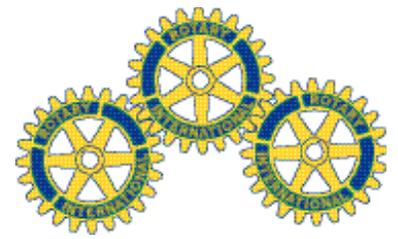




Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

Santa Rosarian



LOCAL • DISTRICT • INTERNATIONAL

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EDITOR: Jim Johnson

OUR PROGRAM FOR APRIL 11TH:

THE RENAISSANCE OF TRADITIONAL CHINESE CULTURE

CHINESE HISTORIAN & NEWS COMMENTATOR EXAMINES 21ST CENTURY GLOBAL IMPACT

FLAMINGO RESORT HOTEL, WEDNESDAY, 12:00 NOON



Mr. Nan Su

Chinese culture evolved over thousands of years into one of the oldest and complex in the history of human civilization. The resurgence of the People's Republic of China as a world power has created a renaissance of this ancient culture around the globe. While China's geography and ethnic groups have changed drastically since 2500 BC, when ancient China was ruled by a group of semi-mythological rulers and culture heroes. In myth, early China was ruled by demigods—exemplary sages possessed of great moral character—who used their powers to help create mankind itself and impart essential skills and knowledge to humanity.

Our guest speaker, Mr. Nan Su, grew up in China and came to the United States in the year 2000 and began to write in Chinese and publish poems, short stories, and prose. Since 2003 he has been a news commentator for international Chinese radio and television networks. Besides his involvement in the public, Mr. Su has a master degree in engineering and has been a professional engineer for over 20 years. He lives in San Jose with his wife and two daughters.

www.santarosarotary.com

UPCOMING PROGRAMS....

April 18: Ben Stone on local economic development

April 25: S.M.A.R.T. is Sonoma/Marin Area Rapid Transit

May 2: Traveling the world on a bicycle!

CHECK OUT THESE LINKS

Visit our website at www.santarosarotary.com

Learn about the the children of Colima, Mexico at www.projectamigo.org

Visit Rotary's [Foundation](#) page

Go to Giro Bello Classic: girobello.com

OPENING CEREMONIES

It is obvious that **President Marnie** takes too many vacations. When the cat's away, the mice get out of control and most of us start behaving like the Rowdy Group. Lucky that **Diane Moresi** remembered she was leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Our president did not. Then **Sam McMillian** delivered some worthwhile thoughts of inspiration. Unfortunately he read them from this tiny, tiny piece of paper. But the first Rotary meeting in April 2012 was underway.

VISITING ROTARIAN

From the newest Rotary Club in Santa Rosa, we welcomed Keith Becker, property management, from New Generations.

GUESTS OF ROTARIANS

Three special guests were welcomed today: Dr. Shari Shamsavari and Lourdes Ibama. We apologize that other details were lost in translation. **Matt Everson** introduced his guest, CPA Gary Lentz from Piseni & Brinker. Welcome to our guests from Sonoma County's first and largest Rotary Club!

DORFMAN'S RAFFLE

Past President M. Ray Dorfman was surprised to hear that he was in charge of today's Rotary Raffle, apparently forgetting **President Marnie's** last-minute telephone call. In the confusion, one of our fellow Rotarian's number was drawn. Apparently **Pam Williams** did not find the white



Ray Dorfman's geniality did not help **Pam Williams** choose the winning marble

marble. Her \$10 consolation prize turned out to be precisely 10 percent of the total \$100 jackpot.

Better luck next week, Pam, when the marbles will be fewer and the cash will be more.

WINE AUCTION

President Marnie announced we had received a generous gift for the benefit of the Giro Bello fundraiser—the very last of the private wine tours and exclusive tastings at the legendary Matanzas Creek Winery and lavender fields in Bennett Valley. The great tours are no longer available. After a few minutes of heavy bidding between **Craig Meltzner** and **Diane Moresi**, Diane was the highest bidder at \$105 which goes to benefit next year's charitable grants.

ROTARIAN OF THE MONTH

Our club's Rotarian of the Month had been deeply involved in both Santa Rosa community service and politics. As a young widow with three children, she served on the Santa Rosa Planning Commission for 10 years and on the boards of the Red Cross, SAY, the YMCA, and other non-profit groups. She loved working behind the scenes for her favorite political candidates,

but when Rotarian and political activist Margie Hanley invited **Nona**



President Marnie Honors Nona Lucas

Lucas to sail with her on Mike Merrill's Rotary Cruise (back when he was district governor), she met **John Brown** and she was hooked and destined to become a Rotarian.

In the last year of the 20th Century she was inducted into the Rotary Club of Santa Rosa and

This week's photographer:
Kris Anderson

shifted her community involvement to Rotary service. For more than 12 years, Nona has used her enthusiasm, energy, and connections for Rotary and our club's service to this community. Nona says she was surprised when **President Marnie** announced that she was March's Rotarian of the Month, but most of her fellow Rotarians were surprised that this was the first time she had been so honored. Congratulations, Nona, you certainly earned this recognition!

SUNSHINE REPORT

Nancy Sheppard is taking some time off to care for her sister who is undergoing treatment for cancer. **President Marnie** contributed some Rotary Sunshine and welcomed back **Cathy Vicini**, who has recovered from laparoscopic cholecystectomy surgery (remember Dr. Bob Woodbury's graphic video presentation last October?). And a hearty welcome to long-time Rotarian **Mel Herman**, back from his surgical vacation. Apparently Mel thrives on hospital food...he looked great, rested, hale and hearty, especially for a banker who has been a Rotarian since 1972.

ONE STIFF FINE

In the interest of more time for today's controversial video production, **President Marnie** focus on **Kris Anderson's** egregious email—What Your Real Estate Agent Doesn't Want You to Know—that was sent to every real estate agent in Rotary, apparently. But the fix was in and Kris skated with a measly \$10 fine.

SECRET GREETER

Rick Allen conducted his search for next week's free lunch recipient by eavesdropping around the buffet table. When the turkey slices were reduced to only three, he awarded this week's prize to **Mike Truesdell** for deferring the final slices to the next Rotarian in line. The Rowdy Table thought it hilarious that Rick was unaware the Flamingo banquet staff had another roasted

bird in reserve. Still, Truesdell gave no indication he might decline next week's free lunch for being slightly devious.

NEW MEMBER INDUCTED

The Rotary Club of Santa Rosa joined **Past President Steve Olson** in welcoming our newest Red Badger—insurance agent **Keith Gentry**, sponsored by **Jack Abercrombie**—into our 90-year-old Rotary Club,.



Steve Olson welcomes new Red Badger **Keith Gentry** as sponsor **Jack Abercrombie** looks on

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Marnie could not wait for all the details and announced a new weekly contest was in the works. Everyone can enter with a prize for each week's winner. Best we could tell, the contest involves writing humorous captions for odd photographs. Stay tuned for the rules, regulations, and the anonymous photographs. Each week the club will vote on a winner from our creative submissions.

Past President Debi Zaft announced this month's **Rotary Social** will be on Thursday afternoon, April 19th, at a location to be determined. Apparently Sonoma County tasting rooms are competing for the honor of hosting the county's first Rotary Club—founded during Prohibition back in 1921. Debi advised her fellow Rotarians to keep their GPS tuned for the location.

April is Rotarian Magazine Month: Debi also announced that this is the month when all Rotarians are urged to read the latest issue of The Rotarian and sign up to become a club with 100 percent readership of The Rotarian magazine. The sign-up roster that will be available this month at Wednesday meetings. The 4-Way Test applies.

GIRO BELLO PROMOTION

Diane Moresi reminded us that the 2012 Giro Bello—our club’s biggest fundraiser—is in full swing. It will climax on Saturday, July 7th, with three beautiful rides through Sonoma County, starting and finishing at Giro Bello Expo at O’Reilly Media & Publishing in Sebastopol. After a full month of marketing, the Facebook campaign is going well and nationwide exposure in biking magazines will reach thousands of bike riders. But we need you personally to spread the word.



Wednesday night you all received an email from the 18 fellow Rotarians on the Giro Bello Committee. Our iconic 2012 Giro Bello flyer

is attached. Please download it and email it to everyone you know. Ask them to forward the flyer to their friends. We need your active social network involvement, plus your family, your business, and your personal contacts so everyone is aware of this great mid-summer event you have committed to support. We need sponsors, spectators, visitors, and those who love to ride.

Remember that we are a tax-exempt 501(c)3 charity. All donations through Rider Fundraising are tax deductible; used to support our club’s local and international charitable grants, including the eradication of polio from the face of this planet! We are this close!!

PROGRAM

Program Chair Matt Everson introduced the controversial video watched by more than 100 million young people on Facebook in less than a month. The video was produced to spread the story of Joseph Kony, a “Ugandan warlord” with a private army of armed children. Matt explained that our Rotary Club’s program committee decided that this viral video phenomenon was relevant to Rotary’s mission of peace and understanding, especially considering Rotary’s involvement in projects in Uganda and Africa. The use and exploitation of children, modern media, and charitable donations are worthy of Rotary’s attention and the informed discussion and questions that followed Wednesday’s showing.

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