

The Spokes – August 16, 2017

The sound of the Bell by President Terry eventually quieted a noisy assemblage of attendees. Tom Keating led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Ken Franceschi followed with our Inspirational Thoughts for the Day. Our lunch today began with a verde (green) salad. The main course was chicken pizzaila. Nick Kerry introduced our Visiting Rotarian:

Jaime Ortiz                      San Rafael                      Banking

We were guestless today.

John Smith paid the first tribute of the day for his attendance at Bill Taylor's coaching retirement party the previous Saturday evening. Bill is truly a track "celebrity" as testified by the hour and one-half of tributes bestowed on him that night from past years' coaches and athletes. Joan Capurro paid for not being able to attend the party as she was at home with her favorite Italian.

Rozan Donals paid the first happy time tribute for driving her son to his first day of work following his college graduation. He started on Monday morning and the good-bye was a bit emotional. Suzy Schneider also paid today as she also missed Bill Taylor's retirement party. Kramer Herzog paid for having joined the club approximately one year ago.

Our speaker today was a returning Oak Dowling who requested some additional time to cover his extensive presentation on the Bernie Madoff financial scandal. Oak described Madoff as a sociopath who conducted the largest financial scam of the twentieth century. The total amount stolen exceeded \$65 billion. Madoff was originally from Queens, New York and gained notoriety for having established the NASDAQ stock exchange for smaller issues. He gained a reputation as a financial expert and founded his securities firm in 1985. He then began collecting investment proceeds from friends and families by use of affinity scams of which he was a master. Of the \$65 billion collected, none went into actual investments. A small army of clerks were tasked each month with preparing false investor statements. He was able to keep the scam going as long as he had new investor money coming in. It is interesting to note that in May 2000, Harry Markopolos reported to the SEC that Madoff was involved in a scam. No subsequent action resulted until 2008 when the fraud was revealed. On June 29, 2009 he was sentenced to life in prison.

It is with sadness we recognize the passing of Sam Owori, Rotary International President-elect. He passed away on July 13 from complications following surgery. He was responsible for increasing the number of clubs in his native Uganda from 9 in 1988, when he was District Governor, to 89 today.

#### UPCOMING DATES

August 21 – Rotary Board meeting

August 27 – Celebrating 30 years of Women in Rotary

August 27 – Day at the Races.

August 30 – Dark, No lunch.

Sept. 10 – Fairfax Car Show

Sept. 20 – Dave Donery, San Anselmo Town Manager

President	Terry Hennesy
President – Elect	Rozan Donals
Secretary	Tom Keating
Treasurer	Nick Kerry
Immediate Past President	Tami Lyon

## DIRECTORS

Club Service	Sandy Jones
	Trina Lavigna
Youth/Vocational Service	Suzy Schneider
	Joan Carlson
Community Service	Sue Barstow
Director at Large	Ted Wight
International Service	John Smith
Ross Valley Foundation	Doug Moore
Programs	Stan Hook
Public Relations	Trina Lavigna
	Dan Carlson
Spokes Editor	Larry Lococo
Rotary International	John Smith

Website: [www.rossvalleyrotary.org](http://www.rossvalleyrotary.org)

## MEETING PLACES AND TIMES

Central Marin	Mon 12:00 PM	Left Bank, Larkspur
San Rafael	Mon 12:15 PM	Marin Yacht Club, San Rafael
Novato Sunrise	Tues 7:15 AM	Moylans Brewery, Novato
San Rafael Harbor	Tues 8:00 AM	Whistlestop, San Rafael
Mill Valley	Tues 12:15 PM	Mill Valley Golf Club, M V
Terra Linda	Tues 12:15 PM	4 Points Sheraton, San Rafael
Marin Evening	Tues 6:30 PM	The Club at McGinnis Pk, SR
Marin Sunrise	Wed 7:15 AM	Best Western, Corte Madera
West Marin	Wed 8:00 AM	Comm Bldg Pt Reyes Stat
Tiburon-Belvedere	Wed 12:15 PM	San Fran Yacht Club, Belve
Sausalito	Thurs 12:15 PM	Sausalito Yacht Club, Saus.
Mission San Rafael	Thurs 12:15 PM	San Rafael Joe's, San Rafael
Ignacio	Thurs 12:15 PM	Inn Marin, Novato
Tiburon Sunset	Thurs 6:30 PM	San Fran Yacht Club, Belve
Novato	Friday 12:15 PM	Margaret Todd Sr Ctr, Novato
San Rafael Evening	Thurs 7:00 PM	New George's, San Rafael

Rotary Means Business meets the First Monday of the month at West End Café on Fourth Street in San Rafael at 5 pm