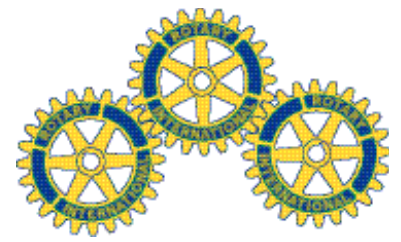




Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

Santa Rosarian



LOCAL • DISTRICT • INTERNATIONAL

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EDITOR: Jim Johnson

OUR PROGRAM FOR FEBRUARY 1ST:

TED ROBINSON & JACK KENNEDY

WWII VET ROBINSON'S FIRST-PERSON BOOK SPREADS NEW LIGHT ON THE LEGEND OF PT-109

FLAMINGO RESORT HOTEL, WEDNESDAY, 12:00 NOON



The legend of John F. Kennedy went into production shortly after big brother Joe Kennedy Jr. was killed over the Atlantic on a top-secret mission and the media campaign went into high gear when PT-109—the high-powered wooden patrol boat commanded by younger brother Jack was run down in darkness by a Japanese cutter. As a result of the Kennedy influence in the motion picture industry and other high places, the actual historical events that swirled around the Playboy who became a Legend became more and more difficult to evaluate. Navy officer

Ted Robinson was an eyewitness to some of what happened in the south Pacific 67 years ago and he finally wrote a book about what he had observed. Wednesday at noon, Ted shares his story with us at our Rotary meeting.

www.santarosarotary.com

UPCOMING PROGRAMS....

February 8: Giro Bello—"Rotary's massive fund-raiser"

February 22: Rotary's World Community Service

February 29: Author Ed Anderson & Ben Franklin

CHECK OUT THESE LINKS

Visit our website at www.santarosarotary.com

Check out photo galleries of recent events at

www.rotarymeansbusiness.org/photos.php

Visit Rotary's [Foundation](#) page

OPENING CEREMONIES

President Marnie asked **Jerry Shimp** to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance and **Martha Lovejoy** read a stirring invocation to start this week's awards luncheon.

VISITING ROTARIANS

Old friends visiting us this week: Former member of our 90-year-old Rotary Club, Dave Del Monte, past president of the Rotary Club of New York City and governor-elect of the Rotary District of New York. And Arnie Carston from the Rotary Club of Santa Rosa West. Historical note: the New York City Rotary Club was the third Rotary Club in the world, founded in 1908. The West Rotary Club was sponsored by our Rotary Club in 1965.

GUESTS

Most of this week's guests were the guests of our Public Safety Awards recipients or friends of **President Marnie**, but also visiting us for the big event was **Jack Abercrombie's** guest, Keith Gentry, **Deborah Gray's** guest, Jessica Smith, **Wayne Rowland's** guest Bill Szamry, Jonathan Delgado, the guest of **Nicole Le**, Captain Mark Gilpin, the guest of Rotarian **Blaine Goodwin**, from the Salvation Army, along with Ron Sievert, Jennifer Phillips, Maridel Stablien, Jim Gerien, Terri Abramson and family, and Santa Rosa mayor Ernesto Olivares (somebody hand that frequent visitor an application!). And, of course, Fire Chief Mark McCormick & Firefighter of the Year, Sage Howell, and Police Chief Tom Schwedhelm & Orlando Macias, Law Enforcement Officer of the year, 2011.

NOT-SO-BIG RAFFLE

Since **President-elect Designee Peggy Soberanis** won last week big raffle (almost \$500!!), we started another raffle round today with only \$57 in the pot with nine marbles



Visitor Arnie Carston takes home the consolation prize

from which to choose—according to Raffle Meister **Dan Walker**. Visiting Rotarian Arnie Carston held the lucky raffle ticket but managed to find a non-winning dark marble to take home the consolation ten spot. The winner of today's second drawing—**Matt Everson**—received two passes to the Schulz Museum.

SUNSHINE REPORT

It was nice to hear **Nancy Shepherd** report that no one is feeling poorly nor has any ailing family members this week.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Dave Brown** announced the Super Bowl football pool was back in play @ \$20 a square, or three squares for \$50. You can purchase the squares this week and next; or until all the squares are gone.
- **Greg Johnston** has 25 seats available for the Shark's hockey match March 3rd. See him ASAP if you want one of those hot seats.
- **Ted Wilmsen** asked that we return any extra dictionaries to him and the envelopes with information about this year's distributions to every Third Grader in the Santa Rosa schools.
- **Past President Yale Abrams** alerted all Rotarians that soon it will be time to enter the Rotary International Awards competition. All committees with pride in their hard work should see Yale for more information and an application.

ROTARY MAGAZINE QUIZ

Past President Debi Zaft asked the question about Manny Ayala. The even more **Past President, Will Haymaker**, was up like a shot to answer the question. Correctly, of course.

FINES & OTHER HONORS

Retired New York detective Jim Gerien may no longer be a member, but **President Marnie** still fined him \$5 bucks for his ringing cell phone. **Debbie Gray** was gracious and volunteered to volunteer to pay \$50 to acknowledge that she and Mike bought a new home. At this point **President Marnie** suggested to city officials that maybe they need to start their own fining system to help cover their budgets!

PINOT FOR POLIO

Cathy Vicini's new vintage is now available and **Robby Fouts** bought 4 or 5 bottles on the spot! Remember, our club's Pinot for Polio is only \$50 a bottle with \$32 of the price going to any thirsty but generous Rotarian's Paul Harris Fellowship.

THE LEE ABRAMSON ROTARY PUBLIC SAFETY AWARDS

President Marnie began the awards recognition with a poem:

"Pray for the Men and Women in Blue"

It takes a very special person to wear the blue.

Most people do not understand what they do

They made a commitment to protect and serve.

They work hard to provide the safety you deserve.

No normal shifts, not nine to five.

They work 24/7 to keep you alive.

Holidays and weekends don't mean a thing.

They work night and day, just give us a ring.

Their loved ones and children pray every night.

That they will return at the break of daylight.

They carry guns and safety masks to help them get through.

You couldn't imagine some of the things they must do.

They see accidents and blood and small children crying.

They also see death and it's not just old people dying.

Responding to calls day after day.

Not allowing their personal lives to get in the way.

Some complain when you see them on a break.

They just drive around and oh, the money they make.

Stop for a second and try to assess

Who's always there to clean up the mess.

They do all they can to help and provide.

To make you feel safe and secure inside.

Please remember all of the things that they must do.

And next time you pray, include the men and women in blue.

Awards chair Jim Johnson spoke of the history of the awards program which was started in 1994 when Lee Abramson proposed the award and Everett Shapiro, **Jim Gerien**, and **Jim Johnson** formed the committee to put together the very first awards event. **Jim Johnson**, **President Marnie**, **Eileen Carlisle**, **Craig Meltzner**, **Tim Fawcett** and **Jim Gerien**

comprised the 2011 Awards Committee.

Craig Meltzner introduced Police Chief Tom Schwedhelm who has the distinction of being named Chief of Police only a few years ago after serving in the ranks of the Santa Rosa Police Department for over 28 years. Chief Schwedhelm in turn introduced Police Officer Orlando Macias as the 2011 Law Enforcement Officer of the Year.

Citation: Officer Macias has been a Santa Rosa police officer since 2007. Last spring, on the evening of March 31st, the uniformed Macias was working traffic. He observed a vehicle driving recklessly, stopped the car at roadside, and immediately spotted visible signs that the driver was intoxicated—



Officer Orlando Macias

bloodshot eyes and the strong odor of alcohol coming from the vehicle. When ordered to step from his vehicle, the driver initially refused to cooperate, but then struggled upright from the car with his right hand behind his back. Macias spotted a cocked handgun and quickly kicked him in the back, knocking the gun out of sight. Orlando subdued the inebriated driver and recovered the gun. Arriving police officers took the other passenger into custody. Officer Macias was commended for his quick-thinking and decisive action in the face of grave danger and accepted the large bronze trophy with thanks and warm appreciation to his fellow officers and family, saying that he was not a hero, proud to be a police officer and humbled by his recognition, Orlando put it simply, "I only really needed another day."

After a long round of standing applause, **Craig Meltzner** introduced Fire Chief Mark McCormick—a firefighter for 32 years who was named the Fire Chief of the Santa Rosa Fire Department last September after serving eight months when Chief Bruce Varner retired.

McCormick enumerated the many reasons why Fire Captain Sage Howell was selected to be the Santa Rosa Firefighter of the year for 2011 by his peers and department management, "Firefighting is so much a team effort so it can be difficult to select someone working on his or her own for such an honor. Captain Howell has served the City of Santa



Fire Captain Sage Howell

training of firefighters as the department's training captain. He was instrumental in forging the necessary public/private partnership with a local damage repair company in 2011. Together they constructed a "live fire" training structure and facility. As a

Rosa for 11 years as a firefighter, fire engineer, a trained paramedic, and a qualified Swift Water Rescue Technician. Promoted in 2009 to Fire Captain, he is responsible for the day-to-day

result firefighters throughout Sonoma County's fire districts were able to receive effective hands-on live fire training for the first time in 15 years." The Fire Chief concluded by saying that Captain Howell also manages Santa Rosa's website, serves on the City's technology committee, and as Secretary of the Firefighters Association.

The Rotary Club of Santa Rosa commends Officer Orlando Macias and Captain Sage Howell for their commitment and dedication to our community.

This week's photographer:
Nicole Le



Public Safety Awards



Officer Orlando Macias, Police Chief Tom Schwedhelm, Mayor Ernesto Olivares, President Marnie, Fire Chief Mark McCormick and Fire Captain Sage Howell

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P.O. Box 505
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