



This Week

Meeting Date and Place

August 21, 2008 at 12:15p.m.Cameron Park Country Club

Words of Wisdom

Words of Wisdom: **Art Cort**; Greeter **Tom Keating**; and **Dee Russo** on the fornt desk

Program

Annual meeting at **Bob Clarke's** Latrobe Vineyard. **Bill Stephans** El Dorado County Agriculture Commisioner, will speak on the proposed wine ordinance.

Last Week



SHANNON'S TRIP TO THE BOTTOM OF THE WORLD:

Shannon Guzzo is one adventurous woman as demonstrated, not only by her trip to Antarctica, but the choice of tours to make that trip. Shannon chose Peregrine Travel out of Australia because of their use of small ships that enable all passengers to participate in even the most rigorous landings. The cruise that she selected was on a Russian Ice breaker that had been converted from a scientific exploration ship to a passenger cruise ship. The entire crew was Russian and all of the tour guides were Australian. Many of the passenger service workers were doctors and professors who are able to make more during a cruise season than working in their own professions. Most of the passengers were Australians, whom Shannon describes as great

world travelers.

Passengers for the cruise met at the staging area in Ushuaia, Argentina. With 60,000 residents, Ushuaia is the southernmost city in the world. They departed Ushuaia and crossed some of the most treacherous waters in the world between Cape Horn and Antarctica. Shannon knew exactly what she was getting into and took medication to prevent sea sickness. Not all the passengers were so prepared and the public rooms on board had few people during the first few days at sea. There were three professional photographers on board to collect and select the pictures taken by all passengers and burn CDs to give everyone all of the best pictures taken. Shannon ran a slide show in the background during her presentation and the spectacular shots reinforced her description of the experience.

The pictures showed both wild life and incredible landscapes and seascapes. She had pictures of icebergs of all sizes with incredible blue colors. Shannon noted that it was surprising to see how fast large ice bergs were melting and disappearing. At the same time, there was constant calving of new ice bergs that would be melting tomorrow. She showed pictures of rookeries of penguins and all kinds of sea birds. At one point, she told of seeing several circling carrion birds and came across the carcass of a grounded whale.

Shannon prepared for the trip in advance with kayak classes. Groups of passengers actually paddled among the fields of floating ice, careful to not get too close to ice bergs. While nobody in her group capsized, she was told that it was not uncommon and that the freezing water would become deadly in a minute. The ship did provide a strong Russian sailor in a zodiac whose job it was to get passengers out of the water immediately after a spill.

One reason that Shannon selected this particular cruise was the many land trips that all passengers could take. They had two zodiac trips a day. The landings for passengers from all cruise ships in the

area are coordinated to minimize the adverse impact on the environment. They visited a Rumanian meteorologist site that is staffed all year round. There, they found a flat area on the ground to place a sleeping bag and camped overnight. Shannon talked about the bone chilling cold and the need to be bundled up. She described the cold as feeling like cuts from razor blades. Concern for the environment means that nothing can be left behind from tour group visits. Under these conditions, the toilet was a bucket set in the sand. It sounds like the use of such a facility was a real challenge under the freezing conditions.

The tour season in Antarctica is October to March and there are advantages and disadvantages to traveling there at any time. Early in the season, the crew and guides are fresh and give their best service. On the other hand fledgling penguins don't show up until late in the season. Shannon went in December, when the sun never set. She said that there as almost an hour of dusk each day around two in the morning. The weather alone was worth watching and there were so many beautiful sites that it was difficult to leave them to go to bed. When they were not going ashore during the day, academic specialists gave a variety of interesting lectures. The cost of the cruise was close to \$8,000, not including air fare, which Shannon described as worth every penny. The sign of a good trip is that she would love to go back.

According to Shannon, the best source of information on tours to Antarctica is the **Lonely Planet**. Anyone adventurous enough to want more information about a trek to the bottom of the world can visit their web site at: <http://www.lonelyplanet.com/worldguide/antarctica>

APPLES FOR ALZHEIMER'S

Shannon put in a plug for the first **Apples for Alzheimer's** fundraiser for the Alzheimer's Association's Greater Sacramento Memory Walk. This worthwhile event takes place on Saturday, September 6, 2008 and will cover several locations on Apple Mountain. For more information, call 800-728-1614 or visit <http://www.acteva.com/go/apples4alz>.

Presidents Corner



CAMERON PARK ROTARY SUPPORTS THE RELAY FOR DORADO COUNTY:

President **Iain Marshall** presented **Vickie Christensen** on behalf of the club to the American Cancer Society. Last week we announced that the Relay for Life, the American Cancer Society fundraiser, will be held for the 11th year in El Dorado County Fairgrounds in Placerville on Saturday, September 13 and is an important event that deserves support. For more information visit the web site at:

http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RelayForLife?px=7816588&pg=personal&fr_id=4356 You can also donate to Vickie's personal web page at:

http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RelayForLife?px=7816588&pg=personal&fr_id=4356

SHOW AND SHINE:

The Rotary Club of Cameron Park is working closely with the International of Cameron Park to make the 19th Annual **Show and Shine / Fly-In** a bigger and better event. In recent years, the Air National Guard has brought a Blackhawk helicopter. While that may not be possible, participation with other aircraft is anticipated to draw crowds. Members should keep in mind that increased participation that the club can do that much more for the community. To make the event a bigger success, more cars and airplanes are needed. Donations are being sought for the raffle. Modern and classic cars are welcome. Your contribution to the success of this event is asked to contact President Iain Marshall.

PHILIPPINE BOAT PROJECT TRIP:

The boat has been launched and pictures of it in the water will be posted on the web site next week. But that details are being finalized for the trip to celebrate completion of the project, to look at potential new sites to visit historic sites. The itinerary calls for an October 22, 2008 departure and return on November 1, 2008. This trip provides an opportunity for those interested in visiting other places to link this trip to stops elsewhere in the Pacific. The base trip is estimated to cost less than \$2,000 per person. Anyone interested in going along contact Bob or **Jim Buckley** for detailed information.

Noted Rotarians



HAPPY BUCKS NEW BADGES:

Permanent member badges finally arrived for not so new members, **Sabrina Ho** and **Ulla Petersen**. Presented by membership chair, **Dave Crofut**, who shared a few thoughts on the history and growth of Rotary International. It's customary for new badge holders to give a few Happy Bucks for this significant moment. These new members are not only enthusiastic Rotarians, they are most generous. Ulla started with a pledge of \$100 that was matched by Sabrina. This set the tone for President **Iain Marshall** who received his badge of office and also came up with \$100. All agreed to direct these happy bucks to their Paul Harris Fellowships.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY:

President Iain continued the tradition that he started last month of giving a rose for every member wedding anniversary. This month, he began with a rose for **Dottie Bisbee** and Doug accepted it after contributing an impressive fifty Happy Bucks. Also receiving a rose on this day was **Sally Marshall** who is having a birthday in August. President Iain thought both were worth twenty five Happy Bucks.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY:

It is a busy month for **Gary Reynolds** who received his new badge as a Past President. He is also celebrating his birthday and wedding anniversary with **Robin** and all things considered, he expressed fifty dollars worth of happiness. **Mike Neal** is happy that his bride, **Trudy** is celebrating an August birthday for which he contributed twenty-five Happy Bucks. **Rus Lloyd** gave \$10 to honor **Barbara's** birthday this month and **Max Callaghan** had fifteen Happy Bucks because he had survived another year.

The most important birthday from **Debra Miller's** perspective was that of her puppy. One year old and Debra celebrated in San Diego and contributed ten Happy Bucks.

HAPPINESS FOR EVERY REASON:

School must be back in session as **Chris Moore** appeared wearing a tie. He confirmed that he is indeed back in the groove and was beaming about the continuing academic success of Ponderosa High School. They were featured in **Sacramento Magazine** as one of the best high schools in the area. Their academic index last year was an impressive 836 and has made a huge jump this year to 850. Chris notes that it such and increase was an amazing accomplishment when considering that already high standards that they had to top. With much pride, Chris came up with fifty Happy Bucks.

Ane Deister is back and looking very relaxed. No wonder, she spent two weeks in Kauai with just her husband and daughter. Her daughter described it as a vacation with a minimum of old people. Ane thought it worth ten Happy Bucks per person for a total of \$30. Thanks Ane.

Speaking of Hawaii, golf pro **Eric Pohl** just returned from Maui where he played a great course and he gave forty Happy Bucks to talk about it.

It doesn't pay to come in late. Not only did **Jana Ellerman** arrive late, she took off early and it cost her \$10. **Mike Collom** couldn't sneak in unnoticed and, likewise, was charged \$10. Mike tried to make an excuse that somehow related to Hot August nights with his four generations of Colloms and three cars. At \$10 a car, the club coffers gets another thirty Happy Bucks.

Birthdays in August

Max Callaghan

Van Dossey

Chris Moore

Gary Reynolds

-----Spouses-----

Barbara Lloyd

Sally Marshall

Alice Moore

Trudy Neal

Lacey Young

Anniversaries in August

Doug & Dottie Bisbee

Bill & Dianne Ettlich

Dennis & Michelle Hamilton

Iain & Sally Marshall

Gary & Robin Reynolds

Upcoming Calendar

August 21, 2008 – Annual meeting at **Bob Clarke's** Latrobe Vineyard. **Bill Stephans** El Dorado County Agriculture Commissioner, will speak on the proposed wine ordinance.

August 28, 2008 - **Mike Neal** - Vocational Service

September 4, 2008 - Sacramento River Cats Rally

September 11, 2008 - Patriots Day with **Maj. Ken Ashworth** from the California Military Museum

September 18, 2008 - **Kyleen Cornell** - Boys & Girls Club of El Dorado County Western Slope

September 25, 2008 - **Tammy Mefford** with Cameron Park Community Service District on exciting progress with new Community Center (at Faith Episcopal Church)

Upcoming Words of Wisdom

August 21, 2008 – Words of Wisdom by **Art Cort** after a greeting from **Tom Keating** with **Dee Russo** on the front desk

August 28, 2008 – Words of Wisdom by **Chuck LePere** after a greeting from **Dave Sargent** with **Mike Collom** on the front desk

The Last Word



through the talents of **Mike Neal**.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

September 20, 2008 - Coastal Cleanup Day

September 20, 2008 - **Show and Shine** annual ``Fly in`` Airplane and Auto Show at Cameron Park Air Park

September 2, 2008 - Monthly Board Meeting. All members welcome.

November 13, 2008 - Annual Area Rotary Foundation Dinner at the Cameron Park Country Club

Gear Up is written by **Jim Buckley** and **Art Cort**. Photography and artwork