



THE MILL WHEEL



Rotary Club of Mill Valley
Founded June 7, 1926 • “Service Above Self”
January 5, 2016 • Volume 89, Issue #24
<http://millvalleyrotary.org>
District Web Site: www.rotary5150.org



2016—WHAT A START!

Massive Power Outage Threatens Rotary Meeting!

■ Due to a (highly localized) power outage at the Club House, the first meeting of 2016 for the Rotary Club of Mill Valley took place at the Mill Valley Community Center upstairs in the Mountain View room. Thanks to quick thinking by President Ken Brooks, Bob Canepa and Burnet Tregoning and our wonderful catering staff the day was saved!

Rotarians Have Perfect Attendance... So Far

■ President Ken said that all Rotarians attending the first meeting of 2016 officially have perfect attendance for the year 2016.

Random Important Things

■ **Vince** and his wife **Ulla** celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary.



► **PE Kent and Vince** in a spirited discussion prior to lunch. (Photo by Ed Marshall)

❖ Thanks to International Director **Bill Lambrecht** who tipped us on the recent article posted on the *National Geographic* website regarding the effort by Rotarians worldwide to eradicate polio. The article—*Polio Eradication: Is 2016 The Year?*—can be read by using the following link: <http://phenomena.nationalgeographic.com/2016/01/04/2016-predict/>



Let's fill up the Polio Jar as it makes its rounds at next week's meeting.

- **Dan Hatch** talked about how the Mill Valley Rotary Club is helping the homeless. (Dinner for 30 at the Tiburon Community Church next Thursday).
- Dictionary Project: Need info from Ken.

Burnett's Hat Has Polio

... money in it. **Burnett Tregoning** was kind enough to let the club borrow his hat to collect polio dollars. Even with the \$43 we collected, we are behind in our \$2000 donation goal according to President Ken.

Nazi's Invade Illinois!

■ Next week our speaker will be **Eli Adler**, *Surviving Skokee*. A story of neo-nazi thugs in Illinois. <https://goo.gl/hRY7No> Thanks to **Bob Canepa** for his tireless program efforts.

PRLS Before Brine

■ Yeah, that was a terrible headline. Nevertheless, PRLS will be held Saturday, January 30th at the Bay Model in Sausalito. More information can be found here: <http://portal.clubrunner.ca/50155/Page/prls-and-master-prls>

RYLA is Coming!

■ RYLA is one of the most significant and fastest growing programs of Rotary International. Each year thousands of young people take part in the program worldwide. It stands for Rotary Youth Leadership Awards. RYLA is held from Friday morning through Sunday afternoon, April



► **Phil** gets a rise out of **PP Jane**—looks like his stories do just as well at the Community Center! (Photo by Ed Marshall)

8th-10th, 2016. Learn more about RYLA here: <http://www.ryla5150.org/what-is-ryla/>

Good Times Abound

■ So, who had a Good Time over the Holidays? How about **Dan Hatch**, **PP Greg Dyer**, **Donna D**, **PP Burnett Tregoning** and **PP Kim Jessup**. Their stories:

■ **Dan** and wife **Bets** wrapped up the year in grand travel style with a two-and-a-half week trip to Ecuador, the Galapagos and the Napo River Conservation area of the Ecuadorian headwaters of the Amazon. *A bell-ringer!*

■ **Greg** was decked out in Cardinal Red to honor his alma mater and to remind us that Stanford really put a hit on Iowa in the Rose Bowl, much to the chagrin of his seat-mate **Tom McKlveen**, a Hawkeye through and through. *Another bell-ringer!*

■ **Donna** wowed 'em at the Panama Hotel over the holidays. But she wasn't the only one—her granddaughter took to the stage for one song and also was a big hit. Donna's at the *No Name Bar* in Sausalito this coming Thursday evening.

■ **Burnett's** grandchildren continue to chalk up big numbers as grandson **Caleb Weaver** and his wife **Joy** welcomed their third child December 17. This is Burnett's sixth great grandchild, BUT—and this is a BIG BUT!—the FIRST GIRL. **Hazel's** going to have to learn to stand up to two older brothers and three older boy cousins, with one more male cousin expected to arrive this month. *No wonder this was another bell-ringer!*

■ **PP Kim's** Good Time occurred on New Year's Day when she opened the freezer door on her refrigerator and a wall of cold water poured out and covered the kitchen floor. Can't blame that on El Niño! Might have something to



► **Hope Mill Valley emergency services operate as fast as these guys. Literally minutes after learning that the clubhouse was not available, Ivan and Marta of Creative Catering along with President Ken, our Speaker Charley Taylor and Sergeant at Arms honcho Howard Harker had things set up and ready to go at the Mill Valley Community Center. Mill Valley Rotary didn't miss a beat! (Photo by Burnett)**

do with Kim's penchant for broken pipes, though!

Where's Stephanie?

■ **Stephanie Ricardo** has been out for undisclosed reasons, a clear invitation to the rumor mill. Here are some of our favorites:

■ She's in Florida because **Donald Trump** secretly asked Stephanie to use her awesome calligraphy skills to re-write the Bill of Rights.

■ Stephanie is actually a secret agent currently on assignment somewhere in Eastern Europe where she is penetrating the inner-circle of an international black market cat-juggling operation.

■ She is holed-up in a remote Montana cabin with the actor who played **Khal Drogo** ghost writing **George R. R. Martin's** final book in the *Game of Thrones* series.

Charlie Taylor: Tales of a Cat Officer

■ **Charley Taylor** told us of his Navy career wherein he discussed "*Tales of a Cat Officer*." A tale of catapults and arresting gear. With hundreds of carrier based takeoffs and landing under his belt, he went to catapult (cat) school in Lakehurst, New Jersey, to learn to be a cat officer in about three weeks. Catapults fire jets of Navy

aircraft carriers. His stories included his ejection from the cockpit during a launch.

Charley regaled us with stories about his Navy adventures. At one point his aircraft pitched upward and over during a carrier takeoff leading to an ocean-landing - sans aircraft. He told us how catapults work, the history of airplane landings at sea, and stories about how not to land on an aircraft carrier.

NEXT WEEK

Note: Plan to return to the Golf Course Clubhouse unless notified otherwise.

■ **January 12: Eli Adler's** presentation is entitled *Surviving Skokie*. This also the title of his intensely personal documentary film about a band of neo-Nazi thugs that threatened to march in the quiet village of Skokie, Illinois in 1977. At that time about 7,000-8,000 former Holocaust survivors lived in Skokie. They survived the horrors of the Holocaust and came to America to put the past behind.

For decades they kept their awful memories secret, even from



► **Stanford is sure having a great year. Greg and Tom were caught discussing the results of the Rose Bowl game at lunch. Guess you can tell who won the Cardinal-Hawkeye match up! (Photo by Ed Marshall)**

their children. Eli will discuss these provocative events, their aftermath, his family's horrific experience of the Shoah, and a journey with his father to

confront long-suppressed memories.

CLUB CALENDAR

■ **January 19: Fletcher Christian, Captain Bligh & The HMS Bounty** will be the subject of **Tony Probst's** talk. Tony is a world traveler and a big collector of historical artifacts. Back in 1789, British sailors in the Pacific mutinied on the HMS Bounty and settled on Tahiti and Pitcairn Island. While the mutineers on Tahiti were later arrested by the British, those on Pitcairn were able to start a community with Tahitian companions.

In 1838, the Pitcairn Islands officially became a British territory.

■ **January 26: Michael Barrington's** presentation has the intriguing title *The Bishop Wears No Drawers*. This is also the title of his book, which is about his own true harrowing survival tale, adventures and challenges as a Catholic missionary priest in war torn Nigeria for 10 years.

■ **February 2: Oak Dowling's** presentation is entitled *Al Capone —One of the Most Notorious*



► Rotarians line up for chow in the Mt. View room of the Community Center. (Photo by Ed Marshall)

Gangsters in History. Capone was an American gangster who attained fame during the Prohibition era as the co-founder and boss of the Chicago Outfit. His seven-year reign as crime boss ended when he was 33 years old. Capone is one of the most notorious American gangsters of the 20th century and has been the subject of numerous articles, books, and films. His personality and character have been used in fiction as a model for crime lords and criminal masterminds ever since his death. The stereotypical image of a mobster wearing a blue pinstriped suit and tilted fedora is based on photos of Capone.

■ **February 9: Robert Heller's** presentation is entitled *The Unlikely Governor*. This is also the title of his book. In a true



► PP Richard Rider, Howard Harker, Peter Straube and Peter Mason look pretty relaxed awaiting the speaker. (Photo by Ed Marshall)

American odyssey, Belvedere resident Robert Heller chronicles his journey from the caves and cellars of war-ravaged Germany to the United States and his rise as Governor of the Federal Reserve

Board and President and CEO of VISA U.S.A. His humorous and candid memoir concludes with an insider's observations of what transpires in America's boardrooms.

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

**JAR TOTAL
AS OF TODAY:
\$791.00**

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

**TOTAL
AS OF TODAY:
\$6,015.00**

**ROTARY
FOUNDATION
GIVING
2015-16 GOAL:
\$12,250**

**TOTAL
AS OF TODAY:
\$11,300.00**

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

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Treasurer: Stephanie Ricardo
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