



## This Week

### Meeting Date and Place

**June 12, 2008 at 12:15p.m. ....Faith Episcopal Church**

### Words of Wisdom

Words of Wisdom: **Carolyn Doty**; Greeter **Steve Long**;

### Program

Tentative: Charity Ride at Faith Episcopal Church

## Last Week



**Luke Miller** gave a brief seminar on residential solar energy. Luke works for Akeena Solar and he gave a good overview of the topic as well as some valuable detailed information for any homeowner thinking of installing a solar system. Solar power is nothing new, first discovered in 1823. Historically, the costs associated with solar energy were too high to compete with electricity from conventional sources. Beginning in the late 90s, the cost of solar energy became more competitive and now may be a cost effective alternative to power from traditional utility companies. As the cost of oil increases, homeowners can expect the costs of electric energy to sky rocket.

Systems are now available to generate renewable energy through solar panels and to connect to the power grid through the electric meter. During the day, the solar power system will produce more power than is consumed and the electric meter literally spins backward. This creates a credit with the utility company and reduces or eliminates the electricity bill.

While not inexpensive, the cost of most home based solar energy systems can be recovered in six to twenty years, depending on home consumption levels. Luke suggests that the best time to go solar is now in order to reduce or eliminate your electric bill; produce your own power and secure energy independence; have a long term investment strategy; increase property values without raising taxes; and, decrease air pollution and reduce greenhouse gases.

There are four steps to the solar installation process; a pre-site analysis, a site analysis, a contract mitigate the installation costs. Government incentive programs make it easier and more affordable for homeowners to go solar. At the State level, there is the California Solar Initiative. There is also the possibility of a federal tax credit to further reduce costs.

Solar systems may make sense for many homeowners and there are several resources available to help them make informed decisions. PG&E has a solar guide available on-line at:  
<http://www.pge.com/myhome/environment/pge/solar/solarguide.shtml>.

Referrals to various area vendors is available at:  
<http://www.pge.com/myhome/environment/pge/solar/solarguide.shtml>.

And, Luke`s company, Akeena Solar, has a wealth of information at:  
<http://akeena.net/cm/Home.html>.

## Presidents Corner



### NEW GM FOR RED HAWK CASINO:

**Peter Fordham** introduced himself as the new general manager for the **Red Hawk Casino** opening later this year in Shingle Springs. With roots in the United Kingdom, Peter has worked in casinos around the world. He began as a dealer and has worked his way up in the industry. For the last eight years, Peter has been working at Native American Indian casinos in the United States. After a few years in Minnesota, Peter is sure to enjoy the climate in California. Welcome to the neighborhood Peter.

### JUNE BOARD MEETING:

The Board Meeting this month will take place at noon on Tuesday, June 10, 2008, at Que Viva Mexican Restaurant

in Burke`s Junction in Cameron Park. All members are welcome to attend.

### WINE AT TOWN CENTER:

Some tickets remain for Wine at Town Center and will go on sale at the site at noon on the day of the event. To increase the visibility of Rotarians at the event, members are asked to take their badges after next week`s meeting and wear them at Wine at Town Center. There is room for additional restaurant booths and anyone knowing of restaurants that may be interested in participating are asked to contact **Debbie Miller**.

### PHILIPPINE BOAT PROJECT:

**Bob Dorr** reports that we have received additional contributions of \$500 each from the Rotary Clubs of Alturas and Auburn Gold Country. An additional \$4,000 is needed to fully equip and fund the initial operations of the boat. Bob has asked each of the partner clubs to consider an additional \$500 donation. The latest report from the Philippines estimates that boat construction is 80% complete and should be launched before the end of this month.

### PROGRESSIVE DINNER:

It has been a few years since there has been a progressive dinner for members. Always a fun event, a progressive dinner is held at three different houses in close proximity. The first will serve wine, the second the main meal and the third will have dessert. **Bob Edwards** announced that a progressive dinner will be scheduled for sometime in July. Pay attention for more details in coming weeks; it is an evening that you won`t want to miss.

## Noted Rotarians



### HAPPY BUCKS

Happy Birthday to **Vickie Christensen** and **Chuck LePere**. Looking tan and relaxed, Vickie contributed \$20 celebrate her birthday. Chuck tried to get off with \$7.90 for some not too obscure reason, but President Gary decided that \$10 was a cleaner number. For that extra \$2.10, Chuck took the opportunity to brag about the achievements of his grandson who is graduating from high school in Bakersfield. After getting every honor and scholarship conceivable, the boy will be entering UC Irvine to study Bio Medical Mechanical Engineering (think bionics).

**Bell Ringer Birthdays:** Happy Birthday to Bell Ringer **Jim Bowen**, to **Helen Cort**, wife of **Art**, to **Dian**

**Hansen**, wife of **Sig**, and to **Jane Engel** wife of **Fritz**.

**Happy Anniversary** to **Max** and **Emanuela Callaghan** for which Max contributed ten happy bucks and another five for coming in late. Bell Ringer **Fritz Engel** need not contributed anything, but is obviously happy to celebrate with his wife **Jane** and contribute \$10. **Ben** and **Gina Foulk** have been married for just a few years, but Ben knows how lucky he is and he put up \$15. There were suggestions that **Debra Miller** must have married at age ten in order to have twenty-four years of

marital bliss with **Luke** and she valued every year by contributing \$24. That was topped by **Dave Tavernetti** who gave a \$44 to represent every happy year with **Suzanne**. Congratulations to all.

### **Birthdays in June**

**Jim Bowen**  
**Vickie Christensen-McLain**  
**Chuck LePere**  
**Verne Sanders**  
**Larry Shuler**  
-----Spouses-----  
**Helen Cort**  
**Linda Dossey**  
**Jane Engel**  
**Dian Hansen**  
**Craig Sandberg**

### **Anniversaries in June**

**Coy & Cheryl Baugh**  
**Max & Emanuela Callaghan**  
**Bob & Joanne Clarke**  
**Anne & George Eckert**  
**Fritz & Jane Engel**  
**Ben & Gina Foulk**  
**Rube & Dee Jessop**  
**Steve & Judy Long**  
**Debra & Luke Miller**  
**Julie & Craig Sandberg**  
**David & Suzanne Tavernetti**  
**Terry & Heidi Wilson**

### **Upcoming Calendar**

June 12, 2008 - Tentative: Charity Ride at Faith Episcopal Church  
June 19, 2008 - Long Term Care - **Iain Marshall** and **Jana Ellerman** at Faith Episcopal Church  
June 26, 2008 - Rotary Projects - **Gary Reynolds**

### **Upcoming Words of Wisdom**

June 12, 2008 - Words of Wisdom by **Carolyn Doty** and the Greeting by **Steve Long**  
June 19, 2008 - Words of Wisdom by **Chuck LePere** and the Greeting by **Sabrina Ho**  
June 26, 2008 - Words of Wisdom by **Ben Young** and the Greeting by **Tom Keating**

### **The Last Word**



### **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

June 10, 2008 - Monthly Board Meeting at Que Viva Mexican Restaurant in Burke`s Junction at noon.  
June 14, 2008 - **Wine at Town Center**  
June 15 - 18, 2008 - Rotary International Convention in Los Angeles  
July 1, 2008 - Monthly Board Meeting at Kobe`s Restaurant in Burke`s Junction at noon.