

The Alamo Oak

Rotary Club of Alamo

Please visit our website at: www.alamorotary.org



Coming Next Week!

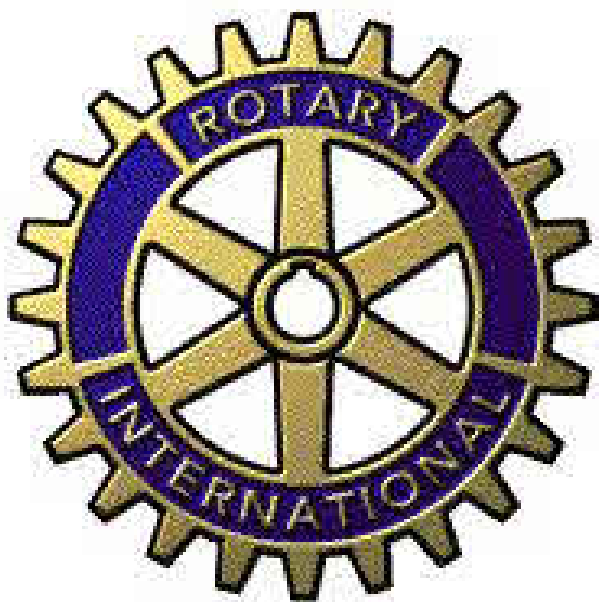
October 21st:

Brad Gai presents Robert Sher

of CEO to CEO

Super Greeter -Bob West

-and Steve Polcyn at the helm!



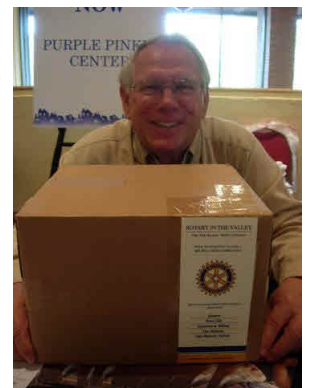
October 14, 2009

Zonked Out at the Zone!

Wow! So this is what it's like to hang out with the "Movers and Shakers" of Rotary, huh? Last Saturday, Beth and I drove down to Monterey, CA to present some information about the genesis and functioning of our **5 Club Alliance** at the **Far West Zone Conference**. Mark Von Hoetendorff asked us to explain the idea to some of the various DG's, PDG's, ADG's, Area Reps, Big Wigs and even Bigger Wigs, etc. who were attending the "Our Town"- themed conference. They were all having a fun time, strolling down "main street" in style!

While we munched on our turkey-wrap lunches, we listened to the winning districts being awarded first, second, and third place recognitions for various categories of fund-raising, donations, pledges, etc. to the Rotary Foundation. They were talking some **serious cash**, people! Taking into account the demographics of the various winning districts, we were able to better understand how powerful and productive our Far West Rotary Zone is! It was awe-inspiring to hear how well our districts were doing in keeping the life-blood donations pumping through to the heart of Rotary.

Like a "district conference on steroids", the Zone Conference pumped us up even more about Rotary and Rotary's role in improving the world, one project at a time, multiplied over and over and over! On a comic note, PDG Stan Smalley mistakenly brought the new 5 Club Alliance brochures to Zone that were supposed to go to the Carbo Load fundraiser on this day. So, I offered up Stan's head as a sacrifice to the 5 Club Alliance members who wondered where their new brochures went. Last I heard, they were warming up the head-shrinking pot! Smalley-Stew, anyone??! ;-)

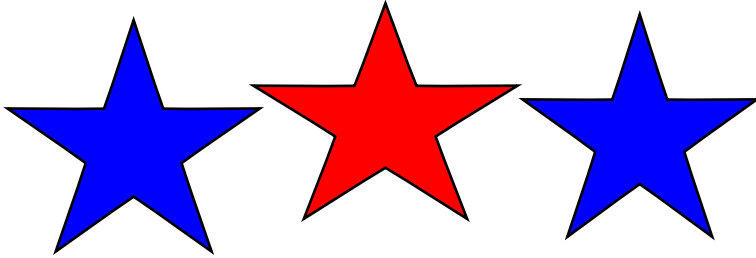


Stan's Shrinking Head!

Upcoming Events and Dates!

Nov. 7th: Foundation Day at the Races at GGF

Nov. 11th: 6 Club Night Mtg. RHC



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 new member Neeraj Punglia, Jean Mello, Jessica West, and a host of folks from our local schools who came by to accept their AMF Music Awards checks: Connie Forslind and Christine Bertolero from Rancho School; Nancy Raum and Carla Instrumental from Alamo School; Shaun McElroy and Ben Loomer from Stone Valley School; Joe Ianora, Nermin Kamel, and Cheryl Yee Glass from SRVHS, Carmen Trefil from Mauzy School and Jolynn Austin from County Education.

Upcoming Happenings

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

Diablo View Rotary has announced a poker tournament at Pyramid Ale in Walnut Creek on Oct. 24th. Give Brian T. a call for all the details on how to have fun and support the Diablo View Rotary Club.

Plus, the Rotary Day at the Races is scheduled for November 7th. Plan on joining fellow Rotarians at GGF, having a blast watching those ponies run!

Lastly, if you want to have fun cruising on our SF Bay, go out on [Celebrations on the Bay](#) and cruise in style with the Schuylers! Find out how much fun Halloween dining can be on board, while you go



bumping along on the Haunted Bay, chasing ghosts and sea monsters! Yipes!

Upcoming Cruises



9/13 Mr. Lucky's to Giants 12-3 PM

9/18 Dance Cruise with live music
7-10 PM

9/27 Story Winery Winemakers Dinner
Cruise 4-7 PM

10/9 Blue Angels Cruise 1-5 PM

10/31 Halloween Dinner Cruise 7-10 PM

All tickets by advance reservation only

Go to www.celebrationsonthebay.com

To purchase tickets

Celebrations On The Bay

1-877-499-4229

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

Announcements!

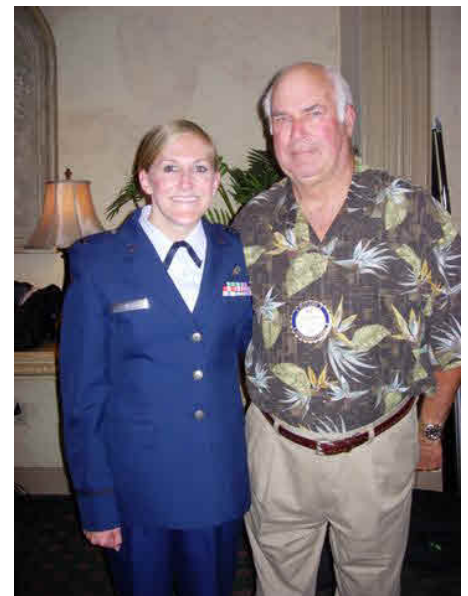
- ❖ Sponsor [Vish More](#) and PE [Steve Polcyn](#) welcomed new member [Neeraj Pungalia](#) into our club today. Vish will be helping Neeraj earn his Blue Badge!
- ❖ [Father William Ferguson](#) was on hand today to recognize the following members: [John Jones](#) was recognized for only \$20 for a vacation in Carmel, [Steve Polcyn](#) was



barely docked \$20 for attending his son's wedding in Connecticut, [Ron Mello](#) got off way too easy with a \$30 total recognition for a jeep trip to the sand dunes and for both his and [Jean's](#) birthday, [Carolyn Thiessen](#) was levied a mere \$20 for a trip to Ashland, Oregon, but best deal of all, [Jim Schuppert](#) only had to pay a paltry \$20 for celebrating 38 years of marriage with his artistic life partner, [Kristi](#)! I guess it pays to know somebody, huh? These are relatively light fines for heavy crimes! Maybe the issue was that Father Bill began

this session by explaining the pledge and recognition process to our guests and visiting educators. Teaching the teachers must have put our usually aggressive cleric in a more "academic" mood and the subsequent recognitions were significantly lenient. Oh well, Xmas IS coming!!!!

- ❖ Club Historian and proud father, [Bob West](#), gladly gave over his time today to his daughter [Jessica](#) who reported on her recent tour of duty in Iraq. Welcome home, Jessica, and "well-done"! You made your Dad, and the rest of us, quite proud today. Thanks for your service to our country!



THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM!

Alamo Rotary Awards AMF Checks to Local Schools' Music Teachers!

What a great day for Alamo Rotary! We were able to donate \$1000 early in the school year to each of our 6 local schools' music programs. This is what the AMF is all about. Each of the attending school music teachers and often their administrators took the opportunity not only to thank us, but also to tell us what effect our donations will have on their programs and what program highlights they look forward to in this school year.

Mauzy music teacher Carmen Trefil said she was starting up two additional music classes as well as a class for middle school age students with special needs with our donation. She passed around a picture book of her adorable students. Jolynn Austin from the County Office of Education, spoke about Mauzy's program servicing students aged 3 to 22, contributing important logical, cognitive development, enhanced by music.

Alamo choral music teacher, Nancy Raum, stated that their school was receiving no state or federal funds for their music program, that she was totally supported by parent donations and that class sizes were on the rise again. She plans to use our donation to purchase rhythm instruments and is looking forward to the Tree Lighting Ceremony and the Choral Festival with local middle schools. Alamo instrumental music teacher, Carla, plans to purchase new music for her 4th and 5th grade students.

Stone Valley Middle School instrumental music teacher, Ben Loomer, plans to repair badly needed band instruments with our donation. He needs to fill out the balance of instruments in his classes and is happy that he will now be able to pay for the new amplifier for their jazz band.

Cheryl Yee Glass from San Ramon Valley High School noted that keeping kids in music encouraged their participation in community events such as the AMF, Fall Concerts, and the 4th of July parade, and that she encourages talented kids to develop and share their gifts as either patrons or practitioners of the arts. She said the fight continues to keep music in our local school district. Today, Alamo Rotary

helped to win a battle in that fight. We are proud to sponsor such talented and dedicated educators and their caring administrators. Rock on, all of you! Let the music play on and on and on!

