

ROTARY CLUB OF HAYWARD

High  Gear

November 10, 2008
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Editor: Norma Rees

Get ready for the Holidays!

Join us for the

**Rotary Holiday Party
at the City Hall Rotunda**

December 6, 2008



RSVP to Laura Swan





President John Caldwell called the meeting to order, reminding us that it was the 17th meeting of our 87th year! The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by **Andy Krake**, and the team of **George Famous** and **Chuck Horner** led us in God Bless America. (**Chuck** actually found **George's** key.)

Mary Caldwell gave us the Thought for the Day: *"Our Country is forever indebted to our veterans for their quiet courage and exemplary service. These brave men and women made the ultimate sacrifice for our benefit. On Veterans' Day, we remember these heroes for their valor, their loyalty, and their dedication. Their selfless sacrifices continue to inspire us today as we work to advance peace and extend freedom around the world."*

Phyllis Moroney introduced a visiting Rotarian, our very own Bob Tucknott.

Guests of Rotarians: **Chuck Horner** introduced John Charles, IT Director for CSU East Bay; **Joel Thornley** introduced Myron Freedman of the Hayward Historical Society; **Bob Goetsch** introduced Rick Beets, of Be A Mentor; **Mary Caldwell** introduced Heather Cho, a student from Korea.

The team of **George Famous** and **Chuck Horner** led us in song: **He's Got the Whole World in His Hands** (and this time starting with the same key).

President John brought a new member to the platform: Captain Arnold from the Hayward Salvation Army, escorted by his sponsor, **Chuck Horner**. **President John** gave the new member his red badge, and congratulated him warmly (as we all did).

ANNOUNCEMENTS: (Our members are so active in Rotary and other community projects, that there were lots of announcements!)

Ken Meirovits brought us up to date on the Dictionary Project, now well under way, reminding us that the Dictionary (he showed us one) is not a little bitty pocket dictionary but a big, beautiful children's dictionary that will belong to the child. The book has a Rotary Sticker and a place for the child to write his name. **Ken** warned us not to miss this rare opportunity to have direct impact on the kids. Members who are going to the schools to deliver the dictionaries can get a script from **Ken**.

Cate Steane seconded **Ken's** words about the Dictionary Project, and also told us that the Mervyns gift cards were used for a big stack of socks and underwear for the children in the shelter, and also for some needed kitchen stuff. A great use for the gift cards!

Lisa Rosenblum reminded us about the Literacy Plus event on November 12; the Hayward Historical Society will have a reception for its new Executive Director, Myron Freedman, on Friday, November 21 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm, including a preview of their new exhibition *Good Manners*; **Laura Swan** reminded us about the Holiday Party; **Nels Nelson** told us that next week he will circulate a list for signups for Salvation Army Bell-ringing; **Ed Mullins** let us know that if we wish to join other Rotarians at the Hayward Education Foundation Holiday Luncheon on December 4, we can use the sheets on the tables to list our names; **Chuck Horner** told us that November 15 at 8:00 am is the date for the Cleanup Project on Tennyson Road at the railroad tracks, followed by a basketball game where we can decide whether to cheer on the Hayward Police Department or the Mayor and his friends; **Pam Russo** reminded us that the Board meeting this Thursday will be at St. Rose Hospital.

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



FINES AND FOOLISHNESS: Lots of members were fined for birthdays, Club anniversaries, new cars, and not wearing their Rotary buttons!



President John asked all veterans present to stand up and be recognized, and the applause was loud and sincere.

PROGRAM: **Chuck Horner** introduced the speaker, Mo Qayoumi, President of Cal State East Bay. Because we have met Mo before, **Chuck** decided not to waste time repeating the long list of his accomplishments. President Qayoumi told us about the new program at CSUEB helping and attracting veterans to the University, which is a veteran-friendly campus.

The speaker gave us an overview of the current exhibit at the Asian Art Museum in San Francisco: *Afghanistan: Hidden Treasures from the National Museum, Kabul*. He showed a short video, and pictures of the exhibits that he took himself. The region was part of the Silk Road, marching ground for east and west, going back 4,000-5,000 years; Marco Polo wrote of it. But history of the region goes back even further, with trade in salt and lapis lazuli and other treasures. Afghanistan's location at the heart of Central Asia made it a crossroads for China, India, Europe, Persia, Greece, and Mesopotamia, so the region was affected by all cultures. Now three decades of war have obscured Afghanistan's cultural legacy. Much was lost, but a few courageous Afghans risked their lives to rescue artifacts from archeological sites. The exhibit covers four excavation sites, although there are over 1500 archeological sites in the country.

- (1) Tepe Follul in northern Afghanistan: going back 4,500 years, from this site there are five golden and fifteen silver vessels, unfortunately with no writing.
- (2) Ai Khanum: Alexander the Great went through this area, and named all the cities Alexandria. It was a very Greek city, with Greek the lingua franca for 500 years. The exhibit includes statues, coins, capitals, and pictures of chariots.
- (3) Begram, in central eastern Afghanistan: The major US Air Force base is at Bagram. The exhibit includes beautiful glass vessels, and statues showing the strong Greek influence. That is where the Buddhist culture originated, so the Buddhas had Greek faces. There is also Indian influence in some of the ivory statues, as well as some Chinese lacquers. Over 2000 pieces were found at that site, suggesting that it had been a warehouse belonging to a merchant.
- (4) Tilly Tepe, in north Afghanistan: The civilizations there were nomadic. The exhibit includes thousands of pieces of locally mined gold, from family graves. The gold was sewn into their clothes because of the nomadic lifestyle. The gold work is intricate and remarkable, including a particularly important item – a collapsible crown of gold that could be dismantled when the people were on the move.

President Qayoumi quoted, "A nation is alive when its culture stays alive." But over 70,000 pieces have been lost in recent years. The US coin lobby has blocked Congressional support to protect archeological sites in Afghanistan. For the past 20 years most of the digging has been done by looters.

President John thanked Dr. Qayoumi for his informative presentation, and also told us that the Caldwells have hosted Afghan students who are now doing very well.

NEXT WEEK: **George Pacheco** and **Dave Elkins** will give us a report on the Kenya tractor and truck projects.

President John thanked the distinguished guests and visitors, and reminded us to have fun!

Hayward Rotary Club Calendar

Nov 17 Kenya Truck Project, we will hear about our Truck project for the United African Evangelical Ministries located in Kangundo.

Nov 24 Eric Pearson, City of Hayward associate planner.

Dec 6 **Holiday Party, City Hall Rotunda, get your RSVP to Laura Swan today.**



Need to find or confirm a Location?

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



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June 1, 1922 • California
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