



THE Rio Rotarian



Welcome

With Pres. Schindler playing hooky, Jim McPherson enthusiastically takes the reigns. Following formalities, he passes out the lyrics to "Splish Splash," and leads Rotarians—humming, dancing and singing. Bobby Darin would have been proud.

Guests of Rotarians

Gene welcomes his lovely wife, Pat Dyer; Tom introduces our speaker, Kay Kelley, and Soroptimist's President and VP, Teri Malkin and Deborah Roden. Molly, introduces Cecilia Berti, Interact member and foreign exchange student.

Celebrations



In spirit, we celebrate Evelyn's wedding anniversary and Don Beno's birthday. Ken presents a beautifully

wrapped gift to Jim—who apparently turns "37" on Monday. Jim unwraps a well preserved can of Spam, which we learn was a childhood favorite.

Communications

We receive thanks for our \$550 sponsorship of the 16th Annual Youth Day. It was a success with 2,588 third graders attending.

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

-Dr. Ted Schulz

Confessions Abound

Feeling generous, Jon recounts his nightmarish return flight(s) from NY. and, despite being sleep deprived, attends the Appreciation Dinner. The fatigue gets the best of him though, and he slips out early. Apologizing to Lee, Jon offers another \$25, with Edwin matching for forgetting to attend the Dinner.

Jim proudly announces that his grandson threw out the first pitch at Rio Vista's baseball game, which was played at the River Cat ballpark. He donates another \$50 to Josie's Paul Harris.



Kiara excitedly reports on Prom; Mariko speaks of Rio Vista's loss at the Decathlon; Liam and Sam advise that the swim team continues their winning way; Gabe speaks of testing and Cecilia Berti familiarizes herself with the Interact Student Report.

Announcements & Reports

Hector unveils this year's Tequila Y Más poster. He anticipates 10 vendors, including a cigar roller, and 150 attendees. Tickets are \$40 in advance. Marketing is ramping up with postings to Nextdoor.

Ed Kingen suggests we begin pulling together our foursomes, with Molly reminding the Club that we'll need to either make a \$50 basket or be charged \$50. Ball Drop tickets have been delivered to the Sharks for sales and Edwin will be responsible, in Hector's absence, for selling tickets to members for \$5, \$10 for 3 or \$35 for a pack of ten.

Ed also reports that the joint Rotary event in Clarksburg was a success. There was discussion of doing the event semi-annually. Ed. Bob gave a wonderful presentation, despite sound system challenges.

Lee says that Appreciation Night was, once again, a success. This year they tried deep fried steak, which was a unique experience.

Confessions

- Ted stands to deliver an important public announcement: He has learned that due to a horrific allergy season, it's rumored that crank people upriver are converting Crystal Meth back into Sudafed. LOL!
- Jon Blegen recounts visiting his daughter in New York. He visits many places including the Met. He offers \$25 to Harvey Felt Fund.
- Pres. Elect Dave takes advantage of good weather, hopping on his motorcycle and heading to Las Vegas. Sergeant-at-Arms Patrick fines him \$50.
- Ed. Edwin heads to LA and sees a historical musical on internment camps. He's amazed how a somber subject was made entertaining and educational. He further confesses to having too much fun at the joint Rotary event, with extended wine drinking after. While he paid dearly the following day, he still offers \$50.

Marble Draw

City Manager Rob has the ticket, but the black ball is, once again, illusive.



Newsletter Staff

Co-Editors: Edwin Okamura, Dick Burkhart

Executive Editor: Bob Bard

Human Slavery: It's Big Business

Teri Malkin, Soroptimist President, provides an overview of their Club and how human trafficking is a major initiative this year. While many believe it's a 3rd world problem, she advises that it's happening in our own backyards. Kay Kelley is spearheading their initiative to bring awareness to human trafficking.



Kay Kelley enlightens Rotary members.

Kay has addressed this topic for years and recognizes that it is not an easy subject. In 2016, experts estimated 40.3

million persons were enslaved globally, a number that is larger than the total number of slaves during the entire transatlantic slave trade. It is an enormous business, generating an estimated \$150B in illicit revenue.

While our impression is that it happens elsewhere, it is everywhere. In fact, Sacramento has some of the largest numbers in California. Unfortunately, it's a hidden crime, sweeping in women and children that are both physically and mentally abused. The majority of the enslaved are fearful for their lives, and question if they will be believed if they report a crime.

To illustrate, Kay presents a video of Rebecca Bender. Born and raised in Oregon, she had good grades, graduated early, and was accepted to Oregon State. But, life took a turn when she had an unplanned baby. Then, while visiting friends, she met a man claiming to be a record producer and musician. Enamored with him, 6 months later she moved to Las Vegas. His first stop: an escort service, where she was told that she'd need to begin paying her way. Away from home and fearful for her child's safety, it took courage to escape. While not a typical profile, it shows that it can happen to anyone.

If you suspect human trafficking of any kind, call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center at 888.373.7888. You can also text the hotline: SMS: 233733 (Text "HELP" or "INFO").

COMING ATTRACTIONS

DATE	SPEAKER/EVENT	PROGRAM CHAIR
April 20	National Cannabis Day - Local Businesses	Patrick Byron
April 27	Rio Vista: Glimpses of the Past—Interact Runs Meeting	Eddie Woodruff
May 4	Golf Tournament	No Meeting
May 11	Jan Vick - HWY 12 and Army Base	Leon Guzenda
May 18	TBD	Rob Hickey
May 25	Rebecca McDonald - Solano/Napa Meals on Wheels	Hale Conklin
June 1	Bob Dias - North Bay Hospital Wine & Jubilee	Patty Huissoon