



THE Rio Rotarian



HELENE MADERE BRIDGE

"Having fun helping others...watering the rosebuds"

-Dr. Ted Schulz

Welcome

Pres. Elect Dave leads our Pledge, with City Manager Rob tackling Rotary Grace. Gene, at Gary's recommendation, launches into, "God Bless America."

Visiting Rotarians

With no guests or visiting Rotarians, Jimmy Mac exclaims, "It's Tommy D," as Tom stumbles in a few moments late. He willingly spins the wheel, but when called upon to recite the 4-way Test, he fails, paying \$8.

Treasurer's Report

Jay delivers a concise report on finance, outlining balances in each of our three accounts.

Birthdays and Celebrations

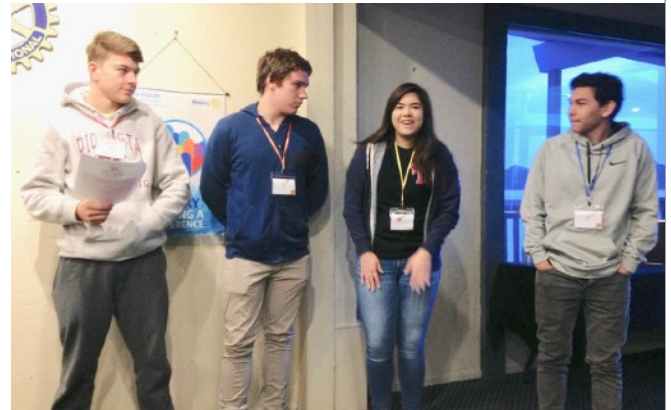
Cole Felt celebrates a birthday, while Patrick (1), Betty Davis (15) and Wayne Woodward (15) celebrate member anniversaries.

Confessions

• With no one volunteering confessions, Molly stands to explain her Bankers' Attire. She's has an Ag Team luncheon at the exclusive Flyer's Club in Winters, and tonight she attends the Solano County Farm Bureau's Dinner in Vacaville. On her banker's salary, she generously donates \$20.

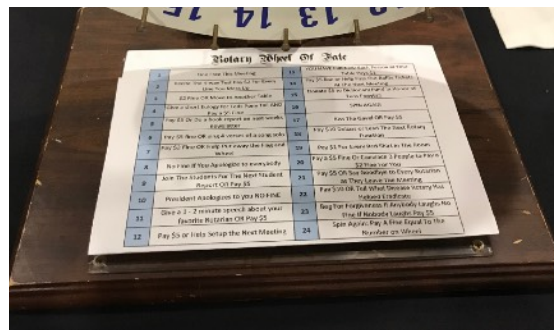
Booster Dinner January 27

Liam informs the Club that the Booster Club Dinner Dance is January 27, with cocktails and raffle from 5:30-6:30, and dinner from 6:30 - 9. New York strip steak, Portuguese beans and salad will be served, and there will be dancing. Tickets are \$75. The wrestling team will have a tournament on Saturday, and on Tuesday they will wrestle at Golden Sierra.



Liam Smith, Samuele Franceschetti, Mariko Dupuis, and Gabe De La Rosa report on High School activities.

Girls and Boys played San Juan on Thursday, with girls winning 3-0, and boys taking an "L," 1-11. In basketball, Mariko believes that, "They are doing okay, as I don't hear anyone weeping over it." Swimming will be begin shortly. Gabe reports that juniors, sophomores and freshman will begin signing up for classes next year. Swim practice will begin, shortly.



Thanks to Tom's tardiness, the Club is introduced to a new set of wheel designations, as the previous list was no longer applicable once Ted removed his mantle.

The Future of Our Solano County Fair

Pres. Elect Dave stands to deliver a longwinded introduction of Lee Williams. Despite Lee pulling an all-nighter doing repairs on the damaged 88-foot long Real McCoy ferry, speaker Lee delivers an unfiltered history and status of our beloved Solano County Fair.

Announcements

- Pres. Dan asks the Pres. Elect for a status of what's going on. He simply states that, "It's going to be great." Jimmy Mac ponders aloud whether there is some connection between Pres. Elect Dave and Past Pres. Dr. Ted. Dave was donning the early signs of a man-tail.
- Our HS Scholarship Committee is gearing up. Tom is looking for volunteers. Hector does not hesitate to join Tom's team.
- Tequila Y Más is scheduled for July 28, and will most likely be at The Point. Hector reminds the Club that all proceeds go toward scholarships.
- The Solano County Firefighters Award Banquet will be held on March 23 at the Garden Inn. Lee requests that the board purchase a table of 10 for \$400.
- Rotary Golf Tournament dates and contracts are being discussed. Some members recommended Friday. More to follow.

Marble Draw

No Bueno. Dr. Ted pulls a clear marble and the balance grows.



Newsletter Staff

Co-Editors: Edwin Okamura, Dick Burkhardt

Executive Editor: Bob Bard

Continued – Solano County Fair

The Solano County Fair has long had a history with Rio Vista's agricultural community, with many outstanding citizens participating on their Board. Rotarian Dick Brann was involved for years, as was David Hamilton and John Cronin—and



Speaker Lee, provides an unfiltered assessment of the Solano County Fair.

most recently our very own Lee Williams, as the president. As explained, politics plays a significant role at the organizational level. What was previously a 20-person board, was cut down to 15, with the latest proposal to have a mere 5 members. The original purpose of the all-volunteer board was to ensure a healthy number of volunteers to run the programs.

Much of the change is a result of the "bottom line." The Fair, as is the case with many across the State, is losing money. Some County Supervisors are proposing cutting it from 5 days, down to 2 days, while others are suggesting discontinuing the Fair. If it is shortened to 2 days, the carnival would be lost—which would virtually kill the Fair. While Lee recognizes the importance of the finances, he too understands the importance of the Fair to the community. They will be holding an emergency meeting February 6 to discuss budget and the future of the Fair. They will

be drawing from the success of the Dixon Fair, and explore recommendations gained from a recent Anaheim convention—where they won "Best Family Fair in State of California."

Lee is particularly proud of the Youth Ag Day, which has been going strong for 16 years. Each year, our Club donates \$500. On Ag Day, there are over 400 volunteers and 2,100 3rd grade participants, with FFA and 4H participating in presentations and exhibits. Rio Vista sends 69 children, 47 parents and teachers. This is one program that breaks even with the generous donations from private citizens. David Hamilton, for instance, transports his sheep and dogs for demonstrations, which are always a hit. This year, the Youth Ag Day will be March 20.

Balancing budgets, personalities and the community's needs will all determine the future success of the Solano County Fair. Transforming the fairgrounds to low income housing is not the solution.

COMING ATTRACTIONS		
DATE	SPEAKER/EVENT	PROGRAM CHAIR
January 26	Joe Scheimer	Gene Resler
February 2	Jim Wheeler - Big Move for Chamber	Edwin Okamura
February 9	TBD	Jim Lira
February 16	TBD	Ted Schulz