

THE HIGH GEAR
The Weekly Newsletter
Of the
ROTARY CLUB OF HAYWARD

October 24, 2006

President Bob called the meeting to order at 12:17 (where is the bell?). **Joel Thornley** led us in the Pledge, **Sue Schott** and **Anna Powers** led the music and **John Hunter's** thought brought us up to date on how **J.T. Hunter** and family are doing in their new home in New Zealand, where there is no such thing as political correctness. J.T.'s wife Ellen, is teaching in a year round school and J.T., who hadn't planned on working, is the Director of Softball for the island, a job he did as a volunteer here in the States. The kids are doing well and getting involved in various activities including rowing and 'bullrush', a game that sounds tougher than rugby.

There were no visiting Rotarians but we were happy to greet the following guests: Heidi Finberg with **Ed Bullok**, Laura with husband **Rob Simpson**, Kathleen Kery with **Scott Raty**, Patrick Hart with **Bill Quirk**, and Aabed with dad **Hamid Nekrawesh**.

President Bob thanked chair **Rod Vargas** and committee members **George Pacheco**, **Paul Wallace**, **Reid Lindblom**, **Mark Smetana**, **Rita Shue**, **Ed Bullok**, and **Brian Schott** for doing a great job running the bar for last Thursday's Avenues of Service. **Becky Avelar** asked everyone who took the training class on sexual harassment that night to please let her know because the club needs to keep that information on file.

There will be a hands-on landscaping project Saturday, Oct. 28th from 9:30 to 11:30 at the Salvation Army, 430 A Street, Hayward. Let **President Bob** know if you can come and work alongside Cal State student volunteers.

Ken Meirovitz and **John Wilma** reported on the Dictionary project. **Tina Martinez** is taking over team 6 for an ailing **Joe Vilardi** (cards welcome!). Call any captain in order to make the dates work for you. Take part!!

Ed Mullins and **Brian Schott** were recognized for their new members **Carrie Alejandre** and **Laura Swan**. The **Prez** says we have 114 members and need to have 120 minimum. **Charley Plummer** says he has prospects but won't bring them if the **President** isn't going to wear a tie. Sgt. at Arms **Scott Raty** instantly took his own tie off and made **President Bob** presentable. (where is the bell?)

Ed Bullok paid \$100 for his lengthy announcement about Starlight Club, a Chabot College big band jazz experience scheduled for November 18th. **Bob Carlson** continued the announcement, plugged the event as a fundraiser for the Chabot music program, invited everyone to visit the Chabot web site and then he paid \$100 too.

Sue Schott announced that her band is playing Saturday at the Bistro; that Mt Eden is putting on Guys and Dolls; and a group called 'Chime In' is raising money for instruments and sheet music for the Hayward schools. She was fined \$30.

Four Rotarians signed up for Avenues of Service but didn't show. Legitimate excuses were fine free but **Rob Simpson** confessed that his excuse was illegitimate so he paid \$35. **Tom Gratny** paid \$200 to the Silva Clinic project for his absences and then announced that Lone Tree Cemetery will retire American flags on the 11th of November with the respect due them. You can take your flags to Lone Tree or to any Hayward fire station.

Sumiko Kring was fined \$10 for an announcement **Bill Quirk** made for her last week. Don Mai was fined \$10 for his birthday and then announced that He and **Gary Smith** will leave in a few days for a Rotary immunization

trip to Ghana. **Debby DeAngelis**, **Ed Bullok**, and **Gary Smith** all paid \$10 for their anniversaries. But, **Wayne Wright** paid \$100 because he was going to take his wife Barbara on an expensive get away but she chose to take part in the Dictionary project instead and he saved big bucks. **Larry Ratto** paid \$50 for being last in and bragging about his harvest. We were all glad to see **Rod Palmer**, but sad to hear that **Mike Darck** is leaving us to relocate in Medford, Oregon.

Cecelia Babkirk, District 5170 Rotary Foundation Travel Chair, introduced **Turgut Gokyigit** from Istanbul, Turkey. He is the Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator for Zone 10B which is Southeastern Europe. He had wonderful slides of Turkey and talked about Partners in Service, District 2420 and the cooperative projects done with District 5170 clubs including: cardiac monitoring equipment, a 4 bed stroke unit, hematology lab equipment, reproductive health education, a burn bed and medical equipment for a burn unit, and an open bed for the neonatal unit. This was a wonderful program demonstrating the international work of Rotary.