Thought for the Day: Jenn Diaz-Quinteros

Today: Jim Carley, “Retirement Planning”

Today’s E-Edition features a photo from the January 14th meeting of Speaker Gayle Vasser and Ken Nordhoff from the City of Walnut Creek during their presentation about City budget planning. Thanks to Clint Collier for providing photos from our meetings.

Interviews are underway for this Summer’s Student Exchange Program with the Rotary Club of Tokyo-Kohoku Japan. This program sends a student from each Club to the other Club to spend a few weeks hosted by the Members. If you know a college age student who would be a good candidate to be our representative, please contact Lance Mendes so that they can be interviewed and considered.

Sunshine Committee Report: Quent Alexander is back at home continuing his recovery from an infection under his replacement knee. He welcomes calls at 925-820-1593. Mel Bacher is living at Sunrise Assisted Living in Walnut Creek and welcomes visitors. Call first to check availability. Ivan Kerr visited Mel recently and can provide more information on how to arrange visit.

Recognitions: Thanks to Charlotte Cranmer, Mark’s mom and widow of former member, Past President, and Past District Governor Joe Cranmer, for again donating $750 to sponsor one student to Camp Royale this summer. Lance and Kris Mendes visited Thailand.

Tom and Christine Noble enjoyed a one month cruise through the Caribbean and the South America, with land visits in Uruguay and Argentina. Trudy Triner is happy that her 28 year old son found a good job working with students at the Chabot Space and Science Center in the Oakland hills.

Crab Feed Fundraiser February 1, 2014. We need help with the Wine Barrel raffle and auction: Each Member is to donate two $25 value bottles. Bev Mo’s Scent sale is again underway and is a great way to purchase your donation. Please give your two bottles (or a check for $50 to Gordon Fischer).

Chicken Feed? If you or your guests want chicken instead of Crab, please tell Bob Morgan and get a “chicken chit” so we know how much to make.

Volunteers are still needed for the night of the event. See John Fenoglio to sign up for the remaining tasks.
Challenge Days Feb 24 and 25 2014—Northgate High School: NHS is currently organizing full-day volunteers for Monday, February 24 and Tuesday, February 25; the time commitment is from 7:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and registration volunteers for 7:15 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. each day. NHS also is soliciting food donations, including granola or snack bars, bananas, individually packaged chips, individually packaged cookies, and “Sponsor a Northgate Teacher” donations (which costs $150 to provide a substitute teacher). (You can donate towards a substitute by writing a check to “Northgate PFC” with “Challenge Day” written within in the memo. Please place your check into the Challenge Day box in the office). If you want to help, contact Jerry Benoit at our Club, or Bertha Yorke or Chandra Collins at NHS to volunteer or for donations at: bxa8@pge.com and chandracollins@gmail.com

Proposed New Members. Jonathan Bishop, is a business and real estate construction defect litigation attorney with his own firm in Walnut Creek Bishop Law Group APC. He is married and has three elementary school age children. Jim Hester is VP-Branch Manager for California Bank & Trust in Walnut Creek. He is married and recently relocated from Ohio where he was a charter member of the First Capital Rotary Club. Please provide any comments to the Club Secretary.

Reno Train Trip Fri Feb 28-Sun Mar 2. The reservation deadline is January 27, 2014. To register, see the email from Doug Switzer. The organizers from the Rotary Club of Orinda expect a large turnout from the Reno-Sparks area Rotary Clubs at the inter district dinner meeting on Saturday, March 1. District 5160 Rotarians can board the train on Friday, 2/28 in Emeryville 10:00am, Richmond 10:15am, Martinez 11:00am, Suisun 11:25am, and Sacramento 12:15pm. Our train should arrive in Reno around 5:00pm. Buses will transport us to the Nugget Hotel, which will also be the location of the inter-district dinner meeting. The all inclusive fee of $375 per person Double and $445 per person single occupancy includes: Round Trip Train Tickets, 2 nights lodging at John Ascuaga's Nugget Hotel; transport to and from the train; a meal served at your seat going over and a deli lunch for your return; the dinner meeting on Saturday Night, a "Winner Book of Coupons" which includes some free buffets at Reno area hotel-casinos ($100 value), a-Rotary Commemorative Pin, B.Y.O.B. fully allowed and-2 Complimentary Drink Tickets each way; hosted hospitality suite on Saturday prior to the Dinner Meeting! For an additional $120 you can upgrade to the Vistadome sightseeing and dining car, the only train in the world offering a Dancing Car with a DJ, and a Piano Bar Lounge Car and gift shop.

Polio Plus Trip to Delhi, India, Feb 14 to 25. See Doug Switzer's email with details about the US Rotary delegation’s trip to Delhi, India, where we will participate in the polio eradication activities and attend the Polio Conclave. This trip also includes travel to the Taj Mahal, and Jaipur to visit the famous Rotary Jaipur Limb factory, and enjoy this extraordinary city. Per person land-only cost, based on double occupancy: $2,299 does NOT include international, roundtrip airfare or Indian visa fees. Space is limited, so please act immediately if you are interested. See the email sent by Doug Switzer for contact information.
2013/2014 Club Projects and Contacts: See the following Rotarians for further information about our Club Projects. New Projects: Rotary Learning Center and Monument Crisis Center—Bob Romero; The Creek Youth Center (6 computers); Walnut Creek Fire Station No. 7 (alarm system)—Jerry Benoit; Boy Scouts of America Hispanic Initiative—Bob Romero. Continuing Annual Projects: Fishing in the City—John Gardner; Meals on Wheels—Bob Romero; Camp Royal and Camp Venture—Carl Manna and Joe Doherty; Creek Cleanup—Quent Alexander; Challenge Day @ Northgate H.S.—Jerry Benoit; Crab Feed Fundraiser—Milt Smith; Scholarships at Las Lomas H.S. and Northgate H.S.—Ken Anderson and Rem Barnard; DVC Career Connections—Karen Lile; Family BBQ—Mike Lommel; Poker Tournament Fundraiser—Carl Manna; UC Berkeley International House Agriculture Tour—Sabine Webb and Darren Kelly; Rotary Club of Tokyo Kohoku Youth Exchange—Bay Shamardaan; DV8 International Projects—Ken Anderson; the Garden at Heather Farms; Assistance League of Diablo Valley; Concord Rotocare Mobile Clinic—Lu Hughes; Toys for Tots—Clint Collier; Borges Ranch Heritage Day—Jack Fischer.

Upcoming Club Meetings/Events: Plan to attend these Club meetings and invite a guest!
Jan 28, Steve Lesher, “Walnut Creek Centennial”
Sat Feb 1 Annual Crab Feed Fundraiser, Centre Concord, 6pm.
Feb 4, Solarzar the Magician.
Feb 11, Valentine’s Day, Bring your Significant Other
Feb 18, Michael Barrington, “What’s New in Walnut Creek?”
Feb 25, David Gilbert, “What’s New in Genomes?”