

Rotagram
July 1, 2009

Incoming President Bruce McCall presided over his first meeting, Rotarians viewed their Board members at the head table. A Color Guard from Marine Corps, Navy and Army presented the American flag. Two Napa High School graduates sang the National Anthem.

As we approach the anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, Phil Champlin provided the Thought of the Day, reminding us of the sacrifices made by those who signed the Declaration of Independence. The signers were lawyers, jurists, merchants, farmers and plantation owners. They faced enormous trials and tribulations in their lives, lost their possessions, some were tortured and killed as traitors. Please take a few moments on July 4 to thank these patriots. It's not much to ask for the price they paid. Remember: Freedom is never free!

Visiting Rotarians: Jerry Grout, Auto Parts, Mesa, Arizona.

Guests of Rotarians: Stuart Slipic introduced his "favorite" Daughter, and Bob Mullikin's guest was grandson Justin Mullikin, a great golfer.

Jason Luros had the winning raffle ticket. He did not pick the Joker and the pot is growing, the deck of cards is getting smaller.

Do not miss the 4th of July parade in downtown Napa! Sunrise Rotary has worked hard on this event. There are over 80 entries!

Mark your calendars: We are expecting the visit of our District Governor, Kurt Brown on August 26th. The Cycle for Sight fundraiser is scheduled for April 17, 2010.

We have delivered 360 movie tickets for the Pathway Home residents. It gives them a chance to see a movie downtown Napa during the week-end, when there are few activities scheduled at the Veterans Home. The Pathway Home graduation ceremony will be on July 16. Please try to attend. It is a very moving event. Dyna Tech has donated a dozen bicycles to the Pathway Home. If you can spare any of the following items (in good condition), please donate them: Camping equipment - tents, sleeping bags, cooking equipment, lanterns, bicycle repair kits, chains, locks, clothes hampers, wall hangings, framed pictures or prints, blankets, radio alarm clocks, cooking tools (hot plates, pressure cookers, rice cookers).

President Bruce will carry on the Rotary tradition of Service above Self. He encouraged Rotarians to circulate more. Be careful where you sit! Feel free to be inspired to help out within your abilities - the Camp for the Blind, the Dictionary Project, Teachers Appreciation and Rotary International will be there for you!

A few rules: Early leavers, please put \$5 in the basket outside, and make your advance apologies to the speaker. There will also be the three minute opportunity to speak about yourself, tell a joke, or whatever. Each additional minute will cost \$10.00.

MFR (My fellow Rotarian) is a new term you may resort to when you have forgotten someone's name. Watch out for the activities of the RIA, the Rotary Intelligence Agency. If anything worth fining you for has occurred in your life, fess up before they catch you! ... or better yet, buy a fine-free hat!

Bruce introduced our Board members and they talked about their endeavors on behalf of our Club.

Jeannie Christofferson: Paul Harris Foundation. We have just completed 44 Paul Harrisses.

Tim Cooney, President-elect, will work on the Speakers program.

James Barrett: Secretary, keeps track of attendance and does the Board meeting minutes.

Gary "Beaver" Rose has officially retired the Beaver and will work on Cycle for Sight.

Jason Luros will function as Rotary "spammer" and treasurer.

Alecia Hancock will round up future speakers.

Wallace Kempkey will help Misty Tarver with Interact.

John Cardinale, Sergeant-at-Arms will happily continue to collect the contents of your wallet. He promises to give you a gentle wake-up call if you snooze, or if your cell phone goes off during a meeting.

Stuart Slipic will be New Member facilitator, helping new Rotarians make the transition from red to blue badges.

Jill Barwick will take over birthdays and Jim Reily will remain our Finemaster.

The above team is poised to beat the "K" club next year.

Fearless Leader, President, Bruce McCall, will delegate all activities and is asking you to contact the appropriate committee chair to answer questions. Isn't it curious: in the year where our slogan is "Lend a Hand," we have a totally hands-on physical therapist President!

Dr. JC Pickett introduced our new President, Bruce, to Rotary in 1984. Bruce was very impressed to hear Harrell Miller deliver the most inspiring speech about the 4 way test. Harrell is dear to Bruce's heart. Harrell did the wedding ceremony for Bruce's eldest daughter.

JC Pickett has had a connection to Rotary since he was 11 years old. His father was a Rotarian. In his first experience as a Rotarian JC garnered an appreciation for all the good things that can be done when dedicated people work together. Service above self can follow through on the commitment to do these things. JC, as a doctor, felt a bit insulated from what happened in his community. Rotary has filled this void. In the Air Force Reserve JC experienced Rotary activities in the Philippines and in Wiesbaden, Germany, Where else but in the Philippines can you see the leader of the communist party sitting with the Chief of the Intelligence Services?

Harrell Miller's Father was a Rotarian and he was well watched by all Rotarians in his small town. This meant that Harrell had no choice but to walk on the straight and narrow trail. From his time in the Air Force, Harrell graduated to a higher calling and he became the Pastor at the Napa Baptist Church. Harrell wanted to experience the Napa Community and he became a Rotarian relieving a Presbyterian Pastor who was awfully tired of doing the invocation at each meeting.

President Bruce is a graduate of UC Santa Barbara where he received his medical school physical therapy training. He joined Ernie Mann's practice in Napa and has been in sports medicine ever since. Bruce has three out-of-the-house kids. His oldest daughter is married to Luke McConnell. All children attended UC Davis and one son is still there since he joined the military after 9-11. He is just finishing his education now. Bruce values his 35 years in Napa and the many friendships he is enjoying here - many in the Rotary Club.

