



## This Week

### Meeting Date and Place

**May 28, 2009 at 12:15 p.m. ....California State Military Museum**

### Words of Wisdom

Words of Wisdom: **Mike Dugan**; Greeter **Dave Crofut**; and **Ben Young** at the desk

### Program

Trip to California Military Museum for meeting and tour.

The Museum is located at 1119 Second Street in Old Town Sacramento.

## Last Week



**George Eckert**, an experienced mortgage broker, lawyer and current President of the California Mortgage Association talked about the impact of new and proposed legislation and regulations on the mortgage industry in California.

George`s firm in Sacramento specializes in loans based on equity, not solely on credit ratings. His company attracts private investors who wish to invest in trust deeds. They then match investors with real estate buyers. He acknowledged that the current market is very slow and indicated that all of the California lending industry is being hamstrung by recent laws and regulations. New laws and regulations in the wake of the

sub-prime debacle are starving the market of capital. Regulations on lending side (loan origination) further restricts funds available. George projects that proposed Federal laws will compound the problems. Credit requirements will make it impossible for many people to qualify for home loans. As a result, he predicts that a whole class of potential homeowners will remain renters, further stalling the recovery of the housing sector of the economy. George talked about the impact of new strict licensing requirements for anyone who makes home loans, including bankers who have a long and successful career in the lending business. While there may be some benefit to uniform and knowledgeable lenders, this added layer of regulation will also add another layer of costs to be paid by the consumer. A positive aspect of proposed changes is the proposed merging of California State agencies with responsibility for overseeing real estate business transactions. Hopefully this merging will result in improved efficiency with savings for the tax payer.

According to George, new laws and regulations will have significant impact on foreclosures. First, the new regulations encourage the purchase of foreclosed properties. George represents clients buying at foreclosure sales and he talked about the many opportunities for investors in this area. In the Sacramento area, there is an incredible number of bank foreclosures going on the market and a surprising number of buyers. The attraction of these properties is that, in today`s market, a property can assure positive cash flow from the first day. As a result, there can be bidding wars with many properties going for more than the asking price. George notes that only a third of foreclosures have

hit the market and the backed up inventory means many opportunities on the horizon. At the same time, George is very concerned about the impact of proposed legislation extending rights to occupants of such properties. Under new legislation, occupants can remain in a property for up to a year after the purchase date. According to George, a lot of people who should not have been in a home in the first place because they took a loan that they couldn't afford, will now be allowed to stay in that home for up to a year after foreclosure without paying rent. While a foreclosure may present a great investment opportunity, George says that his clients are likely to pass on them if the property is occupied. He projects that property sales and the economic recovery will be stalled by the efforts of regulators to try to solve delicate problems with a meat ax approach.

While the pendulum for loan industry has swung dramatically from the very liberal underwriting to prohibitively restrictive, George is optimistic for the long term. Organizations such as the AARP are now lobbying for flexibility to help their constituencies to get loans. Investors are still lined up waiting for the market to pick up. George has been through several major slumps during his lengthy career in finance and he is convinced that the growing population will lead to an increase in demand for housing that will lead to a recovery from the current down market.

### Presidents Corner



#### **BANNER EXCHANGE DISPLAY:**

Thanks to **Dave Crofut** the club has it's first display of banners exchanged with visiting guests and our club members from visiting clubs around the world. The first display holds only a fourth of the collected banners, but it's a great start. When complete, the display will hint at the true international reach of Rotary.

#### **THANKS FROM SCHOLARSHIP STUDENTS:**

President **Iain Marshall** shared letters of thanks from two student recipients of Cameron Park Rotary scholarships this year. Both **Brianna Juhrend** and **Brian Wells** showed a lot of class with their thoughtful notes. Both are destined to make us proud of our selections for

this year.

#### **DISTRICT CONFERENCE:**

President Iain reports that the District Conference was a great success and that he was happy with our club's showing. The student representing our club won the District Speech Contest and the student from Georgetown, also from our area, won the District Music Contest. Iain accepted presidential citations for a number of club achievements.

#### **DEBUNKING TIME:**

President Iain's term has flown by and it's almost time for him to give up the gavel. In case he is reluctant to surrender this symbol of office, a proper debunking will surely put him in his proper place. Past President **Gary Reynolds** is heading up the committee and looking for co-conspirators. Anyone wanting to help plan the event to give President Iain the recognition to which he is due is asked to contact Gary.

#### **WINE AT TOWN CENTER:**

With less than three weeks to go, the club's biggest fund raiser is nearly here and much remains to be done. **Brian Silverthorn** reports that the economy has finally caught up with us and that there will be fewer sponsorships for the event this year. Sponsors normally buy tables for \$1,000. Brian suggests that potential sponsors consider sharing a table. For example, two small businesses could come up with \$500 each. The lack of sponsors places more importance on regular ticket sales. The goal for this club is to sell at least 480 tickets, with a minimum objective of 4 tickets for each member. Anyone needing tickets is directed to contact **Debbie Miller**.

**ROTARY GOES TO THE BALL GAME:**

**Gary Reynolds** announced the annual Boys and Girls Club trip to a River Cat game will take place on July 17, 2009. Once a year, the club sponsors approximately 35 to 40 boys and girls at a River Cat game. Of course, no game is complete without hot dogs, peanuts and soft drinks, all provided by the club. As the time nears, Gary will be passing the hat and asking who would like to attend. Always a great event, it is rewarding to watch these young people having a good night out.

Rotary International night at the River Cats is Sunday, August 9, 2009. For every Rotarian in attendance, the River Cats will donate \$5 to the Polio Plus campaign. What better excuse to have a good time? Mark your calendars.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS AT FUN LOCATIONS:****THIS WEEK AT THE CALIFORNIA STATE MILITARY MUSEUM:**

The Cameron Park Country Club will not be available for several dates in the next couple of months. This week, the regular meeting will take place at the regular time, but will be held at the California Military Museum in Sacramento. After lunch members will be treated to a special tour of the museum. Members are encouraged to car pool or to take public transportation. The museum is located at 1119 Second Street in Old Town Sacramento. Parking is available for those who are driving (car pools an idea) RT stops at K Street. Go through Westfield Downtown Plaza, make a left on 2nd St. and go one block.

On June 11, 2009, the regular meeting will be held at the new **Red Hawk** Casino in Shingle Springs. Guests are welcome to both meetings, but members are asked to advise **Fritz Engel** in advance of the number attending.

**CHARTER DAY FOR THE ROTARY CLUB OF CAMERON PARK:**

Cameron Park Rotary has hit middle age. On June 30, 2009, it will be 40 years old. The last meeting of President **Iain Marshall's** term will be held on June 25, 2009, and he proposes to dedicate it to the club's anniversary. Anyone having pictures of themselves, or other members, from this memorable time are asked to bring them on this day. Those too young to have 40 year old pictures can bring photos of their parents. It promises to be a fun day.

**Noted Rotarians****HAPPY BUCKS:****Happy Anniversary**

President **Iain Marshall** continues to celebrate wedding anniversaries with red roses. On this day, he presented a rose to **Mike Collom** to give to **Chris Reeg** for their five years of bliss. In return, Mike offered ten dollars for each happy year. Following suit after

getting a rose for **Sheilah**, his bride of two years, **Gary Gall** also committed ten dollars for each year. We missed **Verne Sanders** who was unavailable to receive an anniversary rose from President Iain. However, he will be able to give it to **Chris** after all. Vern pledged \$50 to show his happiness and, in return, President Iain will personally deliver the rose.

**Happy Birthday**

Looking no older, but much wiser, **Steve Long** gave \$20 to celebrate his May birthday. **Bob Dorr** suggested that his birthday was significant (or not), but still pledged \$100 to be dedicated to **Polio Plus**.

**Miscellaneous Happiness**

It's not clear if she was happy, but it was clear that she didn't beat the bell before lunch. Tardiness cost **Carla Carlson** five dollars. **Max Callaghan** got recognition in the Mt. Democrat for being fined for arriving early. Now, He must come up with another \$10 for getting his name in the paper. Do you suppose that will be good for another mention and another ten dollars?

**Chuck Le Pere** had a great time at the District Conference and praised President **Iain Marshall** for the best ever hospitality suite. He then recognized the **Sally Marshall** deserved the real credit and offered Five happy bucks to thank her. **Sabrina Ho** also enjoyed the conference and thanked **Mike Neal** for his good work on the club exhibit with a ten happy buck contribution.

**Ben Foulk** has real reason to celebrate this month. For the first time in 25 years, Ben doesn't have a child in high school. His youngest daughter is his fifth offspring to graduate from high school and Ben looks like a proud and happy man. Considering the cost of college these days, it's great that Ben could still manage ten happy bucks.

It is nice to see **Jim Savarese** back with the club and even nicer when he brings his wife as he did last week. Her presence reminded **Chris Moore** of what a small world it is. Chris used to play Pop Warner football with her son and Chris recalled how well she treated the boys. For that trip down memory lane, Chris contributed \$20.

### Birthdays in May

**Bob Dorr**

**Tom Keating**

**Steve Long**

-----Spouses-----

**Frank Carlson**

**Keith Deister**

### Anniversaries in May

**Mike & Chris Reeg Collom**

**Gary & Sheilah Gall**

**Bob & Pamela Laurie**

**Verne & Chris Sanders**

### Upcoming Calendar

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

June 4, 2009 - **Star Walker**, from EDC Office on Aging, will discuss available programs. Meeting to be held at Faith Episcopal Church

June 11, 2009 - Meet at the **Red Hawk Casino-Gary Reynolds** has the scoop.

June 18, 2009 - Ponderosa High School football coach **Mr. Tanner**. Meeting to be held at Faith Episcopal Church.

June 25, 2009 - CELEBRATING 40 YEARS. Bring photos of yourself from 1969 (our Charter year). Club Service Chair and International Service Chair will highlight noted accomplishments over the years

July 2, 2009 - Program by **Peter Voy** from Furniture for Families.

July 9, 2009 - Program by **Janeen Rich** from California Office of Emergency Services Hazmat team.

July 16, 2009 - Program by **Pat Barron** from **Kacie's Ride for Help**

### Upcoming Words of Wisdom

May 28 - Words of Wisdom **Mike Dugan**; Greeter **David Crofut**; **Ben Young** on the front desk.

June 4 - Words of Wisdom **Chuck LePere**; Greeter **Vickie Christensen-McClain**; **Tom Keating** on, at or near the front desk.

## The Last Word



### NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION:

**Irina Green** has been nominated for membership by **Bill Gallant**. Her classification is Electric Utilities. The Board has approved her application for membership pending consideration of comments from the membership.

### DATES TO REMEMBER:

July 7, 2009 - Monthly Rotary Club of Cameron Park Board meeting at Kobe`s restaurant in Burke`s Junction. All members welcome.

June 13, 2009 - **Wine at Town Center**

July 17, 2009 – Cocktail party for new **Paul Harris Fellows** at **Iain** and **Sally Marshall`s** house.

October 10, 2009 - **Show and Shine** at Cameron Park Airport

**Mike Neal** has put together a photo series of highlights of our 2009 Rotarians at Work Day. The link is at the bottom of this web page.

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