

THE ACORN

THE ROTARY CLUB OF FAIR OAKS

Rotary



Ray Ward on Membership & Team Building with Maggie Hoy

August 31, 2015



The Rotary Club of Fair Oaks

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Weekly Meetings

We Meet Almost Every Monday Evening
Pre-Meeting Social 6:15 - 7:00 PM
Dinner & Meeting 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Location: Fair Oaks Community Clubhouse
7997 California Avenue
Fair Oaks

Visitors are Welcome

THE ACORN FOR AUGUST 31, 2015

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Geri Beck is collecting materials for a charitable organization named "Days for Girls". Mostly she needs three large suitcases, which she may have obtained before the meeting even ended. However, this is one of the charitable organizations that deserve much more recognition for the work that they are doing and for the problem that they are trying to solve.

Therefore, here's some information on Days For Girls.

First, you can find their website at:

Website: <http://www.daysforgirls.org>

And here's descriptive information from the website:

Imagine... What if not having sanitary supplies meant DAYS without school, DAYS without income, DAYS without leaving the house? Girls use leaves, mattress stuffing, newspaper, corn husks, rocks, anything they can find...but still miss up to 2 months of school every year. It turns out this issue is a surprising but instrumental key to social change for women all over the world. The poverty cycle can be broken when girls stay in school.

What is Days for Girls? Every girl in the world deserves education, safety, and dignity. We help girls gain access to quality sustainable feminine hygiene and awareness, by direct distribution of sustainable feminine hygiene kits, by partnering with nonprofits, groups and organizations, by raising awareness, and by helping communities around the world start their own programs. Thanks to a global grassroots network of thousands of volunteers and supporters on 6 continents, we have reached women and girls in 85+ countries. It's working. You can help us reach the rest.

Mission: Creating a more dignified, free and educated world through access to lasting feminine hygiene solutions. Days for Girls International is a grassroots 501(c)3 non-profit. Women and girls discover their potential and self-value, are equal participants and agents of social change and are given opportunities to thrive, grow and contribute to their community's betterment while ensuring quality sustainable feminine hygiene.

Vision: Every girl and woman in the world with ready feasible access to quality sustainable hygiene & health education by 2022.



Fred Rowe (seen at left congratulating himself on a job well done) announced that we have now filled three tables for the District Rotary International (RI) Foundation Dinner and we have no more tickets to sell.



This is Pete Schroeder being reminded (for perhaps the 3rd time) that **there is no meeting next week.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS



The Fair Oaks Uncorked management team:
Bonnie McClain, Jeanne Maloney and Marlow Simonetto

Marlow is managing Uncorked this year. **Bonnie** has tickets for Fair Oaks Uncorked. She gave each of the members at the meeting four tickets to sell. If you have not received your tickets, be sure to see Bonnie. If not, Bonnie will find you. **Jeanne** is in charge of restaurants and wineries. Recruitment is going well.

Linda Aseltine (no photo this time) is handling the **Mystery Wall of Wine**, to which members are being asked to donate. For \$20, participants will buy a chance at winning a bottle of unknown wine. Therefore, members are being asked to donate one (or more) bottle of wine with a value of \$20 or greater. The Wall of Wine will contain bottles of wine worth **\$20 or more**.

NEW MEMBER INDUCTED



Kirsten Chang, shown here with her boyfriend **James Moore**, was inducted as an associate member on Monday night.



Kirsten's father is member **Rick Chang**, shown here helping Kristin with her Red Ribbon.



From the left, President Pete Schroeder, parents Rick and Pat Chang, James Moore, Kirsten Chang, sponsor Lucy Martin, Bonnie McClain and Membership Director Alice Rowe.

2015-16 CLUB PHOTO

While we don't yet have an official copy of this year's club photo, a few candid pre-photo photographs were taken. Our club, being extremely "social", is notoriously difficult to photograph because many of the members find it extremely difficult to stop talking and stand still for more than about five seconds. In the first photo below, you can see what the group photo looks like before everyone settles down, looks at the camera and smiles. Actually, the club was unusually well behaved this year, no doubt saving their energy for the team-building exercise that ended the meeting.



To the left is the photographer, **Bergie Berggren**, who does an excellent job every year. In the photo above, this is what you see when you arrive late for the Annual Club Photo. And, no, we won't Photoshop you into the photo if you arrive too late.

VISITING ROTARIANS



Amy Zhou, Paul Chow and Mae Yip are working on the formation of an Asian Rotary club in Sacramento. They attended our meeting to see how we recruit and retain members. We suspect that Ray Ward (on the far right) may have had something to do with the visit.

SPEAKING ON MEMBERSHIP RAY WARD

Ray Ward was the first of two speakers. Ray is the District Membership Chair and he thanked our club for having a culture of warmly welcoming new members and making them feel at home. Because Ray was speaking, we had three visiting Rotarians who attended the meeting to learn how our club builds membership: they are starting an Asian Rotary Club in the Sacramento area.

Ray noted that we are now officially a “large club”. (Thank you Alice.) As such, we want to do bigger things. To accomplish this we must think and work as a team. (Our second speaker was Maggie Hoy who ran a team-building exercise, which is covered farther along, with photos, in this Acorn.

A couple of Ray’s points:

- To be a Rotarian and to stay a Rotarian, there must be value for the member
- Clubs must now be multi-gender and multi-racial club with members of varied incomes, varied lifestyles, varied health characteristics, and varied experiences in life. He cited our club as a good example of this.
- Ray wants us to be a Rotary family, and a team.
- As a bigger club, we can help more people and do more projects. A \$1,000 donation to the Rotary International Foundation earns a member a Paul Harris Fellowship and can accomplish much in parts of the country and the world where a few dollars goes a long way.
- Nothing is required, but donations are encouraged. To be an “Every Rotarian Every Year” club, donations to the RI Foundation must average \$100 per member.
- Stretch your limits to help others.
- Understand the limitations of others.

RAY WARD ON MEMBERSHIP (CONTINUED)

What role can a member play in the club, or “on the team”? Members can contribute in any of three ways, depending on their resources:

- Time
- Talent
- Treasure

Time is pretty much self-explanatory. Talent, on the other hand, carries a broader definition than one might suspect because it can include not only education and profession, but also hobbies and interests. Treasure also has a broad definition:

- Dues
- Payment for meetings, including happy fines, Little Genius extortions, and your bar tab
- Donations to the Fair Oaks Rotary Foundation and the Rotary International Foundation
- Participating in and buying tickets to fundraisers
- And here’s a big and easy-to-overlook item: money from non-members (donations, admission to fundraisers, donations to the MegaDraw, Silent Auction, Fun Raffle, End Polio Now

On the amount of time a member donates to Rotary:

- There is competition for a member’s spare time: e.g. Jim Cralle goes fishing while Ray Ward is on maybe six different District Committees and is organizing next year’s District convention.
- Determine how much spare time you have and how much you can give to Rotary.
- Understand yourself and know your limitations and passions.
- Decide if you can stretch yourself and devote more time to Rotary – or more talent or treasure.

In conclusion: If you have time (no talent or treasure required), join the Communications Committee, the Club’s funnest committee.





A TEAM BUILDING EXERCISE LED BY MAGGIE HOY

Maggie Hoy then led the club in team-building exercise, or, perhaps more correctly, an exercise designed to teach us how **not** to be bad team members. Maggie asked each of us to look under our placemat for a number, which ranged from one to eight. We divided up into groups according to the numbers and each person was assigned a behavioral role in the soon-to-be-unveiled team-building exercise.

The numbers corresponded to the following roles:

1. A bossy person: insisted on doing the project his/her way
2. A follower: was not allowed to have opinions
3. A thief: whose role was to steal ideas from others
4. A distracting person: whose role was to be a troublemaker and do nothing to help complete the team-building task
5. Be yourself
6. Join the 5's and be yourself
7. Same as the 5's and 6's
8. Clean up the table
9. Ed Note: This vaguely reminds me of some of the Board meetings I've attended.

What most of us assumed was a bizarre table decoration (a bag of marshmallows, a box of spaghetti and assorted bling) was actually the hardware for each table's project: each table had to build a tower out of marshmallows and spaghetti, which proved to be far more difficult than a non-engineer might assume. The table with the tallest tower won prizes and recognition. Because almost every team included a self-appointed boss, a know-nothing follower, an idea thief and a distractor – there was chaos. Each participant was required to stay within their assigned role (e.g. the annoying boss) and all appeared to do this really, really well.

Some observations and the outcome:

- Some of the older members left before the exercise was over. Too much excitement, no doubt.
- Fred Rowe's table cheated again. (Ed note 3: almost all of the tables cheated, which should be expected given the roles assigned to some of the team members.)
- Mary Cate's table won the contest. (Ed note 4: and they did not cheat.)
- The Mike Maddox table probably should have received some sort of recognition for excessive enthusiasm, which interestingly enough, seemed to be a hindrance.
- Maggie lost the crowd because everyone was having too much fun.

The prime learning from the team-building exercise: everyone has a different role, but we can still build something if we work well together as a team.

Reporter: Bill Wagner
Editor: Bruce Vincent

Photos can be found at the end of this Acorn.

2nd Annual Walk4Literacy



April Butcher, from the Rotary Club of Sacramento, visited the club to announce the 2nd Annual Walk 4 Literacy. It will be held on Saturday, October 17, 2015. For more information on this worthy event visit: <http://www.walk4literacy.org/>

The 4-mile walk begins at 9:00 am in McClatchy Park. It will be followed by a Literacy Resource Fair at Cesar Chavez Park. Individual registration is \$30 and family registration is \$60.

OUR OTHER GUESTS



Drew Young, who will be inducted as a member at our next meeting.



Sandy Hicks with members Marlow Simonetto and Jeanne Maloney

Continue to the next page for photos of the team-building exercise.

TEAM BUILDING PHOTOS GETTING ORGANIZED

Each participant was assigned a role, most of which were intended to have negative impact. Specifically, four out of every seven participants were assigned negative roles, which they were required to maintain during the exercise. The rest of the participants were told to behave normally. Below, Alice Rowe is shown giving instructions to the normal participants. In the photo below left, RYE student Stine Nikolajsen waits to instruct a group of bad actors – specifically the “followers”. Below center is a photo of a member who was told to be a distraction. He performed admirably. Below right is a “bossy” participant.



TEAM BUILDING PHOTOS

THE WINNING TEAM



TEAM BUILDING PHOTOS

OTHER TEAMS



TEAM BUILDING PHOTOS

SPECIAL MERIT FOR BAD BEHAVIOR

Jim Cralle (below left) receives special recognition for staying in character as a distraction. In the same photo, Karen Romines shows off her team's "structure". Even though the exercise is officially over, Diana Cralle is still striving (e.g. cheating) to make their structure stand up. She mostly failed. Jeanne Maloney (below right) demonstrates either excessive hunger or considerable frustration. Team Maddox (below left) demonstrated extraordinary devotion to their roles, which the photo fails to capture. Below right, Mike Maddox proudly points to his team's structure. Teammates Jeanne Maloney and Jim Wilcoxon do not seem to share his enthusiasm.



WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PHOTO?



What's wrong with this photo? It's a Rotary meeting and this is the bar – and the bartenders (Lucy Martin and Jeff Simcoe) have absolutely no customers and nothing to do. To see what bartenders do when they get bored, please continue to the next and last (we promise) page of this Acorn.

