



THE MILL WHEEL



Rotary Club of Mill Valley
Founded June 7, 1926 • "Service Above Self"
November 5, 2013 • Volume 87, Issue #18
<http://millvalleyrotary.org>
District Web Site: www.rotary5150.org



GREETER

■ **Ed Marshall** who shared words of wisdom passed along by **John Lennon's** mom—
Happiness is the key to life.

VISITING ROTARIANS

■ Visiting from afar were Rotarians **John Jordan** (Oak Bay, Victoria, B.C.) and **Andy Agaba** (Penn Square Rotary, Lancaster, PA). Today's speaker also is a Rotarian in Livermore.



☛ Visiting Rotarian **John Jordan** poses with **President Sue** and today's Greeter, **Ed Marshall**.

GUESTS OF ROTARIANS

■ Accompanying our speaker were his friend **Ruthchaya Thitinavakun** and two associates, **Nicole Sweeney** and **Natalie MacDonald**.

BIRTHDAYS

■ **Phil Richardson** (11/3) was treated to a trip to Napa wine country where he and **Barbara** sampled some of the area's best.



Remember, says Phil: *four sips will do ya!* **Ed Marshall** led the singing of the Birthday Song.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ The *Marinsope Newspapers* have printed a special salute to Marin Rotary clubs and the section on Mill Valley is pretty impressive, thanks to the efforts of **President Sue**. If you haven't seen it, copies will be available next week.

■ **President Sue** reminded the club that next Monday, November

11, the board will meet. Club members are always welcome to sit in and observe the exciting (?) give-and-take.

■ The recent Arts & Culture Symposium conducted by the City of Mill Valley was attended

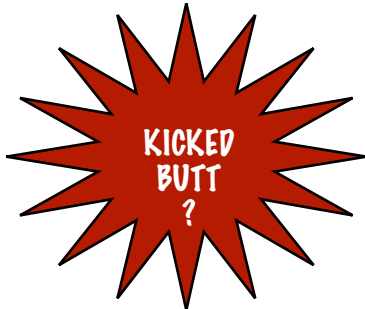


☛ Visiting Rotarian **Andy Agaba** poses with **President Elect Jane Hall**.



MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS

by President Sue and Ken Brooks.
Thanks to **Dennis Klein** for providing the tickets.



■ Foundation Chair **Doug Scherf** reports good news—the club has already exceeded its 2013-2014 goal for giving to the Rotary Foundation. Where do we go from here? Apparently much higher, especially since the District is encouraging us to reset our goal at \$30,000!

■ Membership Chair **Ken Brooks** reported the results of a District Membership session he attended recently at Redwood High School. The key to increasing membership remains the same—bring friends,

When
you've
seen one
shopping
center...
you've
seen a
mall.

colleagues and business acquaintances to a meeting so they can see the great things Rotary does.

■ With that very thing in mind, **Roberta Keller** announced the date for the Mill Valley Chamber mixer our club will be hosting next year. The clubhouse has been reserved for the event on February 19. Put the date on your calendar

and be sure to attend. Roberta also announced that our traditional Holiday Lunch will be held at Piazza D'Angelo on December 17. This means, of course, that there will be no meetings at the Golf Clubhouse for three weeks since the 24th and 31st are closed because of the holidays.

■ Looks like we'll also be putting together a big fundraiser next year. **Elizabeth Suzuki** did not provide details, but urged her fellow Rotarians to save the date—March 30—and gear up for a major fun event. The Outdoor Art



Club has been reserved so you can bet this will be a classy citywide event. The club has voted to make Scout Hall the major recipient of the proceeds.

■ Terwilliger Marsh Maven **Margareth Tanner** is looking for volunteers to follow her to Rotary Corner this Saturday. This will be a short day—9:30 to 11:30. Bring gloves and clippers.

■ **Burnett** reported no winners in last week's *Who's Wearing Which Boots* contest, but he kicked in \$10 for the Polio Plus jar anyway to acknowledge the three members who participated—**Stephanie Ricardo, Roberta Keller** and **Nik Singh**.

GOOD TIMES

■ **Robert Brownstein**, with another grueling tax filing deadline behind him, took off for Las Vegas for fun and games. He also reported good news as a



☛ Carol Schrumpf and Doug Scherf have questions for speaker Mony Nop following his talk.

GOOD TIMES (Cont'd)

result of his recent volunteering at the Mill Valley Arts Festival. He asked for a XXL T-shirt. The largest they had was XL, and it fit nicely, thank you!

■ President Elect **Jane Hall** attended a District session for PE's in San Francisco. The building in which it was held had the 4-Way Test posted on the exterior, much to the delight of passersby.

■ **Don Herzog** made a brief hop to San Luis Obispo where he visited his granddaughter who is majoring in architecture at Cal Poly. He was much impressed—with both his granddaughter and the architecture program.

■ **Dennis Klein** issued a challenge to all runners in the club—catch him if you can! He notes that he has just shaved 11 seconds off his time on his favorite run—from Panoramic down to Muir Woods.

RAFFLE

■ Hard to believe, but **Vince Howes** won a free lunch. The rest of us live to compete another day! The pot continues to grow so expect a bigger run than usual on ticket sales next week.

PROGRAM

■ You probably couldn't hear a more inspiring story than the one told today by **Mony Nop**.

Today Mony is a realtor in Livermore and a member of the Rotary Club there. Not too many years ago, at the age of six, he and his family escaped the reign of terror of the Khmer Rouge and the killing fields of Cambodia.

His description of his family's trek through mine fields to get to Thailand was chilling. As were his stories of survival in refugee camps in both Thailand and the Philippines.

...BUT EVEN
BETTER THAN THAT!

CHECK OUT THE
FOUNDATION
THERMOMETER
ON PAGE 4!

On July 7, 1983 Mony and his family arrived in San Francisco, sponsored as immigrants by a friend of his grandfather's who lived in Arizona. During the trip he saw things we all take for granted—mirrors, escalators, telephones and old-fashioned black and white TV sets—for the very first time. And food, glorious food! Moving on to Arizona, he experienced another first—sleeping on a carpeted floor!

The family eventually moved to

Stockton where there is a sizable Cambodian population. He remembers his first "American" word: apple.

His saga continued—learning English, attending school (skipping grades along the way), wanting to become a police officer and becoming one, attending St. Marys College in Moraga where he graduated with honors, becoming a Realtor and a Rotarian.

He really appreciates life in the



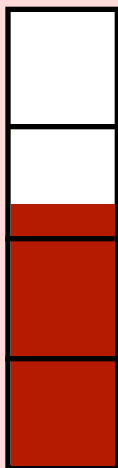
Mony Nop with President Sue and Program Chairman Bob Canepa.

U.S., and he urged us to stay involved with Rotary's Dictionary Project. He still has the one he "borrowed" from his Third Grade class. It meant the world to him as a boy learning to adapt to his new home.

NEXT WEEK

■ Club attorneys take notice: **Oak Dowling** will speak on *Courtroom Drama in the Movies and Theater*.

POLIO PLUS CLUB GOAL \$2,000



JAR COLLECTIONS
AS OF TODAY:
\$1,168.20

CLUB CALENDAR

■ **November 19: Jonathan Kathrein** has written a book titled *Surviving the Shark*. He is the shark survivor that marine scientist **John McCosker** talked about in his presentation last April. Jonathan was 16 years old when he was attacked by a shark while he was boogie boarding at Stinson Beach. Jonathan's story of survival is almost miraculous considering that the shark severed three of the four major muscles in his leg.

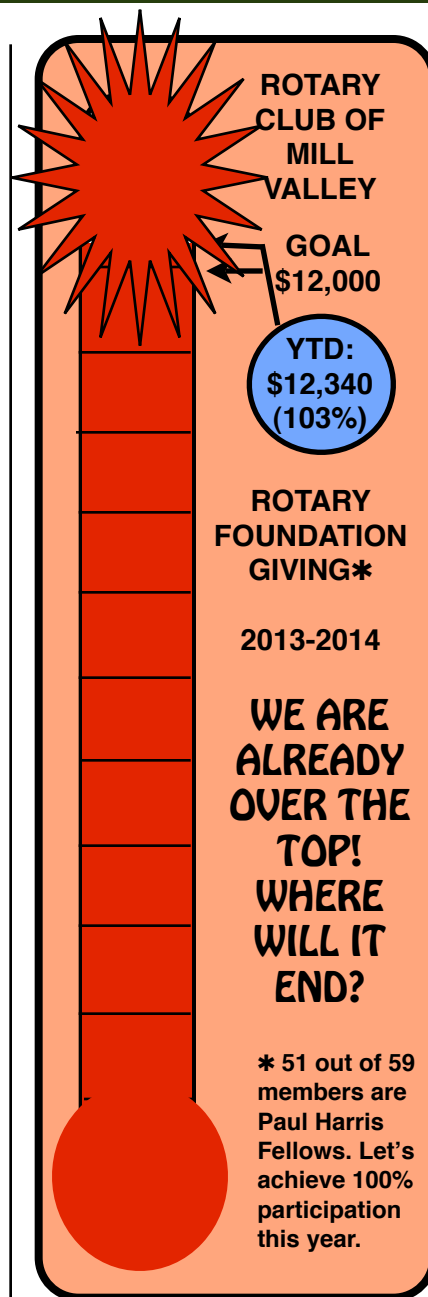
■ **November 23:** Mill Valley Rotary helps the **SF/Marin Food Bank** collect at the Mill Valley and Corte Madera Safeways. **Barbara Hofling** has the sign up sheet. Give her a call today to volunteer your time.

November 26: Member's Program.

ISN'T THIS A BOOT?



☛ Who belongs to which boots?
Answer: **Bill Lambrecht** (left) and **Doug Scherf** (right).



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

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