

Eastwind

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Editor: K.R. Iskringle



ROTARY PREZ TOM JACKSON 2019-2020



Welcome to December and one of our final meetings before our forced exodus to Bennett Valley. **Rotary President Tom (RPT)** called the meeting to order and recognized new member **BillG** for the flag salute, he located the flag and successfully led the salute. The ever thoughtful **JeffS** shared this gem from well-known philosophical thinker *Carrie Fisher* noting that the holidays “Are not about things but about being nice to each other.” That kind and gentle mood was quickly changed as the *Rotary Chorale* followed the lead of **LLira** with the warning that “*Santa Claus is coming to town!*” You better watch out!

Guests were in the house: our speaker *Farhad Mansourian*, *Larry Taylor* and *Fred Ptucha*. Welcome to all! No **RodgersB** so really nothing funny to recap – but all is well at Spring Lake.

Sad to report that our long standing tradition of helping with *Handicapables Holiday Luncheon* has been cancelled. **SueB** informs that we are working to lineup a daytime visit to a facility with details to follow. Stay tuned for that.

There were many b-days to be recognized but only one celebrant in attendance – **KennC** reports that for his birthday he was able to arrange a day off for all Federal, State, County and City employees. That arrangement was aided by his b-day landing on Thanksgiving! He donated \$75 as an advance payment for his 75th birthday. (Is that what they mean by paying it forward?) Also congrats to **Giuliana** celebrating 3 years as a member of our club – apparently she’s holding on to that red badge because it looks holiday like.

AndyS proudly showed us a picture of his son who plays football for Los Gatos HS, traveling up here to play Cardinal Newman for the NorCal championship and trip to state championship. Andy being a Cardinal Newman grad was a bit conflicted – but family wins out!

Couple of travelers to be recognized – **JChirhart** went to Maui for a visit with hubby Mike’s brother – she brought back selected menus and Donkey Balls (donkeys on Maui?) for **RPT** and a \$35 donation to Paul Harris. Only complaint – it was very windy so not much opportunity to enjoy sitting in the sun! Also visiting Hawaii – **KimMcD** who found that sipping MaiTais by the pool can help one ignore the wind that’s blowing. Kim brought back some Hawaiian craft vodka for **RPT** and rang the bell!

Lots of Happy \$ inspired by Thanksgiving experiences – **TCroft** and family visiting in Oregon, **JoanG** engaged in snowball fights with the kids in Nevada City (wonder if they made her sit at the ‘kids table’?). **BReed** had dishwasher expire on the day before T’Giving an’ improvised with paper plates which Brian reports are even easier to clean up. May be a new trend in the Reed house. (Best wishes to *Alison* who had ankle surgery the day after the holiday.) **GeoBatch** had happy dollar inspired by many family dinners around the holiday and also to shout out for **NHill** whose artistic skills are on display at Spring Lake Village. And the always philanthropic **GeoKemm** donated in recognition of **KimMcD** handling thank yous to the various first responders who assisted during the Kincade fires. Finally **DSepp** reports that he is happy that a recent medical ‘episode’ proved to be a false alarm (thought it might be a heart related issue) – and the opportunity to make light of his need to literally crawl out of the 6th Street Theater performance of *Oliver* (accompanied by **HCulp** and *Susan*).

Extra! Extra! Check these out – Club Christmas party is Saturday, Dec 7 at Cattlemen's, remember that February at Epicenter we will be hosting with the West Club a membership recruitment, the *Luck of the Irish* fundraiser could use additional sponsorships and another volunteer opportunity coming right up – is Saturday, December 14, the YWCA needs volunteers to do gift wrapping at the *Ma Cherie et Moi* store in Montgomery Village with all donations going to the YWCA. Just picture yourself surrounded by fine European female undergarments wrapping gifts – got your attention? Contact the YWCA, phone 303-8403 or email arios@ywcasc.org.

You can't tell the speaker without a program and **JoanG** introduced *Farad Mansourian* the head of SMART Train – we got an update on progress being made so that soon we will be able to catch the train and take it all the way to the ferry in Larkspur. They have welcomed 1.5 million riders so far and are looking to increase that as the service increases, Farad had many statistics to share with us and you can see them for yourself by visiting their website: www.sonomatrain.org.

NEXT WEEK AN UPDATE ON HOMELESS SERVICES IN SANTA ROSA.