



# THE HUB

Volume 48 Issue 4

February 5, 2007

## Rotary Club of Belmont, California

### IN THE NEWS...

“Up, up and away.....” Maureen led us in the Pledge, and Wes inspired us. We welcomed two Guests of the Club: Joanna Reams (who will soon be One of Us); and Larry Minnick, a recruiter who was himself recruited by Dennis. Greetings also to Visiting Rotarians: Chuck Osborne (a former member of Belmont Rotary who defected to Mountain View); and Mr. Velasquez from ‘Belmont South’ (aka San Carlos).

**Announcements:**  
Oh-oh. If you are interested in attending a wine auction, please contact President Jean. (Details were shared just prior to this writer’s brain being engaged. Sorry.)

(Okay, all better now.) We received an invitation to attend the San Mateo Women’s Criminal Justice Summit on February 22nd. This event is sponsored by the County Board of Supervisors and has the goal of identifying ways in which to improve the system for women and children.

**Nominations:**  
Charles announced that he is nominating Jon Pettinelli as Secretary and Sharrie Kriger as Treasurer for next year. Both (sort of) graciously accepted the challenge.

**In ‘CRAB’ news:**  
\* Norma Hines, spouse of a former member of the Club, will be our guest at the Crab Feed.

\* Sandie reported that we still need silent auction items!! She spent her weekend soliciting every restaurant in town for gift certificates. She challenged the rest of us to pick a yellow page and follow suit.

\* FLASH: This just in....Tom Diridon had a major brain wave. If we each bring a bottle of wine, we can build a ‘wine cellar.’ And, if we purchase a wine cooler, we will end up with a terrific auction item! (Dennis generously offered to recycle his almost brand new cooler.) Each member is asked to bring a decent bottle of wine to next week’s meeting for Tom to start putting together this package. (Please: no two-buck-Chuck!)

\* Sirinee and the Dessert Committee are still hoping for more entries into the Fabulous Dessert auction. Jean gave a testimonial for Sandie’s entry – and issued a challenge to the rest of us. Let Chris or Sirinee know if you can participate.

\* Ralph was happy to report that we’ll have about 35 Interact kids willing to help in a variety of ways – including Setting Up.

\* Dennis needs our help NOW. By WEDNESDAY of this week -- YES, that’s TOMORROW – he needs a list of potential contacts to whom letters will be sent for dinner and/or raffle ticket sales. Timing is crucial, as Dennis has Rotaract students coming in this Saturday to do follow-up phone calls. Dennis has tried to make this as easy as possible for us; you can submit your contacts on the form he emailed to you last week. PLEASE GET THESE IN NOW!!!

\* Mary Lou needs to have monies and/or unsold tickets returned to her by Feb. 17th. If we sell a corporate sponsorship, be sure to get the company’s logo to use on the program – and let Mary Lou know ticket numbers of any given to corporate sponsors.

\* “I see by your outfit that you are a Cowboy...” Dress Code for our members on February 24th will include spiffy black Belmont Rotary shirts. If you are scheduled to help at the event and don’t yet have an official shirt, let Jean know soon so that she can place an order.

**President-** Jean Cary  
**RI President-**William B. Boyd  
5150 District Governor-Mark Flegel

- 2006/2007 Belmont Officers**
- President Elect-Charles McDonald
  - Secretary-Don Mattei
  - Treasurer-Juli Balestrieri
  - Rotary Foundation-Bill Carlson
  - Membership-John Rossetti and Hank Corria
  - Public Relations-Sherrie Kriger
  - Newsletter-Gail Rossetti and Barbara Todd
  - Web Page-Vince Cirigliano
  - Interact/Youth Service-Ralph Kirberg
  - Community Services-Sirinee Tippakorn and Sandie Krutz
  - International Services-Dick Sooy
  - Programs-Patrick Smailey and Vince Cirigliano
  - Club Historian-Wally Krutz
  - Club Service-Ross Stangeland
  - Rotaract-Maureen Freschet/Bobby Vaughn and Dennis Pettinelli/John Pettinelli
  - Sargent at Arms-Frank Ross
  - Attendance-Jim McGovern
  - Education-Gretchen Ross
  - Russian Exchange-Chris Middleton and George Paulson
  - Club Recognition-Mikaela Good
  - President Belmont rotary Foundation-Renato Piombi

### Inside this issue:

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Fine mistress:

Chris, obviously had not had enough CRAB talk... (and not one answer included the Indianapolis Colts. Go figure.)

Getting to Know You:

New-ish member Sophia Barnes indoctrinated us in the joys of her job as a Massage Therapist. Again with the testimonial, President Jean touted the virtues of Sophia's "Hot Stones" treatment. (Hmmmmm...pass the herbal tea.)

Happy Birthdays:

to Bob Paulus and Mike Telleen who were there – plus the cast of thousands (Bauer, Paulsen, Aho, Corriea and McGovern) who weren't.

Raffle:

Dennis came. He saw. He didn't conquer. Sorry, Dennis.

**SPEAKER:**

Belmont Rotarian Bobby Vaughn – who is a cultural anthropologist and professor at Notre Dame de Namur – enlightened us on his research into individuals of African descent who migrated directly to Mexico and settled there.

Bobby's interest in Latin American cultures began when he studied Spanish in high school – and intensified when he spent his junior year of college living in Mexico City. Although most of their fellow Mexicans are unaware that they even exist, Bobby found that there are between 20-30 small enclaves of Africans currently living in coastal regions of Mexico.

In his 15-plus years of doing research, Bobby has determined that the experience of these individuals is quite different than that of other Mexican citizens. Surviving from a rural lifestyle, their economy depends primarily upon agriculture or fishing. The infrastructure afforded to this culture is generally inferior (in terms of access to running water, electricity, good roads) – and although slavery ended in Mexico in the mid-1600s, these people are still stigmatized and suffer many forms of discrimination (jobs, schools, etc.) They have little political awareness and retain many of their primitive beliefs and customs.

Although there are important figures within the history of this culture (including the leader of the successful slave uprising in the 1620's), the 'black experience' is not mentioned in the National Anthropological Museum in Mexico City. There is still much to be learned about this fascinating culture. Bobby concluded by saying that due to the utter lack of economic opportunity, the youth in these communities are now migrating to the United States.

Another interesting, thought-provoking presentation from one of our own. Thanks, Bobby!



## Make Up Section...

### ***Monday***

Belmont--The Vans 815 Belmont Ave (12:15 pm)

Burlingame-Sheraton Gateway 600 Airport Blvd. (12:15 pm)

### ***Tuesday***

Millbrae--The Terrace Cafe--El Rancho Motel (12:15 pm)

Pacifica--Sharp Park Golf Course Restaraunt (12:15 pm)

Peninsula Sunrise--Pete's Harbor One Uccellie Boulevard (7:30 am)

Redwood City--Sequoia Club 1695 Broadway (12:15 pm)

San Francisco--Elks Lodge Kensington Park Hotel (12:00 pm)

SF Golden Gate--World Trade Club 1 Ferry Plaza (6:30 pm)

SF Greater Mission--Double Play Restaraunt 2401 16th st. (7:45 am)

### ***Wednesday***

Carlmont Interact--Carlmont High School, B6 (12:10 pm)

Daly City--Marie Calendar's 5B Serramonte Center (12:15 pm)

Foster City--Crown Plaza 1221 Select Drive (12:15 pm)

Menlo Park--Menlo Park Recreation Center 800 Alma (12:15 pm)

San Bruno--El Rancho Inn 1100 El Camino Real (12:15 pm)

San Francisco Airport--Firewood Cafe International Terminal (12:30 pm)

SF Bayview--Dago Mary's Hunter's Point Naval Shipyard (7:15 am)

SF West--South Seafood Village 1420 Irving st. (6:00 pm)

Woodside--Woodside Village Church 3154 Woodside Rd. (7:15 am)

### ***Thursday***

Half Moon Bay--United Methodist Church 777 Miramontes St. (12:00 pm)

SF Fisherman's Wharf--Franciscan Restaraunt Pier 43 1/2 (7:30 am)

San Mateo--Poplar Creek Golf Course, 17010 Coyote Point Drive (12:15 pm)

South San Francisco--Basque Cultural Center 599 Railroad Ave (12:15 pm)

### ***Friday***

San Carlos--Piacere--727 Laurel St. (12:15 pm)

San Mateo Sunrise--Poplar Creek Golf Course, Coyote Point (7:30 am)