent “fills” was when they learned the local soup kitchen was in “need” of chairs, which they provided. One of their favorite fundraisers is pig races. Leader, MN is a thriving metropolis

containing one gas station, one general store and a bar. The bar proprietor built a small racetrack behind the bar. People bet on which pig they think will win the race. The winners have to kiss the pig. Proceeds go to their Rotary club.

Their big yearly fundraiser is a “reverse” raffle. They sell tickets for \$120 a couple or a total of 600 people. Everyone stands for the drawing and each receives a raffle prize as their number is called, at which time they sit down. The last 5 standing are eligible for the \$10,000 prize, which they can split or the winning number can keep. Most of the time, the \$10,000 is split. Last year they raised \$25,000 toward their project of providing computers and books for Haiti.

One of their other fundraisers is a fishing contest with an entry fee of \$120, but grand prize of \$150,000 plus a truck. (Woo Hoo, **Ken Young**, should get on out there!)



DIRECTOR REPORTS FUND RAISER Crab Feed

Mike Isola reminded us that money for tickets sold is due in by 2 p.m. today, Friday, 1/27. Tickets not sold will go back in the pool for those on the ‘waiting list’.

Also, if you haven’t brought in your bottle of fine wine, please remember to do so at the next meeting.

FOUNDATION

Karen Sites is standing in for **Gary McClernan**, so those of you who have not contributed to the Foundation during this term (2011-2012) please send your checks to her. We want to continue to be an award winning club – Every Rotarian Every Year. Thanks to all.

OTHER REPORTS

Friendship Alliance

Cynthia Macariola-Brooks reported that the Friendship

Alliance will be meeting every other Tuesday at 5 p.m. at her office. The next meeting is February 7th. Everyone is welcome to attend and share ideas. One of the ideas tossed out was to offer to go to



Oakmonters’ homes to replace smoke detector batteries (we supply them) and heater filters (they supply them) for those who are unable to do that chore twice a year. Of course, these should be replaced when daylight savings time goes in and out. The next time change is March 11th, so probably we should do this the two weekends of and before that time change. More info to follow.

The other project we came up with is a one-time-only birthday party for Oakmont Gardens’ oldest resident, Mary Ann, who is 104. Cheryl Faix can probably tell us when Mary Ann’s birthday is and perhaps our club could have her in and

honor her. She's a pretty spirited gal and maybe she'll tell us about her life.

NEW GENERATIONS

Gordon Freedman reported that there are two



new Rotary clubs in the beginning stages of planning in our District. One will be in Arcada, CA and the other will be an evening club in Valley of the Moon. This club's first meeting is on

Wednesday, March 21 at 5:30 p.m. at the Wolf House Restaurant in Glen Ellen. This should be an exciting club with average ages between 25 – 50. There are many businesses in that area, so this club sounds promising. Try to attend if you get the chance.

DISTRICT GOVERNOR NOMINEES

All clubs in District 5130 have been called to participate in an election for our 2014-2015 District Governor Nominee-Designate.

Barb Spangler has agreed to be our Election Officer and she will hold a paper vote of members at our next meeting on February 3. Statements of Qualifications of the three candidates were distributed and resent by email so everyone in the club would have a copy.



Please remember campaigning in the form of speeches, email blasts, publication, argument or advocacy is not allowed. You may discuss the "Statements of Qualifications" at our club but

such discussions must be respectful, dignified and fair to all concerned.

SHAMAN

Our very own shaman **Les Holve** in his fine hat of turkey feathers, kept **Frank** at the podium to receive another feather. This one was for not getting the committee list to him until 10:30 p.m. last night in the 7th month of his Presidency and then one for himself for not recognizing all that **Francine** does at the Club Assembly.

Frank immediately called **Francine** to the podium to acknowledge her valued service. Not only is she

the "Sunshine Kid", sending out cards to those in our club not feeling so hot or broken,



but she's also been the Club Historian, working hard to maintain records of our club including the club bulletin and all of our activities, etc. On top of all that, she's been present faithfully at the door to collect your money, keep track of our badges and help set up and tear down. She'll bring the History Books in at some point, so we can all view them. Thanks, **Francine**, for all you do!

Francine reminded us that the VOM Children's Home still need suitcases, backpacks and collapsible umbrellas.



Birthday Recognition

Jack Monahan had a birthday and he endured our acappella version of Happy Birthday. They went out to dinner and to a movie with friends.

HAPPY (and sad) DOLLARS

Dennis DeSousa let us know that our **Fred Adair** has been seriously ill and hospitalized in San Francisco.

The doctors aren't quite sure how to treat his ailment, but **Fred's** hanging in there. He's at home now and is receiving calls. Get well soon, **Fred**.



Dennis & Nancy celebrated their 54th Anniversary, which **Frank** failed to acknowledge (*another* turkey feather for him). They enjoyed some time in Palm Springs.

Randy Ruark reported on her granddaughters. One graduated as a Registered Nurse, another auditioned and won a role with the Boston Ballet Company and the other was accepted at Mills College.



Cynthia Macariola-Brooks won at Bunco (beginner's luck) and gave back some.

Lois Kelly also won at Bunco, giving half back.

Mimi Jones reflected back on when she was a child and asked about where babies came from. Her parents told her the stork brought her and left her on the doorstep. She never forgot that.

Rich Irwin reported that his friend Arliss also won at Bunco and gave her \$30 winnings to our club. (Thanks, Arliss).

Judie Coleman wondered if we all remembered her stories about SammyCat. Her beloved feline had to be put down recently.



Jody Drummond was happy to be back in Santa Rosa for a visit as she had lived here for 16 yrs.

Pat Gooler ALSO won at Bunco and gave some back.

The next Bunco game is not until 3/28/12 because of the Crab Feed.

RAFFLE

Paula Schnelle had **Jody Drummond** draw the ticket for the \$342 pot. The winning ticket holder was **Jim Spangler** who didn't draw the Joker, but gets a free breakfast.



GUEST SPEAKER

Ron Nicholson introduced our speaker Joel Hodge, Program Director for the Wheelchair Foundation. Joel has been with the Foundation since it's inception in the year 2000. As Program Director, he has seen nearly 900,000 wheelchairs delivered to 153 countries, all free of charge to those in need. He has personally traveled throughout the world delivering wheelchairs and working to help the poorest of the poor. Joel is an accomplished artist, photographer, writer and musician. He has a



background in the biological sciences as well as banking. He lives in Terra Linda with his wife, Molly, and has two sons, Jasper and Magnus.

Joel started out his talk with a few humorous stories, but kept referring to our ‘pillow fights’ thinking we were Kenwood. We were gracious enough to not embarrass him by correcting him, so I’m doing it now!!!!

Rotary and the Wheelchair Foundation started working together in early 2000, aiding land mine victims. He moved his family from Tucson, AZ to California to help start the Foundation as he felt in his heart that this was where he needed to be. He’s worked with Rotary clubs and other service agencies all over this world. He and his relatively small, multi-lingual staff make the decisions where chairs are needed.

In 10 years, he’s been to non-tourist destinations



around the world. He even has to have multiple passports. He’s accepted with open arms everywhere he goes and has never heard anyone refer to Americans as ‘bad’.

The cost of each wheelchair is about \$150 and they’re built in China, one of the largest manufacturers on this planet. They’re built with parts that are compatible with every other wheelchair. The chairs are shipped by container, each containing 280 chairs at a cost of \$42,000 to ship.



The youth of our country are interested in this project through Interact and have formed groups to participate.

To learn more about the Wheelchair Foundation, log on to www.wheelchairfoundation.org.

Ron Nicholson presented Joel with a check for the Wheelchair Foundation for \$1,000.00.

Closing

Frank thanked Joel Hodge for his presentation and asked him to choose a book to be donated to Douglas Whited Elementary School in his name.

The closing bell was rung at 8:45 a.m.

MEMBERSHIP

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 Frank or Paula if you are bringing a guest.**

When introducing your guest at a meeting please do not introduce them as a prospective member. No one can be a prospective member until the Board votes on their

application. Just introduce them as my friend or neighbor or whatever is appropriate.

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.

FUTURE CALENDAR EVENTS

2/03/12 – The NEW Sutter Hospital under construction, (Mike Purvis CAO)

2/10/12 – Redwood Empire Food Bank, (David Goodman)

2/17/12 – “Points of Life” – The Elder Ed Players

2/24/12 – DARK due to Crab Feed on 2/25/12

3/02/12 – Women's Recovery Services, (Mike Neering & Kim Simoni)

3/16/12 – Making Our Mind Our Mentor – (Steven Campbell)

4/13/12 – East Meets West – Clean Water, (John Hieu Nguyen)

4/20/12 – Cardinal Newman Interact President in Uganda, (Jay Zimmer)

4/27/12 – Income for Life & Legacy Planning (Franklin-Templeton)

5/11/12 – The Significance of Memorial Day (Marine Col. Bucky Peterson)

5/18/12 – Roots of Peace (Land Mine Removal) (Heidi Kuhn)

5/25/12 – DARK, Memorial Day

6/01/12 – Scholarship Presentations, (Caroline Keller)

6/08/12 – Community Service Awards, (Phil Wigen)

6/29/12 – Dinner Meeting, President's Debunking

ERRORS & OMISSIONS

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

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Community Service – Jeppe Juhl

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