



This Week

Meeting Date and Place

October 29, 2009 at 12:15 p.m.Meeting at the Faith Episcopal Church

Words of Wisdom

Words of Wisdom: **tba**; Greeter **tba**; and **tba** at the desk

Program

Ane Deister will relate her recent life changing experiences in Honduras. Note: this meeting will be held at Faith Episcopal Church in Cameron Park

Last Week



The Club was provided with an update on the status of education in El Dorado County by **Dr. Vicki L. Barber**, Superintendent, El Dorado County Office of Education. Dr. Barber has been a county resident for over 30 years, spent over 25 years with county education, and was elected as Superintendent of Schools in 1994. In the field of education, Dr. Barber is a recognized expert in the areas of Special Education, charter schools, and accountability. Dr. Barber is also active in the community, having a long-time involvement with the Western Slope Boys & Girls Club, serving as a commission member of First 5 El Dorado and also serves on the Boards of the El Dorado County JOB ONE (now the El Dorado County Economic Development Corp.), and the El Dorado County Chamber of Commerce. She was

recognized as Superintendent of the Year in 2005 by the Association of California School Administrators in Region 2, and statewide by the Small School Districts' Association in 2006. Dr. Barber is an active member of the Kiwanis Club, while both her husband and her father are long-time, active Rotarians.

Addressing current issues for her office, Dr. Barber commented that recent budgetary cuts were actually anticipated three years ago and a reserve fund was established in preparation. As a result, while the cuts have had some effect, the situation has not been as severe as it could have been because of the ability to off-set many of the cuts with the reserve fund. The receipt of some federal stimulus funding also helped a tight budget. Starting with next year's budget, the financial situation appears to have reached a turning point and will start improving. Dr. Barber noted the reality of the budget cuts has reduced the amount of funding per student, for example in the El Dorado Union High School District it was cut from \$7,300 to about \$6000.

Dr. Barber was happy to announce that while budget cuts had reduced the amount of funding per student, student achievement rates have not been impacted. 80% of El Dorado County high school students taking the mandatory California High School Exit Exam in their sophomore year have passed compared with 60% state-wide for the rest of California. She also proudly announced that of 70 schools in El Dorado County, 35 of them have been recognized as California Distinguished Schools and, of those, six are recognized as National Blue Ribbon Schools. The drop-out rate for El Dorado County schools is less than one-half of the California state average.

Regarding the County Office of Education's role vis-à-vis local school districts, Dr. Barber observed El Dorado County has 15 districts, ranging from one district with 13 students to another with over 7,000. Dr. Barber's office oversees state budget and personnel compliance issues, as well as providing a centralized and collaborative supply and service acquisition process. Her office is also able to provide

specialized programs for unique situations which would be difficult for individual districts to address, such as for the six physically handicapped "special needs" children, each from a different school district.

Regarding the Rotary Club's Community Observatory, Dr. Barber was thrilled to announce that 2009 is the International Year of Astronomy and there are lots of programs at the observatory to celebrate, which include a "theme night" on November 17th for "Lives of Stars" and another on December 17th focusing on the Orion Nebula. She stated that 4,200 people visited the observatory in 2008 and this year 4,310 people had visited just through September 20th. In closing, Dr. Barber acknowledged our club's involvement with education in El Dorado County and quoted Winston Churchill: "We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give."

Presidents Corner



VICKI BARBER HONORED:

Before the program last week, the Rotary Club of Cameron Park honored Dr. Vicki Barber by presenting her with a Paul Harris Fellowship. Recognizing Dr. Barber's extraordinary contributions to the youth of El Dorado County, President **Bill Gallant** read a note from **Bob Edwards** who describes her as the best of the many school superintendents with whom he has worked. For example, he notes that without her, there would be no Boys and Girls Club and there would not have been land for the observatory. Bob recalls how Dr. Barber's attitude is not one of saying no. Instead, she always looks for ways to get things accomplished.

Dave Bunje made the presentation, noting that the Paul Harris Fellowship is awarded to those who contribute \$1,000 to the Rotary Foundation. He announced that two Rotarians donated their credits to achieve this award. This award recognizes, in part, how much this club has enjoyed working with Dr. Barber and how much it appreciates her contributions to El Dorado County. It is the first time that the Rotary Club of Cameron Park has so honored a non-Rotarian.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FUND RAISER:

Shiva Frentzen has tickets for the Chamber of Commerce fund raising raffle. Just think, for just \$25 you can end up in Palm Desert for four days and three nights while supporting a good cause. Remember, the Rotary Club of Cameron Park is a member of the Chamber and you will be helping the club with your support. See Shiva for tickets.

CHRISTMAS DINNER AND AUCTION:

Dave Sargent reports that tickets for the annual Christmas Dinner and Auction on December 10, 2009 will run \$45. While this is a modest \$3 increase over last year, it is the first increase in three years. Dave gives thanks to the Cameron Park Country Club for working with him to hold down the price.

Auction items are still needed for both the silent and live auctions. Please contact Dave or **Ron Losel** with your donations.

INTERACT SUCCESS AT SHOW AND SHINE:

The Interact Club of Ponderosa High School made a big impact on Show and Shine and were a financial hit as well. Working the pancake breakfast and parking concessions, these young people raised approximately \$1,200. **Chuck LePere** wasn't able to make it, but gave public thanks to **Art Cort**, **Bill Gallant**, **Dee Russo** and **Ben Young** for their able assistance flipping pancakes.

FOLSOM PRISON TOUR:

Rube Jessop has arranged for Rotarians to tour Folsom Prison on November 19, 2009. Rube has a long connection to the prison as a volunteer helping with literacy programs for inmates. To date, twenty Rotarians have signed up for this tour. To participate in this visit, the prison authorities require information about each visitor in advance. Rube placed forms soliciting the required information on each table. Anyone else wishing to go on this tour should contact Rube

CAMERON PARK ROTARY SUPPORTS LITERACY:

Rube Jessop reports that the board has approved a donation of \$250 to acquire books for the Cameron Park Library

NOMINATIONS FOR DISTRICT GOVERNOR:

President **Bill Gallant** announced that nominations are being accepted for Governor of Rotary District 5190 for the 2012/13 year. Bill suggests that anyone interested in nominating or being nominated can consult with Past District Governor **Bob Dorr**. Bob is more than happy to talk about his year as District Governor and the nomination process.

FLAT BED FOR THE HOMELESS SHELTER:

Gary Reynolds has generously volunteered to supply his tractor to grade the site of the new homeless shelter in Placerville. A large flat bed truck is urgently needed to transport the tractor to the site. Anyone who can help is asked to contact Gary.

GREETERS AND WISDOM ARE NEEDED:

Ben Young called for volunteers to serve on the front desk, to greet members and to give words of wisdom. **Volunteer now or face the draft later.**

ROTARY FOUNDATION AREA DINNER:

The annual area dinner for the Rotary Foundation will take place on Thursday, November 12, 2009, at the Sequoia Restaurant in Placerville. Keynote speaker **Jean Irwin** is known for giving inspirational talks and promises to make the evening a night to remember. Her visit to Cameron Park last week confirmed that Jean has that wonderful combination of being inspirational, informative and entertaining. Members won't want to miss this Foundation Dinner. **There will be no noon meeting at Cameron Park CC.**

Noted Rotarians



DORR REPORTS ON 2009 ROTARY ZONE INSTITUTE:

Bob Dorr reported on his participation in the 2009 Rotary Zone 25/26 Institute held in Monterey, California on October 8 to 11. District 5190 is one of twelve districts in Zone 25, which joins with the fourteen districts in Zone 26 to hold an institute each year. The two zones cover the area from southwest Canada, Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, Arizona and Hawaii. Each year the institute convenes District Governors, former District Governors, District Governors Elect and District Governors Nominee. The institute provides training for future District

Governors and holds strategic planning and visioning sessions. This year, the theme was "Our Town." An impressive list of speakers and special guests focused on the future of Rotary, what it will look like in "our town," what image Rotary will project and what image Rotary should strive to achieve. Considerable emphasis was on youth and how to attract younger members to join Rotary.

Bob noted that many Rotarians are not familiar with Rotary Zones and their role in Rotary International. Members wishing more information should visit the Zone web site at: <http://www.rotaryzone2324.org/index.html>

HAPPY BUCKS:

IAIN AND SALLY ARE ON THE ROAD AGAIN:

Past President **Iain Marshall** is enjoying his time out of office. He reports that he won't be at Rotary next week because he'll be standing in front of a pyramid. Nor will he be here the following week as he'll be standing outside of a London Pub. Both are unlikely stories as Iain is rarely seen standing around anywhere. For certain, he is not known for standing outside any pub. Iain offered \$20 to

preview his travels. We wish him a great trip and many happy bucks on his return.

Birthdays in October

Art Cort

Jana Ellerman

Darol Rasmussen

-----Spouses-----

Gina Crofut

George Eckert

Sara Edwards

Michelle Hamilton

Paul Liebergot

Suzanne Tavernetti

Thomas H. Thornton

Anniversaries in October

Dave & Pamela Johnson

Upcoming Calendar

October 29, 2009 - **Ane Deister** will relate her recent life changing experiences in Honduras. Note: this meeting will be held at Faith Episcopal Church in Cameron Park

November 5, 2009 - **Dave Bunje** will give an update on the Rotary Foundation

November 12, 2009 - Annual Rotary Foundation dinner 11/12 Rotary Foundation DINNER at Sequoia Restaurant in Placerville at 6:00 p.m. **Jean Irwin** speaking.

November 19, 2009 - **Bob Edwards** will discuss the Sugarloaf Arts and Music program

November 26, 2009 - No meeting this week. Happy Thanksgiving

December 3, 2009 - Assemblywoman **Alyson Huber**, 10th Assembly District

December 10, 2009 - Annual Christmas Dinner and Auction

December 17, 2009 - A program you do not want to miss. The **Ponderosa High School Choir**

December 24, 2009 - No meeting this week. Merry Christmas

December 31, 2009 - No meeting this week. Happy New Year

Upcoming Words of Wisdom/Greeter Assignments

October 29, 2009 - Words of Wisdom ?, Greeter ?. ? at the front desk.

The Last Word



DATES TO REMEMBER:

November 3, 2009 - Monthly Board meeting at the Bass Lake Golf course at noon. All members are invited and welcome to attend.

November 12, 2009 - Annual Area Foundation Dinner.

November 19, 2009- Tour of Folsom Prison. This requires pre registration so that you can clear security check. Contact **Rube Jessup**

Thursday, December 10, 2009 - Annual Christmas Dinner and Auction at Cameron Park Country Club

Mike Neal has put together a photo series of highlights of the 20th Annual Show & Shine Event held on Saturday, October 10, 2009. The link is at the bottom of this web page.

Gear Up is written by **Jim Buckley**, **Art Cort** and **Rick Spicer**. Web site, photography, and artwork through the talents of **Mike Neal**.