



This Week

Meeting Date and Place

September 4, 2008 at 12:15p.m.Cameron Park Country Club

Words of Wisdom

Words of Wisdom: **Bill Gallant**; Greeter **Jim Buckley**; and **Tom Keating** on the front desk

Program

Sacramento River Cats Rally

Last Week



Most members knew of fellow Rotarian **Mike Neal's** many talents, but few knew of his unique background and extraordinary career path. Mike talked about his career and told of how his tendency to "get things done" combined with his practice of asking good questions landed him in a position as a vice president for a large high tech company. With an undergraduate degree in Criminology and a graduate degree in correctional counseling, his initial career as a probation officer seemed to follow a natural course. He departed from that natural course when he left his career to return to Sacramento, the area where he grew up, and went to work as a house painter. This combination of education and experiences led him to an entirely new career in a most non-traditional manner.

Mike was asked by a woman to complete a house painting job with unreasonably short notice. Although Mike was booked for several months work at the time, the woman pleaded and Mike found a creative way to get the job done outside of normal hours. So impressed by Mike's approach, the woman's husband, **Bob Mathews** the founder of CableData , offered Mike a job in his relatively new high tech company. Mathews had a reputation for hiring people, not based so much on their technical qualifications as their ability to get things done. He was known to offer a job to a waitress that gave exceptional service. Mike declined Mathews' offer, but three years later, a persistent Mathews finally recruited Mike to come to work in his firm in a staff job. As Mike described it, he was a staff guy studying "staff stuff."

Mike questioned everything and identified cost savings that led to promotions that put him in positions to ask more questions and identify even more cost savings. He identified billing errors that resulted in a \$38,000 refund for the company. As manager of Facilities, Security, Clerical Services and other small departments, he questioned copy machine uses and reduced copies by 75%. As the Director of Personnel, he learned to write software to solve payroll problems and reduced payroll staff from 8 positions to one half-time position. With little previous technical experience, Mike became Director of Technical Support, solving any problems that came his way. He was quickly promoted to Director of Customer Service, then Vice President of Hardware Support and Manufacturing and finally he was made Vice President of Customer Service and Field Engineering. In his Vice President positions, he had frequent contact with Mathews who encouraged Mike's get things done approach. While others may have had difficulty with Mathews management style, Mike appreciated the combination of responsibility and freedom to solve problems. Mike attributes his background as a probation officer working in the courts to his ability to get to the heart of problems. The combination of an unconventional boss and Mike's drive to cut through problems resulted in his meteorological rise in a fast growing company. Mathews died in 1987 and when the company went public in 1990, Mike decided to leave and form his own company, **Neal & Associates** which has provided extensive

software development for cable companies around the world.

The story of Mike's successes is based on his early years as a probation officer, working with troubled people in a complex judicial system. Not only did it form his career path, but it led him into community service that he continues to this day. In addition to his many contributions to Rotary, Mike was a founding board member of CASA, began **JOB ONE** and **PRO-Teens** and served on the board of the Boys and Girls Club. He generously operates web sites for CASA, Boys and Girls Club, United Outreach, Cameron Park Rotary, Rotary District 5190, JOB ONE and Sherriff's Possee. His many accomplishments, both professional and volunteer are too numerous to list here. It is clear that Mike has managed to have an impact wherever he has been and the community has benefitted much from his efforts.

Presidents Corner



TREASURER COY BAUGH:

President **Iain Marshall** presented Treasurer **Coy Baugh** with a pin to signify his office.

SHOW AND SHINE / FLY-IN:

The 19th Annual Show & Shine / Fly-In, sponsored by the Soroptimist International of Cameron Park and the Rotary Club of Cameron Park is set for Saturday, September 20, 2008, from 8:00 a.m. to 3 p.m.. To make it a success, volunteer efforts of most members will be needed on the day of the event. President Iain emphasized the need to publicize it and distributed flyers for each member to display in their business or place of work. Members not having a suitable place to display a flyer are asked to find a place.

WINE AT TOWN CENTER:

With much regret, President **Iain Marshall** announced that he accepted the resignation from the club of **Julie Sandberg**. Julie has made contributions in many ways and she will be sorely missed. Among other things, Julie co-chaired Wine at Town Center along with her counterpart from the Rotary Club of El Dorado Hills. President Iain took this opportunity to raise the question of whether the club wishes to continue with this event and, if so, he asked for suggestions for names to fill Julie's shoes. While there was near unanimity among the membership that the club should continue with Wine at Town Center, it was clear that replacing Julie is indeed a challenge and it will be necessary for even more members to become involved in the hard work to make this event a success. The topic is on the agenda for the next board meeting and further discussion with the entire membership will take place at upcoming meetings. Anyone with thoughts on the subject is asked to direct them to Iain.

AN EVENING IN THE ORCHARD:

Everyone is invited to "An Evening in the Orchard" presented by the **Rotary Club of Pollock Pines** on Wednesday, September 17, 2008. There will be a live auction, a wine trunk auction, raffle prizes and other drawings along with a Tri Tip dinner and guest speaker. Activities get under way with a social hour at 5:30 p.m. at the Rainbow Orchards in Camino. Tickets are \$35 each and raffle tickets are \$5 each. All proceeds go to purchase dictionaries and benefit local schools. For more information, call (530) 644-2231.

SCRAPBOOK FOR PHILIPPINE BOAT PROJECT:

There are hundreds of pictures of the construction of the Philippine boat project and **Bob Dorr** hopes to put together a scrapbook to commemorate the project. Anyone willing and able to help with a scrapbook is asked to contact Bob.

POLIO PLUS CONTINUES TO MAKE PROGRESS:

President Iain read correspondence from **Brad Howard**, the Zone 24 Polio Challenge Coordinator. It read in part, "...once again the Rotary clubs of the world are stepping up to raise funds to complete our corporate mission of the global eradication of polio. It is the belief and expectation of the World Health Organization that this will be achieved over the next 12 to 18 months. This fall, and next spring, there will be a number of National Immunization Days and polio eradication efforts in "at risk" countries. The purpose of this correspondence is to invite you, and others from your club, to participate in one of these polio eradication programs. Once you have had the chance to look into the eyes of child who will

no longer have the fear of contracting polio, your life will be changed, forever.

Attached to this correspondence is a detailed folder describing a trip to Cote d'Ivoire this November to participate in the countries polio eradication program, to attend the West Africa Project Fair and to create friendships that will be with them the rest of their lives.

The key information of the trip is as follows:

Trip Dates: November, 4 -13, 2008

Travel to: Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)

Program includes: Roundtrip airfare from gateway cities, hotel accommodations, most meals, field polio eradication work, visits to local communities to experience and explore Rotarian humanitarian programs, West Africa Project Fair registration, special events, transportation, etc.

This journey will be a landmark Rotary experience; it may be the last chance to give the two drops of the polio vaccine that will change a child's future. Filled with high Rotary purpose and accomplishment, this trip will introduce new friends, and give new opportunities to create humanitarian projects while advancing Rotary's objective of world peace and understanding.

In addition to being on the front line of eradicating polio, participants will attend a two-day West Africa Project Fair, where Rotarians from 15 West African nations will present possible humanitarian grant applications. It will be an extraordinary event that will expose your club members to new cultures, project and friends.

Typically, these programs sell out quickly, and this year's trip is limited to approximately 50 people. However, as of the time that this correspondence is being sent, there is still plenty of room for you, and others from your club. Over the next three weeks, please announce this program in your club and encourage someone to represent YOUR club in the eradication of this disease. It will change their life forever, and will have a profound effect upon your club.

We know that all Rotary clubs will play a role in meeting the \$100 Million Polio Challenge, and for that we thank you. However, we invite you and your members to participate, first hand, in Rotary's historical achievement. "

COASTAL CLEANUP DAY: SEPTEMBER 20, 2008:

Bill Gallant reports that on September the 20th our club will participate in the El Dorado Communities Clean Up (formally called the Coastal Clean Up). Specifically our club will be cooking for the 200 plus volunteers. The cooks are: **Dennis Hamilton, Coy Baugh, Dee Russo (and Dale), Ulla Petersen,** and **Bill Gallant**. The cleanup will involve work on Hangtown Creek, The Cosumnes River, the South Fork of the American River and parts of Folsom Lake. The Placerville Rotary Club will be joining us and we are awaiting word from Georgetown and El Dorado Hills. Pollock Pines could not join us this year. Next spring we will be participating in Rotary at Work projects. As a prelude to that **Debra Miller** secured Rotary at Work vests that we plan to wear as we cook as sort of a prelude to that event. In other words, under the presidency of Iain our club is taking a leading role in our district to promote the things in which we believe.

Noted Rotarians



HAPPY BUCKS

It's great for members to bring guests and expand awareness of Rotary and the good works that it does. It's also a good thing that Rotarians are such welcoming people, especially when a guest shows up without the host member anywhere in sight. Has anyone seen **Max Callaghan?** Max showed up late and found his guest in time for lunch. For this transgression, Max paid \$5. Also late, **Dee Russo** similarly paid \$5.

Always ready to serve the community, **Shiva Frentzen** announced that she will now serve on the board of **Snowline Hospice**. A good move and worth ten Happy Bucks.

Joe Ryan paid \$5 to read a wish list from Soroptimist International of Cameron Park, co-sponsors of **Show & Shine /Fly-In**. They hope for 40 volunteers from CP Rotary to serve for only one hour on the day of the event. With the Interact students at Ponderosa High School sending 8 volunteers it

would seem that there would be at least 40 Rotarians willing to do their share.

Birthdays in September

David Bunje

Dennis Hamilton

Sabrina Ho

-----Spouses-----

Howell Ellerman

Dale Christiansen Russo

Heidi Wilson

Anniversaries in September

Dave & Gina Crofut

Bob & Barbara Dorr

Gary & Gall

Dave & Carol Sargent

Upcoming Calendar

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 (meeting at Faith Episcopal Church)

October 2, 2008 - Air Force Presentation by **Terry Wilson**

October 9, 2008 - Boy Scouting future with **David Hagar**

October 16, 2008 - New Morning Youth and Family Services with **Judy Morris** and Sheriff **Jeff Neves**

October 23, 2008 - Mother Lode Rehabilitation Services with **Susie Davies** (meeting at Faith Episcopal Church)

October 30, 2008 - District Governor **Wyn Spiller**

November 6, 2008 - Kick off Paul Harris month with **David Bunje**

November 13, 2008 - Foundation Dinner at CPCC (evening event)

November 20, 2008 - Money and Happiness with **Elfrena Foord** CFP

November 27, 2008 - No Meeting - Happy Thanksgiving

December 4, 2008 - Four of the Worlds greatest inventions/discoveries with **Bruce Hester**

December 11, 2008 - Christmas dinner (evening event)

December 18, 2008 - Vocational Preso by **Norm Headley** and **Tom Keating**

December 25, 2008 - No Meeting - Merry Christmas

January 1, 2009 - No Meeting - Happy New Year

Upcoming Words of Wisdom

September 4, 2008 - Words of Wisdom by **Bill Gallant** after a greeting from **Jim Buckley** with **Tom Keating** on the desk.

September 11, 2008 - Words of Wisdom by **Ben Young** after a greeting from **Bob Dorr** with **Dave Tavernetti** on the desk.

September 18, 2008 - Words of Wisdom by **Dee Russo** after a greeting from **Art Cort** with **Eric Pohl** on the desk.

September 25, 2008 - Words of Wisdom by **Vickie Christensen-McLain** after a greeting from **Eric Pohl** with **Ulla Petersen** on the desk.

The Last Word



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

October 7, 2008 - Monthly Board Meeting. All members welcome.

November 13, 2008 - Annual Area Rotary

Club

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