



September 7 2016

Thought for the Day – Robert McAllister, quoted from Will Rogers – “Live in such a way that you would not be ashamed to tell a parrot or the town gossip about it.”

In attendance -

In attendance was an honorary member, Mamie Strong. Her husband, former Rotarian John G. Strong, was a co-founder of the Cool Kids Camp at Cloverleaf Ranch, with camper scholarships funded by Rotary Clubs and individual donors in Sonoma and Napa Counties.

Visitors:

Robin Maybury from Sebastopol Rotary

Shawna De Grange, owner of Cloverleaf Ranch – Libby’s guest



Robin Maybury, Libby, and Shawna DeGrange

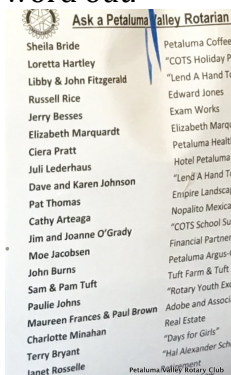
Friendship garden update:

Terry Bryant reports the garden is winding down. Beans, kale and tomatoes are available for a donation to support our literacy in schools project. Guests sign books to distribute to students at Loma Vista School in Petaluma.



Mystery Guest with Russell Rice, Just to Confuse the Viewpoint Editor

Beer Festival – Libby announced that ticket sales are down, possibly due to competing events at same time this year. We were encouraged to spread the word and tell family, friends and relatives to come downtown on September 17 from 1-5pm. Jim reminded us to Google Petaluma River Craft Beer and purchase tickets on line to promote sales. Also, please share the festival website on Facebook to get the word out.



Pat Thomas stated that volunteer assignments are going well, although more are needed. Sheila Bride reported that ad sales will fund purchase of grilled sausage and corn at \$25 per line ad. Make checks payable to PVR, not Jim O’Grady!

Jim spun the wheel to award prizes to current Beer Fest volunteers; Jo won a sticker, Robert McAllister won a 6 pack of beer and Russell Rice chose a bottle of red wine.

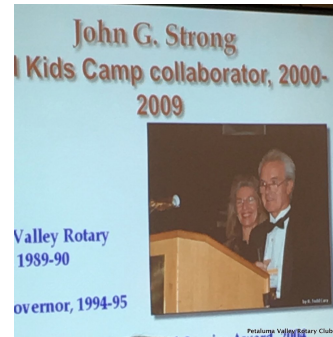


All volunteers received a bottle of Clover Leaf Ranch BBQ sauce, compliments of Shawna De Grange, as a thank you!

Rotary Cool Kids Camp talk: – Robin Maybury and Shawna De Grange made a short presentation about The Cool Kids Camp, with camper scholarships funded by Rotary Clubs and individual donors in Sonoma and

Napa Counties. Sebastopol Rotarian, Tom Farrell was key in starting the camp, where the concept is to provide a mainstream camp experience for abused children ages 8-12. Children are referred to the camp by social service organizations and counselors. At overnight camp, children have the opportunity to benefit from role modeling with other campers and staff to learn communication, team building and leadership skills. Over 25 activities, including horseback riding and ropes courses are offered on 160 acres of trails.

Some of our members knew both Tom Farrell and John Strong, and encourage other clubs to make a donation.



Libby presented a special certificate from Napa and Sonoma Rotary Chapters to Shawna De Grange for her continued support and help with the camp.

Recognition Awards:



Pres. Jim presents award to Dave Johnson

Dave Johnson – honored Rotarian, recorder of the Alexander Scholarship programs and a platinum member was presented with a clock by club president Jim O'Grady. PVR was started in 1974 and Harold Alexander was its first president. He started scholarships for local high schools and helped raise over \$100,000. Dave was extremely moved by the award.

The *Spirit of Service Above Self* award was presented to Robert McAllister, who has been active for the last year, joined committee

work, club service, provides the thought of the day, participated in the Walnut Park clean up, and is working on a new project with Jim. Robert was recognized as the Rotarian of the month for August.



Robert McAllister receives certificate

Sunshine & Showers - Jo Thornton passed a get-well card for Dawn Davis after her operation.



Marcia Barahona

Marcia Barahona gave her first sunshine announcement in honor of her Mother's birthday – \$30 toward fine schedule.

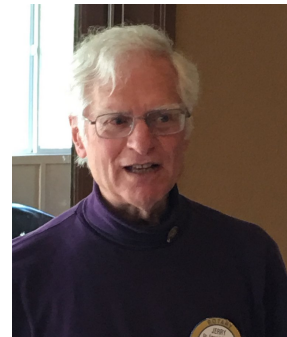
First Friday, October 7 is scheduled to be held at Barber Cellars, a downtown winery in the Hotel Petaluma. The price will be half of the normal cost for a tasting.

Fines

Jerry paid a \$10 fine for forgetting to bring the Rotary Foundation dinner raffle tickets

Members making a purchase will receive double points toward their Paul Harris.

Juli and Paulie were late because they were at Casa Grande high school promoting the Youth Exchange Program, to get more interest from potential outbound students.



Jerry Besses

Name the Rotarian: Most exotic place, Brazil; First car, 1965 Ford Mustang; favorite cocktail, water; strangest food, tongue; speaks 4 languages = Terry Bryant!



Terry Bryant

Terry is also celebrating her anniversary and paid a \$14 fine in honor of her 14-years in Rotary. She thanked everyone in sign language and told the group that she enjoys attending Rotary meetings and socializing with everyone.

Raffle – Liz won raffle – pulled tee with no yellow stripe, and received an Oktoberfest mug.

Speaker Collette Michaud, CEO and Founder of the Children's Museum of Sonoma County.

A frequent presenter at Rotary, Collette opened by taking a picture of the group.

The museum was inspired by how kids learn, through exploration, play and being randomly free. Our current reality often prevents parents from letting their kids play freely and we tend to keep them close. The Children's Museum attempts to return families to a safer time by encouraging and supporting open exploration in a learning environment.



Ten years ago the museum started in a van as a mobile outreach unit. Collette began searching for a permanent home in Santa Rosa, with her 2 children in tow. Now

located at 1835 W. Steele Lane in Santa Rosa, the four-acre property was donated to the museum in exchange for the payment of property taxes. The existing barn was converted and a real helicopter on site is one of the most popular exhibits.

At an overall cost of \$8 million, amassed via state grants and private funding, subsequent development was phased in, beginning with outdoor spaces first, then indoor. "Mary's Garden" was named as one of the best outdoor spaces for kids in the world. Designed for children 10 and under, books are as popular as ever here and are available in all spaces. Parents often plop down with their kids and begin reading.

Currently, 32,000 members have joined and there are 145,000 visitors per year. Admission is \$10 per person per day and an unlimited access membership is available for \$145 per year per family. There are 4000 square feet of indoor exhibit space and more is needed. T&E Sports, next door to the museum, donates parking for overflow visitors but now that new parking lot was recently completed, there seems to be enough for the time being on property.

A Family Access membership program provides \$5 six-month memberships for disenfranchised families. Memberships are funded by grants, corporate sponsorships and private donations. The Children's Museum works with the Roseland school district to identify recipients.

The Access for School Kids program operates remote and outreach opportunities for field trips to the museum and placement of museum exhibits at schools. CAP, CPI, and Parents Place are some funding partners. A "Museum on the Go" outreach to a classroom in Petaluma was made possible with the help of a "Rotary Lend a hand" donation. Some 250 children experienced the museum at school and participated in open play.

Collette graciously signed our book that will be given to a school student as part of our Literacy project.

Upcoming speakers:

9/14 Mike Goebel of Brewster's Beer Garden A sneak peek into Petaluma's nascent beer garden project

9/21 Jill Lee from McEvoy Ranch Insights into local olive oil production will include a tasting

9/28 Ruth Robeson A discussion on preventing elder abuse in the county

10/5 Rotary District Governor Visit

10/12 Mary Jo Lafaye Strategies on how to use a reverse mortgage

This week's Viewpoint was brought to you through the volunteer assistance of Dave Johnson as photographer, and Maria Gapinski as scribe. Editing by Juli Lederhaus, and distribution by Jerrie Patterson and Jerry Besses.