

The Napa Rotagram

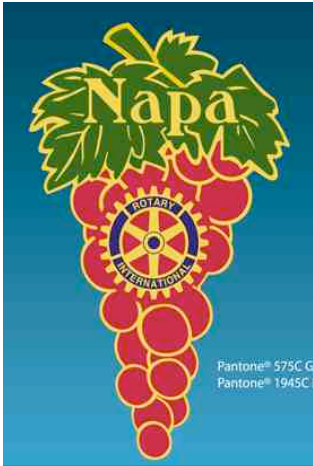
September 9, 2009



The weekly raffle with a jackpot approaching \$1,100 remains intact with only a third of the deck left.

Tim Cooney reports dictionary deliveries to local schools are about to start. Help is still needed to put them in the hands of third-graders as early in the school year as practical.

Chuck DeLorimier is urging participation in the *Festival of Brotherhood* coming up at the end of October. Chuck himself has taken the trip to Guadalajara ten times. Check details online.



Thought for the Day

Elisabeth Frater presented some thoughts on Indian Summer along with a short poem by John Bradbury ...



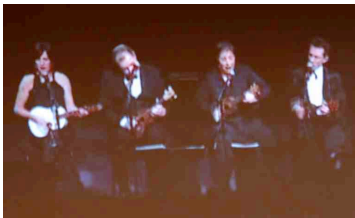
"The air is perfectly quiescent and all is stillness, as if Nature, after her exertions during the Summer, were now at rest."

Visiting Rotarians



Vintner **Norman Alumbaugh** visited from the St. Helena club.

Pres Bruce started things as usual with a musical selection -- and opera at that -- of the "Three Penny" variety, better known as "Mack the Knife".

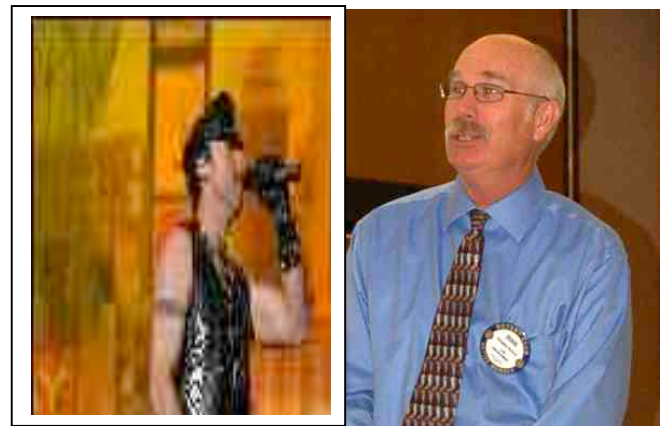


Bruce further confirmed his eclectic musical taste, presenting a rendition of "The Good, the Bad and the Ugly" performed by --- a ukulele ensemble!

The Sunshine Report



Good to see **Rod Wiessner** back. **Margaret Pranger** is doing better, but still in ICU at the Queen. **Brian Kearney** remains on the mend, and condolences to **Debby Hight** on the loss of her beloved pet, Rosebud.



Finemaster **Jim Riley** had a single target -- **Doug Koford**, who came to a recent meeting in his sheriff's uniform. He was fined for impersonating a member of The Village People. See the resemblance?

Put October 1 at 11 a.m. on your calendar to attend the next Pathway Home graduation at Silverado's grove. By the way, the project's director Fred Guzman has been honored by the Red Cross as one of its local heroes.

Pres Bruce's inspirational video urged us to think outside the box ... not just when making paper airplanes.



Attention writers, photographers, designers and lovers of the Rotagram ... Your humble scribe will be wintering once again in Arizona, so the club will need someone to coordinate Rotagram production from early November to early April. **Maren Namdar** is always there to pick up some of the writing duties but could use some assistance with photos and layout. Call or e-mail me with questions or your interest: **Jay Goetting**; 226-1739; j_goetting@comcast.net.

No guest speaker this week ... but an inside look at the old and the new. First three veteran members of the club with a little about themselves.

... the old-seasoned:



Bill Blanckenburg, who recently turned 94, has been retired from the Napa Superior Court bench for thirty years. He noted not only was it California Admissions Day, it was also his mother's birthday (she'd have been 127).

Ed Barwick came to Napa at age ten. He sold cars here for 41 years, served on the city council, as mayor, and on the county's grand jury. His voice still fills the stands as announcer for Napa High games.



Barbara Nemko is the county superintendent of schools. She began as a teacher in New York and worked at UC Davis as a researcher. She still finds time to devote to the thespian arts with Dreamweavers.



Gary Norman has only been in Napa for nine months. He's also a financial guy at Edward Jones, and according to his daughter loves the color purple, puzzles and is "the best dad in the world."



Debra Matteri transferred from Petaluma Rotary where she has lived all her life but works in Napa now for Umpqua Bank. To contrast her financial work, Debra likes travel and the arts.



Aurora McKnight still dons her red badge. She's from a "traditional Hispanic family" in southern California and worked at Disneyland after college but moved quickly into the world of fashion with I. Magnin, Neiman-Marcus, and Macy's. She now sells real estate.



... and the new:

Dick Barry is a financial advisor with Wells Fargo with law and business degrees from Georgetown. His wife is a pediatrician, and he coaches lacrosse in which one of his sons excels.



From Days Gone By

January 27, 1960 - Yet another fifty year old editorial from that legendary bulletin editor **Houghton Gifford**: Did you know that the opossum has remained essentially unchanged for eighty-million years while all his mammalian relatives have been undergoing evolutionary changes? So what? Well, this useless bit of information I ran across last week made me wonder what evolutionary changes may have occurred in Napa Rotary in the last several decades. I wonder if we shouldn't have a special committee to study Rotary Evolution, i.e. where we have been, where we are, and where we're going....or on second thought, maybe we should just come to lunch once a week, and to hell with it.