

Sharks?"

Please Pay Your Recognitions, Fines, & Donations:

Please make sure to pay your recognitions (including birthday and anniversary fines) as promptly as you can. **Neeru Bhutani** will accept all recognition and fine payments, **Cathy Durfee** will take the sponsor meeting payments and **Gordon Fischer** collects the Rotary International Foundation payments. If you have any questions, you can contact your Club President, Pam Raumer at 925-274-5740 or praumer@rina.com Thank you so much for your generosity and support.

Introducing New Member, Dess Benedetto

Dess is an estate planning attorney, and most of us remember her excellent presentation to the Club last year which we can hope helped her decide to join us as an active Club member. Dess and her 4-year old son live in Danville. She has an undergraduate degree in Psychology from the University of California (Go Bears!), and played on the water polo team. After CAL, she worked for a startup software company for a couple of years, then moved on to law school at the University of San Diego. She worked for the district attorney's office but found that her interests and psychology background were better suited to the estate planning field. Dess continues to pursue swimming as a hobby, and participates in the Masters swimming program in Walnut Creek, and competes in Masters events. Dess tells us that she is working on a novel. Welcome, Dess!

New Members

Welcome our newest members. **Doug Switzer** has transferred from the Rotary Club of Walnut Creek—Sunrise. Doug is retired, and was an active Rotarian in Seattle before relocating here. Besides his involvement in Rotary, Doug also has been an active leader in the Boy Scouts, recently serving as Scoutmaster for Troop 216 in Alamo. **Eugene McGrane**, of MCC Realty Group in Walnut Creek, has joined in the classification of Com-

mercial Real Estate.

Invite a Prospective Member to Join Us for Lunch

Here's how it works. You invite your prospect to a Club lunch meeting. You pay the prospect's lunch tab for the first visit. The prospect can visit two more times, and the Club will pay the cost. If the prospect joins, the Club also will reimburse you for the first lunch.

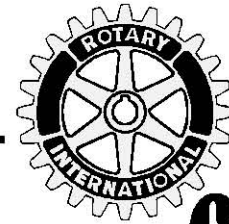
Email:

Code: MAD-MAX Expires: 2008-04-30
Code: ALL-ANGRY Expires: 2008-05-31

Upcoming Meetings:

- 2008-04-29** -- President Pam's 50th Birthday Bash
- 2008-05-06** Kids -- Camp Royal & Venture
- 2008-05-13** Dan Ashley -- World News
- 2008-05-20** Pam Raumer -- Rotary Speaker
- 2008-05-27** Marilyn Ellis,CTAC -- Are you stuck on the rocks lost in the fog surrounded by sharks

For the latest "scoop" on upcoming meeting programs, visit our website and click on the link on the home page:
www.rotarywc.org



The Walnut Leaf

ROTARY CLUB OF WALNUT CREEK

Tuesday, April 29, 2008 Volume 76 Number 38

People In Charge this Week

Presiding	Pam Raumer	Thought/Pledge.....	Dess Benedetto
Director.....	Nestor Karas	Song Leader.....	Lu Hughes
Team Captain	Karen Horrigan	Guest Intro & Mic.....	Hari Boukis
Meeting Setup.....	Karen Horrigan	Birthdays.....	Mark Hull
Greeter.....	John Gardner	Anniversaries.....	
Ticket Sales.....	Lee Schneider	Speaker Intro.....	
		Meeting Take-Down.....	Karen Horrigan

Today's Program:

Happy 50th Birthday to President Pam!

Notices:

50

CLUB NO. 465
ROTARY
INTERNATIONAL
DISTRICT 5160

Wilfred Wilkinson
International President

Stan Smalley
District Governor

Jim Campbell
Dist Gov. Elect

Pam Raumer
President

Layton Hansen
President Elect

Clint Collier
Immediate Past President

Hari Boukis
Secretary

Quentin Alexander
Attendance Secretary

Cathy Durfee
Treasurer

Neeru Bhutani
Sgt. At Arms

Jack Fisher
Rod Uffindell
New Member Coord.

Hari Boukis
Webmaster

John McClintic
Bulletin Editor

Directors
2006-2008
Charlotte Quinn
Lu Hughes
Nestor Karas

2007-2009
Mitch Ambro
Sabine Webb
Marty Larsen

Trustees
Clint Collier
Pam Raumer
Layton Hansen
Bob Morgan
Tom Rockwell
Jim Campana
Carl Manna
Gill Bordenave
Jesse Smyers
Charlotte Quinn
Gordon Fischer
Lance Mendes

Announcements:

Recognitions

Thanks to **Bob Romero and Team 3** for a great month of programs.

The Community Foundation has sponsored Madeline Palmieri (widow of former Club member Larry) by donating \$200 to the American Stroke Association. Madeline is running half-marathons to raise funds for ASA. The Community Foundation also has donated \$1,000 to the local Mt Diablo Silverado Council of the Boy Scouts of America to support its programs for local youth.

Thanks to **Clint Collier and all of the Club Members** who worked on the Playground Map project at Indian Valley School on April 19th. The map looks great!

Bob Morgan has a new baby daughter, Malia Rose Morgan.

April Anniversaries

Congratulations to the following Rotarians celebrating anniversaries in April: **Rod Uffindell, Fletcher Tyler, Ron Huppert, Carl Manna, Cathy Durfee, and Bruce Cockerham.**

April Birthdays

Many happy returns of the day to the other Rotarians (besides President Pam) who are celebrating birthdays in April: **Lauren Kraus, Bob Romero, Allen Wesdorf.**

New Rotary Club of Diablo View--Will meet Tuesday nights 5:30pm

We are sponsoring a new Rotary Club. It will meet Tuesday nights from 5:30pm to 6:30pm. Our own member, **Mitch Ambro**, has volun-

teered to serve as the Charter President for the new Club. **Contact Mitch at 866-842-1420** to confirm the meeting location. Our Club members are asked to help get the new Club started out by attending as guests at meetings and by helping recruit new members to Rotary. The nighttime meeting and setting may be of interest to potential Rotarians who cannot attend meetings during the breakfast or lunch hour.

Fishing in the City, Saturday May 10th, 8:30am to 11:30am Heather Farms

Eighty third graders from Buena Vista School are getting ready to go fishing with our Club in a partnership program with the school district and the Department of Fish and Game. A few Rotarians will be going to the school during the week to teach the kids to cast, tie knots, and about fishing generally. The main event will be held at **Heather Farms from 8:30 am through 11:30 am on Saturday, May 10, 2008.** Everyone's welcome, and no fishing experience is necessary to enjoy the day and help out with the kids. Please contact **John Gardner**, 944-6080, johng@rotarywc.org for more details or with questions.

Rotary Poker Tournament and Casino Night May 17th Pleasant Hill Community Center—Open to Rotarians and Family Members Our Club Will Sponsor 10 Members at \$100 Each!

Register now for this annual fun and fundraising event. \$100 entry for poker players, \$20 for casino players. The event is Sat May 17th from 4pm to 10pm at the Pleasant Hill Community Center, 320 Civic Drive in Pleasant Hill. See **Mitch Ambro** for details and to register. Our Club is sponsoring 10 Members and will pay the \$100 for each of them as part of our contribution to the District 5160 prosthetic hand LN-4 project.

Message from Rotary International President Wilf Wilkinson

Dear fellow Rotarians,

Rotary is uniquely privileged to be a well-established, religiously and politically neutral organization with no governmental ties or obligations. We are known and respected as a group of men and women who simply come to help – by bringing clean water and food, teaching literacy and numeracy, providing assistance after a disaster, ending polio.

When there is a need, a crisis, or an emergency, Rotary is there. We know that, as Rotarians, part of our role in any crisis is to bring people together, rather than drive them apart. It is our role and also our responsibility.

Today, we are faced globally with a new crisis: the changing environment and the changing climate. It's a frightening situation that will affect everyone but will hurt the poor and the weak far more than the wealthy and the strong. The days of wondering and considering and hoping are at an end, as it has become ever clearer that we are on a course that can be slowed but not stopped.

This past summer, the Arctic ice cap melted at a pace that exceeded even the most pessimistic expectations. The rate of melting and warming is accelerating in what seems to be a cycle of ever-increasing speed, and we cannot pretend that it will not affect us. It already has. In the American West, water is becoming more and more scarce as less snow falls every winter to refill lakes and streams. From my window in Evanston, I can see Lake Michigan, whose water level, like the other Great Lakes, is near or already at a record low. And as the supply of fresh water diminishes, the sea levels are rising, putting low-lying nations – many of them poor and developing – at increasing risk. We know that in the years and decades to come, there will be crises, and there will be challenges. Will we let them drive us apart, or will we use them to bring us together? Will we be fragmented, or will we come together to address the universal needs of all people? Will we choose to address the desires of the rich over the needs of the poor, or will we do what is best for everyone on our planet? The greatest challenges lie before us, now and in the years to come.

Hi Ho, Hi Ho, It's Out the Door We Go...

Each week, we need to clear the room by 2pm as another group needs the facility at 3pm. Help the cleanup crew get everything put away by 2pm.

No Parking in the Greenery Restaurant and Golf Course Lot

Please note that we cannot park in the parking lot across the street from the Heather Farms Garden Club lot. That lot is reserved for patrons of the Diablo Hills Golf Course and the Greenery Restaurant.

We have lots to do at our meetings, so let's be seated by 12:25pm...

President Pam again asks that we allow sufficient time to get to the meeting, check in, go through the buffet line, and be seated so that we are ready to start by 12:25pm. This also will allow us more time for conversation and socializing before-hand, one of the purposes of Rotary...

May is Membership Month

May is Membership Month! Bring a guest to a meeting in May who has never been to a Rotary meeting before and the Club will pick up your guest's lunch! Bring them back a second time, and the Club will pick up your guest's lunch and your lunch - remember - this is good only for the month of May. Let's build a stronger Club together! See Clint for a packet of Club information for your guests.

Upcoming Club Meetings/Events: Plan to attend these Club meetings and invite at guest!

May 6 Camp Royal and Camp Venture
Sat May 10 Fishing in the City, Heather Farms Park. See John Gardner to volunteer.
May 13 Dan Ashley, TV anchor, "World News"
May 20 Speaker TBA
May 27 Marilyn Ellis, CTAC, "Are You Stuck on the Rocks, Lost in the Fog, Surrounded by