



# Propeller

## Rotary Club of Vallejo

February 6th 2014

Tony Shannon

12:31pm President Shane asked Don Demon to ring in the meeting with the big gavel.

Tom Phillips led us in the flag salute

Doc was chosen to lead us in a song. Lori Ann asked if we could vote on the song. Well, no, that's not right. Lori Ann asked us if she could vote on a song. Doc sort of swept the request aside and began singing God Bless America.

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**Fines**  
**Recognitions**  
**Happy \$\$**

**Happy Dollars:**  
Kathe Chandler - Athena award. Shane asked her to

### Visiting Rotarians

Jim Lessinger came to visit us from the Benicia Club

### Guests

Jean Kilkenny-Turk introduced - Shawna Gilroy from the Vallejo Times Herald.

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### Announcements

Wine Drawing - Walt Newell, announced that we are behind in the Wine Drawing because of the government shut down. Norb asked if the wine bottles donated had to be un-opened?

JD - Please fill out the evaluation forms.

Tom Phillips - There will be a Leadership Vallejo Poker Tournament Fundraiser It's on April 11th at the IBEW Hall, 1115 Amador St., Vallejo. Come out, support a good cause and have some fun. See Tom Phillips for more info.

Shane - Our golf tournament committee is forming. The tournament will be May 21st.

Next week, our speaker will be Jim Sanderson (Rotarian) with the California Dental Association who

tell us about it, but she could not speak. She was overcome by emotion. Freda stepped up, literally, and told us about Kathe receiving the award. Someone suggested receiving the award should be worth a \$100 donation to the club. Kathe was speechless again. Curtis, Avery, Lori Ann, and Trouble (Jerry Morgan) each put in \$20. Kathe was finally able to speak and put in another \$50

Don Demmon is giving \$100 for being here.

Walt Newell \$20 - went to see Arizona and Cal play basketball. Arizona is Walt's old alma mater. Cal won in an upset. JD gave the obligatory "Go Bears!"

Doc - will give us a presentation on his Tanzania trip at a later date, but now he really understands why people say and sing "God Bless America"

Mike Diaz - \$5 He handed out dictionaries with Jeanne. She gave a great description of what we do with our dictionary project. Mike got a big thank you and hug from a girl student.

Tom Phillips - \$100 he made it 2 years in his marriage and "his" Seattle

will be bringing a clinic to the Vallejo Fairgrounds. 1,200 dentists and their assistants will be coming to Vallejo to provide free dental services to people in need. The event will start Thursday April 24th. This is a very special event and we are very lucky to have it happen here, in Vallejo.

Fishing in the City will be Saturday, April 12th. All hands on deck. Let's make this a successful event, again.

Shage asked Kevin Rahill to stand up and asked the club to give him a standing ovation for organizing the dictionary project.

Walt - on Feb 27th, we will have a friend of Walt's who will talk to us about animals.

## Program

Don McCoy from Six Flags Discovery Kingdom

Don grew up in Orlando, in the shadow of the mouse. In high school, he went to work at a theme park. He has been working in theme parks all over the country for 30 years. He visited Six Flags Discovery Kingdom once before he came here to work and he was hooked.

Six Flags has 14 parks. The theme park company was started in 1960 in Dallas, Texas. They are the largest regional theme park company in the world.

Every year, Six Flags invests millions of dollars in our park. There is a new icon/graphic/logo with a tiger and dolphins prominently displayed in it. This was created as a result of a study to refocus Six Flags Discovery Kingdom on what makes it special. Six Flags here in Vallejo is the only theme park with marine wild life combined with the wild rides. "Wild live and wilder rides!" This is their new branding.

They just had a birth - a new baby dolphin, MiraBella.

Seahawks won.

Connie Klimisch - \$5  
Brought someone from her shop to the dictionary handout so she could see what we do in person and how much it means to the kids.

JD - \$? While handing out dictionaries, the kids at Federal Terrace got an appreciation for how old their school is when Bob Ogan showed his school picture and JD pointed out that the school was older than Bob.

Gary Salvadori - \$5  
Handed out dictionaries with Luis.

Shane \$20 - he could not be here last week. He was in a meeting and watching his daughter gave birth to his grand daughter on his cell phone.

### **Recognitions**

Connie Howard - \$45 for her 45th wedding anniversary. The went to Carmel.

Bob Linville - \$100 he is 54 this year and his practice is 36 years old.

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### **Mystery Handshaker**

None this week. Gary Salvadori won the drawing.

The park is now open year round on weekends and holidays. This allows them to keep a larger staff employed.

They evaluate their park using a survey company every year on things like "perceived ride safety", "value", and "employee service".

They now have a season dining pass. Come to the park anytime you want and get two meals each visit. There are no more coupons. Your benefits and discounts are all on your season pass. You no longer have to wait in lines and have your picture taken. Your finger print is all you need.

They have a new show which is like a Cirque de Soleil with dolphins. Don says it's quite a show.

Fright fest has grown from 60 actors to 180 with zombies in the streets and two new "scare zones".

The employees are referred to as "team members". They are surveyed every year regarding their experience working at Six Flags. This helps to improve the park. There is now an employee shuttle to help the employees get to work from the parking lot. This way they arrive on time and less stressed.

They have a community clean up project. They go out every couple of weeks and pick up trash.

A team member made a video on her own for the other team members to explain to them how important their job is. They help to create very special moments for people visiting the park: engagements, soldiers homecomings, graduations, last wishes, etc. The team members make these moments and memories possible.

They have 170 full time positions with 2,200 peak time positions.

### Drawing/Trivia

It was an easy question. What was the largest US denomination currency ever printed. Wild guesses went around the room. Finally, Connie Klimisch got the answer right with \$100,000.

Correction from last week: Ted Williams was not the correct answer. Apparently he was dead by that time.

We adjourned exactly at 1:30pm

## Photos



Don Demmon with the big gavel.



Jeanne, Tom and our guest Shawna Gilroy



Derek (Esteemed note-taker) and Incoming President Robert Briseno.



Bob (I'm almost as old as your school) Ogan meets up with Trouble.



The real McCoy, Don McCoy the King of Six Flags Discovery Kingdom.

## Potential New Member!

Cynthia Ripley has come to several meetings. She wants to join the group.



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