

# Rotations

Official Weekly Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Lafayette

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President John Sherry opened the meeting. Visiting Rotarians: Debbie Cooper, Lamorinda Sunrise. Guest: Troy Feddersen, J. Rockcliff Realtors; Dan Stokes, Diablo Foods.

Greeter Jay Lifson offered a 'clean' golf story in honor of Ed Stokes' 86th birthday and all sang Happy Birthday.

John Sherry asked for volunteers for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Day on Dec 13, and said that registration for the 2009 District Conference at Lake Tahoe is free for those who register early. Club Assembly is Dec 4 to vote for the incoming Board. The Holiday Luncheon on Dec 19.

Dick Holt raffled off two Cal vs Stanford tickets for the club -- Alan Mac won at \$70. On Dec 11, Dick will present donations to school bans for participating at the Concert at the Res.

Michael Heller announced that we will collect coats at the Holiday Luncheon, and will buy clothes for Shelter Inc. kids. He will host a wrapping party and breakfast on Dec. 21, 8 am.

Recognition: Ed Stokes for his 86th birthday; Lisa Cohen for her daughter's 21<sup>st</sup> birthday; John Sherry for placing two puppies in new homes; Larry Blodgett; Chuck Vogel; Mike Heller; and Sandi Mitchell.

## DEC 11: YAU-MAN, SURVIVOR CONTESTANT

As an annual membership drive, members are encouraged to bring prospective Rotarians to the Dec 11 meeting to hear Yau-man Chan, who will talk about his two seasons as a contestant of *Survivor Fiji* and *Survivor Micronesia* -- what he learned about life, himself and humanity from his experiences. He has been one of the most popular contestants on the *Survivor* show, not only with other contestants, but the viewing public. RSVP to Bob Shusta by Dec 4th is mandatory so we have a headcount for lunch. Noon if attending Rotary lunch -



\$17 (Note: if the person is a potential member, no charge for his/her lunch) 12:45 if not coming for lunch -- free.

**SPEAKER:** Bob Kochly, District Attorney since 2002, has worked in the DA's office for 35 years. He spoke about crime in West Contra Costa County, and specifically about efforts the Richmond PD and Sheriff are undertaking to reduce crime. A FBI sting operation was recently helped take a number of gang members off the streets. Bob commented that the original intent of Medical Marijuana was



to help the terminally ill, but proponents of the measure use this as a means to promote legalized drugs. He is lobbying cities to change ordinances to ban the use of land for medical marijuana dispensaries. According to recent stats on felony convictions, Contra Costa County had the #1 conviction rate in California, 94.8% in 2005, and the #2 felony conviction rate, 93.2% in 2006. This compared favorably with the statewide average of 82.7%. Bob attributed the high success rate to being careful about charges being brought, good evidence, and exceptional people at the DA's office and in the field.

The DA has new office space in Martinez. The building has 52,000 square feet; opened in July 2008, mostly on-time and within budget. The new building helps provides a better face to the community, and inspires more productivity.

Other updates: One of his employees, Hal Jewett was recognized as Prosecutor of the Year by the California DA's Association. The DA's office is making efforts to help homeowners in default avoid scam artists by proactively sending out letters raising awareness of fraud schemes and providing names of reputable companies offering assistance to affected homeowners.



**RI PRESIDENT'S  
DECEMBER MESSAGE:  
FOCUS ON FAMILIES**



December 2008

Dear fellow Rotarians,  
As a father of four and grandfather of five, I have been fortunate to have spent many years in the company of children. When raising our own children, my wife, Young, and I

worked hard to give them what all children need most: a loving, safe, and stable home. Our children were our first priority, and we made sure that they always had nutritious food, appropriate clothing, quality medical care, and a good education. We knew very well how fortunate we were to be able to do this. We were grateful that we never had to say to our children, "I'm sorry, but there's nothing to eat tonight," or "I'm sorry, but we can't pay your school fees."

When I was a child, Korea was a poor country, and there were many children who went to bed hungry at night and had no school to go to in the morning. As a Rotarian, I know only too well that there are still far too many children in the world without the absolute essentials: food, clothing, shelter, medical care, and education. And as a Rotarian who is also a father, I consider all of the world's children to be my responsibility.

When I see my own grandchildren – happy, healthy, and enrolled in good schools – I cannot help but think of the millions of children who do not have so many advantages. I think of the children who have too little to eat and only dirty water to drink. I think of the children who are sick with diseases that could have been prevented and those who will have nowhere safe to sleep tonight. And I think of the children, millions of them every year, who won't live to see their fifth birthday.

**December is Family Month.** It is a time to focus on our families, to involve them in our Rotary service, and to challenge ourselves to do even more for those in need. Because there are so many families and so many children waiting for our help, we, as Rotarians, cannot look away. We cannot and will not rest until all children, everywhere, have the chance for a long and healthy life. We will not rest until we *Make Dreams Real* for every child in every home where there is hunger, sickness, and want. As Rotarians, we can do no less.

Dong Kurn (D.K.) Lee  
President, Rotary International

**FUND A PROJECT**

Great ideas and boundless enthusiasm are wonderful resources, but your club's project won't be effective without the money needed to make it viable. Funding for projects can come from club, district, or international sources, such as a club fundraiser, partnership with another organization, or **The Rotary Foundation's Annual Programs Fund**. The Foundation, with the support of Rotarians for more than half a century, continues to be an excellent source of project funding.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- John Sherry . . . . . President
- Sandi Mitchell . . . . . Vice President
- Bob Shusta . . . . . Secretary
- Greg Vaisnor . . . . . Treasurer
- Chuck Vogel . . . . . Club Service
- Don Anderson . . . . . Community Service
- Mike Kearney . . . . . International Service
- Terry Camp . . . . . Vocational Service
- Ron Wake . . . . . Past President
- Andy Scheck . . . . . Sergeant of Arms
- Geoff Zimmerman . . . . . Sergeant of Arms

**GIVE HOPE - GIVE A HAND**



The Rotary Club of Lafayette donates an LN-4 Prosthetic Hand in the name of our speaker each week. The LN-4 Prosthetic Hand transforms lives and empowers those who have lost hands and limbs due to

land mines, birth defects, and other catastrophes.

**MAKE UP MEETINGS NEARBY**

- MON**  
12:00 Danville, Brass Door, San Ramon
- TUES**  
07:00 Walnut Creek Sunrise, Scott's Seafood  
07:00 Danville-Sycamore, Crow Canyon  
Country Club, San Ramon  
12:15 Moraga, Soda Center  
12:00 Walnut Creek, Heather Farms Garden  
Center Bldg  
05:30 Diablo View, Pyramid Alehouse
- WED**  
12:00 Rossmoor, Hillside Clubhouse  
12:15 Alamo, Round Hill Golf  
12:15 Orinda, Community Center  
12:15 Concord-Diablo, Marie Callendars
- THU**  
07:00 Clayton Valley/Concord Sunrise,  
Oakhurst Country Club
- FRI**  
07:00 Lamorinda, Postino  
12:15 Concord, Concord Hilton

**UPCOMING SPEAKERS**

- 11/27 Thanksgiving, no meeting
- 12/04 Club Assembly: vote '09 Board
- 12/11 Yau-Man, *Survivor* contestant
- 12/18 Christmas Luncheon, Lafayette Park Hotel, 11:30 am – donate coats
- 12/25 Christmas, no meeting
- 12/26 7 am Breakfast, location TBD
- 01/01 New Years, no meeting
- 01/02 Gin Fizz, Camp & Camp Assoc., 2540 Camino Diablo, WC

**LOCAL ROTARY EVENTS**

- 12/09 Board meeting, 5, Laf Chamber
- 12/13 Salvation Army Red Kettle Day
- 12/21 Breakfast & wrapping party for Shelter Inc at Hellers, 8:00 am
- 01/13 Board meeting, 5, Laf Chamber
- 01/25-26 Reno Train Trip
- 10/01-04 District Conference, Lake Tahoe, free early registration

**ROTARY INT'L EVENTS**

- 06/21-24 2009 RI Convention, Birmingham, England
- 06/20-23 2010 RI Convention, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

**BIRTHDAYS**

- 11/16 Greg Vaisnor
- 11/20 Ed Stokes
- 11/21 Steve Falk
- 11/23 Charlie Vitale

**ANNIVERSARIES**

- 11/03 Dick Holt
- 11/12 Steve Falk
- 11/20 Daniel Barnes
- 11/26 Mike Henn

**GREETERS**

- 11/27 No meeting
- 12/04 Alan Mac
- 12/11 Sandi Mitchell
- 01/08 Bud Moulthrop

*"In 2008-09, I will ask you all to Make Dreams Real for the world's children. This will be our theme, and my challenge to all of you."*

-- RI President D K Lee

