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Weekly Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Eureka



Meeting of the Rotary Club of Eureka
October 7, 2013

After the flag was rushed into the room, the vivacious Stacy Lane was called on to give the pledge. Then Tom McMurray Jr. did the invocation asking for prayers for Ziggy's wife Ruth, among others.



Mike Cunningham brought his father, who was in town for a visit.

Announcements

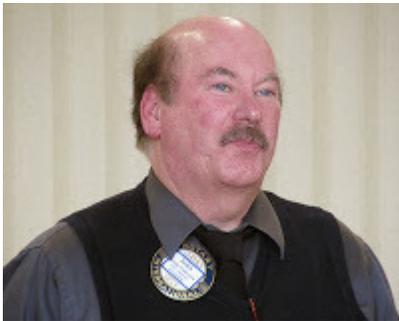
Two girls from Rotaract came to the podium to remind us of their annual Spirits and Spirits fundraiser on October 24th.

President Ziggy mentioned that next week there will be no meeting in honor of Columbus Day, when Italian Christopher Columbus sailed the Nina, the Pinto and the Santa Anita (named after the Race Track) to the Caribbean and then claimed the "new world" for Spain. The queen of Spain promptly named their prize after cartographer Amerigo Vespucci. That's why we don't live in the United States of Columbia.



Chuck Ellsworth and his guest from the DA's office.

Gregg Gardiner announced that it was nearing time for Toys For Tots. Last Christmas TFT provided over 5,000 toys to needy children in Humboldt Del Norte and Mendocino counties.



Recognitions

Ziggy complained that none of this month's birthday boys were sitting at the head table – and then located one of them, John Fullerton. After fining him \$5 he recognized him for having signs all over Eureka promoting his candidacy for the school board. That cost him an additional \$50.

Sally Arnot was also singled out for having her picture in the paper in connection with HAC.



Then Ziggy asked if there were any hunters in the room. Dennis Hunter immediately stood up. “No, *deer hunters*” Ziggy exclaimed. Greg Pierson and Hank Pierson then stood up. Neither had bagged a buck. Greg said what he did could more properly be described as “camping with guns”. \$25 fine.

Murl Harpham was recognized for EPD's new “Rescue Protection Vehicle”, so named because they couldn't call it an assault vehicle. He noted that it used less gas than some police cars.



Student Guests

Exchange student report: They all went on a trip to San Francisco, saw the sights, and attended an Oakland Raiders NFL game. They are back now, but a little bit tired and very confused about how the fans dressed for the game.



Student guests from Eureka High School.

Raffle

Raffle winners: Jay Bahner and John Winzler.



Program

Our scheduled program was a no-show, so Gregg Gardiner filled in with information about our “Honor Flight” program for Veterans. On October 25th the Rotary Club will take its fifth group of WWII , Korean and Vietnam veterans to Washington D.C. to tour the memorials built to honor them. So far Rotarians have raised over \$300,000 to fund the program. The itinerary is as follows: The first day they all stay overnight in Sacramento and have dinner at the Elks Lodge. They next day the group of 52 vets and their guardians fly to Chicago and take a short walk to the USO club, receiving applause along the way. Then they get back on the plane and fly to Washington DC, where fire trucks meet them and escort them to the gate. That evening they attend a banquet in their honor at the hotel.

The next day at 8:30am they take two buses to the Air Force Memorial. They are escorted by Capitol Police. Next they go to the Navy Memorial, then the Iwo Jima Memorial, and lastly the Women’s’ Service Memorial at Arlington Cemetery. They break for lunch at Fort Meyers, serenaded by the “Singing Sergeants”. Next is the Navy Memorial, Korean Memorial, a walk through the Lincoln Memorial, the Vietnam Memorial, and finally the World War II Memorial. There, accompanied by bag pipers, they hold a memorial service and talk about their fallen comrades. The President’s own bugler plays taps. One final bus ride brings them back to Arlington Cemetery where they lay a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

On the plane ride home, they get a “mail call”, where their names are called out and they are given letters from their friends and relatives. There isn’t a dry eye in the house. Those interested in supporting Honor Flight can call Gregg or Steve Justus.



Ken Stodder and Al Crnich, two of our own WWII heroes!

Meeting adjourned at 1:15pm.

Written by former Army Sergeant, Hank Ingham