



Flywheel

"Service
Above
Self"

A Weekly Publication of the Rotary Club of Richmond, California

Program for Friday January 28, 2005

“Bad News, Good News, Your News”

Michael Collier, East Bay Bureau Chief, "The San Francisco Chronicle", and Cella Vega, Chron. ace reporter for West County and graduate of Salesian HS.

Door Duty: Elof Granberg and Norm Lundberg

Program for Friday February 4, 2005

ALIEN INVASION!

They are, green, blood drawing, nutrient sucking invaders from other realities. They are multiplying exponentially, sucking up your tax dollars and making the sweet land of California unproductive if not toxic. Robert Case, retired County Agricultural Agent and representative of the California Invasive Plant Council (Cal-IPC) will talk about the green invaders from puncture weed to pampas grass and what land owners and managers can do about them.

Door Duty: Don Hardison and Oscar Lugo

Program of Friday January 21, 2005

Wild Fire Suppression at the Urban/Forest Interface



Captain Paul Cutino, Fire Captain with the East Bay Regional Parks Safety Department brought the

Last Week

Prez Herb rings in the third Richmond Rotary meeting of 2005 followed by Former **Prez Stoney** Stonework's prayer for freedom and peace on earth. Tom Butt led us in a pledge. And **George Egan** gave us a thought to ponder all the way through April 11th ... taxes in this country are voluntary.

Visiting Rotarians

President Herb Cole introduced **Past District Governor Connie Crawford**.

Rotarians with Guests

George Egan introduced colleagues **Barbara Gordon** and **Preston Smith**. And **Charlie Wong** introduced his guest, **John Wilson**.

Sunshine Report

David K has no report. And Charlie Wong's presence and good spirits seemed to prove that all is well.

Recognitions

David Brown had the courage to show up at Rotary on his actual birthday. And **George Egan's** birthday is just one day later. Happy Birthday David and George!

Happy/Sad \$\$\$

Josh Genser is a happy camper as he proudly announces a new business partner (the Watkins of Genser and Watkins), and gloats over Stanford basketball's successes as well. **Rich Brandes** is a proud father as his son sails through Berkeley School of Music with high marks and the Red Oak Victory gets ready to mark its voyage from Terminal 1 to Terminal 6A of the Port of Richmond. The **Erle Browns** are gleefully off to Mexico (to be joined later by the **David Browns**). And in the ultimate happy/sad announcement, **Oscar Lugo** begins a new chapter in his life as he officially closes Oscar Lugo Fine Jewelry on February 16, 2005 after 25 years in Point Richmond. You're going to be missed, Oscar. **David Kuchenthal**. is ready for sturgeon fishing. **Herb Cole's** youngest son had the pleasure of attending the 1 inaugural ball last week.

realities of wild fire in our East Bay Hills a little closer to home with a few sobering facts. The East Bay Parks include 97,000 acres of land. Last year alone, 371 acres were burned by wild fire, with 273 acres attributed to a car fire along the freeway in Martinez. Key to keeping fires under control is fuel management including programs that eliminate invasive non-native trees and brush cover. Eucalyptus, French broom and pine trees are out. Huckleberries and oaks are in. With thoughtful respect for nesting birds, the California whip snake, and other live critters, the Parks District aggressively removes trees and brush to create firebreaks and encourage growth of native plants. Goat raising projects, the East Bay Conservation Corps and FEMA grants are among the programs that contribute to the successful maintenance of one of the greatest natural resources of our urbanized community. A wonderful home safety booklet on how to prepare your home and how to evacuate in a wild fire circumstance was also handed out (step 1...load the kids and grandma in the car and LEAVE THE KEY in the ignition before packing up mementos). Thank you Captain Cutino for your enlightening presentation.



Capt. Cutino left the club with 10 copies of, "Will Your Home Survive? A Guide to Help You Improve the Odds Against Wild land Fires", by Harrell & Teie. They are free for the asking and will be at the door at the next meeting. It is recommended for anyone who's home is in a sylvan setting in or close to the hill or for those who have vacation properties, "in the woods". Feel free to take one for that nut down the street who thinks living in a eucalyptus or Monterey pine forest is cool.



Announcements

President Herb announced that our club had raised \$1200 for the Tsunami relief effort and David Brown promptly cut a check to the Rotary Foundation – Solidarity in South Asia Fund. At a meeting earlier in the week, your Rotary Board authorized contributions to the Salvation Army (\$500), Richmond High and Kennedy High (\$500) and \$120 to help out the Rotary Rose bowl float. Our two international programs have finally been funded 100%. The Cancer Home (a Ronald McDonald type facility) and the outfitting of a surgery clinic, both in Mexico. By teaming up with two other local clubs, the local Mexican clubs and RI's matching grants we were able to raise \$5000 for each project. Featured performers at the Valentine's Day program, February 11th (The Portola Middle School Jazz Band) will receive McDonald's lunches courtesy of the Board and a generous Rotarian with connections inside that organization. Meanwhile nothing derails John Nicol and Rotary's traditional train trek to Reno, even if Amtrak cancels the train (due to the inability to certify tracks in freezing temperatures). John has arranged for the next best alternative – a Rotarian-filled bus! Reports of the weekend adventure will be heard next week.

Raffle

David K. picks a free lunch, and the \$144 pot grows for at least another week.

Time Flies Wheel (from Don H's archives): **And on this day in Richmond Rotary just fifteen years ago...** *Erle Brown, head of the Community Affairs Committee under Prez Joe Nusbaum, reported Club donations to the Richmond Neighborhood House, the Richmond Rescue Mission, the National Institute of Arts and Disabilities, the Salvation Army, the Boy Scouts and the Richmond Steelers football club.*

Respectfully submitted,

Jan B. Nimble

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

Come Celebrate Rotary's 100th Birthday

On February 25th our guest speaker will be Ron Sekkel,
District Governor, 5170.



This will be a great event so make plans to bring your spouse or significant other. (or both!)



Upcoming Programs

02/04 – “Alien Invasion!” They’re green, they’re mean. If you kill one, 10 pop up in its place. Robert Case, County Agricultural Agent (ret) and representative of the California Invasive Plant Council (Cal-IPC) discusses the impact and management of invasive exotic plant species on the environment.

02/11/05 Valentines Day Program. The Portola Middle School Jazz Band will entertain us.

02/25/05 Rotary's 100th Birthday

Door Duty Reminder

02/11/05	Harris Rhonda	Levy Leslie
02/18/05	Hill Ralph	Lawlis Jon
02/25/05	Hiramoto Joni	Lau Don
03/04/05	Hodgen Paul	Kuchenthal David K
03/11/05	Howe Mark	
03/18/05	Johnston Gloria	Kelman Joe
03/25/05	Jones Pam	Kelman Henry

Important Dates

02/17/05 Board Meeting – 12 noon at the Country Club
04/30/05 District Conference – Yin Ranch