



THE MILL WHEEL



Rotary Club of Mill Valley
Founded June 7, 1926 • "Service Above Self"
May 20, 2014 • Volume 87, Issue #44
<http://millvalleyrotary.org>
District Web Site: www.rotary5150.org



BIRTHDAYS

■ Tuesday was **Jean Batman's** birthday. Her friend **Kathleen Tuggle** came all the way from Santa Rosa to lead the Birthday Song. Coincidentally, today it was **Cher's** birthday too!

ANNIVERSARIES

■ **Club:** **Stephanie Ricardo's** join date, 3 years. The esteemed **Suzanne Irwin-Wells** was her sponsor.
Also, **Greg Dyer** - 42 years;
Peter Bogaards - 10 years.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Don't forget the *Raise the Roof* Fundraiser on June 13. Donate bottles of un-imbibed wine!
- The installation dinner is still on June 27. Contrary to rumors it has not been moved up to 'how about this weekend?' by **Susan**. Please pay **Roberta Keller** ASAP if you haven't.
- Mt. Play Team Captains - Remember that you need to contact everyone on your list to remind them about the dates they're volunteering and also to let them know what to bring. Sometimes people forget.
- Jim Simkalo thanked everyone who assisted his team the opening day of the Mountain Play, and gave a shout-out to 15-year old **Liam Campbell** for his help with the Rotary booth.



☛ **Lee Kirkpatrick** wowed the club Tuesday during a spirited performance sparked by his experiences at the club's Mt. Play booth Sunday.

Sung to the tune of *One Enchanted Evening* in honor of the play, *South Pacific*, here's Lee's Rotary message:

*One enchanted day now,
You'll be on a mountain.
You'll be selling ice cream,
To fund our virtuous ways.
And one day you'll say,
That you are amazed,
To find yourself doing it
A-gain and a-gain . . .
One Enchanted Day Now!*

■ The Annual Blood Drive at Scout Hall is only a short time away (June 7) and **Richard Simon** is looking for some help. Check with him next week if you can help, and be sure to sign up to donate as well.

GOOD TIMES

■ You may recall that Jim Simkalo had a Good Time regarding Mill Valley Cub Scout Pack 1 and their "exploration of outer space." Click on the following link and



☛ **He's back...and are we delighted to see Peter Mason back on the job? Yessiree!**

MORE GOOD TIMES

you too can go along for the ride!
[http://millvalley.patch.com/groups/goodnews/p/must-watch-video--mill-valley-cub-scouts-go-to-space?](http://millvalley.patch.com/groups/goodnews/p/must-watch-video--mill-valley-cub-scouts-go-to-space?ncid=newsltuspatc00000001&evr4=picks-3-post&newsRef=true)

[ncid=newsltuspatc00000001&evr4=picks-3-post&newsRef=true](http://millvalley.patch.com/groups/goodnews/p/must-watch-video--mill-valley-cub-scouts-go-to-space?ncid=newsltuspatc00000001&evr4=picks-3-post&newsRef=true)

■ **Peter Mason** was so happy to have recuperated from heart surgery that he popped with a bell-ringer just for the joy of being back with his fellow “sergeants.” Welcome back, Peter, and keep the AV going!

■ **Donna D** announced her Thursday night gig in Sausalito and told a cute story involving her grandson who, in an effort to score a few points with grandma, commented on how beautiful she was—how smooth her skin was. All was OK, she said, until he asked her about the “hair on her face.” It was then she explained

their Italian heritage—with a big smile, of course!

■ **Elizabeth Suzuki**’s boys are home, changing the ambience somewhat—dishes in the sink, noisy late night bull sessions, etc. She’s delighted to have them at home, but could use a set of ear plugs.

PROGRAM

■ Today’s speaker was **Michael Santos** who discussed problems with the US prison system.

Having spent 9500 days in prison researching his position lends him an air of authority on the subject.

While spending 26 years of a 45 year term he had the opportunity to research at least 19 different institutions of higher incarceration within the US prison system. He discussed the fact that 70 percent of former inmates



ANNUAL SOUTHERN MARIN BLOOD DRIVE

SPONSORED BY THE ROTARY CLUBS OF MILL VALLEY & TIBURON

JUNE 7, 2014 SCOUT HALL

177 East Blithedale Mill Valley 8:30 to 1:30

Call Richard Simon for Details 250-3903

MT. PLAY BOOTH OPEN FOR BUSINESS



☛ **Stephanie Powell flexes in preparation for a big day on Mt. Tam last Sunday. Team Captain Jim Simkalo reports that MV Rotarians were true to their shirts!**



☛ **Congrats, Stephanie! Three years a member and already keeping the finances in order!**

PROGRAM (Cont'd)

return to prison within three years; he pointed out that this is a huge problem both ethically and financially.

How did he get there? Well, the movie Scar Face influenced Michael heavily as a young man. He wanted to live the fast life, and exciting it was for a while.

Michael believed that if he wasn't caught with cocaine he'd be safe from incarceration. He believed that if he setup a network of dealers in Seattle who actually did the dirty work he couldn't be touched.

The US court system helpfully pointed out the flaws in his theory. Michael vehemently denied the accusations of the police, and even committed perjury to try to exonerate himself. In the end he was convicted on every count.

Life in prison was about survival. Inmates told him that to survive he needed only a "ball of hate in his stomach and a knife." He eventually realized that his life plan may not have been well thought-out.

In prison Michael decided he had to do something different with his life, something better. He prayed for strength to get through it. He eventually found his way to a book on philosophy. Therein he found the story of Socrates who was facing a death sentence.

In the story, Socrates is approached by a friend who tells Socrates that everything will be fine—that Socrates can leave the prison and live in exile. But Socrates decides to stay, saying that he lives in a democracy and decides to accept his punishment.

Michael decided to do the same, and to better himself.

It didn't take long for it to become clear to Michael that the criminal justice system wasn't helping him to become a better person.

Michael asked himself what he needed to do to reconcile with society. He wanted to be seen by society as something more than the sum of his bad decisions.

He came up with a three-pronged approach: educate himself, contribute to society, and build a support network. He was met with many challenges, some by the warden himself whose opinion was that taxpayers didn't want to pay for prisoners to become educated.

Through it all Michael's goal was that he wanted to be able to put on a suit and tie and have no one know he was ever in prison.

Sitting next to him during the meeting I'd say he succeeded. He speaks today of America's belief in mass incarceration. He believes we need to change our approach to prison systems because the system doesn't seem to care about a prisoner's life after prison—that today's American prison system measures success only by the turning of calendar pages rather than reduced recidivism.

Today he shares his system of self-improvement with both prison and corporate inmates. ■

JUNE 7 - GIVE!

Rotary Club of Mill Valley Presents



FOR SCOUT HALL!

on
**FRIDAY
JUNE 13TH
6-10PM**

at the
**OUTDOOR
ART CLUB**
1 West Blithedale
Mill Valley

Tear off bottom part and mail it in with your check.

Keep top part as a reminder!

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Count me in!

Please save me _____ Tickets @ \$150.00 each

SILVER sponsor (2 Tickets plus recognition) @ \$500.00 each

GOLD sponsor (Table for 8 plus recognition) @ \$1,500.00 each

Total: \$ _____

I can't make it, but I'd like to help!

Total: \$ _____

Please make check payable to Rotary Club of Mill Valley Service Fund
Tax ID # 68-0313951

Mail To:
Rotary Club of Mill Valley
P. O. Box 506
Mill Valley CA 94942

Thank You!

NEXT WEEK

■ Mill Valley resident and Tam High graduate **Ann Killion**, has been a voice in the national sports scene for almost two decades, one of the longest tenures of any female sports columnist. In her award-winning career, Killion has covered nine Olympics, five World Cups, countless Super Bowls, World Series, and the scandals and issues

that fuel our national sports debate. Killion covered the 49ers as a beat writer and was a feature writer at the San Jose Mercury News, before becoming a columnist for the San Francisco Chronicle.

CLUB CALENDAR

June 3: Attorney **Oak Dowling** will speak on *The Trial and Execution of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, A Synopsis*. Julius and Ethel were tried, convicted and executed in 1953 for conspiracy to commit espionage in passing top secret information about the atomic bomb to the Soviet Union.

June 10: No Meeting

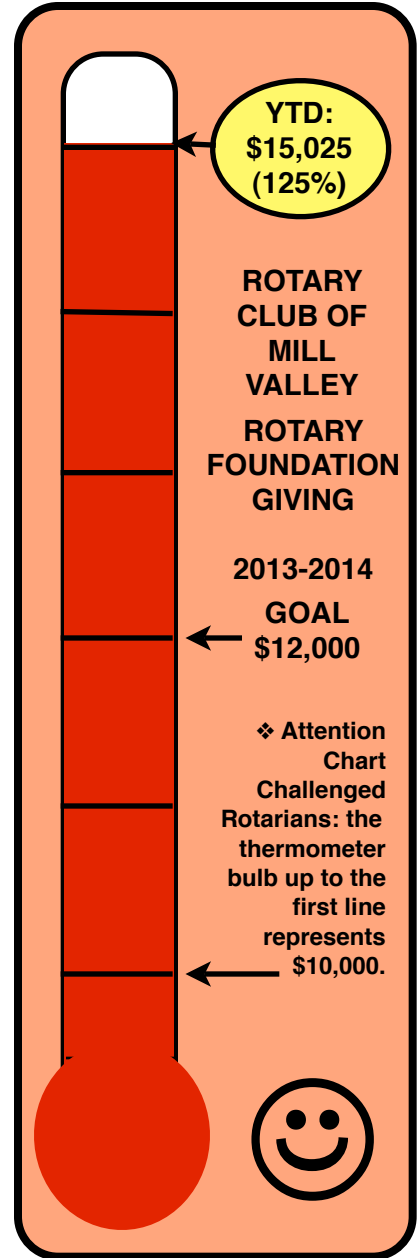
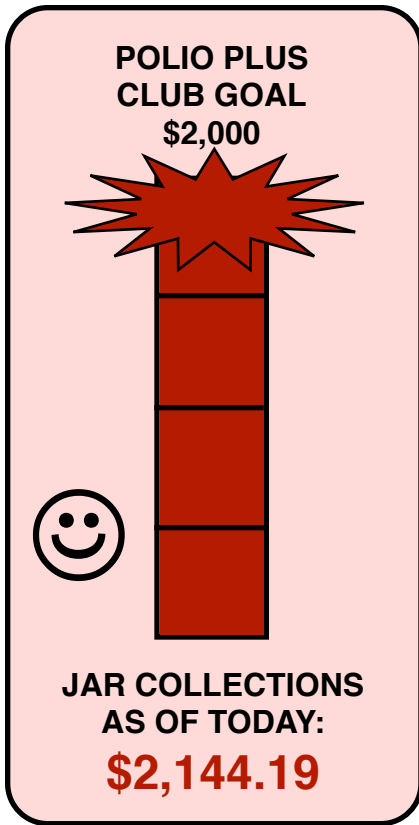
June 13: *Raise the Roof* Fundraiser - Raising money for Mill Valley's Scout Hall.

June 17: Mill Valley author **Joyce Kleiner**'s presentation is entitled *Legendary Locals of Mill Valley*.

June 24: No Meeting.

June 27: *Installation Dinner and Grand Debunking*—a fabulous celebration for the entire club.

IF YOU TRY TO FAIL, AND SUCCEED, WHICH HAVE YOU DONE?



ROTARY CLUB OF MILL VALLEY—OFFICERS & DIRECTORS 2013-2014



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