



Be a gift to the world.

THE RIO

"I joined a health club last year and haven't lost a pound. Apparently, you have to go there."

—ANONYMOUS



HELEN MADERE BRIDGE

Rotarian

"Having fun helping others... watering the rosebuds"

—DR. TED SCHULZ

Bob Bard, Ed.



Early morning quiz

Pres. Greg asks, "On this day in 1903 what tremendously historic event occurred near Kitty Hawk, NC?" Gary and Jack say, "Wright Brothers," and win big.

Visiting Rotarians and guests

We greet John Brophy, formerly with Angels-Murphys Club, Jean Herschede from Healdsburg club, who later presents program, Jim Mac's guest Dr. Mel Pearson, and Jack's guest, our former Student Rotarian, Maryn Anderson, who is Dick Brann's granddaughter.

Jack says Maryn's personality is the same as his granddaughter's, so he asked her mom if he could adopt her, to which her mom quickly responded, "Sure. Where should I send the tuition bill?" Maryn thanks us for generous scholarship; she graduated from Cal Poly SLO, and taught English in San Jose in "Teach for America" program. She's returned to her roots in Rio Vista and is teaching at Delta, hoping for spot to open up, here.

She says granddad is recovering from a gastrointestinal ailment, and he's currently residing with her folks at 6269 Birds Landing Rd. Their phone is 374-2560, if you'd care to pay Dick a visit. His 99th birthday is Dec. 24. Harvey visited Dick, there, and says he's doing okay; he's using oxygen mask.

Joe presents his son, Jacob.

Edwin presents his daughter, Emma, one of the Student Rotarians. Then, he reports that he visited Dave Falk, Wednesday, at John Muir Hospital. He's recovering from a stroke; it effected his speech, but he's in good spirits. He will be transferred to Vaville Kaiser, then to Vallejo for rehab. "Have I left anything out?" asks Pres. Greg.

"Yes. Next week is Xmas!" exclaims Jim Mac. Stunned by this brash, uncalled for, inappropriate announcement, Greg mutters, "That'll be a couple of extra parking cites for Mr. McPherson."

Greg's special guest

The lady formerly known as Sgt. Julie Gorwood shall hereafter be known as Commander Julie Gorwood. Congratulations, Julie!

Milestones

Birthdays: Dick Brann, Hector, Tim, Alyssa; club anniversary: Ken (20 years).

Student Rotarians

Winter Break starts tomorrow, finals are over, this was Spirit Week, East Vs. West Football Game has 3 local Seniors participating, Xmas 94571 is tomorrow, Kelley lauds students' efforts wrapping presents. Girls Basketball won by one point, says Molly, Cub thoughtfully suggests that she spin, she does. She must kiss Ted's pony tail, but it's been GONE a long time, tsk, tsk. (He misses it.)



*Season's Greetings, Pres. Greg!
The view is great from up here, but I miss your firm grip on my handle!
Love, the Gavel.*

Composite photo below, from left, Student Rotarians deliver report: Piero Tello, Cheyanne Bastedo, Casie Mortimore, Emma Okamura, Alyssa De La Rosa, and Christopher Galeno.



Confessions

Gene says he's playing at the Point, this evening. Cub relates a tale of a kid telling his mom that he wants to be a musician when he grows up, and the mom says, "Well, son, you have to choose, you can't do both." Al says Hartford's spent a week at "Xmas at California Grand," Disneyland, with 3-year-old granddaughter. Ambiance of this hotel is similar to the famous Ahwahnee Hotel in Yosemite. There's a 4-story Xmas tree in lobby. Al says Deer Valley High troupe entertained firefighters' families at Xmas dinner at Firehouse. Al purchased, yet did not receive medallion because Eddie had it during Caribbean junket. Upon his return, Eddie solemnly entrusted the coin to Pres. Greg's guardianship. But, Greg shamefully tries to negotiate a swap of coin for gavel, which had been stolen from him fair and square.

Kelley says that Howard Lamothe will open restaurant at corner of Hwy 12 and Hillside Ter. in January for breakfast & lunch. It will be called, "Highway 12 Diner."

Jim McCracken mentions that Al donned red nose and antlers and was prancing around at Xmas party, but Greg felt we should pay Al for his antics. No fine.

Edwin apologizes for missing Rotary Xmas dinner, as he was in training for Marathon 2 days later. He turned in a time of 3 hours 2 minutes 2 seconds and qualified for Boston marathon as 18-year-old. He pays \$26 to General Fund.

Your spendy editor announces the arrival of his 4th grandson, Everett Bard, and he starts a PHF for \$100.

Announcement

City Mgr., Tim Chapa, has resigned; he's headed for Sanger. Pres. & Chief Greg will have yet another distinguished title: Interim City Mgr. Jim Mac reminds Greg that the last police chief who did that (a Rotarian aptly named Larry Proffitt) doubled his salary, retired and bought a radio station in OR. Of course, we're confident that our dedicated, community-minded, altruistic chief would have none of that. Gary immediately nominates Hector to take Tim's place. *We second that emotion.*

Program

John Brophy, who lives at Trilogy, introduces Jean Herschede, Director of Amigos de Guatemala, a project focused on improving the welfare of the poor in that Latin American country.

As president of the Angels-Murphys Rotary and an educator 9 years ago, John got involved in this project. It was a life changing event for him and his wife. Their club's help was beneficial not only to the local kids, but



Speaking on "Amigos de Guatemala" this morning are John Brophy, left, and Jean Herschede.

also their families.

Three years ago, he turned the reigns over to Jean, who was a Rotary Exchange Student to Brazil, 1974-5. She says that education is compulsory in Guatemala through 6th grade. In the project area kids receive 2 years of Spanish language instruction, as their native language is Q'eqchi', a language of the Mayan people.

During a recent civil war 200K natives died. Most of the locals live in adobe (mud) huts. Project volunteers educate the women because they will, in turn, educate their children. Before the Rotary project, no girl in the area had finished 6th grade. Now, 70% of graduates are female. There is now no stigma associated with returning to school, regardless of age.

Jean relates stories of persons who've benefited by this ambitious program; students have returned to teach; access to medical facilities has become available; dictionary program was started; portable solar lights are distributed; job skills are taught; dental care is provided; water wells have been drilled and 2 medical centers were built costing \$450K. These programs are funded by Rotary grants.

50/50 raffle

Jamie is the big winner --\$4,872.00!

CONGRATULATIONS, JAMIE!

Medallion auction

Cub wins the bid, then ups the ante and gives \$50. A cruise is in the works! Thank you, Cub!

Next meeting--Jan 8. Have a great holiday season!

| COMING ATTRACTIONS | | |
|---------------------|--|---------------|
| DATE | SPEAKER/EVENT | PROGRAM CHAIR |
| Friday, December 25 | No Rotary--Merry Christmas | S. Claus |
| Friday, January 1 | No Rotary--Happy New Year | F. Time |
| Friday, January 8 | Kathy Wright, Rio Vista Booster Club | Molly Coito |
| Friday, January 15 | Stephanie Shaterian, "fLO Content Marketing" | Linda Lannon |
| Friday, January 22 | Ralph Hendrix, "Dogs4Diabetes" | Linda Lannon |