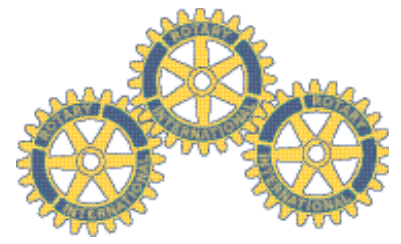




Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

Santa Rosarian



LOCAL • DISTRICT • INTERNATIONAL

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EDITOR: Don McMillan

OUR PROGRAM FOR NOVEMBER 2ND:

ROTARY'S OUTRAGEOUS HEART

"COURAGE. BRILLIANCE. LEADERSHIP", DISTRICT GOVERNOR MAUREEN MERRILL

FLAMINGO RESORT HOTEL, WEDNESDAY, 12:00 NOON



*District 5130 Governor
Maureen Merrill*

Leading in today's Rotary comes in many shapes and styles. Today's climate calls for more Service Above Self than ever. In a world that needs Rotary more than ever, what calls, keeps and motivates members? Maureen Merrill, Governor, Rotary District 5130, considers her role in Rotary to be consultant, supporter, idea machine, and cheerleader-in-chief. Her passions are for membership, leadership, and leadership development. Her message will deal with change, challenges and shake-ups in Rotary as a volunteer

www.santarosarotary.com

UPCOMING PROGRAMS....

- Nov. 9, 2011: **No meeting**—Veterans Luncheon Nov. 8th
- Nov. 16, 2011: Sonoma County Water Agency
- Nov. 23, 2011: **No meeting**—Thanksgiving
- Nov. 30, 2011: 90th Birthday of SR Rotary!

CHECK OUT THESE LINKS

- Visit our website at www.santarosarotary.com
- Check out www.rotay5130.com
- Explore <http://www.rotarymeansbusiness.org>
- Visit Rotary's [Foundation](#) page

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Bob Higgs stood us all at attention and we faced the flag, and repeated with him our traditional opening.

INVOCATION

President-elect Designate Peggy Soberanis took the opportunity to remind us to share our food and not eat so much, etc.

VISITING ROTARIANS

Jack Geary pinch-hit and introduced Dave DelMonte from the Rotary Club of New York City; Susan Teal, from the Santa Rosa Sunrise Club; and Arnie Carsten, from the West Santa Rosa Club

GUESTS OF ROTARIANS

Past President Steve Olson introduced Alissa Sarvinski, Marissa Ruffoni, and Patrick Cunningham from the Agriculture Department at Santa Rosa High School, and **Past President Will "Aloha" Haymaker** introduced his guest, Roger Gilbert, a nature photographer.

RAFFLE

Sonaya Stevens ran the Raffle, and photographer/guest Roger Gilbert's ticket was pulled, but he left \$151 in the kitty and escaped with only \$10 for his good luck drawing!

SECRET GREETER

Soooo secret this week that no one got a free lunch for next week's meeting!

SUNSHINE REPORT

Has new Rotarian **Nancy Shepherd** earned her Blue Badge yet? If not, it won't be long now: She is our new Sunshine Lady! She reported clear skies with lots of sun! You can contact Nancy at 707-823-1172, nanchentress@gmail.com.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Veteran's Memorial Lunch: Tickets are still available for the 11th Annual Veterans Memorial Luncheon on Tuesday, November 11th at the Vet's Hall (where else would a Vet's lunch be held?) See **Nick Knickerbocker** for the \$15 tickets (and buy an extra one for a Vet who cannot afford one).

Maureen Merrill, District 5130 Governor: Maureen will visit us next week. Marnie reminded the cats (?) in the club that they should not try to scurry off before Maureen finishes her program! If you think you need to leave early, make up this meeting at another club instead.

Colonel John Brown, USMC: Steve Olson called our attention to the flyers on the tables announcing the new scholarship in honor and in memory of **John Brown** to be awarded to a transferring SRJC student who is a veteran.

Rotary Means Business: Wayne Rowlands reminded us of the RMB meeting on Thursday evening, Nov. 3, in Cotati. Turnout is expected to be large. Go to our RMB website for additional details. Wayne also let a cat out of the bag: the Salvation Army will be holding a fundraising concert in 2012: Grapes of Rock—with big name entertainers playing.

End Polio Now! President Marnie reminded everyone that the 2012 Pinot for Polio starts next week. Liquor up time and time to remove the scourge of poliomyelitis from the face of Planet Earth!

EVERY YEAR, THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR. WHY?

We belong to the Rotary Club of Santa Rosa, a member of the world-wide association of Rotary Clubs known as Rotary International. We're proud to be part of an extraordinary international organization that serves brilliantly in local communities and provides the passport that lets us contribute to world peace and prosperity. The District Governor is our officer and liaison to R.I., and the DG's annual visit to each club is one of the events that connects us with Rotary International.

Maureen Merrill has been a close friend of Santa Rosa Rotary for many years. She was our Assistant Governor when **Norm Owen** was District Governor in 2003-04 and was a district representative before that. She is a charter member of the Windsor Rotary Club, which we sponsored back in 1987.

WES JAMISON GRANT

Steve Olson again rose to the occasion and re-introduced the SRHS students stating that the SRHS Agriculture Dept is the recipient of \$850 to fund the purchase of a new Rototiller cultivator so that the students do not have to hoe the rows by the use of their hands only or rent an expensive tiller every year. In a garden on the SRHS campus the students grow green-leaved plants and sell the produce to (I was in the back of the room and did Steve O say "the green leaved plants are sold to "dispensaries" at SRHS?) Anyhow, Steve told the students that in 1927 he was first introduced to Rotary by attending a meeting at the invitation of Wes Jamison.



Steve Olson presents check to Santa Rosa High School Agriculture Program

ROTARIAN MAGAZINE QUIZ

Past President Debi Zaft asked what city in the world is known as the City of Angels. One wag thought it might be that city down south of here whose teams wear purple and blue uniforms, but NO! **Ted Wilmsen** correctly answered: Bangkok - the site of the 2012 RI Convention in May next year.

FINES & RECOGNITIONS

President Marnie nailed **Past President Wally** “**Bad Hat Hair**” **Lowry** and **Creed** “**Stone Hands**” **Wood** (quoted as saying that this is the only tournament he’ll ever win in his lifetime) for winning the recent YMCA Golf Tournament.



Wally's new hat

Wally hid his hideous hat hair (notice the 5 words starting with “h”) under a SRFD helmet that caused Wally to almost sink to the ground (he must have smelled smoke!) Apparently **Steve O** and **John Poremba** did a good deed for Creed and Wally by not showing up to join their foursome. Two “stud golfers” joined Wally and Creed and carried them (via a fireman’s carry?) to victory. Wally coughed up \$100 for the John

Brown scholarship fund in our own Foundation and Creed followed suit! Steve O did say that he would be pleased to join Wally and Creed in using their winning four-person golf certificate prize at the Windsor Golf Course. Creed politely declined after Steve suggested that Creed should get some golf lessons first.

President Marnie thanked **Jack Geary** for spearheading (year after year) our club’s participation in the Mayor’s Best Practices Award program, including the free breakfast Marnie got to share with the Mayor, Ernie Olivares. No \$ extracted from Jack, probably because Marnie exercised the long-arm jurisdiction of the Club’s “NO Freakin’ Cell Phones Should Be On and Operating During a Rotary Meeting” (a bit of a stretch of jurisdiction) by targeting **Deborah Gray** whose cell phone rang during that breakfast. Goes to show: no good deed (attending the breakfast) goes unpunished! Deborah’s wallet is now lighter by \$25. Let’s see if she goes to this breakfast next year!

Jeff Gospe was thanked for disassembling his scooter bell at last week’s meeting (although it was working fine again at Church last Sunday). (If only I was still President ‘cause I got a really long arm!) No financial loss to Jeff (this week!).

Marnie the Prez welcomed back world traveler, **Kim Murphy**, back from her honeymoon in Tora Tora (or was it Bora Bora?). Apparently this atoll was on Kim (and DeWayne’s?) bucket list as she said that everyone should go there at least once in their life. Since Kim was not sporting a tan (although she has a new

hairdo—looks cute!), apparently there is nothing to do there and she probably rested indoors the entire trip!

Marnie then lured the Rowdy Table into fines by trying to teach the SHS students a life lesson: Look at the people at the Rowdy Table and if you don’t improve/grow out of your teenage behavior (the Prez has one at home), this is what you’ll look like and behave like as “adults”. Later Marnie nailed **Robby Fouts** (I guess **Past President Ray Dorfman** wasn’t available for his weekly whipping) was nailed \$5 for some obscure misdeed (Robby was actually on good behavior this week after getting out of Juv’y Hall). Oh wait, I finally deciphered my notes: Robby, in honor of the FFA students from SRHS attending our meeting, made a cow sound of sorts. Maybe he did deserve the “recognition”!

Two more recognitions:

Sleepy Steve Reuter was caught red handed in living color napping during last week’s meeting. With Steve’s narcoleptic sleepy-time partner, **Jim Johnson**, missing in action this week, Mr. Reuter took the full brunt of **President Marnie’s** wrath, for no other reason than catching a few winks of restful repose. Steve coughed up \$100 for the John Brown Scholarship. Geez, if Marnie captured all of us with her phone that scholarship might be fully funded by the end of November!

Robert Pierce got off somewhat lightly for a trip to San Diego (surfing?), Disneyland (with his grandkids), and New York City (just to shoot some film?) \$25 to the Club!

Later in the program after the Mayor stated that “Pensions and shorter work years are necessary for public safety officers due to the stress they have during their careers and they then add to that stress after retiring from active careers by staying at home with their loved ones, including premature deaths after retiring”.

Prez Marnie seconded that emotion by stating that she can see the stress already in her hubby, Eric, to which the ever-waggish **Matt Everson** commented that that stress level is definitely likely to increase after Eric’s retirement since he’ll be at home fulltime with the Prez! That earned Matt a \$25 fine too! (Moral: don’t mess with the brass!)

PROGRAM

Mayor Olivares was a member of the Santa Rosa Police Department for 30 years. After he retired he ran for the City Council, was elected, and then in December, 2010 he was elected as Mayor. After seeing **Wally Lowry** donning a SRFD helmet, he stated that one of his immediate goals would be increase the retirement age for firefighters. The Mayor then asked if anyone had seen an article in the Washington Post recently about Santa Rosa. Someone thought it might related to Occupy Santa Rosa but no, it is in fact that Santa Rosa has been rated in the top 25 cities in the USA as being a best place for small businesses. The Mayor wants the City to get even



President Marnie and Mayor Olivares

better. To achieve this, the City has formed a task force comprised of a number of different constituencies within the City to analyze and suggest actions to increase the City's and its resident's and businesses' economic competitiveness, and he outlined various goals in order to achieve a strong, sustainable economic base for the City and its residents. The City wants to streamline its own operations in order to get out of the way and let progress happen. The task force is an example of getting all the residents and businesses to work together in order to get the City out of the current economic hole.

Reunification of Courthouse Square: The City still needs money for this project, but it is still very much on the front burner and is progressing. The City is also interested in getting empty lots turned into business locations generating new revenues and income to the residents. The new Museum on the Square is one example of new development in the downtown area. Another example is the creation of a concierge service to guide permit applicants through the permit process in the various city departments.

A program to insure that the city has the necessary employment infrastructure: A pension task force has been created to analyze potential changes to the pension system. He described the possibility of a two-tier pension system and stated that this may become the "new norm" since times have changed. He said that the employee groups for the city's workers understand this concept now.

Environmental initiatives: The city wants to continue to improve the "greenness" of the city through, by example, implementation of solar energy projects.

This week's photographer:
Diane Moresi

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Preserve and improve the cultural & recreational assets: The Mayor pointed to the need to continue to keep the city pools open and increase bike paths.

Create a vibrant partnership between the local neighborhoods and the city: The city wants to see the neighborhoods continue to flourish or improve.

Continue to insure that we have a safe community: The Mayor said that the city matches up very well nationwide pursuant to a recent crime statistics survey. In order to improve public safety, the task force will analyze why our residents think Santa Rosa is not a safe place to live and work and then work on changing their perceptions and reality also, if necessary. The Mayor said that the police force cannot fix the reasons why people join gangs, but the city can try to institute programs that will prevent and intervene to steer people away from joining and/or staying in a gang.

In short, the Mayor said that a lot of analysis is underway and action is also being taken to insure that Santa Rosa remains to be the wonderful place to live and work in that it is already and improve also.



Kim Murphy gets Mayor Olivares' card. She wants the lights in her neighborhood turned back on.

FELLOWSHIP
November 2nd

Raffle - Tony Roehrick
Visiting Rotarians - Jerry Shimp
Tickets - Stephan Passalacqua
Greeters -PeggySoberanis & Jack Atkins