

Rotary Club of Hayward

HIGH GEAR



EDITOR: FRANCISCO ZERMEÑO & SEAN REINHART • PHOTOGRAPHER: ED AVELAR

AUGUST 22, 2016

WORLD CLASS GIVING

Rotary International Foundation Chair **Debby De Angelis** (center) bestowed Gold, Silver, and Bronze "100th Anniversary" medallions to Rotarians (L to R) **Tom Gratny**, **Charley Plummer**, **Norman Garcia** and **Robin Wilma** in recognition of their generous donations to Rotary International Foundation's charitable efforts worldwide.



Call To Order

President Sean Reinhart called the meeting to order by remarking that we had a great bunch of members in attendance today. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Ashton Simmons**, with a "localnomics" flavor to it! Next was the group singing a patriotic song, "God Bless America", led by **Douglas den Hartog** on vocals and **Chuck Horner** on the piano.

The Thought for the Day was provided by **Ed Mullins**: "People often say that motivation doesn't last. Well, neither does bathing – that's why we recommend it daily," by Zig Ziglar. The meeting then recessed to enjoy the satisfying lunch, which was well done by Robert Pimentel... complete with a BBQ outside!

GREETERS



Norman Garcia



Kenny Altenburg

Introductions

Our Visiting Rotarian was introduced by **Norman Garcia**: Bob Tucknott, Electrical Contractor with the Dublin Club. **Anna May** introduced her guest, Donna Jeffery, fashion designer. We welcomed our esteemed guests with a rousing rendition of the Hello! Song, led by **Douglas Den Hartog** and **Chuck Horner** – always a crowd favorite!

Announcements

- Board recognition. **President Sean Reinhart** presented a Board of Director pin to new director **Robin Wilma** – who looked pleased.
- Membership Workshop. Membership Chair **Douglas Den Hartog** reminded members of the upcoming District 5170 Membership workshop on August 27, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Embassy Suites Milpitas. Red Badge members, here is your chance to fulfill the District event requirement on your Blue Badge checklist!



Robin Wilma received her Director's pin from **President Sean Reinhart**

- Third Grade Dictionary Project. Project Chair **Linda Granger** asked Rotarians to “save the date” of 5:30 p.m. October 12 – the date of the dictionary labeling event at Firefighter’s Local 1909 Hall (Main St., between C and D Sts.). Linda also announced that the dictionary distribution in schools is set for the week of October 24. **Larry Ratto** is heading up the volunteer coordination, so check in with **Larry** and volunteer to be a team leader.
- St. Rose Hospital Foundation Spectacular. **Mike Cobb** announced the Spectacular by the St. Rose Foundation, at the Big White Tent, on Saturday, October 2, at 6:30pm. He also invited all to the Health Fair on Oct. 9, also at the Big White Tent.
- Mariachi Festival. **Francisco Zermeño** announced the 7th Annual Mariachi Festival at the Hayward City Plaza, on Friday Sept. 16, beginning at 4:30pm
- Circus Vargas. **Kim Huggett** and **Ashton Simmons** announced the return of Circus Vargas at Southland Mall, August 25 through September 5.

Paul Harris Fellowship

Rotary International Foundation Chair **Debby De Angelis** bestowed a Paul Harris Fellowship upon **Chuck Horner**, in recognition of giving \$1,000 or more to support Rotary International Foundation’s global charity work including eradicating polio. **Debby** then called upon Rotarians who earned District Governor’s medals for giving to Rotary International Foundation: a Bronze Medal to **Norman García**, a Silver Medal to **Robin Wilma** and Gold Medals to **Tom Gratny** and **Charlie Plummer**.



Debby De Angelis presented Chuck Horner with a Paul Harris Fellowship

Vocational Talk



Kenny Altenburg delivered his Vocational Talk while standing perilously close to the Rotary Bell.

Red Badge Rotarian **Kenny Altenburg** delivered his vocational talk. **Kenny** shared that he is the only member of his family to export himself from his hometown of Detroit, Michigan. He is a sports enthusiast with a ton of hometown pride, which unfortunately means that he still loves and roots for the Detroit Lions. **Kenny** has had a many and varied career, including his early employment as an auto worker for five years. He then toured the USA doing service work, and that inspired him to work in the community. That experience revealed to him that to ‘meet unmet needs in the community’ is what he dedicatedly and passionately believes.

Kenny relocated from Detroit to San Mateo in 2008 to accept a job with Kaboom, the nonprofit supporting children and families and their communities. But soon thereafter, his destiny would bring him to Hayward. In 2013, he accepted a position at Eden Area YMCA, and he’s been a part of the Hayward community ever since. Although he lives in Oakland, his fiancé often remarks that he may as well live in Hayward since so much of his time and energy is spent here. **Kenny** feels that Hayward is much like Detroit in that both communities are known for strong hometown pride.

At the conclusion of **Kenny’s** talk, **President Sean** invited **Kenny’s** sponsor **Ashton Simmons** to join them at the podium. **President Sean** noted that **Ashton** serves on the board of the Eden Area YMCA, and thanked **Ashton** for bringing **Kenny** into the Club. He then asked **Ashton** for a brief update on recent developments at Southland Mall where **Ashton** is the General Manager. Afterwards, **President Sean** asked **Ashton** what model of smartphone he uses (iPhone 6+), and commented that “it must be a great phone since **Ashton** was spending so much time looking at it during the announcements!” (Fine issued!) **Ashton**, ever the gentleman and good sport, responded in kind and drew huge laughs!



Sporting gentlemen Kenny Altenburg, Ashton Simmons, and President Sean Reinhart mug for the camera.

MEMBERSHIP NOTICE

The following person has been proposed for membership in Hayward Rotary Club: **April Chan**, classification Event Planning, co-sponsored by **Anna May** and President **Sean Reinhart**

Fines and Foolishness

Today's Red Badge Fine Collector was **Kenny Altenburg**:

- **Charley Plummer** celebrated a birthday on August 17. In lieu of a fine, **Charley** made a generous donation to the Hayward Rotary Foundation. In response, the Club sang a rousing rendition of "Happy Birthday." *Fine waived!*
- **Chuck Horner** celebrated his 65th birthday on August 19. Instead of punching his Social Security card, President Sean opted to punch **Chuck's** fine card. *Entitlement fine issued!*
- **Ed Phillips** celebrated a birthday on August 8. **Ed** was fined for being one of our most esteemed and long-standing members, and for being a Leo. *Zodiac fine issued!*
- **Jasmir Singh** had a birthday back in July. When asked why we hadn't seen her in a few weeks, **Jasmir** humorously replied, "you can come and see me at Bank of the West!" She then made a generous gift to Hayward Rotary Foundation. Thanks and welcome back, **Jasmir**! *Fine waived!*
- **Nels Nelson** celebrated his 27th wedding anniversary with his wife Donna on August 4. *Anniversary fine paid!*
- **Ken Meirovitz** celebrated his 45th wedding anniversary with his wife Judy on August 15. *Anniversary fine upheld!*
- **Timothy Gay** has been away for a while – he now splits his time between working in Hayward at Life West Chiropractic, and his two homes – one in Seattle, and the other in Palm Springs! Good thing today's speaker is a flight school instructor, because **Timothy** may need flying lessons! *Frequent flyer fine issued!*
- **Brian Schott** ~~threw under the bus~~ recognized **Robin Wilma** for lodging her dog Lady at his house for a whole week! Turns out that **Robin** was out of town due to her daughter, Lt. Col. Alisa Wilma's new military assignment as head of Commissary operations, thus Lady had to be sequestered at *Chez Schott*. Seasoned finemaster **Dave Elkins** jumped in and suggested that **Brian** should pay the fine. By acclamation of the assembled membership, the suggestion was upheld. *Under-the-bus fine enforced!*

Keynote Presentation

Chamber of Commerce CEO and fellow Rotarian **Kim Huggett** introduced our keynote speaker, **Susie Amaro**.

Ms. Amaro is co-owner of California Airways, the Bay Area's longest-operating flight school established in 1953 at Hayward Executive Airport. Ms. Amaro opened her presentation by noting that Hayward Executive Airport is the 5th busiest General Aviation airport in the nation.

California Airways specializes in flight instruction for all ages, and especially youth ages 9 to 18. Instilling a love of flying and aviation is their goal. They offer FAA-certified flight instruction, state-of-the-art flight simulators, summer youth aviation camps, and smaller scale events like birthday parties.

Ms. Amaro extended the offer to all Rotarians to visit California Airways for a free flight simulator experience. She also offered to donate prize packages for fundraising purposes.

Nearly a dozen Rotarians have current and recent pilot experience, and much Q-and-A ensued during Ms. Amaro's keynote. After the extended and enlightening discussion session, Ms. Amaro closed her talk with a short cockpit-view video of a single-engine aircraft taking off from Hayward Executive Airport.

President Sean thanked Ms. Amaro for her keynote by presenting to her a children's book, *The Big Book of Airplanes*, to be donated to the Hayward Library in her honor.



Keynote speaker **Susie Amaro** and
President Sean Reinhart.

Adjournment

President Sean adjourned the meeting by thanking our Visiting Rotarian and guests, Greeters **Ed Mullins** and **Norman Garcia**, High Gear editor **Francisco Zermeño**, and Paul Harris Fellowship recipient **Chuck Horner**.

Hayward Rotary Club
P.O. Box 629
Hayward, CA 94543

First Class Mail

**** FEATURED SPEAKER AUGUST 29 ****

Our keynote speaker is Chad Bojorquez from the Downtown Streets Team. Hear how this new program is transforming the streets of downtown Hayward.

www.haywardrotary.org



Be a gift to the world

HAYWARD ROTARY CLUB CALENDAR



- Aug. 29** CHAD BOJORQUEZ – HAYWARD DOWNTOWN STREETS TEAM
- Sept. 5** NO MEETING – LABOR DAY
- Sept. 12** AT STEPHENS – HAYWARD AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
- Sept. 19** GEOFF HARRIES – RUSSELL CITY DISTILLERY

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CLUB NO. 482

www.haywardrotary.org

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Immediate Past President.....Andy Krake
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Asst. Secretary.....Dick Bowman
Treasurer.....Gay McDaniel
Sergeant at Arms.....Janiene Langford

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