



The Sou'wester

VOLUME XLI, NUMBER 17

OCTOBER 30, 2009

SOLAR ENERGY CAN GET YOU INTO REALLY HOT WATER

President Mark McGowan opened the 17th meeting of the 41st/42nd year to a miniature Red Lion room filled with spooky Rotarians eager to go trick-or-treating. Nyle Henderson led the pledge and Dean Charlton dressed up as a Spanish-speaking credit union loan guy and gave the invocation. Patti Needham wore a CPA costume and was our greeter. Patti introduced visiting Rotarian Will Simon from Transylvania. Guests included Alan Cook who was our program and was introduced by his friend John Koopmans who dressed up as a hungry chiropractor.

President Mark welcomed our newest Rotarians Kassidy Banducci and Jerry Unterkloefler. The Sunshine Report was given and it was revealed that there was no sunshine inside or outside the room.



David Sharp dressed up as an incredibly good-looking and intelligent commercial loan officer and reported that the Backpacks for Kids program is going well. We've already had two packing sessions where Rotarians, along with their family, friends, and co-workers, packed around 90 backpacks full of food each week and delivered those to local schools.

The Foundation Dinner was well attended with 200 people packing the Scotia Inn. 15 Rotarians from our club made the journey south to attend the dinner.

John Ennis wore his Past President costume and received a "Certificate of Appreciation" for financial contributions to the Rotary Foundation.



Scott Pesch put on his cross country coach costume (without the short shorts though) and thanked everyone who bought a lunch or gave rides to our Interact Club who attended last week's meeting. Scott and the Interact Club have been hard at work and will have a clean-up and barbeque at Sequoia Park on Thursday 11/5 from 11:00 to 1:00.

Stupid jokes followed; something about blind people, Siamese twins, sky diving, dogs, and turtles.

Ken Singleton and Sam Kennedy were recognized for their efforts to relocate last week's meeting from our regular room to the miniature room. Both attended a dentist convention in the regular room where Ken practiced his craft and Sam shopped for camouflage scrubs.



Monty Nickerson was recognized for never doing anything to get recognized for. However a picture surfaced in the newspaper of Monty and others from the Humboldt Bay Housing Development Corp. dedicating a street to Kay Escarda.

Nancy Kay went to Europe for 3 weeks in order to avoid a fine



having a birthday in October. She didn't have any money left over for a fine anyway after exchanging her dollars for Euros.

Rodney Maples was not to be outdone as he ventured to Europe recently as well. He went to Denmark to visit an old exchange student and his family who threw Rodney an old fashioned Danish birthday. He even made it onto the Autobahn and drove fast enough to have to tap out upon his return.

Kassidy Banducci just celebrated her 1st wedding anniversary. Kassidy and Bret spent a nice day together eating good food and took in some nice architecture as they went on the Heritage Society tour of homes in Eureka. They even pulled out the old wedding cake from the freezer and shared that.

Burnie Kemp just celebrated his 57th wedding anniversary and offered some sage advice to Kassidy on how to get to 57 years. Burnie and Mary bought a TV from Sears and had dinner at the Sea Grill.



Sam Kennedy got a call on his cell phone in the middle of the meeting, presumably someone called to tell him his new camo scrubs had come in. Somehow another bad joke made its way into the meeting. But John Koopmans actually had a funny blonde joke.

Lorna Petersen got a real black kitten from a trucker recently. They always say that you shouldn't take candy from strangers or walk past a black cat but nothing was ever mentioned about taking black kittens from

(Continued on page 2)

Postmaster: send address changes to:

The Sou'wester

PO Box 6054
Eureka CA 95502

Membership Proposed:

Carl Willoughby

Classification:

Pulmonary Rehabilitation

Proposed by:

John Koopmans

David Sharp wrote this week's bulletin. Photos were provided by various members.

THANK YOU!

UPCOMING:

November:

6th—Captain Tim, Salvation Army

11th—Veteran's Day Program, Adorni, 11:00 am

13th—Dark

20th—Champion Senior Advocates, Ann & Andy Antovic

26th—Happy Thanksgiving

27th—Dark

truckers so Lorna is the proud new owner of a black kitten.

The drawing was held and Nancy Kay won \$100 towards her Paul Harris and Matt Nilsen cut cards with President Mark. He pulled the high card for a whopping \$37 which he generously donated to Project Share Life.



John Koopmans introduced our program. Alan Cook is a solar and renewable energy advocate who owns and operates Solar Hot Water Plus in Arcata.

Solar Hot Water Plus is a distributor of solar hot water equipment who works with contractors and homeowners by providing high quality products and assistance with system design.

The question that Alan gets all the time is "what is the payback of installing a solar energy system?" It's an interesting question in that no one ever asks what the payback is for installing granite countertops or other home improvement projects. But there are incentives to installing solar that do provide a return on investment. The typical net cost of installing solar for electricity is \$12,600 after state and federal rebates. It is estimated that

it would take 10 – 20 years to recapture that cost. The typical net cost of installing solar for hot water is \$6,650 which takes 3 to 9 years to recapture.

A solar energy system for capturing sun and converting that energy into electricity does so at an efficiency rate of 14%. However, the efficiency rate of a solar energy system for turning sun into hot water is 60 – 65%. It was a very interesting program and more info can be found at solarhotwaterplus.com.

President Mark concluded the meeting by reminding each of us not to get into too much hot water over the weekend.



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Sunshine Reports

Don't be shy about sharing news about yourself or other members.

Contact: Jay Sooter

444-8001 (work) or 923-2695 (home)