



This Week

Meeting Date and Place

January 22, 2009 at 12:15 p.m.Cameron Park Country Club

Words of Wisdom

Words of Wisdom: **Bob Dorr**; Greeter **Tom Keating**; and **Carla Carlson** on the desk

Program

Bob Dorr will speak on status of Philippine boat project completion

Last Week



Only a few years ago, the plight of the homeless in El Dorado County was invisible to all but a few good people. That has dramatically changed after three individuals, including **Art Edwards** and Cameron Park Rotarian **Rube Jessop** founded United Outreach to serve the needs of the homeless population. Now President of United Outreach, Art spoke about the needs of the homeless in our county and what is being done to help them.

The nature of the homeless population makes it difficult to get an accurate count of how many people are on the streets. Art estimates that there is an average of 200 individuals in the county without a place to sleep each night. Each year, there are 450 people who, at one time or another are considered homeless. Women constitute 30% of the homeless population, while 10% are children and 15% are veterans. In 2005, United Outreach started Grace Place, a shelter for the homeless at the Camino Seventh Day Adventist Church. By the end of last winter, they served 45 individuals and were overwhelmed by the demand on that location. The Camino facility closed and there is currently no shelter for homeless people in El Dorado County.

A year ago, it was learned that State grant funds may be available to help with a shelter. While many were skeptical that El Dorado County's problem would be seen as severe to receive such funding, the county applied for a grant on behalf of United Outreach. In December, the County was notified that it would be offered a 1.47 million dollar community block grant to open a resource center for homeless people. The Board of Supervisors met on January 7, 2009 and voted 4 to 1 to accept the grant under specific conditions set by the county. United Outreach has 90 days to sign a lease for a site to house the homeless center.

Art visited nearly 20 sites looking for an acceptable location. Four conditions had to be met to make a site acceptable. It must be on a bus line, within the county, zoned commercial and available for lease. There are not sufficient resources available, even with the grant, to purchase property for the shelter. Art narrowed the sites meeting all four criteria to one location in Cedar Grove, near Camino. Although on a bus line, there are no liquor or convenience stores nearby to tempt residents to leave the home once checked in for the night.

Art showed an artist's rendering of the facility and a floor plan. He has determined that 5,000 to 6,000 square feet are required to meet the needs of the center. In addition to the current building on site, a

pre-fabricated home has been donated and will be located on the site to house women and children.

Although Grace Place was open to all comers, one of the conditions set by the Board of Supervisors was that it be a dry shelter; individuals under the affects of alcohol or drugs will not be accepted. Clients will be screened for alcohol and drug use and will be expected to adhere to strict rules that include being escorted to and from a nearby bus stop. Gates and doors to the facility will be locked. The facility will offer job training, life-skills workshops, support groups, counseling and other programs designed to move homeless individuals and families off the streets. It will start out with just 15 clients in each 120-day program. Eventually, the program could accommodate as many as 64 clients at one time. The 15 client limit is based on staffing with only one case manager. Funding for additional case managers will be needed to expand the number of individuals served.

Art hopes to have the program up and running by this summer. The grant will provide funding for two years, after which time the center will rely solely on local fund raising efforts. Even with the grant, United Outreach expects to spend \$17,000 annually while serving 15 clients. That amount could go up to \$96,000 if it grows to 35 clients. After the grant expires in 2011, United Outreach predicts it will need \$168,000 to run a facility housing 15 clients and \$305,000 to run a facility serving 35. The money will be garnered through fund raising.

Recognizing the seriousness of the plight of homeless people in the county, the Board of Supervisor has mandated that 16 county agencies cooperatively work with United Outreach, the Food Bank and other volunteer organizations. The one dissenting vote on the Board, Supervisor Ray Nutting expressed concern that the new center would house only 15 clients rather than the 45 a night that the former Grace Place sheltered. Art recognizes the unmet need and his organization is doing all they can for a small portion of the homeless population. As he observed, they would love to serve everyone in need, all they need is the money.

Presidents Corner



BOY SCOUTS CLEAN UP:

President **Iain Marshall** presented a check to **Pete Oliver** for \$500 to give to Boy Scout Troop 550. The Troop has been cleaning up the freeway ramps at Cambridge Road and Cameron Park Drive each spring and fall for the last several years. The Rotary Club of Cameron Park rewards this effort with \$500 for each time they perform this service.

ROTARY GROUP STUDY EXCHANGE GROUPS:

Following up from last week, **Dee Russo** confirms that Cameron Park Rotary will have the opportunity to host the GSE team from Italy in early May of this year. She is looking for ideas for activities for them, both occupational and tourist. Please contact Dee with your

suggestions.

Bill Gallant reminded the membership that group leaders are being sought to accompany the GSE team to India in 2010. Contact Bill if you would like to have your name considered for this outstanding opportunity.

JIM SAVARESE RETURNS:

It was good to see Jim Savarese last week. A former member, Jim is now back in the area and has been reinstated by the Board. Welcome back Jim.

EL DORADO ART AND WINE FESTIVAL:

Fritz Engel put in a plug for the El Dorado Art & Wine Festival. Held at the El Dorado County Fairgrounds from 6 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, January 24, 2009, this event will include a live auction, silent auction, art of the Something MORE Gallery, appetizers and wine tasting. Proceeds go to Mother Lode Rehabilitation Services (M.O.R.E.). Tickets are \$30 each or \$50 per couple. For tickets, call (530) 622-4848.

Noted Rotarians



HAPPY BUCKS:

Happy Anniversary:

Married to **Helen** for only 62 years, Bell Ringer **Art Cort** decided that an additional ten Happy Bucks are in order. No idea how long young **Sig** and **Dian** have been together, but take a hint from Sig's thirty-two Happy Bucks. President Iain continued his personal tradition of presenting Art and Sig each with a long stemmed rose to give to their brides.

Happy Birthday

We all know that **Colleen Oliver** is mistaken for a teenager at times, but she still has birthdays. Pete even offered ten Happy Bucks for Colleen's birthday this

month. **Bob Clarke** knows how to treat his better half on her birthday. A dinner party in Honolulu sounds like a proper event for **Joanne's** big day. Bob even invited **Vickie Chritensen-McLain** and her husband to interrupt their Hawaiian holiday to join them for lunch or dinner. All the while gloating over his winter vacation, Bob pledged twenty-five Happy Bucks. **Debra Miller** gave five Happy Bucks to remember **Luke's** birthday this month. Sometimes it's hard to tell how young members are by the number of Happy Bucks they give. For instance, **Anne Eckert** came up with \$14 while **Ulla Petersen** determined that \$18 was the right number. Go figure. In any event, we wish them all the happiest birthdays.

MISC:

In the midst of the holiday season, you may have missed an article in the Mountain Democrat about **Joe Ryan's** involvement in a program to renovate bicycles for children to receive at Christmas. Old bikes are collected and refurbished by inmates at Folsom Prison. This year, they distributed 140 refurbished bicycles. **Bob Clarke** brought the article to everyone's attention and offered to match whatever number of Happy Bucks Joe would contribute for the notoriety. Somehow it doesn't seem right that Joe should have to pay for doing such good works. Being a good sport, he gave ten dollars, which means that Bob had to come up with another ten.

Norm Headley ventured to a different table for the first time this year. Rather than sitting with the usual curmudgeons, he found himself in the company of three charming women Rotarians. A learning experience for which Norm gratefully gave five Happy Bucks. **Fritz Engel** is back from his Caribbean Cruise and gave \$15 to talk about it. **Brian Silverthorn** celebrated the holidays, and then some, with **Stephanie** at their second home in Cabo and that was good for fifteen Happy Bucks. With the standard of fifteen Happy Bucks firmly established, President **Iain Marshall** had to do the same because he spent last week with a group from the Cameron Park Country Club playing golf in Acapulco.

Left with an extra rose, President Iain chose to auction it to the highest bidder rather than share with his lovely wife **Sally**. Clearly, **Norm Headley** knows the value of making points with **Gwen** and he won the rose for a piddling eight dollars. A very good investment indeed.

Birthdays in January

Anne Eckert

Bill Ettlich

-----Spouses-----

Joanne Clarke

Luke Miller

Colleen Oliver

Anniversaries in January

Jim & Marilyn Bowen

**Art & Helen Cort
Van & Linda Dossey
Sig & Dian Hansen**

Upcoming Calendar

January 22, 2009 - **Bob Dorr** will speak on status of Philippine boat project completion
January 29, 2009 - **Frank Dibbell**, chief docent at observatory will discuss recent developments

February 5, 2009 - **Chris Moore** will sponsor the Club Speech contest
February 12, 2009 - Club Assembly meeting
February 19, 2009 - **Chris Moore** will sponsor the Club Music contest
February 26, 2009 - **Dave Sargent** will take us to the Galapagos Islands

March 5, 2009 - **Star Walker** for EDC Agency on Aging to discuss available programs
March 12, 2009 - Dinner meeting at CPCC to judge area music competition
March 19, 2009 - **Shiva Frentzen** will discuss Iran`s Political Revolution
March 26, 2009 - Mountain Democrat Columnist **Bob Billingsley** will speak on the Cherokee Indian method of meditation
March 31, 2009 - Tuesday evening meeting at Pollock Pines to judge area Speech competition

April 16, 2009 - **Dee Russo** will discuss **Project Amigo** and her December visit with her daughters to Mexico

Upcoming Words of Wisdom

January 22, 2009 - Words of Wisdom **Bob Dorr**, Greeter **Tom Keating**, Front Desk **Carla Carlson**
January 29, 2009 - Words of Wisdom **Brian Silverthorn**, Greeter **Sabrina Ho**, Front Desk **Shiva Frentzen**
February 5, 2009 - Words of Wisdom **Norm Headley**, Greeter **Rube Jessop**
February 12, 2009 - Words of Wisdom **Chris Moore**, Greeter **Shiva Frentzen**, Front Desk **Eric Pohl**

The Last Word



DATES TO REMEMBER:

February 3, 2009 - Monthly Rotary Club of Cameron Park Board meeting at Kobe`s restaurant in Burke`s Junction. All members welcome.

March 12, 2009 - Dinner meeting at CPCC to judge area music competition

March 31, 2009 - Tuesday evening meeting at Pollock Pines to judge area Speech competition

Mike Neal has put together another of his photo series of highlights of our 2008 Christmas Dinner & Auction. The link is at the bottom of this web page. Recent pictures of the Philippine Boat project are now posted in the link below entitled, ``Agusan Marsh Project in the Philippines.``

Gear Up is written by **Jim Buckley** and **Art Cort**. Photography and artwork through the talents of **Mike Neal**.