



# THE Rio Rotarian



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

*-Dr. Ted Schulz*

## FOUNDER'S DAY EDITION



### THE GOOD OLD DAYS OF ROTARY

Hank Tussy, our best known Rotarian, delivered an inspirational message at the 65 year birthday of our club.

Hank, a decorated World War II veteran, and the oldest living member of the Rio Vista Rotary Club moved us all with a stirring rendezvous walk thru of the history of the Rio Vista Rotary Club. Hank joined the Rio Vista Rotary Club in 1961. In those days Hank was Captain of the Fire Department and Lee Williams worked for him. During his talk, Hank discussed the founding of a free Rotary Dental Clinic in the mid 1980's in the city of Mulegé, Baja California Sur, Mexico.



In Mulegé, the Santa Rosalia River runs through this picturesque agricultural village of 3,800 situated on the Sea of Cortez. Dan Ratley, a Rotarian dentist from Redding, started a dental clinic there and invited other Rotarian dentists to volunteer to treat patients. Bob Bard, along with a group of 7 Rotarians from the Antioch area, flew down there in 2 private planes and stayed for a week of free dental treatment to the grateful natives. Right after that, Hank and Judy Tussy traveled to Mulegé, bought a house and stayed to serve. Judy taught school there for many years, traveling back and forth to Rio Vista. When they first arrived, Hank discovered many false rumors flying around about Dr. Bard's "escapades while under the influence." Naturally, Hank dutifully reported these allegations to his Rio Vista Rotary Club. The dental clinic moved to an improved location and is still going strong, thanks to the efforts of many Rotarians. Numerous students who would have had no more than 6th grade educations have now graduated, including 387 high school and 87 university students, thanks to the Tussy's generous efforts. Hank ends his nostalgic talk by declaring, "Rotary Opens Doors." Hank invites us all to sing, "Happy Birthday," to Rio Vista Rotary.

# FUN WAS HAD BY ALL



*Chairwoman Evelyn and President Dan were first to try the hors d'oeuvres.*



*Co-host Lee hugs a surprised Patty while husband Jay is not impressed.*



*President Elect Dave shares our birthday celebration with his family.*



*Leon and his bride, Verna, arrive early to get a good seat by the window.*



*Eddie shares some Rotary memories with Hale and Sue.*



*Gene and his wife, Pat, enjoy the festivities with Sarah Domnelly.*



*Stephanie, Hector, & Evelyn get together. Hector brings his own tequila and has to pay a corkage fee.*



*Molly and Tom are happy to be at another Rio Vista Rotary birthday party.*



*Gene reports that Corinne Corley exchanged club banners with Waldo Brookside Rotary Club in Kansas City, MO.*



**Newsletter Staff**

**Co-Editors:** Edwin Okamura,  
Dick Burkhart

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[www.riovistarotary.org](http://www.riovistarotary.org)

**COMING ATTRACTIONS**

DATE	SPEAKER/EVENT	PROGRAM CHAIR
March 2	Meet Josiah Tingey & Leon's secret website!!	Derek Abel
March 9	Dave Kreutzinger, Engineer-Historian Nike Missile Site, Marin Headlands	Bob Bard
March 16	TBD	Jon Blegen
March 23	John Krauskopf - Western Railway Museum	Dick Burkhart

