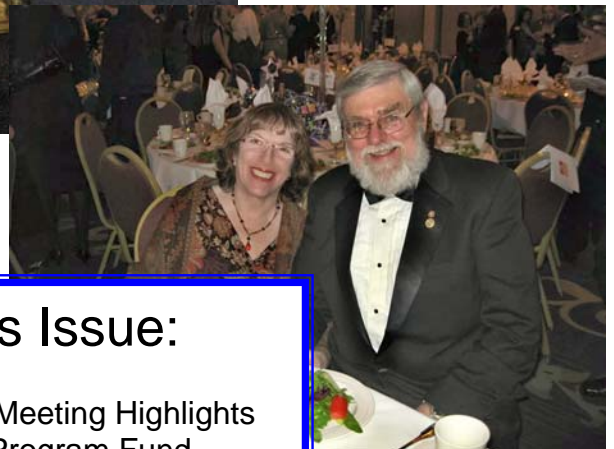
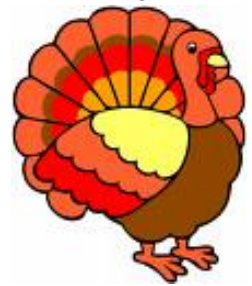




The Mendocino Rotary View



November 2009



PICNIC

Inside this Issue:

- Weekly Meeting Highlights
- Annual Program Fund
- Special Happenings
- Upcoming Events
- Schedule for December & January
- Watch for New Web Site

Weekly Meeting Reports

November 5: Theatre Night with the Award-Winning Play Picnic

"I gotta get somewhere in this world. I just gotta."—
Hal Carter (from "Picnic" by William Inge)

Our regular luncheon meeting was replaced by a night at the theater. The Mendocino Theatre company presented William Inge's classic Pulitzer Prize winning romantic comedy "Picnic" on an evening when the Mendocino Rotary club purchased all but season ticket holder seats. Sixty percent of the club attended the performance with their guests at the Helen Schoeni Theatre. Our guest speaker was Bob Cohen, the director, who explained the setting and background of the play. "Picnic" opened on Broadway at The Music Box Theatre in New York City on February 19th, 1953, and Inge won the Pulitzer Prize for drama for the work in the same year. This tragicomedy play tells the story of life in a rural Kansas town over Labor Day and the ensuing events when a handsome young drifter shows up and changes the lives of those he encounters within a 24-hour period. The cast is shown in the photograph above. The play runs Thursday through Sunday until December 13.



* * *

November 12: John Innes is Chairperson of the Day with Presentation by the U.S. Coast Guard.

"Adaptability is a characteristic of the American fighting man that has enabled this country's Armed Forces to emerge triumphant in every major war we have fought. Adaptability is synonymous with the operations of the United States Coast Guard." - Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, USN.

President Dean Watson welcomed **Joni Barhight** and **Jody Stickels**, guests of **Ericha Sevy**; **Barry Weiss** guest of **Don Tucker**; **Dori Mate**, guest of **Susan Weaver**; **Pete Rose**, guest of **John Innes**; and **Gloria Liner**, guest of **Harold Hauck**.

President Dean presented **Wilma Tucker** with a key chain from District 1910 for knowing our motto: Service above self.

President Dean then re-introduced the concept of "Happy Dollars" at our meeting, where members share a moment that has made them happy, and donate a dollar or more to the club. Several members shared happy moments, such as **Kathleen Rzeplinski**. Kathleen shared an achievement by her daughter, Christina, who earned her Solo Certificate which states that she successfully and without assistance flew a Piper Archer Aircraft on October 21, 2009. Many other members also shared an event that was special and the "happy dollars" got off to a good start.



Frank Engelhardt shared his thoughts regarding the calm blue sea that we overlooked—recalling the way that **E. John Robinson** would capture the perfect level horizon. Frank also informed us that the Annual Program Fund had achieved a \$1500 balance, and the Polio Plus campaign was at \$375.

Jerry Karabensh recalled the enjoyable evening at the play, Picnic, last week, and asked

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whether members wanted to repeat the experience again next year.

John Innes welcomed our guest speaker, Senior Chief **Don Miterko**, from the U. S. Coast Guard. Miterko explained about the Station Noyo River's area of responsibility, an ocean area over 5,000 square miles in size including all of the coast of Mendocino County along with a small portion of southern Humboldt County. The station's crew is responsible for protecting life and property as one of 21 surf stations in the Coast Guard where surf greater than 8 feet occurs 10% of the time.



Courtesy of USCG Web Site

The station is equipped with many life-saving vessels, including the 47-foot Motor Lifeboat which is a fast response rescue

craft capable of working in severe conditions of high seas, surf, and heavy weather environments. These self-righting, self-bailing vessels are almost unsinkable, and have a long cruising range. In addition, the Station has the Response Boat - Small (RB-S), which has a reinforced bow, full shock mitigating seating, a larger cabin, and LED navigation lights.



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Miterko, shown at below left, informed us that there are 31 people at the Station.

* * *

November 19: Frank Engelhardt is Chairperson of the Day with a Program on the Foundation.

"Without goodwill no system can succeed; with it even an imperfect one can scarcely fail." – John Nelson, RI President 1933-1934, in THE ROTARIAN, July 1933

President Dean opened the meeting and recognized **Frank Engelhardt**, who welcomed guests **Maureen Merrill**, our guest speaker from the Windsor Club, and her husband, **Mike Merrill**, from the Santa Rosa West Club.

President Dean noted the club anniversary of one of our Rotarians, and presented a beautifully decorated cake recognizing 31 years of service to **Erich Schmid**.



John Innes requested Hill House Chef **Robert Roach** come to the podium, and recognized Robert's award winning mushroom soup which won top honors in the recent Wine and Mushroom Festival soup competition. Six restaurants submitted mushroom soup for judging by the attendees of the event--over 100 people



tasted all of the soups and voted for the one they felt was the best. Chef Robert won for the second consecutive year.

Maureen Merrill, District Governor Nominee and our guest speaker, was introduced by **Frank Engelhardt**. Merrill remarked that she had just returned from the 14th annual Festival of Brotherhood where Rotarians from District 4150 in Northern Mexico and 5130 in Northern California gather each year (for some pictures and information on this year's trip, check out <http://festivalofbrotherhood2009.blogspot.com/>).

Merrill noted how Rotarians are citizens of the world, promoting peace and brotherhood



through our "HEP" work:

H=Humanitarian Programs, E=Educational Programs, and P=our Polio Plus Program. With the latter, she pointed out that there are only 4 main pockets of polio remaining—in

Nigeria, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and India. This is the lowest number of endemic polio areas in history, and the disease only circulates in limited geographic areas in each of the four countries.

Roger Schwartz announced that our club has met our \$2000 goal for the club's Polio Plus annual contribution, and a check for the amount was presented to our guest, **Maureen Merrill**.

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November 26: DARK—No Meeting This Date because of Thanksgiving Holiday

"If the only prayer you said in your whole life was, 'thank you,' that would suffice." ~Meister Eckhart

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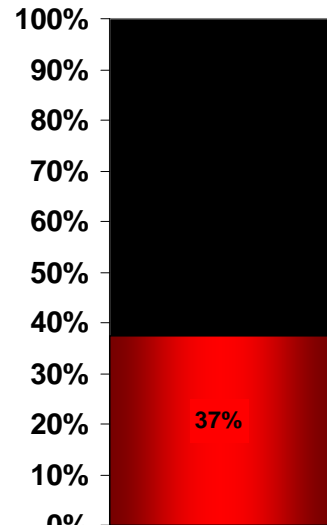
Annual Program Fund

Our club established \$125 per member this year as the suggested donation for our club to the Annual Program Fund (Every Rotarian Every Year). This is a correction from the October View which stated the amount as \$100 per member, which is the goal of Rotary International. As of the middle of November, our club had received donations from twelve of our members for a total of \$1725. For 2010, the worldwide EREY fundraising goal is \$96 million. Let's continue to do our share as a Club to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty (also very HEP).

* * *

Special Happenings

The Theater Night (see discussion under November 5th Meeting) was a hit, and Jerry Karabensh suggests that the Club repeat the experience next season. The upcoming plays (and dates of the opening night are shown) include: *Deathtrap* by Ira Levin on March 4, 2010; *Trying* by Joanna McClelland Glass on April 22, 2010; *Mr. Marmalade* (Adult Content) by Noah Haidle on June 3, 2010; *Impossible Marriage* by Beth Henley on August 5, 2010; *Old Times* by Harold Pinter on September 23, 2010; and *The Sweetest Swing in Baseball* by Rebecca Gilman on November 4, 2010. Jerry notes that the play nights of 8/5 and 9/23 are quite close to our Art Auction and Golf Tournaments, and recommends *Deathtrap* on 3/4/10--a comedy with gasp-inducing thrills, *Trying* on 4/22/10 where the lead character had been the Chief Judge at the Nuremburg trials, or *The Sweetest Swing in Baseball* on 11/4/10—



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which is described as “smart and amusing.” Please email your suggestions to Jerry as soon as possible.

District 5130 held its Southern Foundation dinner at the Doubletree Hotel in Rohnert Park.



Dean and Shirley Watson and Harold Hauck and Gloria Liner attended the dinner representing our

Club. The *Trek to the Stars* dinner and program was illuminating and well attended by clubs throughout the District.



Mike Merrill Talks about the Potential for a New Rotary Sunrise Club on the Coast

Mike Merrill, Rotarian from the Santa Rosa West Club, met with some club members on November 17 after the regular meeting. Merrill discussed joining with the Fort Bragg Club to work toward forming a new Rotary Club for meeting early in the morning and representing the general Mendocino coastal area. Some drawbacks would be the likely loss of some of our members to a new Sunrise Club, and some



positive benefits would be the greater likelihood of recruiting working business people who cannot make luncheon meetings easily. Further discussions will occur.

Polio Plus Success

Frank Engelhardt reports that the District set \$2,000 as the goal for our size Club for Polio Plus this year. Frank reports that the Club donated \$1,575.00 with proceeds from the 4 July BBQ plus an added amount, and 4 members donated \$425 so we met the goal of \$2,000.00. This will be matched by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for a total of \$4,000.

Club Youth Exchange Program

Our club still needs a Rotarian to replace Susan Weaver as the next youth counselor. This is an opportunity for a Rotary member to be part of one of our most enriching programs—benefiting our Club, local outbound students, and inbound students who share their culture and ideas with host families and our Club. We must have a youth counselor for our incoming exchange student—without one, we cannot have either an incoming or outbound student, since the program is an “exchange.” It’s a rewarding club position, and interested members should consider becoming the youth counselor for the next couple of years.



* * *

Upcoming Events

December—“Family Month”

December 15 registration will save money on the Rotary International Convention in Montréal, Québec, Canada, next June 20-23, 2010. For further information visit <http://www.rotary.org/en/members/events/convention/pages/ridefault.aspx?housead>

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December 31 is the deadline to submit zone nominations to the Foundation for [The Rotary Foundation Global Alumni Service to Humanity Award](#).

January—“Rotary Awareness Month”

January 29: Exhibitor’s deadline for June Montreal Rotary International Convention

January 29: Club Charter Night

February — “World Understanding Month”

February 23: Rotary's anniversary

* * *

Q. What do reindeer say before telling you a joke ?
 A. This one will sleigh you!

December & January 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 |
|-------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| 12/3 | Frank Engelhardt | Ron Eich |
| 12/10 | Gary Garcia | Ron Ensign |
| 12/17 | Harold Hauck | Bart Grimes |
| 1/7 | Don Hill | Tom Honer |
| 1/14 | Pam Hudson | Tom Hudson |
| 1/21 | John Innes | Jerry Karabensh |
| 1/29** | Bill Masterson | Bruce Lewis |

*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.

**Charter Night, Friday Night, January 29, 2010; 1/28 luncheon meeting is dark.

* * *

December & January Chairs for Weekly Programs

| Month | Chairperson of the Day |
|---------------|--|
| Dec 3 | Dean Watson on the State of the Club |
| Dec 10 | John Cottle with Dori Mate |
| Dec 17 | Bart Grimes with the Gloriana Singers |
| 24 | (Dark) |
| Jan 7 | Susan Weaver on the Interact Club |
| Jan 14 | [not available as yet] |
| Jan 21 | [not available as yet] |
| Jan 29 | Charter Night |

* * *

Watch for New Web Site in the Future

Our Rotary Club web site is undergoing a major transformation in the next few months. Watch as the new web site becomes a classy, informative presence with facts about upcoming meetings, club duties, calendar, photo gallery, and more. A Club blog “Around the Wheel” will be added, and our program area will be expanded. Some of the areas on our site will only be accessible to our members, and other areas will be fully accessible to the public. See Bruce Lewis for further information.

* * *

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.

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