



# Santa Rosarian



LOCAL • DISTRICT • INTERNATIONAL

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## OUR PROGRAM FOR SEPTEMBER 26TH:

### VETERANS, FAMILIES & TEAM JESSE

*GET TO KNOW STAFF SERGEANT JESSE WILLIAMS THROUGH A FATHER'S MEMORIES*

FLAMINGO RESORT HOTEL, WEDNESDAY, 12:00 NOON



*SSGT Jesse Williams & father Herb*

This week's Rotary program came together a week ago Sunday, after the documentary *The Long Ride Home* premiered in California at the Santa Rosa Film Festival's Vet Fest. In hearing from veterans returning from combat in Iraq and Afghanistan, it was obvious they face worsening social conditions, a disabling PTSD crisis, and a suicide rate among returning military veterans that is hard to believe. At this week's Rotary meeting, we will face that crisis, hear from a young warrior struggling to recover from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, and meet Herb Williams, the

Santa Rosa father of Staff Sergeant Jesse Williams, killed in Iraq five years ago by an enemy sniper. The questions are difficult and the stories are hard to hear, but as Rotarians we need to know that help is needed for young veterans.

[www.santarosarotary.com](http://www.santarosarotary.com)

#### UPCOMING PROGRAMS....

**October 3rd:** Mike Houlihan's Barefoot Winery Story

**October 10:** Tour Safari West

**October 17:** Canine Companions for Independence

#### CHECK OUT THESE LINKS

Visit our website: [www.santarosarotary.com](http://www.santarosarotary.com)

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

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

Wander Art Trails at [www.sonomaarts.com](http://www.sonomaarts.com)

## WELCOME TO ROTARY

The welcome mat was out for our fellow Rotarians, guests of Rotarians, and a visiting Rotarian from our next door neighbors, Santa Rosa East Rotary—architect Ken Moholt-Siebert—co-owner of Ancient Oak Cellars in Corrick's: Santa Rosa's first and only downtown wine tasting room.

## OPENING CEREMONIES

Back at the helm, **President William** called on **Jackie McMillan** to lead us in our Pledge of Allegiance. **Casey D'Angelo** brought us wonderful thoughts with words about "Wonder".

## GUESTS OF ROTARIANS

**Bill Hatcher** introduced four guests of the Rotary Club—Outstanding Student of the Month, Leah Kaufman from Santa Rosa High School, her parents Sarah Hart & Michael Kaufman, and principal Brad Coschrelli. Guest Alex Braun was introduced by **Carmen Sinigiani**, **Jack Geary** introduced his guest, DSLC Director Adam Brown, **Past President Steve Olson** introduced his wife, Elaine, and **Matt Everson** introduced prospective member and CEO of United Way, Mike Kallhoff, and today's guest speaker, artist Bill Gittins.

## THE RAFFLE

The big news is that **Nick Knickerbocker's** red ticket was not drawn this week, but **Nona Lucas** held the lucky ticket and walked away with no Joker and the \$10



**Paul Hamilton gives Nona Lucas a chance to win**

consolation prize. With two Jokers and 51 unlucky cards remaining in the deck, today's \$92 jackpot will be enriched for next week's drawing.

## SUNSHINE REPORT

**Penny Tibbetts** updated us on ailing fellow Rotarian **Dick Jenkins**, who has been admitted to Brookwood Rehabilitation Center and is not receiving visitors at this time.

## OUTSTANDING STUDENT

**Bill Hatcher** outlined our Rotary Club's on-going commitment to student scholarship through the monthly High School Recognition Awards and asked Santa Rosa High School Principal Brad Coschrelli to present September's award recipient. A member of the school choir throughout her four years at SRHS, Leah Kaufman was the first sophomore



**Outstanding Student Leah Kaufman**

to be elected president of the school council, maintaining a grade-point average of 4.45 GPS, and fighting chronic kidney disease throughout high school. Joking about what she planned to be after graduation, her principal said, "A pediatric oncologist...while singing on Broadway!"

## CASINO ROYALE

Our club's World Community Service Committee is challenging all other Rotarians in the club to provide live raffle prizes for the October 20th Auction. WCSC is pledging to put together a luxurious gourmet dinner as a live raffle prize.

**President Bill** offers additional incentives to all members of this Rotary Club to sell, sell, sell Casino tickets. He will award bottles of the Award-winning Pinot for Polio wine to the person and the group that sells the most tickets to the Casino Royale night at the elegant Furth Center in Windsor. Each \$65 ticket includes \$25 worth of gaming chips for Roulette, Poker, Blackjack, and other games of chance, plus a free raffle ticket that qualifies you and/or your guests for the big drawing. Not to mention great appetizers to the max, delicious snacks from Sally Tomatoes, Rosso's pizza cooked to order on the spot.

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.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**President William** was back in town in time to attend—along with several dozen Rotarians and their guests—John Brown’s spectacular birthday party at **Eileen Carlisle’s** beautiful home overlooking one of Santa Rosa’s picturesque old neighborhoods. The generous crowd contributed \$1500 to ensure that John’s memorial scholarship fund would receive Legend status.

**Jim Johnson** urged us all to attend and invite guests to next week’s program generated by the Vets Fest salute to veterans at the Santa Rosa Film Festival. A short highlight from the award-winning documentary, ***The Long Ride Home***, will focus on the growing number of suicides and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder problems by veterans returning from Afghanistan & Iraq. Jim urged us to attend, and invite guests to watch one young veteran’s story of recovery and to hear Herb Williams, the father of Staff Sergeant Jesse Williams, talk about his heroic son; killed in action five years ago in Iraq, and touch on the Team Jesse Foundation, created last year to help veterans recover from the wounds of war.

**Vickie Hardcastle** reminded us that District 5130’s Foundation Dinner is coming up on Saturday evening, Oct. 6th, in the Flamingo ballroom. Members are urged to attend. For more information or to register, contact Valery Hulsey at 707-537-8603.

**Jack Geary** also reminded Rotarians that the Best Practices Awards Breakfast will be on Wednesday morning, Oct. 11th in the Flamingo Hotel ballroom at 7:30 am to 9:30 pm.

**Veterans Chair Nick Knickerbocker** announced that the noon luncheon honoring veterans and sponsored jointly by the Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs of Sonoma County will be sold out again this year. Nick will have the last of the \$15 tickets to sell next week. The 12th annual luncheon in honor of all veterans will be Thursday, Nov. 8th, from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm at the Veterans Memorial Auditorium.

*This week’s photographer:*  
**Kris Anderson**

## CONDOLENCES

**From Turkey: An email message to our Rotary Club that arrived Friday from Izmit, Turkey:**

*Dear President and Fellow Rotarians,*

*As the Izmit Rotary Club/District 2420/Turkey, we would like to express our condolences on behalf of Turkish Rotarians and our people to you and your people for your losses in Libya due to the terrorist attack of Islamic fundamentalists on the American Embassy.*

*We would like to inform you that, as the members of a nation which also suffered from terrorism a lot, we condemn this inhuman attack, we understand your feelings well and feel your sorrow in our hearts.*

*We want to believe that our efforts for a peaceful world will achieve in near future, goodwill and international understanding will rule over the globe and mankind will live in a better world.*

*Yours in Rotary,*

*Haşmet Fevzi Çakmak*

*President of Izmit Rotary Club*

**President Rousseau responded to President Çakmak:**

Dear Haşmet:

Thank you very much for your good wishes and support. Your outreach to Rotarian presidents on this issue is very honorable and deeply appreciated. Peace be with you!

Yours in Rotary,

William F. Rousseau

President of the Rotary Club of Santa Rosa, CA USA

## LOST LUNCH TICKET?

Suspicion and accusations were rampant as it was revealed that someone had dropped a blank ticket into the lunch basket today. **Past President Kathleen** pleaded guilty with unforeseeable circumstances due to her confusion over the loss of her “real” lunch ticket (valued at \$18). As things began to get even more confusing and dicey, Kathleen put \$50 into her Paul Harris Fellowship.

## TRUE CONFESSIONS

- **Jeff Gospe** donated \$15. Why? Because USC keeps losing.
- **Past President Don McMillian** got off cheap

when he made another fancy visit to Reno to play tennis.

- **Past President Wally Lowry** pled guilty to escaping to New England with Ellie to celebrate their 57th wedding anniversary.
- **Jock McNeil**, who has been missing for several weeks, copped a plea after spotting **Kim Murphy** at the Kona (Hawaii) Airport and had to admit that he was on vacation at a luxurious resort. The fine was \$100.
- **Paul Hamilton** donated \$50 to John Brown's Legend's Fund because he missed Saturday's Rotary Social to generate contributions on the date of John Brown's traditional birthday party.
- No idea why, but our generous **Past President Rich DeLambert** (1987-87) donated \$25.
- **Kris Anderson** admitted to going somewhere with eight girls for the weekend: \$50!
- **Matt Everson** donated \$15 to the cause for violating the Four-Way Test. He confessed that he felt he was not nice to **Jim Johnson** when he referred to Jim's age via email.
- Jim did not explain but responded that he would donate another \$15 to the club to hear Matt apologize for his rudeness. Fine-mistress **Nona Lucas** couldn't make change for a \$20 but accepted Jim's initialed I.O.U. Due next Wednesday.

## TODAY'S PROGRAM

Bill Gittins started painting more than 25 years ago, following in the steps of his father, who started painting when he retired at age 65. "My father found it so rewarding that I decided to try it myself when I was older and when I retired from Optical Coating Labs. I took classes, painted as much as I could, but when a painting I entered in the Harvest Fair won

Best of Show, I discovered that I was 'an artist'. I have been painting for the past 25 years."

Bill outlined the scope of the Council of Arts in Sonoma County as a creative industry that brought \$1.2 billion into this county in 2010, with 27,000 artists in the county, 130 non-profit organizations, 110 "Art Festivals" a year, and 34 performing venues. The Council was created in 1984 with the goal



**Artist and speaker Bill Gittins**

is to make the arts industry more visible to more people in Sonoma County as we compete for the arts tourists with Sacramento and San Diego, reminding us that as soon as you get off a plane at the Charles Schulz Airport, you are surrounded by sculpture and art related visuals. Our regional artists work with the Arts Council every fall. The result is called ARTrails—two upcoming weekends in October when all of the studios are open from 10 am to 5 pm on Saturday & Sunday, October 13—14 and October 20—21 with 155 artists participating. He suggests picking up an ARTrails catalogs with colorful, easy-to-follow maps or going on-line at [www.sonomaarts.com](http://www.sonomaarts.com).

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