



Flywheel

"Service Above Self"

A Weekly Publication of the Rotary Club of Richmond, California

Program for Friday June 4, 2004

D-Day Meeting on The Red Oak Victory Ship



From the North - Take 101 south to 580 east, cross the Richmond/San Rafael Bridge, take the Canal/Garrard exit, turn right on Cutting, turn left on Garrard, go through the Ferry Point Tunnel and follow Dornan to the big warehouse at the very end. This is Terminal One.

From the East and South - Take 580 west, take the Canal/Garrard exit, turn right on Cutting, turn left on Garrard, go through the Ferry Point Tunnel and follow Dornan to the big warehouse at the very end. This is Terminal One.

From San Francisco - Take 80 east over the Bay Bridge to 580 west, take the Canal/Garrard exit, turn right on Cutting, turn left on Garrard, go through the Ferry Point Tunnel and follow Dornan to the big warehouse at the very end. This is Terminal One.

Door Duty: Judy Kafka and John Nicol

Program for Friday June 11, 2004

Bill Somerville
New Dimensions In Philanthropy



Door Duty: Henry Kelman and Judy Morgan

Last Week

With a small but exuberant turnout for the long holiday weekend, Vice-President Elect **Jon Lawlis** made his debut in the "big" room. Following a Silent Prayer for Freedom and Peace, Secretary **Joe Nusbaum** led the pledge.

VPE **Jon** gave the Thought for the Day, mercifully asking the membership to be seated in advance: "Keep strong if possible. In any case keep cool. Have unlimited patience. Never corner an opponent, and always assist him to save face. Put yourself in his shoes – so as to see things through his eyes. Avoid self-righteousness like the devil. Nothing so self-blinding." Basil Hart's advice to statesmen. 1895-1970.

Visiting Rotarians & Rotarians With Guests

There were none this week.

Sunshine Report

David K provided an update on **Dick King's** condition. Dick is not doing well and deserves all of our prayers and good thoughts.

Recognitions

Announcements

Don't forget the First Annual Richmond Rotary Picnic – **Dan Ercolini** provided some specifics. Sunday June 13 - Noon to 3 or 4 PM at Kennedy Grove on San Pablo Dam Road. Everything will be provided. Bring the family, the dog, the neighbors, liberal friends – they are all welcome. **Hank** provided a reminder of the Pinole Valley High Festival of the Arts fund raiser. They expect 500 to turnout. Last year they netted \$48K for the arts program. The date is June 5th.

Happy/Sad \$\$\$

Josh Genser was happy after a successful auction item weekend at his fishing cabin - **Josh, Tom and Shirley Butt, and Mark Howe** enjoyed some very good fishing. Captain **Richard Alexander** was pleased that his son Nathan is extremely well

Program of Friday May 28, 2004

Ruth Vedovelli

District Superintendent **Gloria Johnston** introduced speaker **Ruth Vedovelli**, Assistant Superintendent for Fiscal Services, WCCC School District. Ruth won her audience right away by noting that her father was a Rotarian, and that she is a Cal graduate.

Ruth stated that the District's finance problems are not the result of mismanagement. The problems stem from a list of issues including:

- double digit increases in health premiums
- loss State dollars due to enrollment decreases
- labor cost increases
- the District's commitment to maintaining small, neighborhood schools that are expensive to operate
- disproportionate revenues from the State
- the State loan through 2017, and the 5.6% interest rate. \$1.8M in payoff funds is a budget line item each year.
- Inability to get the CA legislature to reduce the interest on the loan to current market levels.

Ruth noted that 84% of District funding comes from the State, 13% from federal sources, and only 3% from local. The State's funding problems are the District's funding problems. Ruth then fielded some tough questions, articulating clear answers. At the end of the presentation, your scribe was left with a feeling of confidence in the intelligent and pro-active management of the District. Even in difficult and challenging times, decisions are clearly being made with the kids' best interests put first.

Upcoming Programs

06/18/04 The Big Demotion

Important Dates

06/09/04 Board Mtg: 12 Noon. Pt Richmond

06/13/04 Rotary Picnic

Door Duty Reminder

06/18/04 Sid Chauvin and Don Miller

06/25/04 David K. and Bob Dabney

at military boarding school. **Hank Covell** contributed Club dollars after his Board gave out 5 college scholarships to Salesian High School students, and many more to WCCC District students. **Father Nick** was delighted with the Salesian results. **David K** is content resting after changing his life the past weeks. After selling his house and opting for a communal living environment, he finds himself becoming something of a "liberal". We need some political diversity in this organization. **Secretary Joe** tossed dollars in the box announcing that he and **Anne** are moving to Danville, but he will continue in his duties for the time being. **Dan Ercolini** has agreed to fill-in at times, and will eventually take over the Secretary job. **Gloria Johnston** was pleased that her niece has been accepted to attend UC Berkeley in the fall. And **Charlie Fender** put in \$5 in honor of **Hank Covell's** 39th consecutive participation in the recent Bay to Breakers.

Raffle

Lucky **Jim Young** won the chance to pull a ball, but alas, only a free lunch next week.

Semper Paratus

"I don't make jokes. I just watch the government and report the facts...." Will Rogers

Where to Make Up

San Rafael	Mon	12:15	Seafood Peddler
Albany	Tue	12:30	Solano Grill
El Sobrante	Tue	12:15	Joe's of El Sobrante
Berkeley	Wed	12:15	His Lordships
Hercules	Wed	7:15 am	Hercules Sen. CTR
San Pablo	Wed	12:15	La Strada
El Cerrito	Thu	12:15	Mira Vista G&CC
Pinole	Thu	12:30	Outback Steak House
Vallejo	Thu	12:15	World Holiday Inn