

Rotations

PO Box 943
Lafayette, CA 94549
info@rotarylafayette.org

Meetings:
Thursdays 12:15 pm
Oakwood Athletic Club
4000 Mt. Diablo Blvd
Lafayette, CA

Official Weekly Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Lafayette
30 JULY 2009 VOL 64 ISSUE 05



President Sandi Mitchell opened the meeting. Don Anderson gave the thought for the day.

Visiting Rotarians: John Fazel, President, Lamorinda Sunrise.

Sandi presented a July ballot for Paul Harris recognition of the most contributing member of our club. She will announce the result after the board meeting. She also asked for comments and additions to the club Mission Statement. Sandi will ask members to give two-minute educational talks about Rotary at future meetings.

Mike Heller asked for volunteers for the Safety Fair on Saturday at Stanley School. Police Chief Mike Hubbard had asked us to support the city by providing a hot dog stand for the event.

Alan Mac announced that we will be volunteering at the Lafayette Art & Wine Festival in September. He challenged John Fazel to a competition with Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary to provide the most volunteers. The losing club pays \$100 to the winning club. John said he will be happy to take the \$100.

Chuck Vogel passed around a sign-up sheet for monthly note takers for *Rotations*.

Mike Henn asked for volunteers to help at the voting booths for

the approaching election.

Debbie Cooper asked for ideas about possible future speakers and to let her know if you hear any great speakers while visiting other clubs.

Andy Scheck recognized members: Jack Clarkson, Troy Fedderson, Alan Mac and Don Anderson.

SPEAKER: Sun Lee has just returned from Tours, France where she studied French for six months on a Rotary Ambassadorial Cultural Scholarship. Originally from South Korea, Sun studied rhetoric, post-colonial literature and human rights at UC Berkeley and graduated in 2007.



Interested in the plight of people worldwide, she engaged in issues of justice and war crimes through field research. Sun said her academic specialty is as an anthropologist working on countries that suffer traumatic events. She spent much of her time visiting the elderly in their homes to collect statistical data for her research. She is confident that the knowledge of another language will be a great asset in continuing her work, either in a non-governmental organization or the United Nations.





Rotary Images/Alyce Henson

Wilson Kimeli Naiyomah, incoming Rotary World Peace Fellow, wrote *14 Cows For America* describing his Maasai tribe's response to the 9/11 attacks in New York City.

MAASAI WARRIOR HOPES TO WORK FOR DIPLOMACY

When Wilson Kimeli Naiyomah returned home to Kenya months after witnessing the 9/11 attacks in New York City, he found that most of his fellow Maasai, a nomadic warrior tribe, had only a vague understanding of the events of that day.

Naiyomah, an incoming Rotary World Peace Fellow, shared firsthand accounts with the East African tribe, using the oral tradition it has relied upon for years. Deeply moved by his story, Maasai elders felt compelled to do something to help. That something turned out to be a decision to send a herd of cows to the United States as a display of sympathy and regret.

Naiyomah has collaborated with author Carmen Agra Deedy on *14 Cows for America*, an illustrated children's book about his tribe's response. The book explains how cows are sacred to Maasai and valued above all other possessions. "The cow is a symbol of life for us," says Naiyomah. "What happened that day was devastating to me."

Although the cows were never shipped to the United States -- State Department officials decided it would cost more than the value of the herd to import them -- the tribe decided to keep them for the Americans, setting the cows apart and vowing never to slaughter them. ...

In February, Naiyomah will attend the Rotary Center for International Studies in peace and conflict resolution at the University of Queensland in Australia. "Rotary International answered my prayers to belong to an organization that embodies what I silently believe in my heart: that using compassion can help solve problems," he says. "Rotarians are ordinary people taking extraordinary actions to foster relations with countries around the world." Naiyomah says he hopes the peace studies program will help him find ways to promote peace.

The 9/11 attacks "showed me there's something very wrong with world relations," he says. "There is something lacking in diplomacy that I want to find out." Naiyomah believes world leaders need to practice "compassionate diplomacy," valuing the lives of people over political expediency. "Compassionate diplomacy must start by understanding and approaching conflicts with a caring aspect," he says. "Yes, one person can make a difference in the world. But only if they see themselves as the world, not as individuals."

Chosen as the state of Georgia's selection for the 2009 National Book Festival, *14 Cows for America* goes on sale 1 Aug. Proceeds from the book will benefit victims of the 9/11 attacks.

-- Ryan Hyland, RI News, 29 Jul 2009, excerpt

THE FOUR WAY TEST

Of the things we think, say or do:

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

- John Kenny RI President
- Earl Kilmer Dist 5160 Governor
- Sandi Mitchell President
- Geoff Zimmerman Vice President
- Lee Deily Secretary
- Greg Vaisnor Treasurer
- Chuck Vogel Club Service
- Troy Winkles Community Service
- Jesse Wellen International Service
- Troy Feddersen Vocational Service
- Larry Duson Past President
- Andy Scheck Sergeant of Arms
- Mo Levich Sergeant of Arms
- Steve Snyder Sergeant of Arms

GIVE HOPE - GIVE A HAND

The Rotary Club of Lafayette donates an LN-4 Prosthetic Hand in the name of our speakers 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

See 'Where Clubs Meet' for meeting times and locations of nearby clubs:

<http://rotary5160.org/clubs/where-clubs-meet/>

UPCOMING SPEAKERS

- 08/06 Mike Elder, CHP 9-11
- 08/13 Dr. Michael Barrington, Rotary projects in Ethiopia
- 08/20 Tom Peterson, Rheem and Orinda Theatre
- 08/27 Cynthia Brian - Starstyle Be the Star You Are
- 09/03 TBD

LOCAL & DISTRICT EVENTS

- 08/01 Safety Fair, Stanley School
- 08/14 Rock the Plaza
- 08/15 Foundation & Membership Faire, Fairfield
- 08/21 Rock the Plaza
- 08/28 Rock the Plaza
- 09/19-20 Lafayette Art & Wine Festival
- 10/01-04 Dist. Conference, Lake Tahoe
- 10/05 Golf Classic
- 12/05 Rotary Foundation Day at the Races, Golden Gate Fields
- 01/24-25 Reno Train Trip

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

- 11/04-11 Benin West Africa National Polio Immunization Day trip
- Aug Membership and Extension Month
- 2010 RI Convention, Montreal, Canada

BIRTHDAYS

- 07/01 Dan Baker
- 07/03 Polly Bernson
- 07/03 Andy Scheck
- 07/04 Chuck Vogel
- 07/08 Bob Aguilar
- 07/19 Jesse Wellen
- 07/26 Jack Hansen

ANNIVERSARIES

- 07/04 Tom Courtright
- 07/07 Warren Rupf
- 07/10 Steve Snyder
- 07/16 Chuck Vogel
- 07/21 Bud Moulthrop

GREETERS

- 08/06 Dan Baker
- 08/13 Daniel Barnes
- 08/20 Polly Bernson
- 08/27 Larry Blodgett
- 09/03 Jack Clarkson
- 09/10 Lisa Cohen

