



Friday August 21, 2009

Another great week, it started Saturday with the **Membership and Foundation Seminar** in Escalon. What a great job Diane Alcorn did of organizing! Everyone enjoyed the words of wisdom on membership from Past RI President Cliff Dochterman. Thanks to all of you who attended, over 170 Rotarians were registered.

Would you believe that I have completed 36 club visits? Monday evening found me at Modesto North. I have really enjoyed the evening clubs, they have all had great fellowship. Meanwhile Dudley was at the RYLA meeting in Salida. Tuesday found me in Turlock at noon and then Wednesday at 7am Turlock Sunrise. I had the pleasure of helping Roberta Anderson District Paul Harris Society Chair present our newest member Ron Hillberg of Turlock. Turlock has the most PHS members in the district with 7! PHS members are Rotarians who agree to donate \$1000 per year to RIF. Contact is rta2@sbcglobal.net. Ron's brother Rob is the president of Turlock Sunrise and their club presented a check for \$2000 for polio eradication. Thursday was Manteca and another bell story, "Bella" was returned during the meeting after president Dana agreed to pay a ransom! What great travels she had, almost as good as mine!

Come help us celebrate at the **Foundation Dinner** Oct 24th. It's not every day you come across an evening event filled with fun, laughter, friends with a common purpose, and the chance to share our gratitude for the life we live here in District 5220. Knowing that we make a positive impact in our communities, as well as world communities, gives everyone a glow of self fulfillment and happiness. What evening could do all this, you may ask. The answer is: The Foundation Dinner October 24th. If you haven't gotten the information yet, PLEASE ask your Presidents for the details. They will also tell you that selling or buying the raffle tickets counts toward your Paul Harris Fellowship. You know by now that Rick King PRIP will be speaking, and that is worth the price of the ticket alone. He has been known to pull a few tricks out of his hat during his presentations, but one thing on the evening's bill of fare is NOT a trick. It is the **Real Deal**. That is our entertainment, the name is Dan MacDonnell and singing is his game. It is a game where we, the audience, are the winner. Come on out for the Foundation – the central money distributor of Rotary. Get your reservations in early because when October comes, everyone starts running. Any questions call Chairman Marvin Williamson at 209 483-0887 or email Williamson1104@comcast.net

The **Membership Grant application deadline** is next Friday, **August 28**. Applications must be emailed or postmarked by that date. If you FAX the application, please call first to let us know it is coming. If the answering machine picks up on your first call, hang up and send the FAX. As of Thursday there are the 8 clubs that have turned in grants: Angels Camp Centennial, Angels-Murphys, Arnold, Groveland, Lodi Sunrise, Modesto, Modesto East and Riverbank. Info <http://www.rotary5220.org/Training/membership3.htm>.

Submit your **District Simplified Grants** (DSG) before September 1, 2009. Grant applications can be found at http://www.rotary5220.org/Avenues_of_Service/Foundation/district_simplified_grants09.htm. Questions contact Anita Hellam at anitajhellam@yahoo.com or call at 209-613-0603.

Group Study Exchange (GSE): we are pleased to announce that Mary Scott of the Arnold club was selected as GSE team leader. We had some excellent candidates. Last year's team has returned from Brazil and is ready to provide club programs. Contact Julia O'Kane Madera Rotary, okane_j@sbcglobal.net.

This week's **Rotary Foundation Thought** is about **Ambassadorial Scholarships**. The Rotary Foundation began in 1917 but didn't become a major component of Rotary until founder Paul Harris's death in 1947. Upon Paul's death, more than \$1 million was contributed in memorial gifts. Shortly thereafter the first program of the Foundation was established: Fellowship for Advanced Study - the forerunner to the now-popular Ambassadorial Scholarships program. The Rotary Foundation's Ambassadorial Scholarships program is one of the world's largest privately funded international scholarship programs for university studies. Since 1947, approximately 37,000 students from some 110 countries have studied abroad. Did you know that film critic Roger Ebert; journalist Bill Moyers; and Sadako Ogata the former UN High Commissioner on Refugees were Rotary Ambassadorial Scholars? District 5220 just selected Kendra Bruno of Stockton as our newest Ambassadorial Scholar.

I continue to receive some very **interesting mail**. This week I heard about the **Heller family**. The newest member of the Atwater Rotary Club is Randall W. Heller. He is the fourth generation of Heller's to join Rotary. His great grandfather was E. A. Heller; a charter member of the Atwater Rotary Club, his grandfather was James E. A. Heller who joined Atwater Rotary in the 1950's. His father James W. Heller is still a member of the Atwater Rotary Club and he has 48 years of perfect attendance. Welcome Randall!

Make a note of these dates! More information on the District website calendar.

October 24 Foundation Dinner at St. Bernard's Hall in Tracy featuring PRIP Rick King
November 15 District 5220 at the Stockton Thunder ice hockey game
January 23 Rotary Trivia Bee
April 30-May 2 District Conference at Harrah's South Lake Tahoe

The next **Cabinet Meeting**: October 24th. Dates for the remainder of the year are February 27 and June 5.

Information on the **District Conference**: <http://www.rotary5220.org/Calendar/conf10.htm>

\$10 a night discounts are available on hotel rooms at Harrah's/Harvey's until October 31, 2009. For the first 50 to register at the hotel there will be a chance to win a 2 night mid week stay at Harrah's.

Club visits can be found at www.rotary5220.org/Calendar/

Select District Calendar from the menu, check District GOV Official Visits.

Many clubs are on the new District **Database**. Contact Mike Villalta, District Communications officer at 209-509-5221 or 209-826-6917. He offers training via telephone and it only takes about 30 minutes.

DO NOT REPLY to this e-mail. Please send comments, suggestions and all future submissions for Friday Facts directly to District Governor Susan Drake at susanjdrake@sbcglobal.net

If you no longer wish to receive Friday Facts, reply to this email and mark subject box NO FRIDAY FACTS.

