People In Charge this Week

Presiding .........................Clint Collier
Director ..........................Bert Payne
Team Captain .....................Milt Smith
Meeting Setup .................Milt Smith
Greeter .......................Ron Huppert
Ticket Sales ..................Alex Lommel

Thought/Pledge ..................Ira Hillyer
Song Leader .....................Lu Hughes
Guest Intro & Mic .............Jack Fischer
Birthdays .......................Anniversaries
Speaker Intro ...............Milt Smith
Meeting Take-Down .........Milt Smith

Today’s Program:

Jeanette Engle Ramirez,
Neuroscience at John Muir Medical Center

Check this out...

This Saturday, -- District 5160 Family Fun Day
Western Railway Museum
Hwy 12 btwn Fairfield and Rio Vista

Upcoming Events:

May 8th, District 5160 Family Fun Day and BBQ at Western Railway Museum
May 19th Casino Royale Poker Tournament and Dinner, Grace Church, Martinez. See Mitch Ambro for info.
June 30th, District 5160 Sundial Bridge Dinner Dance, Redding
Feb 2, 2008. Rotary Club of Walnut Creek Crab Feed Fundraiser

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

Wheelchair Project Update
Pres Clint obtained the following update on the Wheelchair fundraising project led by Jack Martin. Our money (along with that from the Redding clubs) has now been matched by RI and $75,000 sits in an account with Redding West Rotary Club. The Shanghai Club is paying its financial contribution and they are going to make sure that the chairs will be placed by the Shanghai Club with guidance from the collaboration organizations – China Disabled Person’s Association and the Huangshan Women’s Association. Building the wheelchairs, selecting the recipients, and distributing 1250 wheelchairs will take some time. The Club will continue to monitor this project.

Meet New Member Bob Travale
Bob Travale introduced himself to the Club last week. He was born in Southern California, the youngest of six children. He joined early in the family’s love for the car business, selling cars in Hollywood as a teenager. He relocated with the family to Northern California and started his own rental car agency, changed to a car dealership, then a boat dealership. His next career change took him into financial services, working for Dean Witter, then mortgages and investments for local banks, and eventually moving into bank branch management. Last year, his nephew bought a sign franchise business and convinced Bob to try a new career. Bob bought a ½ interest and runs the local Walnut Creek branch of “Instant Sign Maker” at 1601 N. Main Suite 101. Our Club’s special event banners and signs have never looked so good! Bob’s 3 older brothers are all active Rotarians, and Bob joined our Club to have the same service and friendship opportunities that they have enjoyed through Rotary. Bob and his wife Nancy have two sons and two daughters-in-law. Welcome, Bob!

District 5160 Fundraiser for 2006-2007
– Raffle Last chance to buy your tickets.
Remember the motto “$100 Every Rotarian Every Year.” An easy way to fulfill your sustaining membership commitment is to buy 5 raffle tickets for our annual District 5160 fundraiser. Not only will you have a chance to win fabulous trips and other prizes, you also be credited with having met you Paul Harris Sustaining Membership contribution for the year. Please see Rem Barnard 925-939-6209, rembi@rotarywc.org.

– Family Fun Day at Western Railway Museum, This Saturday, May 5th
Join Rotarians and families from the entire District 5160 at this day of fun at the Western Railway Museum located on Highway 12 between Fairfield and Rio Vista. The event includes a BBQ, train rides, silent auction, music, and fellowship. See www.rotary5160.org for details.

– Sundial Bridge Dinner Dance, Redding, June 30th
Buy your tickets now for this “adult-oriented” dinner dance which will ring out the old Rotary year and ring in the new. Experience the magic as the sun sets on one end of the bridge and the moon rises on the other. For info and to purchase tickets go to www.rotary5160.org.

“Casino Royale” Rotary Poker Tournament, Sat May 19th, Martinez
There is still a chance to participate in the big Rotary Poker Tournament on May 19th in Martinez. Get your $100 entry fee to Mitch Ambro (866)-1420 at mitch-cha@rotarywc.org to secure your spot. The event will be held at Grace Church, 130 Muir Station Road, Martinez. There is also space to attend the dinner sponsored by Sunrise Bistro, which is included in the entry fee for the participants. The winning pot is $1,500! The District Governor Candy Pierce will be playing; will YOU?

Rotary International Convention—Salt Lake City, Utah June 17-20, 2007
Conventions are meant to stimulate, inspire, and inform all Rotarians at an international level. You can learn about strengthening your club and identifying and securing fellowship opportunities through attending a Rotary Convention - listening to speakers (Bill Gates & Hyrum Smith), participating in workshops, visiting the Club and District Project Exhibition and talking to fellow Rotarians. Experience the energy of thousands of fellow Rotarians from around the world at daily plenary sessions at the Salt Palace Convention Center. Why not plan a vacation with your own family after the convention or before? Plan to attend the world famous Mormon Tabernacle Choir performance or enjoy a real live western rodeo with bull riding, barrel racing and bronco bucking. This year’s program promises sensational entertainment, stirring speeches, and inspirational opening and closing ceremonies, including a performance by renowned New Zealand opera singer Dame Malvina Major. For reservation and registration information, go to www.rotary.org/events/conventions/2007/how-to-register.html

Rotary International Membership Conference August 17-18
Rotary International is holding a series of membership promotion conferences this summer. Our local conference will be August 17-18 at the Doubletree Hotel in San Jose. Additional details will be announced at a later date.

Yosemite Weekend Fri and Sat Sept 21-22—Sign up now to avoid cancellation
We hope to go again to Yosemite this September. See Bill Larmer and Pam Raumer for room reservations at the Wawona Hotel. Friday night features pot-luck appetizers and wine tasting on the hotel grounds, Golf, tennis, swimming, hiking on Saturday, and Saturday night features a BBQ dinner at the cabin of Fletcher and Nancy Tyler. $190 per room, double occupancy. We have 15 rooms reserved, but we need to act fast to fill them and hold the group reservation.

Walnut Festival September 19-23
See Joe Stein if you or your local organization is interested in getting in on the ground floor for this year’s Walnut Festival. The event is being organized now, and space will be limited, so if you want to have a chance to participate you need to see Joe right away.

The Russians are Coming; Again this October
We will be hosting a delegation of Russian real estate brokers from Oct 3rd thru 10th during their fall visit to our District. See Andy Halperin if you can host one or more of this delegation that week.

Replacement Club Rotary International Foundation Secretary Still Needed
Layton Hansen needs to hand over his duties as RI Foundation Secretary for our Club to another member as he prepares to serve as President of our Club for 2008-2009.

Proposed New Member
A former member, Donna Montana, has applied to rejoin the Club. Donna is now with First Bank in Walnut Creek. Please provide any comments to the Club Secretary.

Excel and has scanned the RI donation form into a Word document. He has a file setup with each member’s information that is required to be entered on the form when the member makes a donation. Thus, having access to Excel and Word on your computer is a big help for this job.

Contact Layton at the meeting or by email to laytonh@rotarywc.org if you are interested so that he can train you between now and July.

Lunch experiment....
From time to time we reevaluate our lunch program, to try to meet the changing tastes and desires of our changing membership. One suggestion that we have been getting recently is a desire to “lighten up” a bit. So, we thought we would try an experiment for the month of May. We are going to switch our lunches to a sandwich, soup and salad bar. Rotarians will be able to pick and choose, building a lighter lunch to suit their own preference. Towards the end of May we will ask each team leader to canvas their members for their opinion of this new approach to our lunches and either continue it or revert back to our traditional meal service.

Show that Rotary Pride—Wear Your Rotary Pins 24/7
Don’t keep Rotary a secret. Spread the word by wearing your favorite Rotary pin 24/7. We have lots of styles and sizes. Pres Clint is ruthless and relentless on this issue. Avoid a $15 recognition fee for being caught naked without your pin.

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