

# The Alamo Oak

Rotary Club of Alamo

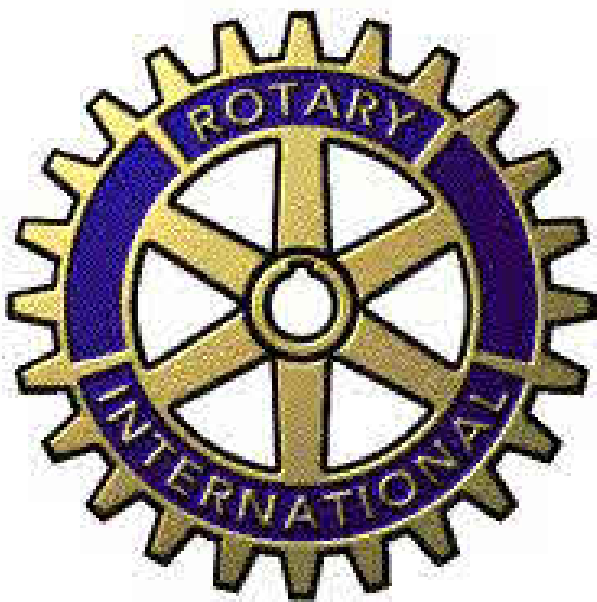
Please visit our website at: [www.alamorotary.org](http://www.alamorotary.org)



**Coming Next Week!**

**September 9th: Steve Polcyn presents Vintner Bob Kelso with free wine tasting for all members!**

- History Tidbits from B. West**
- Super Greeter - Ken Soult**



**September 2, 2009**

## **Monte Vista Interact Does Another Good Deed!**

Wow! They are only just now back in school and are already loaded down with the homework and the myriad activities that consume their time, but our amazing MVHS Interactors managed to collect more than 50 fully-loaded, brand-new school backpacks for kids in needy communities. Cooperating with the Contra Costa Times Project "Ready to Learn" and various Contra Costa County agencies, our MVHS Superstar Interactors did their typically astounding best and will be responsible for the joy, renewed hopes, and motivation of some otherwise very unfortunate students from poorer communities who now can begin this new school year "ready to learn" and ready to achieve their potential through their own best efforts!



Whether we are handing out dictionaries, donating to school music programs, awarding student and teacher recognitions, or college scholarships, or in helping build schools in far-away locations in India and Africa, Alamo Rotary continues to do what it can to further education in our community and in the world at large. In joining us in these efforts once again, MVHS Interact makes us proud. Good work, kids!

## Upcoming Events and Dates!

**Sept. 12th: Alamo Music Festival**

**Sept. 21st: Board meeting 6 pm**

**Sept. 23rd: GSE Lunch Program  
and PM Dinner Party**

**Sept. 26th: GSE SF Field Trip and  
Multi-Club Party!**

**Sept. 30th: "All Shook Up" 7:30 pm**

## *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 speaker Don Merucci, Judy Lewis, Neeraj Punghia, Steve Glaski, Danna Pomeroy, and ADG David Behring.

## RECOGNITIONS

**Father Ferguson** graciously gave over his time today to facilitate our announcements and presentations. Well, here are a few upcoming opportunities to "recognize" the need for some socializing and fun times with other Alamo Rotarians. First, on September 23rd, we will be hosting our GSE Volunteer Fire Fighters from Monterrey, Mexico for dinner at the Peasant's Courtyard in Alamo. A no-host bar will begin at 6 p.m. with dinner following at 7 p.m. Jack Thompson has reserved the courtyard for us and even arranged for strolling musicians! Jack has negotiated a great price of only \$25 per person, so sign-up with Jack T. or give him a call!

For those of us who enjoy theater and the music of Elvis Presley, sign-ups have been taken by Beth Randall for the Sept. 30th 7:30 p.m. showing of "All Shook Up" at the Leshner Center in Walnut Creek. A pre-show dinner may also be arranged. Beth will bring the show tickets to next week's meeting or will hold them for members at the door.

Brian Thiessen announced three upcoming activities of our newest Rotary Club, Diablo View. They are sponsoring a family day benefiting the Make-a-Wish Foundation at Water World in Concord on Sept. 13th, a "Hound Hustle" on Oct. 10th, and a poker tournament at Pyramid Ale in Walnut Creek on Oct. 24th. Give Brian a call for all the details on how to have fun and support this fledgling WC Rotary Club.

Plus, our Rotary Day at the Races is scheduled for Oct. 23rd for \$25/person. Mark Kahn is making all the arrangements and this event is fun-filled and quite a bargain. The price includes parking, a sumptuous buffet, a visit to the winners circle and the opportunity to strike it rich "playing the ponies" with your friends and fellow local Rotarians!

Lastly, if you want to check out the big swap-out of the Bay Bridge connection on Labor Day Weekend, go out on **Celebrations on the Bay** and go cruising in style with the Schuylers! Give Greg a call before he fills the boat up and you miss out!

### Bay Bridge Transformation Cruises



\$30 each  
\$15 under 10

Saturday 9/5/09  
Sunday 9/6/09  
Cruise 1:00-3:30 PM  
Boarding 12:30 PM  
Oakland Ferry Dock  
Snacks & Beverages for Sale

See Bypass Accomplished

Go to [www.celebrationsonthebay.com](http://www.celebrationsonthebay.com) to buy your tickets on line

All tickets by advance reservation

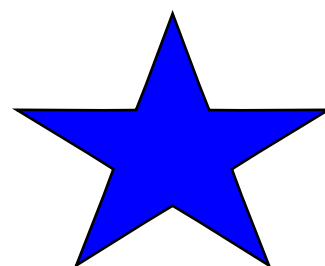
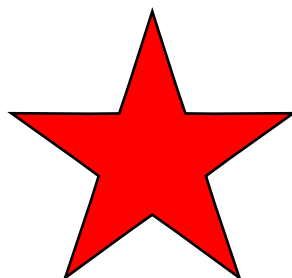
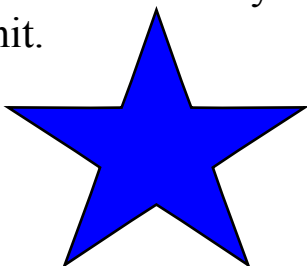
**Celebrations On The Bay**

1-877-499-4229

# Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

## Announcements!

- ❖ Bob Myhre found \$140 on the sidewalk in Alamo and has donated it to the Alamo Club Foundation for support of Meals on Wheels! Bob also announced an electronic waste recycling event Sept. 19th to benefit Moraga Rotary.
- ❖ This year's GSE Visiting Team is composed of volunteer firefighters from Monterey, Mexico. We will host them on Wed. Sept. 23rd all day, with a luncheon program, an afternoon SRVFD tour from Chris Suter, and a dinner/party that night. Friday is a rest day. Saturday is a local tour and multi-club party.
- ❖ AMF raffle tickets are still available from Chuck Ortmeier. All monies and stubs need to be returned to Jim Schuppert! Dinner ticket money to Ron M. Jim announced that we are approaching \$48,000 in sponsorships, so far! The AMF work schedule will soon be developed and disseminated.
- ❖ The 5160 District Conference will be held at Lake Tahoe on Oct. 1-4, 2009! Sign up online at [www.rotary5160.org/2009conference](http://www.rotary5160.org/2009conference) to reserve your spot and lodgings. Registration is free!!!
- ❖ Club Historian Bob West had great news that Jessica is on her way to Germany after 8 months in Iraq. He mentioned again the email letters from Afghanistan written by Elliot Brouse. Bob also spoke about the days when the lunches at Roundhill cost a whopping \$4 each! He mentioned names like: Fred Moore, Ken Edmonds, and the Jaws of Life. And these were the days when Alamo Rotary won Best District Small Club! Good old days they were!
- ❖ Visiting ADG Dave Behring, after duly noting that Alamo Rotary was the best Rotary Club ever and always would be, encouraged the members to attend the District 5160 Conference at Harvey's Lake Tahoe Oct. 1-4! After that kind of praise, we all gotta go there, right??
- ❖ Next week Lydia's son, USMC Sgt. Joshua Lawlor, will attend our meeting and would like to say a few words of thanks to the club for our donations to his unit.



# THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM!

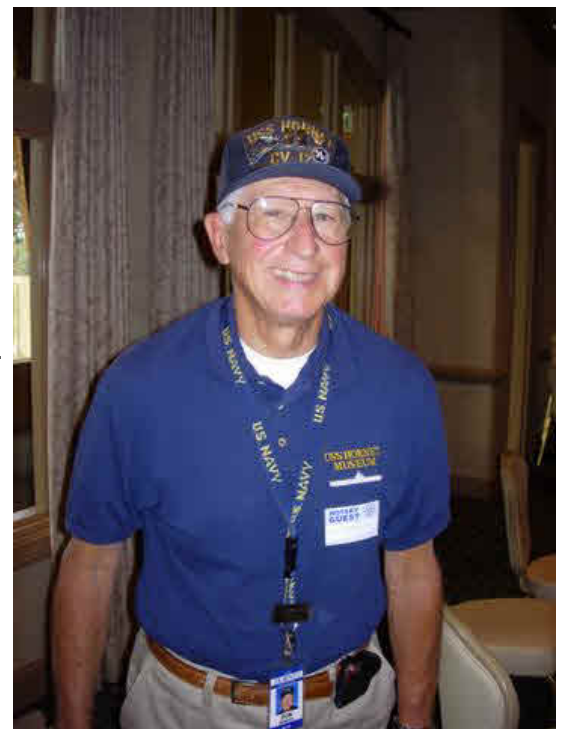
## ***DON MERUCCI ON THE USS HORNET***

Today's speaker was Don Merucci, military and civilian aviator. Don graduated from the U of Detroit in 1961 with a degree in civil engineering and a commission as a 2nd Lieutenant in the USAF. He served during the Cuban Missile Crisis and in Viet Nam. Discharged in 1966, Don went on to work for United Airlines until retirement in 1997. Since 1998 he has kept busy as a docent on the aircraft carrier, the USS Hornet..

The US Navy has always had a "Hornet". The first one was a sloop (small sailing vessel) and currently the "Hornets" are fighter jets. But from 1939 until 1970, the 'Hornets' were aircraft carriers, the first one, CV # 8, launched the "Doolittle Raid on Tokyo" in April of 1942 and was sunk in the Battle of Santa Cruz in the Marshall Islands. Its replacement, the current Hornet CV #12 was built in 12 months, served 16 months continuous duty in the Pacific, was engaged in over 60 battles, shot down over 1400 enemy aircraft, sank 73 enemy ships, had 28 of its 50 pilots as confirmed "Aces", achieved the flawless recovery of Apollo 11 & 12, and has been declared to be a State and National Historic Landmark!

Located at Alameda's former naval air station, the USS Hornet is a 501c non-profit organization and takes no money from the state of CA or from the federal government. They welcome all donations, of course. The Hornet is open daily from 10 am until 5 pm and tours highlight the command centers, engine rooms, mess decks, flight deck, aircraft elevators, hanger decks, lots of vintage aircraft including an F14 Hornet! Special activities can be arranged including: sleep-overs with dinner/breakfast and flashlight tours of the "Haunted Hornet" at night, large commercial parties and events, luncheons, Big Band Dances with the likes of the Glen Miller Band, Living Ship Days each month, and Protestant Church Services each Sunday with the Hornet's very own chaplain.

The Hornet does a lot for us as a living museum, but what can we do for the Hornet? Well, donations are welcome, volunteer work, from mechanical restoration work to clerical services, is always available and volunteers of all talents are always needed and appreciated, and any items/memorabilia of historical value from the period of WW II are also in demand to add to this "floating museum". We are extremely fortunate to have this rare and wonderful historical monument in our own backyard. Many thanks to Don Merucci for sharing his knowledge of the USS Hornet CV #12 with us and for all the fine work he and all the other volunteers do to keep this museum of modern history afloat and open to the curious public.



# AIRCRAFT CARRIER USS HORNET

★ Walk in the Footsteps of  
Astronauts and Heroes! ★



Located at the former Naval Air Station:

707 W. Hornet Ave., Pier 3  
Alameda, CA 94501  
[www.uss-hornet.org](http://www.uss-hornet.org)  
(510) 521-8448

## Fun for the Whole Family!

See a ship that affected the course of history...

Commissioned in 1943, *Hornet* is a highly decorated WWII and Vietnam combat veteran. Her last mission was the recovery of the Apollo 11 and 12 astronauts. Explore the immensity of this historic aircraft carrier and discover one of our great national treasures. Veterans of our military forces are on hand to lead tours and share their experiences.

### Exhibit Highlights

Navigation Bridge	Torpedo Room	TBM Avenger
Combat Information Center	Apollo Capsule & MQF	F-8 Crusader
Sick Bay	A-4 Skyhawk	S-2 Tracker
Engine Room	F-14 Tomcat	SH-3 SeaKing
Ship Association Rooms	HUP Helicopter	H-34 SeaHorse

Open Daily, 10am - 5pm

Adults	\$14.00
Seniors/Military	\$12.00
Youth (age 5-17)	\$6.00
Museum Members	Free

Free Parking Across the Street

Food Service Available

Visit our Ship's Store

Ride the Flight Simulator

### Public Transportation

Bus • Ferry • BART

AC Transit #63 provides daily service from nearby BART and ferry terminals.

For schedules:

[www.transitinfo.org](http://www.transitinfo.org)



The USS Hornet is located at Alameda's former naval air station and is only 15 minutes across the bay from downtown San Francisco by auto. From I-880, take the Broadway/Alameda exit. Follow Alameda signs through Webster Street Tube. Turn right at Atlantic Avenue. Follow signs to USS Hornet Museum.

Visit our website [www.HornetEvents.com](http://www.HornetEvents.com) for detailed driving directions and a calendar of events.

*The aircraft carrier USS Hornet Museum is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and is a registered State and National Historic Landmark.*



## \$2 OFF ADULT ADMISSION

Limit: six (6) adult tickets.

Present this coupon at the USS Hornet Ticket Desk during regular museum hours. Offer excludes special events and is not valid in conjunction with any other discount.

VALUE UP TO \$12 • EXPIRES

6/30/10