

The Alamo Oak

Rotary Club of Alamo

Please visit our website at: www.alamorotary.org

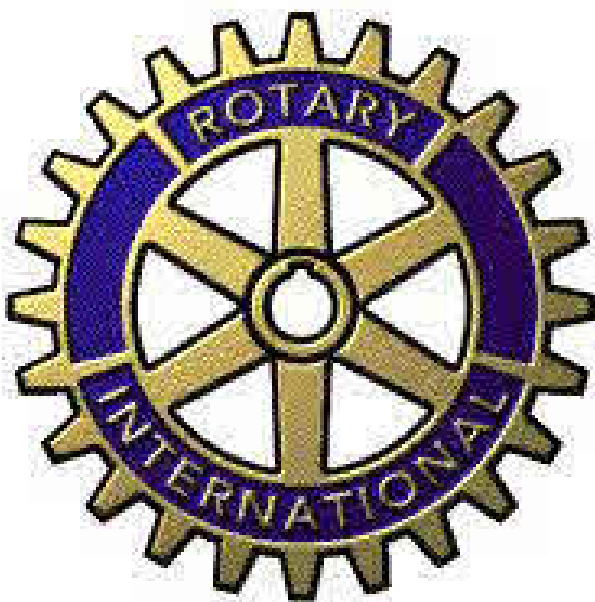


November 4, 2009

**Are We the “Can-Do Club”
or the “Done-Did-It Club”?**

**Coming Next Week!
November 11, 2009:
6 Club Meeting at Roundhill :
6 PM Cocktails, 6:30 Dinner
Honoring our Veterans on
Veterans Day: Panel of Local
Vets to Discuss Vets Concerns**

So, how do you keep the troops fired-up when the siege is long and hard and seems to have no end in sight? Whether it's a brutally cold winter at Valley Forge, or just the start of one more Rotary year within a world of endless needs and demands ringing cacophonous bells of alarm to an already over-worked army of tired volunteers, who have their own poor economy and personal issues to consider, times are tough. And to compound the issue, so many Rotarians have literally “been there, done that” time and time again and time again and again. They have heard it all and done it all before many, many times. Why do they have to get up and fight the same old battles over and over? Let the newbies have their turn, right? We've done our share and more! “We've been there and done that, several times!”



Well, it's never that easy. The newbies can't do it alone. They need the guidance and the inspiration of the experienced members to “lead the way”! They learn best by watching the good examples of those who have led before and who will lead again. Each Rotarian, each member of each club is needed each and every year to give all they can in both sweat equity and in donations to keep Rotary alive and active. Each member who pulls away from commitment to their club diminishes Rotary. Each member who demurs when given the chance to serve also diminishes Rotary. Each member who holds back from attending meetings, working on projects, or even from participating in social events diminishes the power of the club and of Rotary. The power equation of Rotary is the power of the single Rotarian multiplied 1.2 million times! Let's all give our best to keep that equation strong and growing! Pledge and participate all you can! Show us by example how to be good Rotarians!

Upcoming Events and Dates!

Nov. 11th: 6 Club Night Mtg. RHCC to honor our Vets on Veterans' Day

Nov.16: Board Meeting 6 PM in WC

Nov.25th: Turkey Day - No Meeting

Dec 5th: District 5160 Day at the Races at GGF @ \$32/person

Dec. 18th: Alamo Rotary Xmas/Winter Party at Chris Suter's BBQ!

The 4 Way Test:

- 1. Is it the truth?*
- 2. Is it fair to all concerned?*
- 3. Will it build goodwill and better friendships?*
- 4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?*



TODAY'S GUESTS

Our guests today included our guest speaker, Rick Kovar, manager of the CCC Sheriff's Search and Rescue (SAR) Dept., Judy Lewis, Jim Foot, Bob Saydah, and Tricia Richardson, Daryl England, Sam Barley, and Sgt. Sam Smith all from the CCC Sheriff's SAR Dept.

Upcoming Happenings!

Well, here are a few upcoming opportunities to respond to the need for some socializing and fun times with other Alamo Rotarians.

On December 5, it will be "Rotary Day at the Races" at Golden Gate Fields. For a mere \$32/person you will enjoy a prime rib buffet, club house privileges, valet parking, a trip to the winner's circle, and a race named in our club's honor. Sign up and pay up now with Mark Kahn.

Our annual Xmas party will be a barbeque held at the Suter home on December 18th. Come watch the club Fire Chief put the flame to the tri-tips! Always a blast and never to be missed, mark your calendars now!!



Party!

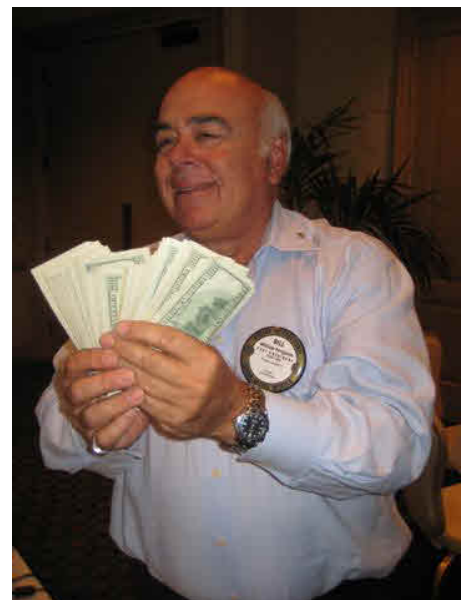
Party!

Party!

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

Announcements!

- ❖ **Mark Kahn** promoted the **Rotary Day at the Races at Golden Gate Fields** scheduled for December 5th. This is a good deal and a lot of fun! The cost is \$32 per person but it includes parking, admission to the club house, the “prime rib buffet”, a visit to the winners’ circle and the chance to win “big, big money” betting on the ponies. Please sign up and pay your fee ASAP to Mark. We hope to see you all there!
- ❖ **Carolyn Thiessen** and **Beth Randall** both spoke to the rewards of going on a **Wheelchair Delivery to Monterrey, Mexico**. “You are treated like Royalty and your heart swells when you put people in wheelchairs,” said Carolyn. Beth remembered a little girl who was delighted when her younger brother was able to push her around in her new wheelchair, both in tears of joy! The dates are January 13-17. See the District 5160 web site for details!
- ❖ **J P Furber** announced Friday, November 13th as the date for our **3rd Grade Dictionary Distribution** and passed around a sign-up sheet for both the morning and afternoon sessions. Contact J P if you have time available and an interest in helping pass out dictionaries to delightful and delighted local 3rd graders. All who have done this agree that this is a truly enjoyable event!
- ❖ **Super Salesman Rick Buxton** reminded the members that November is **Foundation Month** and that all members are expected to give as much as they can to help RI continue doing all those really absolutely amazing projects world-wide and at home to better the lives of those who need help the most. District 5160 is offering 100 extra PH points to double-sustainers! That’s a good deal, too!
- ❖ Finally, **Father Bill Ferguson** recognized **Ken Soult** for \$25 for a wedding Ken attended in Abilene, Texas. **Diane Barley** pleaded poverty and was given a discounted \$20 recognition for both husband **Bill’s** birthday and her own Rotary anniversary. **Father Billy** then went on to hype his favorite local choral group, **The Blackhawk Chorus**, and announced upcoming performance dates on Dec. 6, 13, and on the 19th at the Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$25. Hey, how much would you pay to hear **Bad Billy Ferguson** sing? ;-)



THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM !

“Where is Grandpa? Better Call SAR!”

Our speaker today was Rick Kovar from the Contra Costa Sheriff's Search and Rescue Department. Rick was accompanied by Officers Sgt. Sam Smith, Tricia Richardson, Daryl England and volunteer Sam Barley. Rick Kovar started with SAR as a 15 year-old volunteer and had this to say about CCC's SAR program:

- ❖ CCC SAR has over 200 people in tiered training levels and gives over 160,000 hrs of service each year, most of it volunteer hours. They specialize in finding lost or truant kids, Alzheimer walk-a-ways, missing persons, sometimes crime victims and even criminals!
- ❖ In the “Ground Pounders” category are: Bike Resources, Equestrians, Trackers, Technical Rescue Teams, K9 Rescue, Mt. Rescue, Search Management Staff, Metal Detectors, and Explorers (kids 14-18 yrs.) Other categories include: Amateur Radio Operators, Reserve Deputies, the Air Squadron, Food Services, Chaplains and Divers.
- ❖ Besides working in Contra Costa Counties, SAR Staff and volunteers spend 30% of their time working for other counties and all volunteers must buy and maintain their own equipment and uniforms. Even though SAR does receive good funding from donations, they still lose about 25% of their volunteers each year and so are constantly recruiting! Want to join up? Call Rick Kovar at: 925-646-4461 or email him at: rkova@so.cccounty.us ! SAR can surely use all the help we have to offer. Thanks, Rick and Diane, for a great program!

