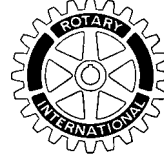




LASSEN LAVA

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ROTARY CLUB OF RED BLUFF

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ROTARY CLUB
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"He Profits Most
Who Serves Best"

"Service
Above Self"

November 29, 2005

Larry Champion, President

Vol. 84, No. 20

Editorial Team: Christine Applegate, Dick Beddoe (alternate), Valerie Lucero, Barbara Miller, Tiffany Tracey, Will Murphy and Scott Sherman (alternate)

Greeter: Jay Harn
Invocation: Carl Havener
Pledge: Les Wolfe
Introductions: Ron Judson

Visiting Rotarians:
None

Guests of Rotarians:
Andrew McKensy – Guest of Joanne Perkins
Samantha Willingham – Guest of Michelle Hake
Randy Gottlieb – Guest of Christine Applegate
Francois – our International Exchange Student
Dave Carr and Michael Damon – Presenters from Red Bluff Fire Department

Member Birthdays:
Dick Beddoe, December 4, 67 Years
Shelley Blunkall, November 30, 44 Years
Jack Fennel, December 1, 71 Years
Bob Risberg, November 29, 80 Years

Partner Birthdays:
Lisa Cohen, December 3

Wedding Anniversaries:
Scott & Gretchen Sherman, November 30, 42 Years

Club Anniversaries:
Gregg Avilla, December 1, 7 Years
Jack Bullen, December 5, 10 Years
Gregg Frey, December 1, 35 Years
Don Jones, November 30, 23 Years
Herb Nelson, December 1, 46 Years
Dale Stroud, December 4, 4 Years

Announcements:
The meeting got underway with Les Wolfe presenting President Larry with the Club's repaired and beautifully polished bell.
President Larry announced the following thank you's:
To Peter Harvey and other Cone Kimball Plaza committee members for the progress made in preparation for the tower foundation.
To Foothill Ready Mix for donating materials for the Plaza and returning Rotary's check for over \$200.
To Jay Harn for inviting Club members to the Red Bluff Daily News 120th Anniversary Open House
To Dave Nichols for fine meeting set-up for November.

Don Jones announced the Club Christmas Party on December 9th at Wilcox. It's \$35 per couple for prime rib or chicken. Social Hour starts at 6pm, dinner at 7pm, and dancing at 8pm.

Christine Applegate announced that she was passing around again folders for foster children and adults in the In Home Supportive Services programs for Christmas gifts. Gifts must be turned in to Christine by December 13th.

Una Jordan announced that the Elks had to change the date for the dinner for the Developmentally Disabled to this Thursday night. Servers and donations for cookies are needed. Sign up sheet passed around.

Barbara McIver announced that the date for the Medicare Part D presentation was misprinted on the program for December. The actual date of this presentation is January 3rd.

President Larry announced the following candidates for Board of Directors. They are Charles Allen, Cindy Brown, Valerie Lucero, and Carl Havener. There were no additional nominations from the floor. Elections will be held on December 13th.

Steve Judson was recognized for being selected by Club members as the **November Rotary Star**.

Drawing
Won by Joe Dominick

Recognitions:

Dick Beddoe was asked to step forward and receive confessions from members in order to help them cleanse their conscience. A number of members did confess:

Joanne Perkins was recognized \$50 for her phone ringing during the meeting. Steve Judson was recognized \$20 for leaving the meeting early today to meet PG&E at his new home being built. Tony Kelley, exempt, began to report on his trip to D.C. then changed his mind. He also announced that he would have some difficulty painting the Cone Kimball gazebo since it was covered with garland and ribbons. Rolland Papendick was recognized \$20 for his new grandbaby born in September. Jim Hixson was recognized \$20 for his sixth great-grandchild weighing in at 10lbs. Christine Applegate was recognized \$20 for her 30th college class reunion trip to Wisconsin, Jack Fennel was recognized \$100, which he wants donated to our international vision project, for losing the World Series bet to Tony Kelley. Les Wolfe was recognized \$20 for feeling guilty that he had nothing to confess. Bill Cornelius was recognized \$20 for announcing that Tom Amundson went to Las Vegas and won the World Championship Slow Pitch Tournament. Tom was recognized \$20 too. Will Murphy was recognized \$20 for his only daughter's wedding last weekend. Charles Allen was recognized \$20 for having a great Thanksgiving...wow, writer's cramp.

Program Notes:

Introductions by Ron Judson

Dave Carr and Michael Damon – Red Bluff Fire Department

Dave and Dom Catona (who couldn't be here today) Firefighter/Engineers

Dave was our speaker and presented a slide show of his and Dom's FEMA experience in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Both volunteered to go by responding to a FEMA request and with the permission of Chief Damon. They left on 9/2/05 and arrived in Atlanta the next morning. They had very little information about what they would be doing and what they should bring with them. They weren't happy about being held in Atlanta for four days in training instead of being able to help people sooner. They were deployed to Fort Worth, Texas to receive people displaced from Hurricane Katrina. Many of the people they helped had come from the New Orleans Super Dome with many horrible stories.

They went from shelter to shelter in teams, not as first responders, but as FEMA workers with ill-defined roles. Dave and Dom basically created their roles as they responded to the needs of the people. They set up a disaster recovery center in Fort Worth and went to more than 700 churches and other types of shelters. Dave told an interesting story about their reception at a particular shelter when the crowd saw them coming with FEMA shirts on. They were almost overwhelmed by the crowd, many of which wanted to know where there money was. Luckily they had their Red Bluff Fire Department hats on and were able to calm people and register them.

They then moved on to Arlington and then Orlando. They received more repetitive training then went back to Texas as Hurricane Rita hit. Dave showed slides of the edge of Rita in the distance as they were fighting traffic to get to their destination. They got to Port Arthur, Texas as the 1st Strike Team with the help of a State Trooper who escorted them, code 3 to the city. The Fire Chief at Port Arthur was holding his head in his hands when they arrived, saying, "I have no one to call". The Chief had only 5 other jurisdictions in their mutual aid region and all were hit by the hurricane. Dave reminded us how lucky we are that in California mutual aid can be called in from anywhere in the State with one phone call.

Dave showed slides of the home fire they assisted with, a shredded American flag that they saved, downed power lines in Lake Charles, and the destruction of property caused by Rita. In Woodville, Texas, it was hot and humid. While there, WalMart was the first business back up and running. FEMA gave out water in front of the WalMart and Dave assisted a woman to get transportation to a hospital in Galveston for surgery for a blood clot in her leg.

Dave thanked the City of Red Bluff for allowing he and Dom to go for almost a month to help. It was an experience they will both remember forever. They also thanked their fellow firefighter for taking care of their families while they were gone.

ABSENTEES

Ash, Blunkall, Brainerd, Cohen, Dolling, Glenn, Goodwin, Guttierrez, Illian, Moisey, Patidar, Robison, Rubright, Tracey, Vine.

DECEMBER (and a little January...) RED BLUFF ROTARY PROGRAMS

Tuesday, Dec. 6: FOCUS ON COMMUNITY: Melissa Mendonca, Coordinator of Tehama County's Mentoring Program will give us an audio/visual presentation on this growing program that is making a difference in our community, person by person. She will be joined by Chris Wray, mentor and local billboard star. Michelle Hake, a mentor herself, will introduce the program.

Tuesday, Dec. 13: FOCUS ON EDUCATION: "The State of California's Community Colleges-A Report on the League of Women Voters' Policy Position on Our Community Colleges" will be the program topic, delivered by Dr. Jim Gregg. Dr. Gregg is a retired professor of Political Science and Journalism at CSU Chico and department chair of both departments. His presentation will reveal the results of a statewide 2-year study of the state's community college system by the League. Tom Moisey will introduce the program.

Tuesday, Dec 20: FOCUS ON THE JOY OF THE SEASON: Our club will enjoy an annual program of holiday music, produced by and featuring Diane O'Sullivan and her students at Red Bluff High School. Chris Applegate will report on this year's Rotary gift project for foster children and elderly clients of Tehama County Social Services and introduce the program.

Tuesday, Dec 27: FOCUS ON MEMBERSHIP: We'll end 2005 with a little smorgasbord for members. New members will present a classification talk, sharing a little about their lives and work. Francois L'Haridon, our Youth Exchange student for the year, will tell us about his experiences to date. And let's all show up to host our scouts and leaders for lunch as we hear a bit about the status of Boy Scouts in Tehama County from Bob Douglas.

Tuesday, Jan. 3: FOCUS ON CITIZENSHIP: Scott Sherman will introduce a program of vital interest to our members. Ann McWherter, Health Benefits Director for the California Retired Public Employees Association and former Cal PERS health benefits analyst, will travel from Sacramento with a clear and definitive presentation on Medicare Part D. Ms. McWherter's program will answer many questions and simplify the Medicare issue many of us face. Family and guests are most welcome for the presentation.