

Santa Rosarian



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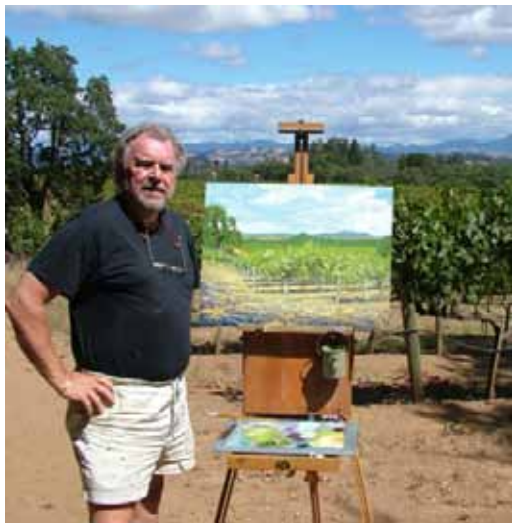
EDITOR: Mike Truesdell

OUR PROGRAM FOR SEPTEMBER 19TH:

BILL GITTINS' PASSION FOR ART

WELCOME TO THE 27TH YEAR OF THE SONOMA COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL'S ARTISTIC BANQUET

FLAMINGO RESORT HOTEL, WEDNESDAY, 12:00 NOON



Artist Bill Gittins at work

If you appreciate beauty and have lived in Sonoma County for long, you will love the two weekends of adventure known as ARTrails. The format is familiar: Grab an ARTrails catalog with maps and spend a day or two sampling some of the very best art Sonoma County has to offer. Drive the country lanes, coastal highways, and pastoral vistas or the urban centers of Sonoma County on this self-guided free tour. ARTrails provides that rare glimpse into the artist's studio. Bill Gittins has been laying down strokes on canvas for more than 25 years and eager to share his knowledge and expertise about the rich tradition and the diverse arts scene coming up in October. A great

opportunity to add to or begin your personal collection as you purchase art directly from the artists in their own environments.

www.santarosarotary.com

UPCOMING PROGRAMS....

September 25th: The Team Jesse Williams Foundation

October 3rd: Mike Houlihan's Barefoot Winery Story

October 10: **Canine Companions for Independence**

CHECK OUT THESE LINKS

Visit our website: www.santarosarotary.com

District news: <http://www.rotary5130.org/>

Don't miss: <http://rotarymeansbusiness.com/>

WELCOME TO ROTARY

Greeting us all at today's Rotary meeting was Past President (1994-95) and 36-year veteran **Rotarian Steve Olson**. I was so impressed by his warm handshake and even warmer smile that I forgot who was connected to the second handshake. No doubt it was **Chip Rawson's** fault...he wasn't at the lunch ticket table ably replaced by **Carrie Ludtke**—back from a short vacation in Hawaii with her husband and children—and the always cheerful and recent Blue Badger Tim Delaney.

OPENING CEREMONIES

What a pleasant surprise to see **Past President Kathleen Archer**

at the podium, substituting for our new president (how quickly we forget). Kathleen remembers well, even though her presidential year was four long years ago. She politely asked **Julia**



Peggy Soberanis gives the Invocation

us in the Pledge of Allegiance. **President-elect Peggy Soberanis** read an 800-year-old prayer from St. Francis of Assisi in remembrance of the terrorist attacks in New York City, in our nation's capital, and the crash of Flight 93 in Pennsylvania, September 11, 2001.

VISITING ROTARIANS

Visiting from the Los Olivos Rotary Club in Central California (near Santa Barbara) was independent educator Gabriella Roberts who exchanged Rotary banners with acting president **Kathleen Archer**. Brian Rondon, an attorney from the Sunrise Rotary Club of Santa Rosa, was back for another visit. Welcome to both visiting Rotarians.

GUESTS OF ROTARIANS

Rotarian of the Month Wayne Rowlands introduced his guest whom he said "was living proof that Rotary Means Business actually works": Annette Walker, whose business is women's designer clothing. **Shannon O'Connell** proudly welcomed Jane Duggan, who is "this close" to becoming a member of the Rotary Club of Santa Rosa. For the second week in a row, **Jeff**

Gospe introduced a special guest, his father, Dr. Steve Gospe. **Nicole Le** welcomed her guest, fellow dentist & periodontist, Dr. Justin Gee,

THE RAFFLE

We're still learning the little details of our refurbished weekly raffle, but **Godfather of the Raffle Nick**

Knickerbocker

seems to have the new rules figured out. For the second week in a row, he held the lucky ticket but ended up with the \$10 consolation prize.

Bill Hatcher oversaw the proceedings and responded to last week's raffle question, "What happens to the losing card after it has been drawn from

the deck?" The answer is that the card is removed from the deck but not destroyed. Why not? Because Nick objected because the raffle deck is too expensive to be replaced. The losing cards will be restored to the deck after each new jackpot is won.



Godfather of the Raffle Nick Knickerbocker

SUNSHINE REPORT

Penny Tibbetts reported that **Ginny Cannon's** mother had suffered a stroke. No other information was available on Wednesday.

STEVE OLSON

Gifts to the Santa Rosa Rotary Foundation: "We've lost three great Rotarians recently—**John Reilly, Mel Herman** and **Herb Semmelmeier**. You can join me in remembering them with a memorial gift to the Rotary Legends Fund. You can donate on-line through our Foundation webpage or by check. **Queen Jeanne Levin** will notify the families of your gift."

ROTARY MAGAZINE QUESTION

Name one of the strategies, developed by Rotarians and funded by global grants, to end the cycle of hunger.

CASINO ROYALE

Your personal assignment this month is to liquidate four tickets to Santa Rosa Rotary's legendary evening

at Casino Royale on Saturday evening, October 20th, for a great evening of enjoyment for yourself, your family, and your friends. Each \$65 ticket gives you or your guests entrance to the elegant Mary Agnes Furth Center in Windsor, \$25 in chips for Poker, Roulette, and other exiting games of chance, a free raffle ticket that qualifies you for the big drawing at the end of the evening, and abundant appetizers, delicious snacks, and exotic goodies such as Vinay's exotic buffet from the Sizzling Tandoor, Rosso's great pizza cooked to order on Gesine's Fire-to-Go Oven, refreshing beverages, and Sally Tomatoes' mouth-watering treats!

And don't forget the live dance music, both a silent and a live auction with spectacular prizes and gifts. Best of all is what our Rotary Club will accomplish with funding for the many community projects our 90 year old Rotary Club has been committed to for more than 90 years of service to the community. Do not delay, call your friends, tell them about all that we accomplish year after year locally, nationally, and around the world. Now is the time to call on our friends to join us at the Casino Royale.

HERB SEMMELMEYER

Older Rotarians were saddened to learn that former **Rotarian Herbert Semmelmeier** passed away in Santa Rosa on Aug. 22nd. A gifted athlete, "Big Herb" served in the U.S. Army Air Corps at the end of WW II. Standing a towering 6 feet, 5 inches tall, he excelled in every sport he ever undertook, lettering in basketball, track, and football at UCLA and San Mateo College. He moved to Santa Rosa in 1963, joined the Rotary Club of Santa Rosa, and retired in the early eighties. He is survived by his wife Barbara and five children. A memorial service was held on September 1, 2012.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Carmen Sinigiani thanked her fellow Rotarians for signing up to man the Gran Fondo rest stop in Monte Rio. With the big race only two weeks away on Saturday, Sept. 29th, she only needs five more volunteers. To join us in Monte Rio, contact Carmen at cdsinigiani@comcast.net or call her at home: 829-3224.

Eileen Carlisle re-invited us—each and every one—to **John Brown's Legends Birthday Party** at her home this Saturday evening from 5 pm until 7:30 pm...and beyond. Remember that this month's Rotary Social

will be the first time ever that any male Rotarians have been allowed to attend John's celebration. So join the girls this Saturday at 1754 Happy Valley Road for the benefit of the Foundation's John Brown Scholarship.

Vickie Hardcastle reminded us that the District Foundation Dinner is scheduled for 5:30 pm, Saturday evening, October 6th at the Flamingo Hotel. Contact Valery Hulsey (707-537-8603) to register or additional information.

Thank America's Veterans for their service: Veteran's Day is Sunday, November 11th and the Kiwanis & Rotary Clubs of Sonoma County will present the 12th annual tribute to military veterans on Thursday, November 8th, from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm at the Veterans Memorial Auditorium in Santa Rosa. Keynote speaker will be Lt. General Jack Klimp, USMC, Retired, with music by the Santa Rosa High School Symphonic Band. For luncheon tickets and/or the name of a veteran to invite, contact **Nick Knickerbocker**, our club's veteran chair. Veterans may contact any Rotary Club to obtain tickets. Make a note that Rotary Clubs in Sonoma County will not meet on Wednesday, Nov. 7th.

TRUE CONFESSIONS

Matt Everson was first up, full of thanks for the fast and effective medical care for his 8-year-old son. After a successful recovery, Patrick and Matt spent all weekend at the Giants and Dodgers ball games. What a bargain at the fixed price of the day, only \$15!

Queen Jeanne Levin recalled a sparse wedding in Rockville, Maryland, 41 years ago this Wednesday. A romantic bargain for our club's first husband & wife presidents: **Jeanne (1998-99) and Fred Levin (2009-10)**. **Sonaya Stevens** latched onto another \$15 bargain for her good fortune, working in **Kim Murphy's** Edward Jones office, plus a weekend gig pouring wine for Chateau St. Jean Winery in Kenwood, then **Greg Johnston** truthfully confessed that he and his 11-year-old son had taken some time off to travel together around southern California, to Oxnard, San Diego, and other parts unknown with some baseball adventures for good measure. All for only \$15 under the temporary reign of **Kathleen Archer**.

And then the bargain confessions shifted gears as **Sam McMillan** took advantage of a matching contribution

from Rotary for Paul Harris donations of \$100 and over with a gift to his 2nd grandson—three-year-old Joseph Harriman. **John Breazeale** announced that winning Double Gold Medals at the Harvest Fair for his original raviolis had inspired him to expand his familiar label into a full-blown commercial kitchen to go public with Breazeale Family's Raviolis! Then he doubled his \$100 contribution to his wife Davina's Paul Harris Fellowship!

Airplane junkie **Tim Delaney** was lauded by **Debi Zaft** for contributing a scenic tour of the Bay Area to the silent auction treasures at next month's Casino Royale gala. Appropriately the evening's theme is 007—James Bond. Rumor is that the aerial adventure might feature a somewhat illegal flight under a bridge that shall remain nameless. Passenger gets veto rights.

The presiding **Kathleen Archer** went for the matching contributions with \$50 each to the Club and her Paul Harris. Something about Bowdin College and a football stadium? Seems like **Jack Abercrombie** just got back, but he announced he was taking another vacation into the Maine mountains and the New Hampshire forests. **Nicole Le** & her "baby bump" confessed that she had escaped to Las Vegas to try her prenatal luck. What happened? No one's talking.

But **Kevan Brown** was bubbling over about Tuesday's decision by the City Council to ease the anti-business restrictions that had handcuffed local business growth for more than 20 years. The result? Downtown Santa Rosa's first winery and tasting room will be joining My Daughter the Frammer inside Corrick's by October! Maine must be getting crowded: **Blaine Goodwin** is also taking a long week to visit those rocky shores. Vegas is also busy: **Creed Wood** was there for a visit with his daughter. Which led some to share Vegas' new slogan: "Come to Las Vegas for vacation, but don't go home on probation!"

TODAY'S PROGRAM

"Just when you think you have finished a long journey, something happens that alters the planned itinerary, setting you on an entirely new course into new and uncharted territory".

Author, aeronautical engineer, and University of Alabama graduate Waights Taylor, Jr. (of the Birmingham Taylors) thought he had completed his family's memoirs back in 2004 that he had come home to research and write. But a phone call from a local archivist opened a fascinating and unknown door into his father's past. The personal book about the Taylor clan became the remarkable history that was the reason a retired business consultant living in Santa Rosa has spent the last year telling thousands of liberal Californians about Our Southern Home.



Speaker Waights Taylor, Jr.

Mr. Taylor's historical chronicle has two subtitles: Scottsboro to Montgomery to Birmingham and The Transformation of the South in the Twentieth Century. This week's Rotary program opened a door for 21st Century Americans who are unaware that we had experienced a traumatic second revolution in the New World. In a few well-chosen passages, Waights Taylor gave us a glimpse into that revolution that had grown through 30 generations of slavery and still not fully resolved.

This week's photographer:
Nicole Le

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