



This Week

Meeting Date and Place

December 11, 2008 at 6:00 p.m.Cameron Park Country Club

Words of Wisdom

Words of Wisdom: **Iain Marshall** and Greeter **Tom Keating**

Program

Annual Christmas Auction and Dinner. Social hour and Silent Auction begin at 6:00 p.m., with dinner at 7:00 p.m.

Last Week



Sacramento Rotarian, **Bruce hester**, has a distinguished business career, but when he visited last week he came to talk about his real passions: history, science and world travel. Bruce acknowledged that he just enjoys talking and never met a microphone that he didn't like. With that, he picked up the microphone and told three short stories about things, "which have changed your life and you may not know it."

The World's Columbian Exposition of 1893 in Chicago:

Chicago got the name, "Second City" from the rebuilding of the central business district, which was reconstructed after the Chicago fire of 1871, and not from being second to New York or any other city in the country. Chicago is

also known as the "Windy City," but not because of their weather, but for their boasting politicians. Fredrick Ferris introduced his first wheel at the Expo. Also introduced were Cracker Jacks, Juicy Fruit Gum, Quaker Oats and Shredded Wheat. The observation of Columbus Day on October 12 derived from the visit to the Expo on that date by President Grover Cleveland.

Plastics:

Billiards became very popular in the U.S. in 1890s when balls were made from elephant tusks. In 1893, Leo Baekeland sold his patent for Velox to George Eastman for \$750,000 and shellac was used as insulation for electrical power lines. Baekeland invented Bakelite to insulate power lines and it became the first plastic. By 1912, nearly all billiard balls were made from plastic, postponing the extinction of elephants.

Nutmeg & New York:

In the 1500s, nutmeg was one of the most valuable commodities in the world. Nutmeg served as a preservative for foods and was believed to protect against the Black Plague. Nutmeg came from the nine Spice Islands of what is now Indonesia, of which the Dutch East Indies Company claimed eight and the ninth, the Isle of Run, was under British control. Henry Hudson had founded New Amsterdam and the British went to war over the new world colony. In 1667, after three years of war, a peace settlement was concluded that gave the British New Amsterdam in exchange for the Isle of Run. In 1800, the British and the French smuggled nutmeg from the Spice Islands and planted seeds in Mauritius and Grenada, ending the Dutch Nutmeg monopoly.

Presidents Corner



CARLA CARLSON IS NEWEST MEMBER

Membership Chair, **Dave Crofut**, had the honor of inducting **Carla Carlson** as the newest member of the Rotary Club of Cameron Park. A fifteen year resident of El Dorado County, Carla arrived here from Washington State by way of the San Francisco Bay area. Once a partner in a successful CPA firm, she opted for a change of pace in 2000 and has been working in real estate ever since. Her husband joined in the business and now both are working at Lyons. Carla is an Eco broker and members can expect to hear from her soon about eco friendly houses. Jumping in with both feet, Carla will be the Club's Publicity Director when **Bill Gallant** takes the gavel next year.

ROTARY AT WORK:

Bill Gallant announced that **Rotary at Work** T-shirts will be available in a couple of weeks for a price of seven to nine dollars. Every Rotarian should buy one. **Dee Russo** reminded members that one day in April 2009 has been designated as Rotary at Work day to motivate Rotarians around the world to work in support of their communities.

AMBASSADORIAL SCHOLAR-ANDREA FORD:

President **Iain Marshall** put a copy of the District 5190 Newsletter on each table. Featured on page three was an article about Cameron Park's nominee to the Ambassadorial Scholarship Program. Andrea Ford, a graduate of Ponderosa High school and UC Berkeley and founder of the PHS Interact Club, will be visiting Senegal in West Africa as a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar. If you missed the article, read it at the District web site: <http://www.rotarydistrict5190.org/newsletters.asp>

TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARDS:

Bob Edwards distributed information about the Sugarloaf project as an alternative to the club's annual Teacher of the Year Awards. A strong advocate for teachers, Bob expressed concern that the Awards are not fully meeting the objective of recognizing and rewarding outstanding teachers. Bob's comments triggered a discussion about continuation of the Awards programs. In recent years, there have been fewer than four applicants each year and, last year, there were no applicants for the Award in one category. **Chris Moore**, Principal of Ponderosa High School emphasized the value of recognizing outstanding teachers and acknowledged the declining interest in the program. He suggested that the club may want to consider recognition of staff employees or people working in special needs programs. Program Chair, **Steve Long** has chaired the program for years and feels good about the recipients of the awards, their high qualifications and how well the awards were received by them. At the same time, he acknowledged that the lack of interest on the part of teachers may justify revising or dropping the program. The Teacher of the Year Awards have been an important component of the club's support of education and any decision about the Awards will involve serious consideration by the membership and the Board. Discussion of the future of the Awards will continue in coming weeks.

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB:

President **Iain Marshall** reports that the Board has contributed a \$100 donation to the Boys and Girls Club to help them to take children to lunch and visit Santa Claus.

ANE DEISTER IS RECOVERING:

Jim Buckley reports that Ane Deister is recovering well from hip replacement surgery and that she is looking forward to returning to Rotary meetings after the first of the year. In the meanwhile, Ane is back on line, sending and receiving email. Get well quick Ane, you are missed.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER AND AUCTION, December 11, 2008 :

Dave Sargent announced that the social hour will begin at 6:00 p.m. with dinner at 7:00 p.m.. The silent auction will take place during the social hour and it's important that all donated items be in place that afternoon. Items can be delivered at the Cameron Park Country Club between 2:30 and 5:00 p.m. on the afternoon of December 11. To make arrangements to deliver items at another time,

please contact Dave or **Ron Losel** in advance of that time.

Noted Rotarians



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

Bill Gallant, Dave Crofut and **Jim Buckley** are all celebrating (?) birthdays this month and each had a different reason for making them happy to the extent of \$10.

HAPPY BUCKS:

Doug Bisbee hasn't been seen at Rotary for a while because of business demands and he had five Happy Bucks for just being here.

Birthdays in December

Jim Buckley

Tom Check

Dave Crofut

Ane Deister

Bill Fister

Ben Foulk

Bill Gallant

Dave Johnson

Ulla Petersen

-----Spouses-----

Sheilah Gall

Robin Reynolds

Anniversaries in December

David & Janet Bunje

Tom & Beverly Check

Shiva & Jeff Frentzen

Upcoming Calendar

December 11, 2008 - Christmas dinner (evening event)

December 18, 2008 - Annual Performance by the **Ponderosa High School Choir**

December 25, 2008 - No Meeting - Merry Christmas

January 1, 2009 - No Meeting - Happy New Year

Upcoming Words of Wisdom

December 11, 2008 - Words of Wisdom **Iain Marshall**, Greeter **Tom Keating**

December 18, 2008 - Words of Wisdom **Vickie Christensen-Mclain**, Greeter **Shiva Frentzen**, Front Desk **Dave Sargent**

January 8, 2009 - Words of Wisdom **Chuck LePere**, Greeter **Ron Losel**, Front Desk **Tom Keating**

The Last Word



DATES TO REMEMBER:

December 11, 2008 - Christmas Dinner and Auction

January 6, 2009 at Kobe`s restaurant in Burke`s Junction. All members welcome.

Mike Neal has put together another of his photo series of highlights of Show and Shine. The link is at the bottom

of this web page. Recent pictures of the Philippine Boat project are now posted in the link below entitled, ``Agusan Marsh Project in the Philippines.``

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