



THE MILL WHEEL



Rotary Club of Mill Valley
Founded June 7, 1926 • “Service Above Self”
February 9, 2016 • Volume 89, Issue #29
<http://millvalleyrotary.org>
District Web Site: www.rotary5150.org



PRESIDER

■ Presider – President **Ken Brooks**.

GREETER

■ **Bill Lampl** “Service to others is the rent you pay for the room you have on Earth.”

ANNIVERSARIES

■ *Club:* **Dick Spotswood** (1993) enjoyed international travels with Rotary; **Ike Silberman** (2003) enjoys the ever popular Mountain Play.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ **Ken Brooks** reminded us to learn a compelling Rotary 60-second case at which point **Bill Lambrecht** shared, “A group of ordinary people doing extraordinary things” to which this



► Greeter **Bill Lampl** gives a Rotary welcome to PP Ed.



► How many Rotarians does it take to screw in a light bulb? Your guess is as good as ours, but it took four plus the speaker to get the projector working today. (Photo by Donna D)

reporter suggests a tiny correction, “A group of extraordinary people doing really extraordinary things.”

■ Pres. **Ken** reminded us of the March 19 District Assembly.
■ **Kent Campbell** invited us to link ourselves to the LinkedIn page for District 5150. **Bill**

Lambrecht used his “in” with our District Governor to get her to sign up too.

GOOD TIMES

■ **Steve Miller**, sporting a tan that suggested he wasn’t living locally

MORE GOOD TIMES

during the recent downpours, enjoyed two months in Hawaii and Mexico with his wife **Judith**. He delivered a message from **Greg Dyer** that he is “doing well and playing golf” or was it “doing well playing golf.” We can ask for his golf scores when he returns.

■ **Ed Marshall** survived 5 degree temps and 30 mph winds while skiing 30 miles including a two mile vertical descent.

■ Everyone is obviously sticking to their New Year’s resolutions since Pres. **Ken** was only able to auction off 4 boxes of Thin Mints and Sandwich Cremes for a measly 2 bucks each.

■ Pres. **Ken**, using a clever “sleight of hand”, tricked folks into doubling their Polio Plus dollars today.

■ **Donna D’Acuti** said that **Lady Gaga** at Super Bowl 50 reminded her that our own Club had a contest some years back and she won the prize of 2 tix to the Super Bowl in Florida where the late, great **Whitney Houston** sang the national anthem.



► Today’s speaker autographs copies of his book, *The Unlikely Governor*.

PROGRAM

■ **Robert Heller**, in spite of a brief equipment failure, did a slide presentation on his fascinating life as written in his autobiography, *The Unlikely Governor*, a story of an American immigrant’s ascent from the cellars and caves of wartime Germany to becoming a governor of the Federal Reserve Board and the President of VISA.

Born in 1940 to a family of distillers in Cologne, **Bob** had an

idyllic childhood helping his grandparents make peppermint schnapps in their cellars, which doubled as an air raid shelter during Allied bombardments of 30 million pounds of bombs on Cologne.

In spite of the horror of homes and businesses collapsing, there was a competition among German cities to claim the honor of which one survived the worst bombardments.

Emigrating from Germany to the US in 1960, Bob went to Parsons College, a largely discredited school, but managed to get an easy degree before he earned his PhD in economics at Cal during the Free Speech Movement. After that, he taught Econ at UCLA during the Watts riots, SDS (Students for a Democratic Society), and the Black Students Union’s bombing of the Econ department.

Moving on to the IMF, which collapsed after Nixon moved the US off the gold standard. Next job was at the Bank of America in 1978 until the bank went bankrupt whereupon he moved to the Federal Reserve where he presided



Thank You, Rotary Club!

Members of the Rotary Club of Mill Valley were back in our offices this past Friday to label 410 dictionaries they are donating to our third-grade classes.

This has become an annual tradition that our third-graders really look forward to!

Rotarians will stop by each of our schools in the next few weeks to deliver the dictionaries in person.

Thank you, Rotarians!

► We get a big “thank you” from the Mill Valley School District in their latest electronic newsletter.

PROGRAM (Cont'd)

over the most bank failures in US history.

NEXT WEEK

■ **February 16:** Our very own **Bob Roberts** will present *Wish You Were Here*, which is also the title of his book. Bob will be talking about the fascinating life and work of his father **Mike Roberts**, which spanned more than 50 years. A self-taught pioneer in the development of color photography and printing, Mike was known as America's Postcard King. His fascination with horseless carriages and carousels led to close personal friendships with **Bill Harrah** and **Walt Disney**.

CLUB CALENDAR

■ **February 16:** We sponsor the Monthly Mill Valley Chamber Mixer at the Clubhouse. PP **Susan Royce** is looking for assistance. Call her at 510-220-7744 to tell her you will attend and find out what you can bring.

February 23: **Lucy Mercer's** presentation is entitled *The Throckmorton Theatre from Vaudeville to Today*. Lucy founded the Throckmorton Theatre with the belief that the arts are an indispensable part of human inspiration. Her vision was to use the transformative power of the

You Don't Receive the District Newsletter?

❖ **No problem. Just click on the District 5150 link at the top of page 1 of this Mill Wheel. Then it should be easy to find the latest edition as well any number of past issues.**

Mill Valley Rotary-Peace Corps Peru Projects

**Progress Report:
Chequepe, Virú (La Libertad) Toilets**

by **Elise Kitrell, Peace Corps Volunteer**

❖ The entire community of Chequepe uses open water wells as their water source and 75% of the community uses latrines and the other 25% practices open defecation. The use of latrines and the practice of open defecation have contaminated the environment as well as open water wells, consequently causing childhood illnesses. The first



objective of this project is to decrease the communities and environments exposure to contaminants by constructing 10 ecological bathrooms. Their design renders the urine and feces safe for reuse; then using the safe products for agricultural purposes. Another objective is to educate the community on the routes of contamination, water well maintenance, proper hand washing, water storage and treatment, how to use and maintain the bathrooms, and prevention of childhood illnesses. The community of Chequepe is very enthusiastic about this project.

► **Elise with fixtures.** Each participating house will pay S/100 (\$26) towards the ecological bathroom, buy the materials to construct the walls of the bathroom, will provide a helper to build the bathroom and prepare the area where the bathroom will be built. The local municipality will be helping with the costs of sand, gravel, bricks and cement needed for construction.

On January 11th construction of the 10 ecological bathrooms began. With the help of the municipality, a local mason and the community we should have the 10 bathrooms fully constructed by February 26th. Based on the current budget, and not having any further costs, three to four additional ecological bathrooms can be constructed.

Total projected cost \$5,908. Mill Valley Rotary Club's contribution is \$3,538.

► **Completed bathroom.**



MORE CLUB CALENDAR

arts to engage, challenge and foster community through provocative cultural and educational exchange. Today her award-winning programs represent all of the cultural arts and attract over 50,000 people to the theatre each year.

March 1: **Brian Sobel**, author of *The Fighting Pattons*, will give us insight into the lives of a famous father-son duo. The father was a legendary hero whose fame had a profound influence over his son, who was determined to make a mark on his own terms. *The Fighting Pattons* is their story. The elder Patton gained renown during World War II as a fearless commander devoted to his men. A complex figure driven by his knowledge of history and warfare,

he was a professional soldier who loved the art of war and hated war itself. The younger Patton also lived an eventful life; he participated in the Berlin Airlift, served in Korea, and proved his valor during three tours of duty in Vietnam.

March 8: **Tina Vierra** will tell us *What's Going on in the Wine Industry*. Tina is the Associate Publisher of *Wines & Vines* magazine.

March 15: **Oak Dowling** will talk about *Bernard L. Madoff and the Largest Financial Fraud in History*. Madoff committed the largest financial fraud in history with losses totaling over \$65 billion. In 2008 he was sentenced to 150 years in Federal prison. In the mid-1960s, Bernard Madoff tapped money at exclusive

country clubs with the promise of steady guaranteed returns on their investments. He then set his sights on Europe and Latin America, brokering deals with powerful hedge fund managers and feeder funds from Buenos Aires to Geneva. Next it was charities and union retirement funds. Billions of dollars were channeled to Madoff's investment firm, and his feeders became fabulously wealthy. The competition wondered how the man could produce such steady returns in good times and bad.

AVOIDABLE
What a bullfighter tries to do

**2015-2016
POLIO PLUS
CLUB GOAL**
\$2,000

**JAR TOTAL
AS OF TODAY:**
\$1,014.00

**2015-2016
SERVICE FUND
(GEORGE HOYLE)
GOAL**
\$10,000

**TOTAL
AS OF TODAY:**
\$6,090.00

**ROTARY
FOUNDATION
GIVING**

2015-16 GOAL:
\$14,000

**TOTAL
AS OF TODAY:**
\$11,800.00

ROTARY CLUB OF MILL VALLEY—OFFICERS & DIRECTORS 2015-2016



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