

La Rotación

AUGUST 7, 2009



SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Programs & Events

AUGUST 7: Off site at Wilson Park for lunch and a train ride. (See page 4.)

AUGUST 14: Rotary's role in ending polio.

SEPTEMBER 11-13: Concours weekend of events.

Pictured below: Former club president Jim Hartman, who won a bottle of wine in last week's raffle.



IF WE MISSED YOU ON JULY 31

PULL, YANK AND TWIST

—by GREG SPARKMAN

No, this is not the name of the legal firm our club employs to assess fines for Rotarians. It was the "pay-off" to a great story by our speaker last Friday, but more on that later. The original title of this report was going to be, "John's One-Hour Meeting." This is because our leader, **John Polen**, has figured out a solution to the age-old quandary of Rotarian presidents everywhere: When do I have time

to eat? The solution turns out to be easy. Come in and eat like everyone else, and begin the meeting at 12:30. Hence, the One-Hour Meeting. Hmm . . . Of course, when that bell rings at 12:30 it's off to the races!

We had no official greeter early on, but **Gary Tossell** jumped into the role upon his arrival. There is not a more jovial greeter than PPGT. **Kjell "Buy a Raffle Ticket" Hellberg** was holding

down the sergeant-at-arms position for the second week in row. Past President **Julia Parton**, was hovering and providing general assistance to **Kjell**. Speaking of raffle tickets, **President John**, has determined that our Raffle proceeds this year are going to Rotary International's push to finalize the fight to eradicate polio once and for all. Raffle winners this year receive CA\$H instead of wine. So, even for teetotalers, there are now multiple reasons to toss your couple of buck into the basket each week.

Photos at the meeting were being shot by **Norton Donner** while Hal

—"PULL" CONTINUES, PG 2



Harry Kitter, a chairman of our Educator of the Year Dinner, and Joey Komada, chairman of International Service.

—“PULL” CONTINUES FROM PG 1

Lazar took care of some off-site business. I tell you this so if some of the pictures in this issue are blurry you won't blame **Hal**. Back to the meeting . . .

After the bell, **President John** introduced honorary member **Woody Woodruff** for the invocation. **Woody** was followed by Past President Jim Hartman with our Pledge of Allegiance. Songstress **Dian Ashley** threw us for a loop by leading us in Disney's "It's a Small World." If the PVGC puts us in their little room another week we'll be singing, "It's Small Room After All!"

Paul Rubincam introduced our

TEETOTALER: The word is attributed to Dicky Turner, a member of the Preston Temperance Society (1832), who had a stammer, and in a speech said that nothing would do but "tee-tee-total abstinence."

guests, who included Bruce Glaser, guest of **Gary Tossell**; and incoming member, Aryn "When Will I Be Inducted?" Sieber. The "Welcome Song" was handled impeccably by yours truly, with piano accompaniment from **John "Big Shoulder Turn" Schuricht**.

Jeff Parker's "Five Minutes of Fame."

Jeff jammed 10 minutes worth of his life

story into his "Five Minutes of Fame," so apologies up front for what I missed and what is just plain wrong here.

Jeff was born in Munich, Germany. His brothers and sisters were each born in a different country. Apparently Mom and Dad were on the run. He has lived in Greece, Turkey and Iraq. Jeff has practiced business litigation since 1982

—“PULL” CONTINUES, PG 3

—“PULL” CONTINUES FROM PG 2

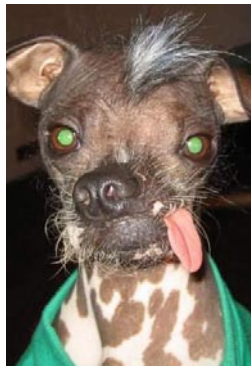
and loves his work. He was inducted into Rotary with **Mel Schrier** 11 years ago. **Jeff** especially enjoys interfaith endeavors. Growing up around the world, he has concluded that religion is a force for good, so devotes a good deal of his energies to it. His daughter just announced her engagement. He has two grandkids. And last but not least: His wife, Diann(e?), spells her name with two “n”-z-z-z. Whew!!

Trump National Wine & Beer Festival Benefits Rotary PVP Foundation.

The First Annual Trump National Beer & Wine Festival will be held on Sunday, August 16. Before you read any more, the big news is that 50% of the event proceeds go to our club’s Foundation endowment. What a great way to contribute our club’s community outreach.

The event features more than 40 great wineries (I’ve looked at the list and it is an impressive group!), and 15 breweries (added for Julia’s benefit). More information can be found at www.trumpnationallosangeles.com.

Group Study Exchange. International Chair Joey Komada announced that our



BYRON WALLS’S PEPPER SPRAY WORKS AS ADVERTISED!

Mac, Greg’s former best friend.

club will participate in a Group Study Exchange Project focusing on gang prevention through peace and non-violence. Joey is seeking club members to participate with visiting Brazilians and possibly travel to Brazil with our District’s team. Meeting and interacting with Rotarians from other parts of the globe is one of the most enjoyable and gratifying aspects of club membership. Contact Joey for details: jkomada@pacbell.net.

Raffle. Holding one of the lucky tickets was **Jim Hartman**, who chose a bottle of wine over cash. The \$10 cash prize was won by **Derald Sidler**, who turned around and donated it right back to the Polio Plus fund.

Byron Walls and California Crime-fight. Crime fighting has never been so funny. Not since our traffic school programs have we had so much fun learning how to stay out of trouble.

Byron’s topics included: workplace/school violence; safety tips at the mall;

how to avoid looking like a victim; when and how to fight during a rape; how to avoid car jacking and ATM crimes; and crime prevention in your home, on the street, and while getting to and from your car.

Sounds pretty grim, but the laughter was anything but. Byron presented a fast-paced, entertaining and memorable program that taught some of the essentials of how to survive crime in today’s world. Byron is big on military-strength pepper spray as a personal-protection device. I bought some that he had for sale at the meeting. He recommended testing it one time to make sure the canister works. So I tested it on my dog, Mac (pictured). He won’t come to me anymore.

As far as Pull, Yank & Twist goes, it’s what a woman should do to a rapist’s testicles. BUT . . . will it pop the eyes back into place? Ah! You had to be at the meeting to know the answer to that. See you all at the trains in Wilson Park on Friday. ♦

Checkin’ the list. Phyllis Pelezzare, left, and Debbie Dietch.





Above: Keith Deisenroth, left, who is on the mend, and Darold Sidler, recent raffle winner.

CLUB NEWS

A MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED . . .

from Aryn Sieber. He is sponsored by **Bruce Attig** and **Greg Sparkman**; his proposed classification is TBA. The application has been approved by the Board. If any member has an objection to Aryn being inducted into our club, please state the objection(s) in writing and hand to any Board member within 10 days. ♦

TRIPPED UP

Our president-elect, **Keith Deisenroth**, broke his ankle last week. He missed a staircase step, and you know the rest. ♦

OFF-SITE MEETING ON AUGUST 7: RIDE THE TRAINS AT WILSON PARK

John Polen will demonstrate his prowess as a train conductor this Friday during lunch in Wilson Park. The picnic area is well-shaded, but you may want to bring sunscreen or hat in case.

Be there for fun and fellowship. Bring your kids, too!

Directions to Wilson Park from the Peninsula: Crenshaw Blvd. to Sepulveda, turn right. Take Sepulveda to Arlington, turn left. Make a left at Washington Ave. Park on the street near the railroad crossing. There will be balloons in front of the entrance gate.

If you haven't yet RSVPed, please do it right now. From our club's home (<http://www.rotarypvp.com/>), click on "Events" then click on the August 7 event on the calendar; finally, click on Attend or Decline to have the RSVP page pop up. Follow the directions and you're done! ♦



District #5280

ROTARY CLUB OF PALOS VERDES PENINSULA

Chartered March 26, 1962

ROTARY NEWS ON THE 'NET

PVP CLUB: www.Rotarypvp.com

DISTRICT 5280: www.ROTARY5280LA.org

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL: www.rotary.org/

09-10 RI PRESIDENT:

John Kenny, Grangemouth, Scotland

09-10 DISTRICT 5280

GOVERNOR: Susanne Sundberg, Rio Hondo Rotary Club

VVP PENINSULA · ROTARY CLUB LEADERSHIP 2009-2010

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INTERNET DIRECTOR: Hal Lazar

EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR: Joan Behrens & Jim Hartman

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE:

Please let one of these Rotarians know if you have news about a fellow member.

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