


 R O T A R Y C L U B
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 OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF ST. HELENA CLUB

Monday, September 15, 2008

Editor: Doug Ernst
If you have any comments or questions, email the editor.

Future Speakers

Sep 16 2008

Don Fulton

"The Reluctant Warrior"

Sep 23 2008

Jamie Graff

"Nimbus Arts "

Sep 30 2008

Ray Manzarek, of The Doors

"The Seduction Of Rock & Roll. The joys & the dangers."

Oct 7 2008

Catharine Bramkamp

Oct 14 2008

Richard Williams

"Who Needs A Conductor?"

Oct 21 2008

Lois Swanson

"Womens' Opportunity Fund"

Oct 28 2008

JoAline Olsen/Elaine John

"St. Helena Hospital's Master Plan"

Dec 9 2008

DARK

Feb 12 2009

Valentine Celebration

"Sweetheart Lunch"

Jun 25 2009

DEBUNKING

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FRANK SOTTILE-A Profile

by Donn Black

Frank was born and raised in San Francisco, has lived in Daly City, Mill Valley, Walnut Creek, Oakland, the Chicago area and Mendocino County, and now lives in Solano County.



Frank admits to not knowing what he wanted to do after high school, but did know that he was plenty tired of sitting in a desk listening to teachers lecture. As a result he was in and out of college for the next 10 years: City College of San Francisco, Hayward State, UC Berkeley and some six other colleges in the Bay Area. Finally, realizing that traditional education was not for him, Frank decided to try something different. It was called, New College of California. The philosophy was to give students major responsibility for their own education. Eureka, he had found a school that "fit". He completed 2 years of college credit in 1 year, earning a degree is in Humanities, with an emphasis in Education.

During that ten-year "schooling" period, Frank also worked in a variety of jobs: Phone Company, a hospital (physical therapy), restaurants, etc. The one constant through all that time was volunteering and working with kids in many ways, including teaching at the primary, elementary, junior high and high school levels. In 1975, with close friends he started a non-profit they named, Caritas Creek, for teaching Environmental Education. The idea was to get the students out of the classroom to learn about redwoods, oaks, ponds, streams, marine life and California history.

Frank's first Executive Director position came with the Mendocino Woodlands Camp Association. MWCA has a working agreement with the California State Parks system to manage 720 acres of parkland with three separate facilities for group rentals. MWCA also conducted various environmental programs for the rental groups and the local Mendocino and Ft. Bragg schools. In 1997, after 9 years at MWCA, Frank was hired to run the Boys & Girls Club in St. Helena. It was in this position he became aware of Rotary and that Rotary has the same philosophy he teaches at the B&G Club. Rotary and the Club made natural partners.

Something Frank said he'd still like to do is, "Jump out of an airplane--OK, go sky diving!" Professionally, he wants to find a permanent facility solution for the Club's Calistoga program.

Frank and Penny were married on October 7, 1990. Although they have no children of their own, they both feel that Penny's career as an 8th grade science teacher and Frank's job at the Boys & Girls Club, gives them all the "kid energy" they can handle. Frank has two younger sisters and Penny

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has two older sisters and one younger bother. Both sets of parents passed away several years ago.

Like his latent desire to jump out of a plane isn't surprising enough, Frank said he thought members would be a little surprised that he lives in an intentional community (similar to co-housing but in the country) with 11 other families. The group owns 440 acres off St. Helena Road in Sonoma County. Each family has its own separate home. They share a five-acre common garden and orchard, have two ponds for fire protection and recreation, a barn (horses, goats, pigs, sheep, chickens, etc.), a wood working shop, and a community building for pot luck dinners, volleyball games, ping pong, and sing alongs. Frank says the best part is that most of the land is undeveloped, leaving big-time hiking opportunities with great views of the Sonoma and Napa Valleys. Sounds like a little slice of heaven.

How to Make Up a Missed Meeting

by Gene Armstead

According to Rotary International rules, a club member must attend or make up at least 50 percent of regular club meetings in each half of the year (though some clubs may have more stringent requirements). Any missed meetings must be made up within 14 days of a regular meeting, but check with our Club Secretary for our local rule.

If traveling, club members are encouraged to visit clubs in the new area to make up a missed meeting.

Check the *Official Directory* or use the Club Locator to get meeting and contact information. Be sure to call or e-mail before you show up for a meeting. What to do when you can't find a meeting

Rotarians often wonder what to do if there's not a club where they travel or if an emergency causes them to miss a meeting.

One option is to attend a regular meeting of a local Rotaract club, Interact club, Rotary Community Corps or Rotary Fellowship. Attending one of these meetings counts as a make-up.

Another option is to participate in an interactive activity on a Rotary e-club Web site. Check with your club secretary and the e-club of interest to learn more.

Find out more about e-clubs.

Refer to the RI Bylaws to learn about other options for making up a missed meeting.

August Notes from the Foundation

by Gene Armstead

The August Foundation meeting was held August 26, 2008. Minutes are available from the Foundation Secretary (me), but in brief:

Winter Ball: **Ima Holcomb** has had a change in her work that will preclude her serving as a Winter Ball Chair. **Jim Smith** can continue as Vice-Chair but cannot assume the full Chair responsibilities due to personal circumstances. He also said that the job requires secretarial help. **John Sales** volunteered to work with Jim as Ball Co-Chair and that he will call on other members with Winter Ball experience to help out. (The Winter Ball is scheduled for March 7th, 2009.)

Grant Requests approved:

- Upper Valley Girl Scouts request for \$2,850 for Funtastic Field Day in September was approved
- A Kid Scoop request for \$600 was approved.

Jim Lider Scholarship. John Sales is putting together a proposal for future funding. He indicated that the Club may want to complement the funding for the four-year scholarships as they increase in number because of the multi-year feature.