

# Eastwind

Tuesday, January 29, 2019



## Welcome

Acting-President KimMcD opened the meeting by asking DebS to lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## Thought of the Day

The Thought of the Day was provided by the one and only JeffS as he quoted William Makepeace Thackeray. "The world is good natured to people who are good natured."

## Song

Songmeister LarryL mixed it up with "John Jacob Jingleheimer Schmidt."

## Sunshine

NancyH let the Club know that TomCh has been diagnosed with congestive heart failure. The doctors are optimistic about his rehabilitation and recovery. She will provide an update at the February 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. RodgersB lightened the mood with a story about a clever way to bring home a jar of olives to your spouse: go to the bar and drink lots of martinis!



## Guests

We had four visiting Rotarians: Harry Rubins and Chris Parr-Feldman from the Santa Rosa West Club, and Paul Hamilton and Judy Glenn from the Santa Rosa Club. Judy Glenn introduced our shared exchange student, Ardie Martono. Other guests were Fred Ptucha, our speaker, and Annette Musson, former SRE Club member. Welcome everyone!

## Club Announcements

RitaA announced that Rotarian and leader in the real estate community, Mike Kelly, passed away from cancer. A moment of silence was held to honor his memory and all the things he did to improve the lives of others. He will be missed.



Our annual fundraiser is coming up! Please register for the big event using this link:

<https://santarosaeastrotary.ejoinme.org/fundraiser2019>. You can also sign up with Annette Musson at the next Club meeting.

RonT passed around his live auction clip once again to secure live auction items, including gift certificates for the ever-popular Wine and Dine Around Town package.

Speaking of clipboards, NancyH passed around two: one to RSVP to the Valentine's Day Luncheon on February 5<sup>th</sup> and the other for the Rotary On the Move meeting at the Children's Museum on February 12<sup>th</sup>. Let her know if you will be there!

Chris Parr-Feldman from the Santa Rosa West Club announced that her Club's annual fundraiser is a crab feed taking place on February 16<sup>th</sup>. She is selling raffle tickets for \$20 to win \$1,000 and a week-stay in Puerto Vallarta. Acting President KimMcD can also secure event tickets or raffle tickets from her special someone – David McDonald.

President BrianR provided an update to the fire relief effort. The committee met recently and voted on what to do with the remainder of the District 5130 funds. They chose to support three projects worth \$50,000 each:

1. Summer camp and school-year support services for affect youth at the Boys & Girls Club
2. RAPED re-housing for ongoing housing needs through COTS
3. Preserve restoration, trail rehabilitation and accessibility at the Audubon Canyon Preserve.

He also stated that the Coffey Park grant is still being researched for impact, Rotary recognition, etc. If that project does not work out, there other projects in the queue up for consideration.

KatrinaZ presented a slide show update of her project in Nepal. The global grant focuses on three remote villages: Dingam, Chipling and Thankani. The training has already started, and is focusing on sustainable agriculture, education and leadership, and enterprise and cooperative creation. BarryC visited Dingam (pictured below). There is an International Committee meeting on Friday, February 1<sup>st</sup> at 4pm at the Arlene Francis Center in Railroad Square. All are welcome to attend.



## Birthdays & Anniversaries

TraciR had a nice quiet birthday and she gave \$50 for the milestone mark.

NancyH enjoyed dinner with friends for her birthday and ran the bell for her Paul Harris, and she will be going to Utah to celebrate her son's 30<sup>th</sup>, for which she paid \$5.

HapC celebrated his 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a trip to New York. He and his lovely wife saw four shows, ate at many restaurants, took in the 9-11 exhibit and enjoyed the City. They will be going to Costa Rica in June to celebrate with the kids and grandkids. He also rang the bell.

Both KimMcD and DebS celebrated 15 years as Club members.

## Marble

Visiting Rotarian Chris Parr-Feldman had the winning ticket, but had to walk away with a bottle of red wine. She was happy!

## Program

AndyS introduced the speaker, Fred Ptucha, his long-time friend and business partner. Fred started by introducing himself and commending Rotary for our international scope and peace building work.

Fred co-founded Climbers for Peace in 1997 to advance his mission of cross-cultural friendship and cooperation. He has coordinated over 10 climbs of mountains in a variety of countries since then.

In July 2018, Fred coordinated a trip to Iran to promote peace building through climbing Mount Damavand, the highest volcanic mountain in Asia at 18,406 feet. The climb was rigorous with participants sleeping in tents, adjusting to the lack of oxygen through acclimatization rather than bringing oxygen tanks, and overcoming many obstacles to coordinate the trek here and in Iran. Fred and his companions enjoyed their time there. They found the people very friendly, the food delicious and the environment beautiful. Their "May Peace Prevail on Earth" t-shirts attracted a lot of positive attention, and they met many amazing people there.

Fred, at 75, was the eldest in his group to summit the mountain, where he met climbers from Turkey, the UK, Germany, Spain and Greece. He believes that, "It is better to light candles of peace than to curse the darkness." Well done and well said, Fred!

