

The Official Publication of the Rotary Club of Davis

## Rotary International President: Ray Klinginsmith, Rotary Club of Kirksville, Missouri, USA

District 5160 Governor: Karl Diekman, Rotary Club of Woodland Davis Noon Club 437 President: Kay Resler, P.O. Box 185, Davis, CA 95617 <a href="https://www.rotaryclubofdavis.com">www.rotaryclubofdavis.com</a>

## Monday, November 22, 2010

# **Weekly Programs**

To suggest a speaker, contact Sharon Shoemaker or Jim Willett, Program Committee Co-Chairs.

**Nov. 22:** Christopher Reynolds, Professor of Musicology, UCD, "What Makes a Song a Song." (Joint meeting with Soroptimist International of Davis).

Nov. 29: Perth Rosen, Freedom from Hunger, "The Rotary World Peace Fellowship at Large in Our Backyard"

**Dec. 6:** Heather Anderson, "Orphanages in Jamaica – Being a Witness to Modern-Day Miracles"

Dec. 13: Rotary Holiday Party

Dec. 20: No meeting

Dec. 27: No meeting

## Meals on Wheels

*If you swap dates*, contact Doug Jena: (W) 758-5566 (H) 707-255-8903

Coordinator: Greg Gibbs 12/2: D. Donaldson & R. Donaldson 12/3: Andrew Dowling & Judy Wolf

Coordinator: Paul Hart 12/9: Don Fish & Mohini Jain 12/10: D. Galbreath & R. Gambatese

Coordinator: JD Denton 12/16: M. Famula & M. Goodman 12/17: Bob Gregoire & John Hamel

Coordinator: Mike Morris 12/23: \_\_\_\_\_ & Paul Hart

Coordinator: Doug Jena 12/30: B. Hartsough & L. Hendricks

Coordinator: Randy Alston 1/6: Bill Hollingshead & Brian Horsfield 1/7: Margaret Hoyt & Gamani Jayaweera

#### **Coming Events**

**Jan. 21-22:** Rotary trip on Amtrak to Reno. Sign up with Allan Telford ASAP; payment due 6 December.

**Feb. 5, 2011:** Big Night, El Macero Country Club (Child Abuse Prevention Program fundraiser -- see Charre Symms to sponsor or donate).

May 14, 2011: Rotary Barbecue, Davis

May 21-25, 2011: Rotary International Convention, New Orleans, Louisiana

# Announcements – Nov. 15

President Kay asked for a moment of silent prayer in memory of Bruce Hartsough's wife, Nancy.

Al Stehli was honored for his sixth and eighth Paul Harris Fellowships (the missing seventh was awarded by Folsom Rotary recently).

Davis Rotary will again "ring the bell" for the Salvation Army, this year at East Davis CVS. This has been a Rotary project since the 1950s, typically raising \$20,000-\$25,000, of which about 90% stays in Davis, reports Lou Below.

President Kay heard from Dean Labadie, who is delivering LN4 prosthetic hands in Ecuador. Dean arrived safely, but had to pay extra luggage fees to get the hands there, and then had a hard time getting them through customs.

"Rotarian at Work" t-shirts are available – see Steve Young.

President Kay would like to see more Rotary pins worn at club meetings.

Frank Pinckner will be at rehab at Mercy General Hospital in Sacramento for a couple of more weeks, and welcomes visitors.

Notable fines by Sgt. Sherry Puntillo included Steve Young (Young Mortgage mug found in thrift shop); President Kay (volunteered \$200 as a PHF donation for the missing club gavel); Jeannie Jones (for her move to Napa); and Sherry herself (\$100 to PHF for her daughter's new teaching job at the elementary school Sherry and Debbie Davis attended).

# Ted Robinson – JFK & PT 109

As a young PT boat captain in the South Pacific during World War II, Ted Robinson helped rescued John F. Kennedy and his crew from a coral reef behind enemy lines after PT 109 was rammed by a Japanese destroyer. A few weeks later, after Robinson's own PT boat sunk, Robinson and Kennedy shared a tent for several weeks.

Robinson, now a 91-year-old Sacramento resident, likes to tell audiences what he remembers of the future president. He says that JFK was a real war hero. After PT 109 sank in August 1943, Kennedy put himself at risk to get a message, written on a cocoanut shell, out through native islanders: "11 still alive send help - Kennedy." It reached the PT squadron's commanding officer while Robinson happened to be present. Soon he found himself part of the rescue effort, and was one of the first two officers to speak with Kennedy and his surviving crew members. They'd had nothing to eat for a week, and some were badly burned. Robinson said JFK's crew spoke highly of him, even after that horrible experience.

Robinson got to know Kennedy better when they shared the tent. He says they didn't talk politics, and if Kennedy had any political aspirations he didn't mention them. He recalled JFK to be highly intelligent, intellectual, and very interested in the world.

Robinson, a Kiwanis member, has written a book titled "Water In My Veins" about his South Pacific military experiences, growing up during the depression, and later life. Quite a few Rotarians bought copies after the meeting.