

# Rotations

**February 19, 2007** Official Weekly Bulletin of the  
Rotary Club of Lafayette

VOLUME 61 ..... ISSUE 8

## February 22, 2007 Meeting Minutes:



*President Tim McKinley, Esq., opened the meeting and recited the pledge. Don Jenkins, Orinda Rotary, and David Geary, Moraga Rotary Club were visiting Rotarians. Troy Winkels made his 4<sup>th</sup> visit, as a guest of John Sherry.*

### Announcements:

- *Ed Stokes misses us and loves us, per Jay Lifson. Jay also told us that the Lafayette Jazz Festival is the weekend of 3/8-3/11. Please buy tickets for some great music for only \$14.*
- *Bob Aguilar said they would have a wine tour, April 21, dinner on the bus, visiting some great wineries and every year they sell out. He asked for a rough hand count of interested Rotarians. Several plan to attend.*
- *Bob Shusta noted that the debunking party for President Tim will be on July 8<sup>th</sup>. Save the date.*
- *Sandy Mitchell said next week will be the high school speech presentations. She needs additional judges.*
- *Troy Winkels received his red badge, as newest Member-Elect of the Lafayette Rotary. He was sponsored by John Sherry. Troy is an insurance broker and he specializes in insuring non-profit agencies.*
- *Ron Wake asked for last funds for mailing in the applications for the ski championship for the Rotary Club. We are looking for more people to help us keep the Turtle Award.*
- *AJ Nisen collected for birthdays, anniversaries and happy dollars. John Sherry's dog is 1 point away from championship. All members wore their pins.*



**Speaker:** *Mike Henn introduced our speaker, Roland Schumacher. He deals with families who have members in the CCC jail system in a small non-*

profit organization called Friends Outside. He has worked for the Dept. of Correction for a number of years, in several different prison systems.

Friends Outside is nationwide, but is small and not well-known. His group has 4 employees. He worked in San Quentin, and rose through the ranks, became a sergeant, and then joined the parole division. He was in the SF division and he came into contact with a lot of different organizations, such as the SFPD and various gangs. He saw patterns and noted that the same things would happen over and over. He recognized that no family is immune from crime. If the kids are not watched after properly, they have a good chance of ending up in crime. He and his co-workers became friends and they would watch out for each other's kids.



He was recruited after retiring by the Friends organization. His function is to assist those incarcerated to get things done for their families. Getting school books and materials for kids, helping locate a vehicle that has been towed, helping to get final paychecks, finding a rehab program, etc. are typical services they provide. Sometimes they end up assisting multiple members of the same family because more than one family member is in jail.

There are 33 prisons in California and many people soon eligible for parole have a stigma that is very difficult to overcome. Many inmates cannot read or write and have no education. They cannot even fill out a job application so it is difficult to stay out of crime if they cannot get a job. 80% of the offenders will repeat.

The cost of having someone in a jail cell is incredibly high. Trying to keep them out of jail is also costly. Vocational training, clothes, rehab, transportation, housing, etc., all need to be provided if the ex-con is going to build a new life.

Contra Costa County has been the lowest on the scale of providing social services to inmates. Roland's organization helps fill the gap. They expect inmates to use their services proactively. No one will take them by the hand, but they will help whenever they run into roadblocks.

The first group of offenders consists of the more hardened criminals that repeat.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> group is composed of adults like us. There is a surprising percentage of "normal folk" that end up in prison. Overly irate soccer moms and dads, DUIs, inadvertent battery all happen without warning. The results often include prison.

Chronic petty offenders are the 3<sup>rd</sup> group of folks that end up in county prison. These are the folks you see hanging out at the malls.

78% end up in prison for drug use and abuse. The lifestyle is addicting and very difficult to shake, even after leaving prison. Once they are back on the streets and back with their former friends, they almost always go back into the drug lifestyle.

Roland's group helps provide answers and direction for those who want to make a difference in their lives.

Thanks for helping us understand the kinds of issues the inmates face when leaving prison and how their families can fair better with your help, Roland.

A donation of \$50 was made for prosthetic devices in his name.

- AJ Nisen won the \$2.00 raffle and AJ also won the \$5.00 one.
- President Tim closed the meeting at 1:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Cory Lerner  
Equity Planner  
Metrocities Mortgage

Photos by Ron Wake



#### THE FOUR WAY TEST

Is it the TRUTH?  
Is it FAIR to all concerned?  
Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?  
Will it be BENEFICIAL TO ALL CONCERNED?

**Make Up Meeting** locations in the area: **MON.** 12:15 Danville-Brass Door  
**TUES.** 12:15 Moraga, Soda Center, **WED.** 12:00 Rossmoor Hillside Clubhouse  
**WED.** 12:15 Orinda-Community Center. **FRI.** 7AM Lamorinda-Postino's

## **Rotary Int'l Calendar Of Events**

<u><b>DATES</b></u>	<u><b>EVENT</b></u>
Feb, 2007 - <b>World Understanding Month</b>	
• 1-3: San Diego	International Assembly
• 23:	Rotary's 102 <sup>nd</sup> Anniversary
March 2007 - <b>Literacy Month</b>	
• 12-18:	World Rotaract Week
April 2007 - <b>Magazine Month</b>	
• 22-28: Chicago, Ill	Council on Legislation
June 2007 - <b>Rotary Fellowships Month</b>	
• 17-20: Salt Lake City, UT	Rotary International Convention

## **Local Rotary Calendar Of Events**

<u><b>DATES</b></u>	<u><b>EVENT</b></u>
March 2, 2007 Lake Tahoe	Rotary Tahoe Ski Challenge
May 19, 2007	Concert at the Res

## **Upcoming Speakers**

<u><b>SPEAKER</b></u>	<u><b>TOPIC</b></u>	<u><b>DATE</b></u>
Roland Schumacher, Lori Beath	Friends Outside of Incarcerated Persons	2/22/07
Mr. Freeman, Acalanes HS	Speech Contest	3/01/07
Briana Taylor	Tsunami Relief Effort	03/08/07
Michael Mendonca, VP Stack Plastics	Prosthetic Hands	03/15/07
Perry Shusta	Towing and recovery	03/29/07

## **Special Celebrations**

<u><b>BIRTHDAY</b></u>	
<i>Tim McKinley</i>	<i>2/3</i>
<i>Cory Lerner</i>	<i>2/4</i>
<i>Anna Connolly</i>	<i>2/6</i>
<i>AC Webb</i>	<i>2/6</i>

<u><b>ANNIVERSARIES:</b></u>	<u><b>WEDDING/CLUB</b></u>
<i>Charlie Vitale</i>	<i>2/11</i>

### **SCHEDULED GREETERS:**

**March 1 Mike Henn**  
**March 8 Tom Henry**  
**March 15 Chuck Werdel**  
**March 22 Chuck Werdel**  
**March 29 Dick Holt**