



The Sou'wester

VOLUME XXXVIX, NUMBER

MARCH 21, 2008

THE ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTHWEST EUREKA

A pre-meeting Rotary tragedy was averted after **Cindy Denbo** knelt before the throne (not in obeisance). Snagging her cowl neck, she narrowly escaped being impaled by the staffs of our international flag array. She was saved by her pure heart, gentle spirit (ahem) and the gallant broker-cum-triathlete **Scott Pesch**, as he prepared for his debut meeting controlling our rambunctious ranks. With **President Mary** basking in the Hawaiian breezes and admonishments from the gallery to "Stay on target, and "Nice haircut!" stand-in president **Scott** rang the bell with vigor to start our April 18th meeting. Past Prez **Steve Broadhag** led the pledge and **Bob Burchit** invoked a blessing on our country and soldiers. But wait! who is that tall hunky engineer who greeted us all at the door masquerading as **Pat Dillman**? Mr. Pat Dillman, **Jess Walls**, graciously stood in for his new spouse while Pat is busy preparing a new store for its grand opening.

Jess sat down to act as secretary in **Howard Julian's** absence, and **Scott** introduced visiting Rotarians Mark Bruce from Arcata Sunrise and Hank Pierson from the Eureka club. Guests included Samantha and baby William Hufford; Jane Burchit; and Anita Singleton, spending her last day of spring break with us and noshing on a take-out-brought-in Subway concoction. (father Ken lamented aloud that he forgot to get his frequent eater card punched. Quelle tragedie!) Failing once again to put the cell on vibrate, **Steve Broadhag** was mercifully levied a paltry \$5 fine from presiding Prez **Scott**.

Announcements

Don't plan on a lunch meeting on Friday May 2. Instead, come at 6 P.M to the **International Committee's** evening of food, fun, and project enlightenment. International Night is our annual evening meeting to find out what Southwest Rotary does to help the world beyond our shores. Bring your spouse, a guest, and children of all ages are welcome. Hustling away after the speakers is out of the question: stay around for the decidedly non-lunchtime activities. A grand time will be had by all, so don't miss it!

Cindy D. invited us to "Mission: Possible" in San Francisco May 16-18 at the Holiday Inn Golden Gate, as we celebrate Ken Mouton's year as District Governor. Festivities begin with a

golf tournament on May 15th if you are so inclined. The first plenary session starts at 3 P.M. on the 16, with dinner aboard harbor cruise boats enjoying the bay and city lights. Come hear about the projects of other Rotary clubs in District 5130, and enjoy the fellowship with other dedicated Rotarians. Rooms are still available. Go to http://www.rotary5130.org/district_conference_2008.shtml to get all the details and find a registration form.

Rodney Maples was harassed that he will be retreating with his church men's group and unable to drive inbound exchange student Jannik and outbound Leonora Riveras to the District Conference. Please contact Deborah Giraud if you can provide a ride for these two youth representatives of Rotary. And Rodney, enjoy your drum circle.

With Literacy a big plank in the Rotary platform, SW Rotary is once again fielding a team for the Third Annual Great Humboldt Trivia Contest, April 22 at Cher-Ai Heights Casino. Dinner is at 6, and the semi-Jeopardy-style trivialities begin at 7. Come test your knowledge while you cheer on last year's 1st place team, **Liz Ennis** and **Bob Burchit**, teaming with year one's first runner up **Keith Korbin**. Are we trivial? Take THAT Mensa!

If you're not going to SF on conference weekend, join **Jeff Smoller** at the "Blue Light in Blue Lake" benefit for Making Headway Center for Traumatic Brain Injury. Every year 1.5 million Americans suffer a traumatic brain injury. The prevalence of TBI in our returning soldiers is bringing this condition to the forefront. The Sapphire Palace will be transformed into a 1943 swing dance nightclub for two consecutive afternoons, featuring local band Magnolia with added brass for that true Benny Goodman and Glen Miller sound. Dust off your zoot suit and your spectators, you swingers. Call Jeff Smoller for tickets and further info.

Bob Burchit sent kudos across the table to Jeff Smoller for MC-ing the Easter Seals telethon last weekend. Bob himself strolled 2 ½ miles (10 laps) at the Walk-a thon and raised \$1,700.

Chuck Smith announced this year's Economic Fuel competition April 28-29, with the awards ceremony at the Wharfinger on May 1. Our Honorary Rotarian **Greg Hufford** was last year's winner, and President Elect **John Ennis** wants to continue the new tradition of making the competition winner honorary Rotarian

for a year. Greg has decided he likes us so much he's going to make the flip to regular membership.

The plotting of a dignified (but why?) debunking (Def: To expose and disprove false or exaggerated claims) of absent **President Mary C** was announced by Past President **Jay Sooter**. He welcomes input from one and all for this Magical Mystery Tour. Says Jay (if he had thought of it), "Maybe *She Came in Through the Bathroom Window* but *She's A Woman Who Understands*, and *I Don't Want to Spoil the Party*." So contact Jay if you know *Something* about *Mother Mary* you want to share as she comes to the end of *The Long and Winding Road*.

Recognitions (a nice word for fine session)

It's a mystery as to what **John Vance** did on his birthday way back on January 21. Dinner? Drinks? He was delighted that Mary's notes say he's now 34, but he seemed doubtful. He decided to pass on the tap out perfume bag, and chose a six pack of Great White courtesy of Lost Coast Brewery's Briar Bush, today's speaker.

Ron Harris was encouraged to tap out for a six pack in honor of his March anniversary. And just how did he propose to the lovely Deborah? Not an interesting story, he claims, just groveling a begging at their home in Redding. His house in Hawaii is for sale, and as he's tapped out, he tried to pass his fine on to Matt Nilsen, and still wanted the six pack! **Dean Charlton** took on half the fine, and both chipped in \$25. Not really sure how they divvied up the beer!

Mary Lou Riley spent her 53rd anniversary on April 16 at an Elk's lodge meeting, and hubby Bud went "somewhere with Bernie Kemp. She tapped out for some Great White.

Scott asked **Matt Nilsen** to stand in for Dad Ed's wedding anniversary. Matt is number 4 of six kids in 9 ½ years! So, who got the six pack, anyway?

Steve "HaagenDazs: Hagenbaugh fessed up to being very old, and going home and taking a pill after his birthday dinner at Hunan with wife Diana on April 10th. He, too, tapped out for the Great White.

Raffle winner Anita Singleton wanted cash, but dad

(Continued on page 2)

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The Sou'wester

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Announcements:

Host families needed for GSE Nigerian Global Exchange Student Team arriving on April 14th. Contact Brandi Easter of the Arcata Sunrise Club at 707-822-4815 ,707-407-7407 or brandieaster.com.

Liz Ennis wrote this week's bulletin and shot the meeting photos. Keith Korbin published.

UPCOMING:

International Night—May 2nd

District Conference SF—May 15th to 18th

BBQ at Giraud's—June 29th

was encouraged to start a PHF fund for her. John Koopmans declined his beer raffle prize, but Mike Dominic begged on bended knee at the podium and was granted the prized elixir. A jubilant Stu Russell got the final six pack and skipped to the fore to grab it up.

Program

The brewer's association named our local undercover brewing operation, Lost Coast, to their top 50 again this year. General Manager and today's speaker **Briar Bush** (like the White House, not the beer) was dismayed that the projector wouldn't cooperate with his MAC, limiting his presentation to his charming self at the podium. But what a great success story, and a major contributor to the North Coast economy. Briar himself is a product of Humboldt (Arcata, man) and HSU, making a stop at Chico State as well.

Our local brew pub has graduated from micro- to regional-brewery, producing 6,700 gallons of sudsy delight per day, that's 3,000 bottled cases, with a great restaurant as well. He explained the brewing process, a far too lengthy recipe to repeat here. They brew 24/7/365. Great White comprises 65% of the brewing. Contrary to popular belief, Downtown Brown is not higher in alcohol content, which vexed Stu so much he attempted to return his booty.

Briar started with 37 employees in 2002, topping out recently at 80. Lost Coast is attempting to staunch the leak of local talent and HSU grads to the outside by providing good jobs. In addition, \$2-\$3 of every payroll dollar is matched with contract labor from electrical, plumbing, other trades, and trucking. Most all the ingredients and packaging are imported from outside Humboldt, and converted into several fine drinkables, and exported to 19 states. Despite small accommodations on 3rd St, they are adapting their operation to the small footprint and have no plans to leave the area to get closer to their raw ingredients. They love the North Coast: its part of their culture and the

image of their beer. Greg Dale offered up his thanks, not only for the great product he enjoys consuming, but also for all the donations made by Lost Coast during the year to local charities and events. Briar was awarded the coveted (ooouuu) SW Rotary {beer} mug for his non-electronic efforts.

Scott showed us that *We Can Work it Out* and he can *Carry That Weight* while Mary is off trying to *Slow Down*. And there wasn't *Too Much Monkey Business*.



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2007-2008

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Sunshine Reports

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

Contact: Troy Vizenor

442-2971 (work) or 822-1622 (home)