



This Week

Meeting Date and Place

March 5, 2009 at 12:15 p.m.Cameron Park Country Club

Words of Wisdom

Words of Wisdom: **Bill Ettlich**; Greeter **Jana Ellerman**; and **Mike Collom** on the desk

Program

Greg Patton, President of Sierra Vista Bank, will discuss banking challenges ahead.

Last Week



Intrepid world traveler **Dave Sargent** regaled his fellow Rotarians with stories from his June 2008 trip to the Galapagos Islands and sites in Peru, including Cusco, Machu Picchu and the Sacred Valley of the Incas. Showing pictures taken by his wife, **Carol** he was able to bring this trip to life and no doubt inspired more than a few Rotarians to want to follow in his footsteps.

Flying to the Galapagos Islands, by way of Guayaquil, Ecuador, Dave was surprised to find that Air Galapagos flies several large jets to the archipelago each day. For those with more time, the other alternative is to see the islands by cruise boats which stop at several of the islands. Dave and Carol landed on the Island of Baltra

and traveled to other islands by boat. Dave described the Galapagos as a very important evolution site that, isolated by the sea, allowed species to evolve without influence from other species. Over 9,000 animal species are unique to the Galapagos, not found anywhere else in the world. Dave showed pictures of Iguanas, tortoises, sea lions and birds. He talked about walking with tortoises at the Charles Darwin Center and described a bright orange sea crab that was turquoise underneath. He was particularly taken by the Blue-footed Booby, not to be confused with that other noble but strange creature, the Red-footed Booby. One of the few places in the world without indigenous population, nearly 40,000 people now live on the island to support the tourism industry. Protecting the habitat of this World Heritage Site is a difficult challenge for the Ecuadorian government.

From the Galapagos, the Sargents flew to Lima, Peru, which Dave called a beautiful coastal city, sitting high on a cliff overlooking miles of undeveloped beaches. He showed a picture of a pure gold Inca necklace on display in one of big cathedrals. From Lima, they traveled by road to Ica and Nazca on the high desert. Nazca is home to the famous and mysterious Nazca Lines. The Nazca Lines include hundreds of figures, including the "Thunderbird," "Astronaut," "Spider," and "Heron." Created by a pre-Inca population, the purpose of the figures remains unknown. Dave showed several pictures of the figures taken from a small plane. He explained that red volcanic pebbles are removed from the white sand below to create the lines. There is little disturbance in this arid environment and the lines have remained visible for centuries. There is plenty of wildlife on the Nasca plains, as evidenced by the viewing platforms that provided an elevated vantage point above the plain. Not so wild were the many llamas who produced the wool for sweaters similar to that worn by Dave. Additionally, Vicunas there produced incredibly soft wool.

Next stop was Cuzco at an elevation of 11,000 ft and a population of 300,000. After first arriving, cocoa tea and candy helped acclimate along with some rest. In fact, cocoa leaves were sold on the street. Although Cuzco was built in a valley, it is still higher than Machu Picchu. It is a stunning city with two large cathedrals on the town square. Dave planned well to be there during their winter solstice and the holding of the Inti Raymi, a week long Festival of the Sun. This is the 2nd largest

festival in all of South America, drawing hundreds of thousands of people from all over South America and around the world. Dave provided a handout with a full explanation of this event.

Machu Picchu, another World Heritage Site, was once a fully functioning Inca city. Dave found this to be a moving and very spiritual experience. The stone work was most impressive. Built by 13th and 14th century stone masons, massive stones were perfectly cut and fit in place without the use of mortar. Pictures showed stairs built into the sides of cliffs to allow the population to retrieve water 2,000 feet below.

The Sacred Valley of the Incas, or Urubamba Valley is in the Andes of Peru, close to the Inca capital of Cuzco. Also described in Dave's handout, they stayed here for two days and were fortunate to experience another festival. Every day clothes were most colorful and could have passed for festival costumes. Dave commented on the beautiful landscapes and wonderful Peruvian pipe music.

Dave arranged this trip through a travel agent in Redwood City with Peruvian roots. She accompanied Dave's group and he credits her local knowledge for many of the outstanding experiences. She is putting another trip together for this year. Anyone interested in more information should contact Dave.

In closing, Dave advised those of us wanting to do or see something in this world, don't say, "I'll do it someday." Say, "I'll do it now."

Presidents Corner



ROTARY AT WORK DAY:

It's official, the Rotary Clubs of Cameron Park and Georgetown will celebrate Christmas in April as their part in Rotary at Work Day on April 25, 2009. Special permission has been received for the Salvation Army to put out their pots and bell ringers to raise funds on this day. The state of the economy is placing added burdens on the Salvation Army to provide services to the needy. Emphasizing local benefits, all but 10% of the money raised will serve people on the Western Slope. The two Rotary Clubs will staff the pots at 20 locations around the county from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm on this day. At least 40 Rotarians will be needed to each put in

a two hour shift. This means that most members will be needed and should contact **Tom Keating** to sign up. Rotary at Work Day will have Rotarians from all around the world working on local projects on the same day to benefit their communities. To celebrate a successful event, a pot luck dinner and fellowship will take place afterward at President Elect **Bill Gallant's** riverside home. Do not miss this event.

ROTARY WORLD UNDERSTANDING MONTH:

President **Iain Marshall** reminded members that that last Monday was Rotary International's 104th Birthday, otherwise known as Rotary Day. It is only appropriate that February be World Understanding Month, a time to celebrate the work of Rotary in our community and around the world.

AREA MUSIC AND SPEECH CONTESTS:

The annual Area Music Contest for this area will take place at Cameron Park Country Club on the evening of March 12, 2009. This event will serve as the regular meeting for that week. Dinner will be \$35. No host cocktails will begin at 5:30 and dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m.. It is important to have an accurate headcount. Please contact **Chris Moore** if you plan to attend and have not already signed up.

The annual Area Speech Contest is scheduled for the evening of Tuesday, March 31, 2009, at the 50 Grand Steakhouse in Pollock Pines. Dinner will have a choice of Chicken or Salmon for \$25 or Prime Rib for \$28. No host cocktails will start at 5:30 p.m. and dinner will be served at 7:00. This event will serve as the meeting for that week and there will be no meeting on Thursday, April 2, 2009. Be sure to mark your calendar.

To get to the 50 Grand Steakhouse in Pollock Pines, take the Sly Park Exit (#60). Go under the freeway and turn left on Pony Express Trail and it is on the right side about 2 blocks down.

WINE AT TOWN CENTER:

Wine at Town Center is scheduled for Saturday evening, June 13, 2009. In the past, this event has been held on the Saturday of Father's Day weekend, but must be moved this year because of a scheduling conflict at Town Center. **Brian Silverthorne** announced that promotional videos to get people to attend and to attract sponsors are now available on line. There are two videos, each in two different formats. See if you can find the format that works best for you. The videos are available at the links below:

(Event video – 2:16) <http://brightfarm.com/bvi/WineAtTownCenter2.wmv>

(Event video – 2:16 - QuickTime) <http://brightfarm.com/bvi/WineAtTownCenter2.mov>

(Sponsor opportunities video – 3:33) <http://brightfarm.com/bvi/WineAtTownCenter.wmv>

(Sponsor opportunities video – 3:33 - QuickTime) <http://brightfarm..com/bvi/WineAtTownCenter.mov>

All members are asked to share these videos with friends, family and potential sponsors. This is the most important fund raiser of the year, Let's sell it out.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY BOB CLARKE:

He already paid Happy Bucks for his birthday, but that didn't stop **Bob Clarke** from wanting everyone to celebrate with him. What better way to win our hearts than to provide delicious chocolate chip cookies for everyone. Calorie counters grumbled, but that didn't stop them from enjoying this treat. Happy Birthday Bob and thanks for the goodies.

INTERACT CLUB SUPPORTS ST. JUDE:

Ponderosa High School Interact Club President, **Amy Wisdom** visited last month to publicize their "Walk for Children" to raise money for the Children of St. Jude's. This annual event is set for April 25, 2009, at Ponderosa High School and community support is essential to its success. Amy is seeking donations of food, water, money or time. She would love to see a big group of walking Rotarians on April 25. This event is well worth our support. To donate or to get further information, contact Amy at walkforchildren@live.com.

Noted Rotarians



HAPPY BUCKS:

Engineer, artist and model maker, **Bill Ettlich** presented **Bob Dorr** with a scale model of the **M/V Cameron Park** the floating health clinic now in service in the Philippines' Agusan Marsh. So touched by it, Bob showed his pleasure with ten happy bucks.

Was it the son or the sun? **Shiva** also had ten happy bucks after spending a week visiting her son in Tampa Bay, Florida.

Treasurer **Coy Baugh** didn't even try to sneak in when he arrived late for lunch. Instead, he offered five dollars to let everyone know that he was just happy to be here. **Edie Liebergot**

hosted the monthly Chamber mixer at the Umquah Bank last week and paid \$5 to let members know that we belong to the Chamber and are invited.

Congratulations to **Debra Miller** for passing her Real Estate Broker exam. Having recently moved into her new "Green" offices in Placerville, the future for Debbie is indeed bright. So bright that she offered five happy bucks.

Birthdays in March

Gary Gall

Norm Headley

Eric Pohl

Joe Ryan

-----Spouses-----

Marilyn Bowen

Beverly Check

JoAnn LePere

Anniversaries in March

Sabrina & Alex Ho

Eric & Linda Pohl

Upcoming Calendar

March 5, 2009 - **Greg Patton**, President of Sierra Vista Bank, will discuss banking challenges ahead.

March 12, 2009 - Dinner meeting at CPCA 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 2, 2009 - no meeting because of dinner meeting earlier in the week.

April 9, 2009 - **Larry George** will give an update on Israel/Palestine conflict

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

April 23, 2009 - ``Sewards Folly`` travelogue with **Art ``North to Alaska`` Cort**

May 7, 2009 - Folsom Lake College development, including Performing Arts Center

May 14, 2009 - Vocational Service experiences by **Norm Headley** and **Tom Keating**

May 21, 2009 - **Star Walker** from EDC Office on Aging about available programs

May 28, 2009 - Trip to California Military Museum for meeting and tour

Upcoming Words of Wisdom

March 5, 2009 - Words of Wisdom **Bill Ettlich**; Greeter **Jana Ellerman**; and **Mike Collom** on the front desk

March 12, 2009 - Words of Wisdom **Edie Liebergot**; Greeter **Gary Gall**; and **Shiva Frentzen** on the front desk

March 19, 2009 - Words of Wisdom **Chuck LePere**; Greeter **Steve Long**; and **Sabrino Ho** on the front desk

The Last Word



DATES TO REMEMBER:

March 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 CPCA to judge area music competition

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

April 25, 2009 - Rotary at Work Day

April 25, 2009 - "Walk for Children" to raise money for the Children of St. Jude`s at Ponderosa High School

May 14 to 17, 2009 - Rotary District 5190 Conference at the Pepermill Hotel and Conference Center in Reno

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**.