

ROTARY CLUB OF HAYWARD

High Gear



August 18, 2008
Volume 85, Issue #55
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& Richard Navarro



John "Jack" Smith

Resident of Hayward, **Jack Smith** passed away peacefully at St. Rose Hospital, Hayward on August 15, 2008. Predeceased by his loving wife, Lottie. Survived by his devoted daughter Cynthia, son-in-law Rob Birmingham, adored grandchildren Alanna and Jack and his great friend and companion, Alice Burgren and legions of loyal friends throughout the Bay Area. Born on October 18, 1926, **Jack** attended Markham Grammar School where in kindergarten he met his best friend, Dick Warren. **Jack** was in the Hayward High Class of '44 where he also made many lifelong friends. He joined the Army following graduation and served in the Philippines as a Commander of the Philippine Scouts. On return from service, **Jack** graduated from Stanford in 1949 and began his studies at the University of California Hastings College of the Law. After his second year he was again called to duty, this time into the Korean Conflict serving in the European Theatre. Upon his return **Jack** completed law school and joined the Hayward law firm of Haley, Schenone, Tucker and Birchfield which later became Haley, Purchio, Sakai and Smith. **Jack** began his law practice representing local ranchers and farmers in eminent domain proceedings as the State freeway system was constructed. **Jack** represented many of those same clients over the years in obtaining zoning for their properties' ultimate development. He loved the art of the deal. In 1955 **Jack** married Lottie Verzie, who grew up in

Hayward just a few blocks from his family home. They had one daughter, Cynthia. Lottie's parents, Eli and Lottie, owned the local Hayward Bakery and welcomed **Jack** as a son. While she too attended Hayward High, Lottie went to Cal which provided for much rivalry and fun at Big Game time. A public school art teacher, Lottie fostered **Jack's** interest in both modern art and travel. Sadly, Lottie died in 1979 two days shy of their 24th wedding anniversary.

A life-long Democrat, and following in the footsteps of his mentor, John "Uncle Johnny" Geary, **Jack** entered politics and eventually became the First Elected Mayor of Hayward in 1966. From that time on, **Jack** reveled in campaigning for those of a like mind - even a few Republicans. One of his proudest moments came this last year when his dear friend, Nancy Pelosi, was elected Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives. It was also through politics, the Hayward Democratic Club in particular, that **Jack** first met Resti Zaballos. Resti and the Zaballos family became partners of **Jack's** and their friendship and achievements were always a great source of pride to him. **Jack** also took great pride in his Hayward heritage, his family, his law practice and his law school. He was committed to his community. At the time of his death **Jack** was the President of the Board of Directors of Hastings, a Founder and President Emeritus of the Martin C. Kauffman 100 Club of Alameda County, a General Chairman of the Oakland Christ The Light Cathedral Campaign, President of Sheriff Plummer's Honorary Deputy Sheriffs Association and a member of the Board of The Leo T. McCarthy Center for Public Service And The Common Good at the University of San Francisco. **Jack** also was a past Vice Chair of the Oakland Alameda County Coliseum Board of Directors, a member of All Saints Catholic Church, Hayward Rotary and a long time member of the Rowell Ranch Rodeo Board of Directors. Among his many awards and honors, **Jack** was especially proud of being the Hayward Lions Club Citizen of the Year in 1981, the Hastings Alumnus of the Year in 1989 and receiving the University's award for Extraordinary Service in 1990. He was the Rowell Rodeo Cowboy of the Year in 2000. **Jack** and Lottie were justly proud of their daughter, Cynthia. Like her father, she also attended Hayward High and Hastings, becoming a partner in **Jack's** law firm. Cynthia married Rob Birmingham whom **Jack** liked and appreciated from the day they met. "Poppa Jack" had two grandchildren, Alanna Kerwin and "Jack", who were the light of their Grandfather's life. **Jack** lived for his friends and a great party. He loved traditions, New York, Rome, jazz, evening drives in Cull Canyon, **Jack's** Restaurant in San Francisco, Lake Tahoe, the Rowell Ranch Rodeo, good wine and of course his Annual Birthday Celebrations. It was through pure determination that **Jack** overcame several health setbacks in recent years.

To that end, the family extends special gratitude to those at the Mayo Clinic who made those years possible, in particular Drs. Doug Gracey, Bernie Morrey and Eric Edell and locally to Dr. Cal Lemon of San Ramon Valley Hospital and Drs. Verbinski and Garcia and their ever caring staff at St. Rose Hospital. Warmest thanks and love also go to Alice Burgren, **Jack's** "soul mate" who first met him in class at Markham School and who was unyieldingly loyal through his last years.



President John Caldwell called the meeting to order, **Bill Quirk** led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. **George Famous** led the Club singing “God Bless America” and “I’m a Yankee Doodle Dandy”. **Anna Powers** accompanied the singing on the piano. **Bob Sakai** gave our Thought for the Day, a salute to **Jack Smith** who passed away the previous Friday. **President John** thanked our greeters today, **Bob Sakai, Mary Caldwell** and our youth exchange student from Thailand, Nichaphat Rattanaporn.

Kevin McGary introduced visiting Rotarian, Bob Tucknott, president of the Dublin Club. There were a number of guests today; Graham Pile with **Jim Wieder**, Maria Rivera with **Nancy Eaton**, Erick Pearson and Tiffany Roberts with **Rob Simpson**, Robert (?) with **Andy Krake**, Steve Worley with **Joe Abreu** and Nichaphat Rattanaporn, with **Mary Caldwell**.

President John Caldwell asked **Mona Diamantine**, chair of Youth Exchange and Nichaphat Rattanaporn to join him at the podium to present Nichaphat, nicknamed “Ice” a blue badge for her year as a youth exchange student. Nichaphat is staying with two families in Castro Valley during this school year. **President John** asked each of us to stand and shake the hand of our fellow Rotarians in our vicinity.

Last week **President John** conducted the meeting in a pocket “T” shirt almost causing **Charley** to go into cardiac arrest. He did so to share 3 personal Rotary Moments on a recent trip to San Diego...First ... being ushered around a large homeland security line to go directly thru the metal detector....Second ...Having a delightful visit with a newly returned Group Study Exchange Participant and new member of a Marin County Club...Third ...Having a past president from near El Cajon sit down and visit waiting for a return flight.... Rotary Moments can be personal like his ...Like Cliff Dochterman reported on his talk “When did YOU become a Rotarian” or Historical like the following Rotary moment by Keith Van Vliet; At one time the members of the first Rotary Club didn’t think expansion to other cities was a good idea. It took the actions of an individual member, Manual Munoz, who was being transferred by his employer to San Francisco in 1908, to bring the concept to another city. Thus began the amazing process that is R.I. today and the founding of the second club celebrating its Centennial Year in November!**President John** asked “Who says one Rotarian can’t make a difference?” He then asked **Phyllis Moroney**, sergeant at arms to pass around a sign-up sheet so that each of our friends can share with all of us a moment that was interesting, funny (in good taste of course)..... A seriously engaging moment like participating in Polio Plus Immunizations,or containing Historically significant research.

There were several announcements:

- The FESCO bus tour was Tuesday, Rotarians were asked to contact **Cate Steane** if they were interested in going on the tour.
- **President John** presented an award to **George Pacheco** from the Hayward Unified Schools to the rotary Club of Hayward for spearheading the bond initiative for Hayward Schools. **George** and **Dale Vigil** both worked very hard on the bond. **George Pacheco** acknowledged **Jim Wieder** for his involvement behind the scenes promoting the bond. **George** also acknowledged **Charley Plummer, Pam Russo, Rick Felson** and the many other people who worked to get the bond passed.
- **Chuck Horner** invited everyone to participate Saturday Aug 23 with the Keep Hayward Clean and Green task force. The task force will be cleaning up trash and removing graffiti. Meet at 8:30 AM at Hesperian Blvd and Depot Road of contact **Chuck Horner** for more information.
- **George Pacheco** asked us to save Sept. 27 for Mervyns Child Spree. More info to follow.
- Bob Tucknott invited everyone to a Dublin Club fundraiser, an all you can eat Lobster feed, Saturday October 4. Contact Bob Tucknott for more information.
- **Del Della-Dora** passed around a sign up sheet for the Salvation Army dinner coming this Sunday, Aug 24. Volunteers need to be at the Salvation Army between 4 & 4:30 to prepare dinner. Contact Norma Rees for more information or if you can help.

Fines: **Joe Abreu**, \$10 for a birthday, **Bill Quirk**, \$10 for his 3rd Club Anniversary, **Andy Krake**, \$10 last in today,

Have you visited our website lately? www.haywardrotary.org



Chuck Horner, fine free because we missed his birthday. **President John** fined 12 past presidents in the room \$10 each. **Nancy Eaton** donated \$50 for sitting with Mario Andretti at the historical races in Laguna Secca and also for front row seats at the Beach Boys concert. **Bob Sakai** paid \$10 for having a Ferrari (a long time ago, but worth it anyway). **Charley Plummer** donated \$1000 to the Club Foundation in **Jack Smith's** honor and also to celebrate **Charley's** birthday.



Bonnie Best, District 5170 Area 2 Assistant Governor, introduced District 5170 Governor Gary Citti. Governor Citti reviewed our Club's accomplishments and goals and noted International President D.K. Lee asks us to focus our efforts to reduce child mortality. Each day 30,000 children die. This year we are focusing on providing water, food, education and dignity around the world and our international theme is "Make Dreams Real". We help make dreams real by contributing to Rotary International. Today, Governor Citti awarded Paul Harris Fellow's to **John Hunter, Joe Vilardi, Rick Felson,** and **Bob Sakai** for their donations to the Kenya Truck Project. **Bill Quirk** received his Paul Harris Fellow in his wife, Laurel's name. DG Citti also presented Paul Harris Double Sustainer Awards to the following; Patrick **Early, Ed Mullins, Phyllis Moroney, Bob Sakai, Ed Bullok, Del Della-Dora, John Caldwell, Dave Elkins, Paul Martin, Rob Cook, Beth Ehrlich, Dennis Butler, Mary Caldwell, Paul Wallace, Mona Diamantine, Bill Quirk, Anna May, Ken Meirovitz, George Pacheco, Bob Scheppler, Pam Russo, Doug Vieira, Rita Shue, Joel Garcia** and **Debby DeAngelis**. By the way, to correct last weeks High Gear, **Joel Garcia** donated \$200 to RI Foundation in honor of his daughters wedding not an anniversary.

President John Caldwell with Nichaphat Rattanaporn



President John Caldwell with Dist Gov Gary Citti

Gary Citti with Ed Mullins



Sunshine Committee update: Doc **Rod Palmer** is in Eden Hospital. He was hit by a car walking out of Rite Aid in Castro Valley; he is suffering from a broken hip, leg and ankle. Drop him a card if you get a chance.

Paul Harris Double Sustainer Award Recipients



Hayward Rotary Club Calendar

- Aug 24** **Salvation Army dinner –to volunteer contact Norma Rees**
- Aug 25** **Charles Reynes, Castro Valley Teacher of the year 2007**
- Sept 1** **No Meeting, Labor Day Holiday**
- Sept 8** **Bob Goetsch will speak about developing youth mentoring programs**

Need to find or confirm a Location?

Visit the District 5170 Website @ <http://www.rotary5170.org>



CHARTERED

June 1, 1922 • California
Club No. 482

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2008-10

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