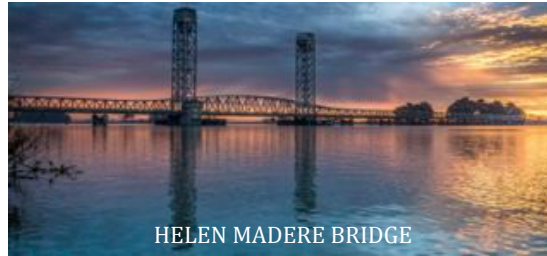




THE RIO

"Common sense is in spite of, not the result of education."
—VICTOR HUGO
"Common sense is too uncommon."
—BOB BARD



HELEN MADERE BRIDGE

Rotarian

"Having fun helping others... watering the rosebuds"
—DR. TED SCHULZ
Bob Bard, Ed.



Dear lord, please don't let me screw this up!

With Kelley at the helm it is soon evident that our club is in the very best of hands. So, we salute, pray, and begin the meeting. Sadly, Wayne offers a less than complimentary remark regarding our pretty new president's physical stature. *Tsk, tsk.*

Undaunted, Pres. Kelley launches into the story of Bob, a very dedicated 87-year-old Rotarian who missed PETS (Presidents Executive Training Seminar) when he was Pres.-Elect, years ago. Fortunately, he was honored at this year's PETS. The next day, he passed away, but he had realized his dream, first. Kelley says we should all dream big, hope to realize our dreams, and be proud to be Rotarians.

Today's guests

Ed Kingen presents Leon Guzenda, Hector greets Alyssa, and Kelley introduces Cindy Green, publisher of the *Rio Vista Beacon*.

Announcements

Board meeting at Foster's, Thurs., July 28, 6:30 p. m. with D. G. Fred Collignon.

Rotary will staff Beer Booth at Hog August Bites, Sat., Aug. 20, but all workers must first get ATOD RBS (Responsible Beverage Service) training. Dennis Elliot says RioVision is sponsoring a free RBS class at Foster's, today. Lee says there's a free RBS class at Trilogy next Saturday. Derek Jones volunteers to coordinate our club's efforts.

Kelley also asks for Bass Derby volunteer chairpersons. Tom leaps into the breach to chair the Linguíça Booth, and Danny will chair the Beer Booth.

We receive letters of gratitude

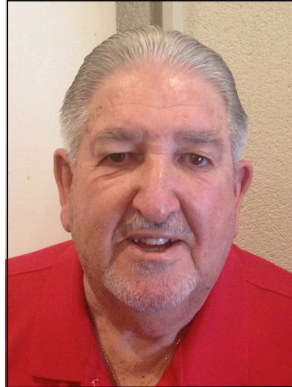
Nathan Wright thanks us for choosing him to receive the Inouye-Hechtman Scholarship. He mentions that Heidi Hechtman was a dear friend of his mom's, so the award is special to him.

The Rio Vista Food Pantry appreciates our \$1,000 donation; every dollar buys 5 lbs. of protein, so we paid for 5,000 lbs. of meat.

Interact member and veteran Student Rotarian, Josie Hamilton, thanks us for sending her to Camp Royal, where she had a great time and learned a lot.

RVFD Hot Shots fundraiser

Al says please attend barbecue, Saturday, July 16, 11:30--4:30, Vets Hall, \$25 each. Funds support non-budgeted items. \$18 of purchase price is tax-deductible. Silent auction and \$2 raffle tickets at event. Tickets



Jim McCracken is our keynote speaker; he describes Honor Flights.



Leon Guzenda, CTMO & Founder, "Objectivity," is Ed Kingen's guest.

available at RVFD and Pets 4 All. Al donates \$100 to our General Fund.

Lee announces passing of long-time Rotarian, Gino Baroni, (Classification: Jobber, Petroleum, Products, Refined, worked for Shell.) Services next Saturday; burial at Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Los Banos.

J. Mac says Lion and Delta Drifters Car Club Pres., Larry Pezzaglia, succumbed to cancer, one year after retirement. Graveside service at Catholic Cemetery, Tuesday, 11:00, followed by reception at 401 Club.

Wayne says he enjoyed your editor's snarky email, but he still advises Hector to not give me any more tequila. As our new Program Chair, he passes around signup sheet and makes us an offer we can't refuse: if we don't pick a date to provide a speaker, he'll assign us one.

Celebrations

Birthdays: Ed Kingen, Dick Burkhart, Jim Lira and Tatyana Pool. Tatyana's on a leave of absence since her husband's passing.

Club anniversaries: Jack Krebs, Jim Nordin, Lee Williams and Jim McPherson.

Student Rotarian Reports

Josie Hamilton thanks us for sending her and others to Camp Royal, last month, and she baked us all cookies. Our students were inspired by their camp experience to do community service, so they cleaned up Sandy Beach. J. Mac asks, "Where did Wayne move?" (*Groans, laughter and some applause*)

Pre-program program

Relatively a new-comer to Rotary, Dennis Elliott pushes the welcome envelope, droning on and on about his cruise from St. Petersburg to Moscow. If there's poverty, there, he doesn't see it. All he sees are gazillions of tony, late model cars, huge traffic jams, chugging Vodka...and God is NOT dead, as many Greek Orthodox and other churches have been resurrected to former grandeur. As a *coup-de-gras*, he reveals...the medallion!

Confessions

Derek Jones and spouse spend 3 days in cool Mendocino, then visit S. F. and attend Symphony Orchestra concert. He gives \$25 to General Fund.

Hale and Sue spend 10 days in Greece & Turkey. They closed the ruins of the ancient city of Ephesus and were served a catered dinner in front of the Library of Celsus. Hale

is so pumped to be surrounded by antiquity that he gives \$50 to General Fund.

Observations by Wayne

1. We always have low attendance at a new president's first meeting.

2. With the escalating deadly violence against law enforcement personnel, we need to support those who protect us.

Program

Jim McCracken presents a slide show describing the Honor Flight Network. It was established in 2005 by 2 men, a vet who was a businessman, and a physician's assistant with the V.A.

They used 6 small planes to transport veterans to Washington, D. C., memorials the following year. It has grown to be a well organized volunteer program, utilizing airliners carrying groups of 25 vets, 25 guardians, and 3 guides from all over the country to view the war memorials in our nation's capital.

So far, the Network has flown 20,886 vets to see the memorial. In 2015, they flew the first 150 female vets to D. C. Priority is now given to W. W. II vets to facilitate



At a park in Rome Derek took this photo.

their visits while they're still able to travel. They must fly with a "guardian" who pays his/her own way, about \$1,000. They must use a wheel chair during the trip.

There are 90K vets in CA, 20K in the bay area, and 7 regional "hubs" in CA. All local vets and guardians must attend meeting in Santa Clara, where they learn the organization's policies and receive distinctive caps, shirts, and badges for quick I. D. in crowds.

Upon arrival in D. C., the group receives a police escort to their hotel. The next day, the vets are treated to breakfast, view of the memorial, dinner and "Mail Call." The third day, they fly back to a "Welcome Home" at the airport.

Jim explains the logistics of operating the program, and explains that 97% of donated funds directly benefit the veterans, as the program has no paid employees.

Medallion auction

Hank buys the coin for \$60.

50/50 Raffle--We have a winner, but not a big one

Danny has right ticket, *and* marble. Edwin won, June 10, and there's only been one other raffle since then.



Pres. Kelley, I miss you, already, but I sure love firefighters!

COMING ATTRACTIONS		
DATE	SPEAKER/EVENT	PROGRAM CHAIR
Friday, July 15	The Camp Royal Experience	Bob Bard
Friday, July 22	2015 Fire Season	Dan Schindler
Friday, July 29	District Governor Fred Collignon	Kelley Graupensperger
Friday, August 5	Golf Tournament Slide Show, Rotary Foundation Video	Bob Bard
Friday, August 12	To Be Announced	To Be Announced