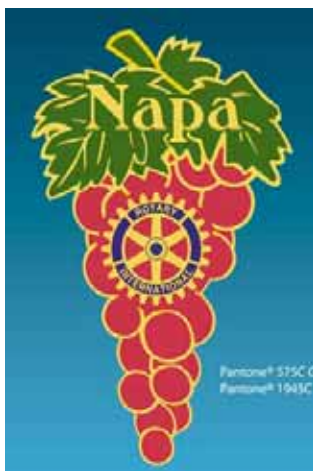


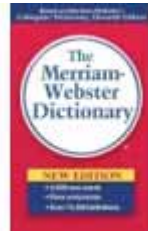
# The Napa Rotagram

## January 28, 2009



### Thought for the Day

**Vince Goetz** led the Pledge of Allegiance. A brief thought for the day was presented by **Ed Barwick**, "Where can you find success before work?"



Only in the dictionary!

### Visiting Rotarians

**Ray Spengler**, Aviation Management, Napa Sunrise; **John Dumars**, Orthodontist, Napa Sunrise; **Debra Matteri**, Banker, Umpqua, Petaluma Valley.

### Guests of Rotarians

**Alecia Hancock** introduced Dr. Benjamin Platt.



Another way to make money is the Super Bowl pool on February 1st... Let **Steve Orndorf** know if you plan to attend the party at the Pathway Home.



### Sunshine Report

**Tom Young** is being released from Queen of the Valley Hospital today. He had a health problem caused by dehydration.

**Bob Mullikin** is still battling pneumonia. He is in his usual good spirits and will welcome your cards, calls and visits.



The Positive Place For Kids



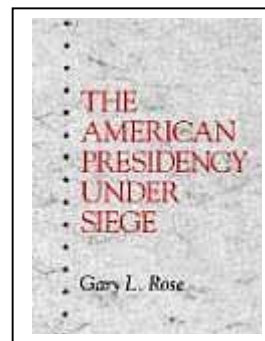
BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF AMERICA



**Tom Nelson** was singled out for his performance at the recent Boys and Girls Club crab feed. Decorations and conduct took everyone back to this hippie thing of the 60's and to Tom's allegedly checkered past. But then, what is everybody complaining about? The

event made \$60,000! Maybe due to Tom Nelson's interesting paraphernalia around the tables?

**Jason Weiss** announced there will be another gala benefit for the kids on March 21<sup>st</sup>, at the Black Stallion Winery. Tickets are \$200 per person.



*Gary Rose auctioned off a book "The American Presidency Under Siege" by Gary Rose! Rotarians displayed a rare case of bidding lethargy.*

### The Student of the Month program ...

... gave us a rare opportunity to meet stellar students. Amazing Amanda Loftis has straight A's, a GPA at Vintage HS of 4.82! She takes difficult courses like calculus at 7 a.m. at Napa Valley College. Amanda is headed for college and would like to study overseas. She has raised money for Doctors Without Borders, wrapped Christmas presents for the Invisible Children's Fund and plays the violin in the Youth Symphony.

Zachary Potter at New Tech High School joined his teachers for a retreat so he could communicate his ideas on cultural exchange. Zach also went to Washington, where he shared his ideas. The insightful Zach worked hard on the approval process for a new building. He thanked his parents and his school who helped make this achievement possible.

Heidi Hamler introduced scholarship recipients for the SAT preparation course, Justin Wyckoff and Gianna Peralta. Justin was successful due to the excellent scores he received following the SAT prep course. He is headed for Columbia University.

College for Gianna was always a "maybe," and after the advantage of the SAT course, she now has her choice of colleges. Her score went up at least 100 points. Gianna lives with her disabled mother and is proficient in sign language. Her goal is to become a dermatologist.



Life doesn't get better than this: Birthday brownies on the tables and **Mike Bethard** at the microphone.

**Jim Ford** was the first birthday victim. Because he sponsored Mike a few years back, Mike was gentle with his question: What was the largest tandem ever built? Answer: It accommodated 35 riders and was 22 yards long. It weighed as much as a VW Beetle.



**Alecia Hancock** avoided the December birthday inquisition with some "lame" excuse and was taken to task on another Tour de France question. The biker on the first day of the race who makes the best time gets to wear what color shirt? In case you are curious, yellow.

### Our Speaker (s) ...

**Bruce McCall** announced our scheduled speaker met with some adversity, so Rotarians were privileged to hear craft talks from three of their own.

**Mike Bethard**, who was born quite young in San Antonio in 1947. He has three siblings.



In high school, his sister was voted most likely to ... conceive! Having attended Cal Poly and then Veterinary School at UC Davis, Mike became a veterinarian in Tahoe City and later opened a small animal practice in Sonoma. He taught anatomy, physiology and cardiology of domestic animals at Cal Poly. Mike attributes his well-developed sense of humor to the fact that his anatomy boasts two humeruses.

**Jerry Medlin** explored the corporate world from all angles and arrived at the conclusion the world would be a more harmonious place with him in charge of his own business. Jerry settled in Napa with a bookkeeping franchise doing accounting for small businesses. He also programmed his own first \$500 computer from Radio Shack, and then graduated to shareware where he gave his programs away because nobody paid on the "honor system." Then checks started rolling in from all over the world. Jerry's system is now #1 on Google. Jerry is semi-retired now. The moral: Not being suited for corporate life is not the end of the world!



**Jason Luros** was the next one on the birthday hot seat. He identified the country where the 2009 Tour de France will take place. The next question identified Monaco as the second smallest state in the world. The smallest? The Vatican at .2 square miles.

**Dean Donaldson** was asked, "How long is the Tour de France?" It's 23 days and the distance is 2,300 miles or 3,500 km.

**Roger Billings** was born on the Ramstein AFB in Germany. He and his twin brother were the first twins born at the hospital there. When he was four years old, the family moved to a base in Dreux, France, where his mother was administrative assistant to the base commander. His Father died in 1966, so mother and children moved to Marshfield, Wisconsin. Roger thinks of himself as a "Cheese head." Roger became a golf pro, a career that took him to many courses around the U.S. He spent time as a househusband while his wife worked as a nurse. He recommends this lifestyle highly. Roger came to Napa in 1991 and currently manages the Chardonnay Golf Course.