



The Mendocino Rotary View



January 2010



6	COMMUNITY SERVICE FISHING SUSTAINABILITY
X	1 BEACH CLEANUP EACH YEAR
•••••	WORKS W/INTERACT ON JOINT PROGRAMS
X	RELOCATED HOMELESS POPULATION TO HELP THEM RE-START THEIR LIVES
X	VILLAGE CLEANUP BY INTERACT - STREETS ARE SPOTLESS
•••••	Completed Community Cultural Center & Teen Center (APPA School)
X	597 LOCAL Constable (Shop) office
•••••	Completed 5 hands on projects



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Weekly Meeting Reports

January 7: Interact Club Runs Meeting

"We have a powerful potential in our youth, and we must have the courage to change old ideas and practices so that we may direct their power toward good ends."--Mary McLeod Bethune

The New Year opened with a display of leadership as **President Dean** opened the meeting, then quickly turned the meeting over to Interact President **Chloe Grinberg**, who presided over the remainder of the meeting. Interact is Rotary International's service club for young people ages 14 to 18. Interact clubs are sponsored by individual Rotary clubs, which provide support and guidance, but the Interact clubs are self-governing and self-supporting.



President Chloe livened up the meeting with a humorous joke (Joe the Lawyer), then recognized **Gail Dickerson** (Interact coordinator); **Elise Boyle** (Interact Advisor); and **Dori Maté**, guest of **Don Hill**.



[Outgoing 2010 Interact Club Officers]

Each Rotarian introduced the Interact student he or she sponsored for the luncheon, and we all learned a little about each of the Interact students, including:

- **Zora Bowman**, Interact Vice-President, is a graduating senior bound toward India to perform service work in an orphanage
- **Xochil Goretsky**, who wishes to become a pediatrician in her ancestral Aztec home area
- **Shannon Dobbins**, who plans to study psychology
- **Lilia Zacchia**, who plays sports and enjoys singing, and plans to attend a summer session in Italy
- **Ian Bowery**, a freshman who enjoys playing lacrosse
- **Matt Winslow**, a junior who likes to play soccer, basketball and lacrosse
- **Hayley Lacey**, a sophomore who wishes to study botany
- **Giacomo Zacchia**, who came from Italy and is a freshman in varsity basketball
- **Kristin Hock**, who is a junior
- **Margie Mito**, a senior who plays soccer and hopes to do service to the community
- **Hannah Rittiman**, a senior who is graduating and hoping to attend college in New York City and study medicine
- **Vince Longo**, who enjoys playing Lacrosse
- **Justin Garcia**, who enjoys soccer and other sports
- **Christina Stappen**, an exchange student from Germany, enjoys organized sports

Many Rotary announcements followed, including reminders about Every Rotarian Every Year (EREY) donations to the Foundation, Charter Night at the Ledford House celebrating 43 years, the upcoming Visioning Session, and pending Art Auction Committee meeting.

Jerry Karabensh also announced that Theatre Night of March 4th, which will approach quickly, is for the play *Deathtrap*. Tickets are \$25 apiece for the play and hors d'oeuvres.



Zora Bowman informed the club of a project involving an orphanage in India, Ramana's Garden. This children's home and school is

Vision: "Helping people in our community and throughout the world."

located near Rishikesh in northern India. Ramana's Garden supports abandoned, destitute, and abused children. Zora will be going to India to work with the orphanage in February.

January 13: Visioning Session replaces regular weekly meeting

"Vision without action is a dream. Action without vision is simply passing the time. Action with Vision is making a positive difference."—Joel Barker

Replacing the Thursday luncheon meeting this week was an evening Visioning Session on Wednesday, presented by trained strategic planning and visioning Rotarians from clubs in Sonoma and Humboldt Counties. **Tim Miller**, from the Rohnert Park-Cotati Club, introduced his associates: **Bruce Campbell** from the Sebastopol Sunrise Club, **Mike Merrill** from the Santa Rosa West Club, **Dale Knight** from the Rohnert Park-Cotati Club, **Helen Campbell** from the Rotary Club of Sebastopol, and **Erin Dunn** from the Fortuna Sunrise Club (all but one pictured below).



Twenty-one of our members attended the session to develop a club vision, which serves several purposes:

- Provides a management tool
- Defines a shared commitment
- Provides long-term commitment
- Creates a framework to establish goals and objectives

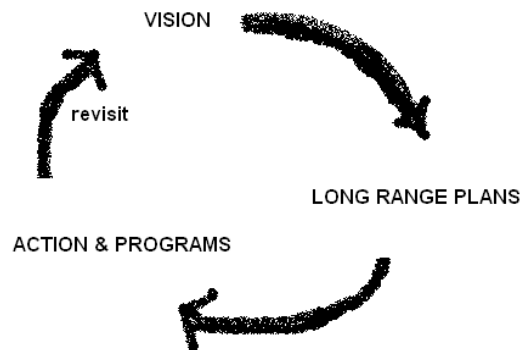
- Optimizes use of resources

The intent of a vision is to aid in making sure that club members are pulling in the same direction, while recognizing that some projects are bigger and take longer than an annual plan can describe. A multi-year plan is needed to accomplish these larger or longer-term projects.



The group pointed out the three C's comprising elements of successful planning: Continuity, Consistency, and Consensus. Further, successful Rotary clubs tend to (1) sustain and increase membership, (2) have successful service projects, (3) support the Rotary Foundation in funds and projects, and (4) develop leaders for the Club and beyond.

The planning steps can be depicted as follows:



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Tonight is only the first step—visioning. The team reminded club members that the best approach to the visioning process was to: Be Bold, Think Outside the Box, Suspend Practicality, Allow Grand Dreams.

The visioning process throughout the evening resulted in many suggestions regarding club size, fundraising amounts, and potential future accomplishments. First, members took time to consider what their vision of the club would be in ten years—being creative and unrestrained in



those views. These thoughts were captured by the Team on large papers posted throughout the room, and

through an iterative process of consensus voting, the most-agreed-upon results included:

Club size: should be sixty members

Club fundraising: should equal \$75,000 annually

Capturing what the club stands for: should be recognized in our community that Rotary makes good things happen in the community and the world.

Capturing club attributes: we should mentor new members so they become leaders.

Capturing club service: we should have a formal speakers committee

Capturing club vocational service: we should work with Interact on joint projects

Capturing Community Service: We should complete the community cultural center and teen center

Capturing International Service: We should deploy 100 water filtration systems each year

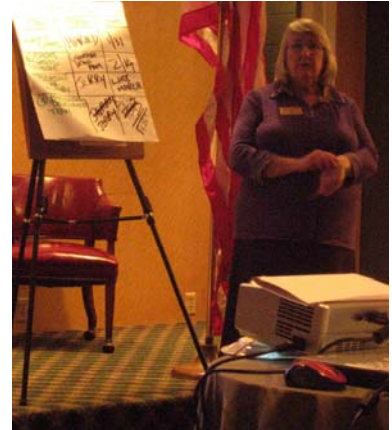
Capturing Foundation Success: All our membership should be sustaining members of EREY.

Capturing Leadership Development: Should have committee leaders and all officers chosen three years in advance.

Many other good suggestions were captured as well, and the notes will be provided to our club for future use as none of the above suggestions are final or complete as yet—further membership discussion is needed.

Four tasks remain for visioning: Compile the wall charts of all of the suggestions

[assigned to **Harold Hauck**]; create a vision statement [assigned to **Guenter Riegler, Dean Watson, and Pam Hudson**], schedule a club assembly [assigned to **Jerry Karabensh**], and begin the planning and action steps.



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January 21: Brandt Stickel is Chairperson of the Day with a Program on the Mendocino Superior Court

"It is not what a lawyer tells me I may do; but what humanity, reason, and justice tell me I ought to do."
~Edmund Burke, *Second Speech on Conciliation, 1775*

President Dean welcomed visiting Rotarian **John Cinnanon** from the Fort Bragg club.

Frank Engelhardt referred to **President Dean's** email regarding the Rotary International support for Haiti, reminding members that the email included links to two Rotary websites: the "Rotary Foundation Earthquake Relief Fund" and the "Shelter Box USA" response team.

Also, **Harold Hauck** will hold a meeting of the "International Committee" right after the regular February 4 Club meeting to address Haiti support. [See brief article on Rotary activities in Haiti elsewhere in this newsletter.]

Frank went on to let us know that in the Rotary International "Polio Plus" program, the Mendocino Rotary Club is one of only 9 clubs in

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our district which has already met the \$2,000 donation goal.

The March 4 Club meeting will be held as "Theater Night" at the Mendocino Theater Company. Wine and snacks will be served at 7:00 p.m., before "Death Trap" at 8: pm, followed by a talk by Mendocino Theatre



Company Director Bob Cohen (see article later in this issue).

President Dean also recognized **Jamie Buckner's** service to the club, and awarded her the "Rotary Service Pin."

Brandt Stickel introduced the Guest Speaker, trial lawyer Ann Moorman. She is the President of the 2200-member association "California Attorneys for Criminal Justice," and is now seeking appointment as a judge with the Mendocino County court in Ukiah.

Ann Moorman then described the Mendocino Superior Court and its comparison with other California county courts. She reported that the Mendocino Superior Court has typically 3,100 cases per year. In 2009, 2,700 cases went to trial in Mendocino--more than in 49 of the 58 counties in California. Because of state budget problems, five previous courts in Mendocino County have already been closed. Only the main court in Ukiah and the single-courtroom court in Fort Bragg are now open and operating. The Ukiah courthouse is on the "worst-in-state" list. Replacement construction for this courthouse is planned for the fall of 2010.



One Rotarian asked about the role of Marijuana-related criminal cases. Moorman answered that

approximately 30 % of cases in the Mendocino Superior Court are related to Marijuana.

[Thanks to Guenter Riegler for most of this article.]

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January 28: DARK—No Meeting This Thursday Because of Charter Night

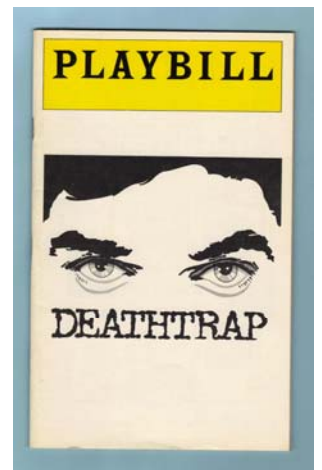
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Special Happenings

Upcoming Theatre Night March 4

The Mendocino Rotary Club is holding a Theater Night for the play *Deathtrap* by Ira Levin on Thursday March 4, 2010. Levin, who also penned the 1950s military comedy *No Time for Sergeants* and the novel *Rosemary's Baby*, split his considerable energies between the theatre and the writing of novels. His popular works of pulp fiction include *The Stepford Wives*, *A Kiss Before Dying*, *The Boys From Brazil*, and *Sliver*.

Levin's thriller play concerns Sidney Bruhl, a playwright who is most famous for his mystery "The Murder Game." After a series of flops, Sidney finds himself in a major writing slump. Suddenly, Clifford Anderson, a student of one of Sidney's writing seminars, sends his mentor a copy of his first attempt at playwrighting for Sidney's review and advice. Clifford's play, also called "Deathtrap," is a five character, two act thriller so perfect in its construction that, as Sidney says, "A gifted director couldn't even hurt it." Sydney begins to consider luring would-be playwright to the Bruhl home, killing him, and marketing the sure-fire script as Sidney's own. But shortly after Clifford arrives, it's clear



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that things are not what they seem!

Jerry Karabensh will have a signup sheet and tickets at luncheon meetings. Tickets are \$25 per person, including admission and hors d'oeuvres plus wine before the play, and dessert during the intermission. The Theater Night takes the place of our regular luncheon meeting on March 4th.

As with our last play, Bob Cohen, the director will put on a brief presentation on the play and the author. The cast will be available for a discussion session after the play. The seating will be on a first come basis so get your reservations in early. You may send Jerry Karabensh a reservation request via an email and he will collect your money at a later time. For those of you with Season Tickets, you can turn those in and we will give you a \$10 credit per ticket. If you give them to someone else your cost for our Theater Night will still be \$25. Last year we did not fill the 82 seats so this year members of the Fort Bragg Rotary have been invited to join us for this Fun Night.

* * *

Club Membership

Our Rotary club was formed 43 years ago, and currently has 44 members, with four honorary and three exempt members. Our longest current member currently is **Erich Schmid**, who joined 1978. Next is **Don Tucker**, joining in 1986. **Bill Scott** joined in 1992, **Frank Engelhardt** in 1994, **Bart Grimes** in 1995, **Don Hill** in 1995, **Paul Selchau** in 1996, **Harold Hauck** in 1997, **Joe Sparks** in 1997, and **Susan Weaver** in 1999.

Everyone else (77%) came in 2000 or later, with over 53% joining in 2005 and later. About 30% of our membership has joined in the last two years alone. Attracting new members is important, and retaining membership is also quite important to a successful Rotary club.

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CHARTER NIGHT



The Ledford House was the scene for a special Charter Night on Friday, January 29th.

The evening began with a social hour of cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. Based on the throng that grouped around the table, these appetizers must have been delicious.



Guenter Riegler opened the meeting, and harked back to when we were originally chartered forty-three years earlier. Then **President Dean** led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave a Prayer appropriate to the evening.



Susan Cimmiyotti recognized **Barry Weiss** (a guest and past president) plus the other past presidents in attendance (**Joe Sparks**, **Paul Selchau**, **Harold**

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Hauck, Ron Eich, Jack Zahniser, Jerry Karabensh, and our current President: **Dean Watson.** She also acknowledged 10 year members present and **Pete Rose,** the newest member present.

Our Interact President, **Chloe Grinberg** shown below, informed diners about her motivation for holding three terms as President of Interact. She told us the importance of this link to future generations, and how proud she was of all that was accomplished by the Interact students.



President Dean read a letter from **Travis Rzeplinski** about his many adventures in Japan, linking the benefit of learning new cultures as a foreign exchange student, just as we continue to benefit from learning from our Rotary Youth Exchange participants.

We were entertained by an upbeat, a cappella group of eight locals, the AcaFellas, shown above right. These great singers will soon be competing in the "Harmony Sweepstakes" at the Palace of Fine Arts in San Francisco. The AcaFellas were outstanding and really made for a tremendous evening along with the good food, wine, and Rotarian families.



[Thanks to Ron Eich for most of this article.]

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Rotary International Aids Earthquake Victims in Haiti

From updates from our own members, to emails from other Rotary clubs, we in the Mendocino Rotary Club know that Rotarians across the world are helping Haitians in response to the devastating earthquake of January 12. As with Polio Plus and other Rotary activities, our infrastructure across the world makes us efficient in times of need. "Rotary had an incredible infrastructure established before the quake, which has made our relief efforts very effective," says Dick McCombe, past district governor and Haiti liaison chair. "We're flying in supplies through backdoor channels and doing things a lot of agencies can't do." McCombe says Rotary was in a good position to help in Haiti, with 33 projects already underway to provide water, sanitation, medical care, and education. "We changed from teaching children how to read to saving their lives," says McCombe.

"Rotarians are incredibly generous and are doing what needs to be done," says McCombe. "We are setting aside some of these contributions for long-term recovery."

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The ShelterBox program has already delivered more than 3,300 containers to Haiti, with



another 1,000 or more scheduled to be deployed. "This is the largest, quickest, and most complex deployment in our history," says John

Leach, head of operations for ShelterBox. "We organized across four countries to get ShelterBoxes to the people of Haiti quickly." Each box contains a tent that houses 10 people as well as a stove, blankets, and other essential items.

The Rotary Foundation has established the Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund, a donor advised fund primarily for U.S. Rotarians who want to donate toward recovery efforts. The fund has raised more than \$285,000 so far. You can find information for donating by going to http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/haiti_earthquake_relief_daf_en.pdf. A one-time \$5 donation to the Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund can be made by texting **ROTARY to 90999**. [Most of this information was obtained from the Rotary International website.]

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UPCOMING PROGRAMS

February	Chairman	Speaker
4	Tom Honer	Karen Novak
11	Joe Sparks	Marie Nelson
18	Bruce Lewis	Marilyn Murphy
25	Harold Hauck	Gloria Liner
March 4	Lunch DARK	Evening Theatre Night
11	Ray Alarcon	Debra Degraw
18	Matt O'Halloran	Eva Brown
25	Jerry Karabensh	CLUB ASSEMBLY

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Something you'd like to see in the newsletter? A photograph you'd like to share? Just email the editor, Susan Warner, at

warners9911@cs.com and make your suggestion.

* * *

UPCOMING EVENTS

February — "World Understanding Month"

February 23: Rotary's anniversary

Feb 25: Art Auction Committee Meeting, Hill House 10:00 a.m.

March — "Literacy Month"

March 4: Theatre Night, *Deathtrap*

March 8-14: World Rotaract Week

March 25: Club Assembly on Visioning

A woman at a department store asked a clerk, "Will you help me out, please?"
"Certainly, just go through that door," replied the clerk.

* * *

February & March Schedule*

The following members were listed as greeters and collection agents for the upcoming meetings. Remember that this year the list is proceeding mostly alphabetically.

Date	Greeter	Collection Agent
2/4	Bill Masterson	Bruce Lewis
2/11	Matt O'Halloran	Heather Paulsen
2/18	John Porter	Guenter Riegler
2/25	Kathleen Rzeplinski	Pete Rose
3/4	DARK for Theatre Night	
3/11	Lin Scott	Bill Scott
3/18	Ericha Sevy	Roger Schwartz
3/25	Paul Selchau	Joe Sparks

*Always check the weekly email to see the current assignments as people may switch due to conflicts. If you cannot make the date shown, you are responsible for finding a replacement and notifying President Dean.

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