

# The Mendocino Rotary View



## SEPTEMBER 2009



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## Weekly Meeting Reports

### **Sept 3: Lin Scott is Chairperson of the Day for an Update on MVFD**

*“ True heroism is remarkably sober, very undramatic. It is not the urge to surpass all others at whatever cost, but the urge to serve others at whatever cost.”—Arthur Ashe*

**President Dean Watson** started out the meeting by recognizing a visiting Rotarian, **Chris Turner**, from Cirencester, England. **Frank Engelhardt** reminded everyone of the South District Foundation meeting on November 14 at the Doubletree Hotel in Rohnert Park. He also alerted us to a northern District Foundation meeting on October 24 in Scotia, and highlighted the recent email from **President Dean** on “Give Hope – Give a Hand” reporting on the speaker he had heard while attending the Gualala Rotary Club. Speaker **Michael Mendoca** from the Pleasant Hill Club told about the inspirational program he involved with that provides prosthetic hands to those in need, restoring independence and function to the recipients. They have now placed over 2,700 of the prosthetics in 42 countries.

Chairperson of the Day, **Lin Scott**, introduced **Danny Hervilla**, Chief of the Mendocino



Volunteer Fire Department, who gave us an update on the work the 35 volunteer members do throughout the year. This year, there have been 375 calls for emergency service, and that 80% of their calls are medical-related. Besides being trained and prepared to

fight different kinds of fires (car, structural, wildland, urban interface), the MVFD does water and cliff rescues. They have a trained scuba team, four rescue trucks, a one-of-a-kind-cliff rescue truck, two boats, jet skis, and



kayaks. Their budget is \$293,000 with most of that being for fuel, equipment, and insurance.

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### **Sept 10: Kathleen Rzeplinski is Chairperson of the Day for an update Mendocino County Schools**

*“Once children learn how to learn, nothing is going to narrow their mind. The essence of teaching is to make learning contagious, to have one idea spark another.”—Marva Collins*

**President Dean** recognized visiting Rotarian **Judy Howard** from the Fort Bragg Club, and several Rotarians provided reminders about upcoming service opportunities. Guests include **Gloria Liner**, guest of **Harold Hauck**, and **Lisa Brandes**, guest of **Rich Brandes**.

The Chair of the Day, **Kathleen Rzeplinski**, introduced **Paul Tichinin**, our speaker and the Mendocino County Superintendent of Schools. Tichinin



has long worked for the Mendocino County Office of Education, and has been elected four times as Mendocino County Superintendent of Schools. The Mendocino County Office of Education provides educational support through leadership, resources and services to schools throughout the district. Through cooperative efforts with teachers, school districts, families, and communities; the district assists with instructional programs and administrative services. He reported that enrollments were declining. Tichinin observed how difficult it had been to watch the demise of the vocational education programs due to budget cuts, but that he is very proud of the technology learning that is provided within the District.

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*Vision: “Helping people in our community and throughout the world.”*

**Sept 17: Guenter Riegler is Chairperson of the Day for a Session on Master Gardening.**

*“How fair is a garden amid the trials and passions of existence.” --Benjamin Disraeli*

President **Dean** welcomed guests, including **Sandy Riegler**, guest of **Guenter Riegler**, and **Pete Rose**, guest of **Gary Lewis**. **President Dean** also reminded us that our motto is “service above self,” and thanked those club members who provided service to the Presbyterian Church as it celebrated a community birthday party. Announcements were made about the Mendocino Area Parks Association abalone cookoff on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Volunteers are needed.

**Guenter Riegler**, Chairperson of the Day, introduced our guest speaker, **Kristine Van Wert**, a Master Gardener, who spoke to our club



about the purpose of the master gardening program. Based at the Botanical Gardens, the Master Gardener program provides outreach to the public to extend the research-based information coming from the University of California to the public. Gardeners pass through a 4-

month training program developed by UC with 50-60 hours of hands-on training and another 50 hours of volunteer work. Each year, Master Gardeners continue their volunteer work with 25 hours volunteered a year, plus 12 hours per year of continuing education. For more information on the Master Gardener program, visit

<http://www.mastergardeners.org/>



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**Sept 24: District Governor Kirk Brown Visits Club**

*“It is well that there is nothing in Rotary so sacred that it cannot be set aside in favor of things better. This is an experimental age in a changing world, and all things which are worthwhile and progressive are the cumulative effects of preceding successes and failures.” – Paul Harris*

**President Dean** welcomed visiting Rotarians **Steve Lund** of the Roseville Club, **John Bogner** of the South Ukiah Club, and our guest speaker, **Kirk Brown**, Governor of District 5130. **President Dean** also welcomed **Ellen Brown**, guest of **Kirk Brown**, **Joni Barhight**, guest of **Erich Sevy**, and **Daphne Hahey**, guest of **Kathleen Rzeplinski**.

**Frank Engelhardt** again reminded members of the northern District Foundation meeting on October 24 in Scotia, and that October 24 is World Polio Day.

**Harold Hauk** informed us that our Club’s “Shelter Box Project” had been used in the Vanni Region of Sri Lanka.

**President Dean** briefly reported on the Governor’s Dinner of the previous night, held at the new Aquatic Center. He informed club members that the dinner was nicely attended by about 55 people.

**President Dean** and **Kirk Brown** then formally recognized **Brandt Stickel** as a Paul Harris Fellow. **Stickel** remarked that he had been inspired by his law partner, **Sean Hogan**, and is a Paul Harris Fellow due to contributions from the Mendocino Rotary Club and the Fort Bragg Rotary Club. Congratulations to **Brandt**.



**President Dean** also reminded us that on November 19<sup>th</sup>, **Maureen Miller**, District Governor Nominee, will be speaking to our club on November 19.

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After a welcoming musical theme for “Captain Kirk,” Governor **Kirk Brown** was introduced by **John Bogner** of the Ukiah Rotary Club. Brown reminded us of our founding, and recounted our tremendous success in working to eradicate



polio across the world. He informed us about changing times, observing that in the past the Club did not admit women, but now over 10% of members are

women. Finally, he urged us to look to the future and to “boldly go where no Rotary Club has gone before.”

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## Special Events for September

### *Golf Tournament is Success*

On September 6, our Rotary Club held its annual Golf Tournament at Little River Inn. A large percentage of Rotarians turned out to participate and help with this important club fundraising event. Special thanks go to **Ron**



Great hot dogs were served to golfers

**Eich, Ericha Sevy, Erich Schmid, and Jack Zahniser** for organizing and planning this event. Other key people for the day included **Ray Alarcon, Susan Cimmiyotti, Frank Engelhardt, Gary Garcia, Don Hill, Tom Honer, John Innes, Jerry Karabensh, Mike Kelley, Brandt Stickel, Susan Warner, Dean Watson, Susan Weaver, Kris Smith, and Ladonna McDonald** (apologies to anyone whose name has been omitted).

The fundraising event helps our Club provide support for our community in a variety of ways—ensuring that we honor our vision: “Helping people in our community and throughout the world.”



Frank Englehardt, Brandt Stickel, and Erich Schmidt work the barbecue

### *Rotary Recognized During Presbyterian Church Community Birthday Party*

The Presbyterian Church celebrated its 150-year anniversary, as well as 42 years for Rotary, 100 years for the lighthouse, 100 years for the study



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club, 30 years for the Rainbow School and 50 years for the Art Center.

**John Porter** organized many Rotarians who volunteered to help out at the bash, working the barbecue and helping in the kitchen. Thanks to all who served the community in this celebration.

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### ***Joint Fort Bragg and Mendocino Rotary Clubs Governor's Dinner***

Our visiting Governor, **Kirk Brown**, was featured at a joint dinner of the Mendocino Rotary Club and Fort Bragg Rotary Club, held in the new C. V. Starr Aquatic Center in Fort



Bragg, built in part with a \$4 million gift from the Starr Foundation, formed by former Fort Bragg resident Cornelius V. Starr. The donation paid for nearly one third of the \$13 million project. Rotary was actually the first group to have an event in the conference room at the new Center. Several Interact club youth also



attended the dinner, as did our Youth Exchange Student, **Dora ("Dori") Mate**, as well as the Fort Bragg Club's student, Pranat ("Jack") Chokjinda (pictured at lower left). The meal was good, the company was excellent, and a good time was had by all attendees.

**Brandt Stichel** was recognized as a Paul Harris Fellow during the festivities.

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"Don't worry about the world coming to an end today. It is already tomorrow in Australia." ~Charles Schulz

\* \* \*

## **Thank You, Hill House**

Several members remarked on the delicious bacon-wrapped pork tenderloin lunch provided during one of our weekly meetings. Served with polenta, the meal was indeed a treat, and **Jamie Buckner** and the chefs at Hill House deserve kudos.

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### **Upcoming Events**

#### ***October***

2009 Rotary Zones 25/26 Institute to be held in Monterey, California, at the Hyatt Regency Monterey October 8-11, 2009. For details, visit: <http://www.rotaryzone2324.org/institute09/index.html>

Foundation Dinner North to be held at the Scotia Inn on October 24<sup>th</sup>. See Frank Engelhardt for details.

October 24, World Polio Day

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**November**

See the play Picnic on November 5 in lieu of the regular weekly meeting. See **Jerry Karabensh** for details regarding this enjoyable event.

A polio eradication trip to West Africa is planned for November 4-11. See **Frank Engelhardt** for details or visit [http://www.rotary5130.org/pdfs/2009\\_west\\_africa\\_project\\_fair.pdf](http://www.rotary5130.org/pdfs/2009_west_africa_project_fair.pdf)

The District Foundation meeting is on November 14th at the Doubletree Hotel in Rohnert Park, with the keynote speaker being Cliff Dockerman. See **Frank Engelhardt** for details or <http://www.rotary5130.org/trf-dinner-south.shtml>

On November 19<sup>th</sup>, District Governor Nominee **Maureen Miller** will be attending the weekly club meeting as our guest speaker.

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**October & November Schedule\***

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

<u>Date</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>Collection Agent</u>
10/1	Bill Scott	Ericha Sevy
10/8	Roger Schwartz	Paul Selchau
10/15	Joe Sparks	Brandt Stickel
10/22	Don Tucker	Wilma Tucker
10/29	Susan Warner	Dave Wasley
11/5	Susan Weaver	Jack Zahniser
11/12	Jamie Buckner	Ray Alarcon
11/19	John Cottle	Susan Cimmiyotti

\*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.

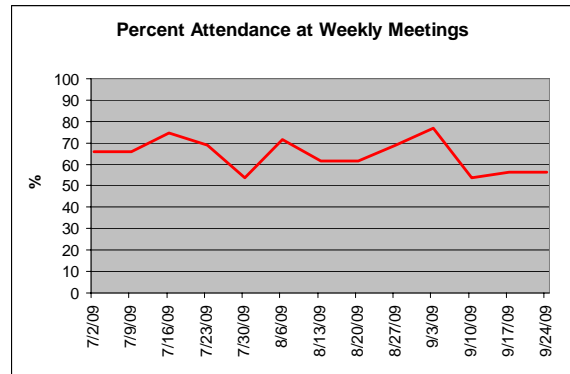
October Chairs for Weekly Programs

<b>Oct</b>	<b>Chair of the Day</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Susan Cimmiyotti</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Susan Warner</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>Ericha Sevy</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>Dean Watson</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>Tom Hudson</b>

\* \* \*

**Attendance Averages 64% for the First Quarter of the New Fiscal Year**

The club currently has 42 members and 3 honorary members. Our weekly attendance numbers have hovered around 64% for the past three months, and 56% recently. We encourage you to attend our meetings and support our club. Let’s try for 80% in the coming months!



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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](mailto:warners9911@cs.com) and make your suggestion.

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