

# THE UNLEY ROTARIAN

Meeting 3658 – 14 April 2009

unley.rotaryclub.org.au

2008 - 2009

Rotary Club of Unley Inc.

DISTRICT 9520  
CHARTERED 17TH APRIL 1935



**PRESIDENT:** Jerry Casburn: 8295 8227 or 0407 646 396  
**SECRETARY:** Anne Wehr: 8357 0486  
**ADDRESS:** PO Box 18, Unley SA 5061  
**EMAIL:** unley.secretary@rotaryclub.org.au  
**MEETINGS:** The Club meets every Tuesday at "Tiffins on the Park",  
176 Greenhill Road, Parkside (Cnr George Street) at 6.30pm.  
Fellowship at 6.00pm

## Our Last Meeting

|                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Meeting No.</b>        | 3658                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Date</b>               | 14 April 2009                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Venue</b>              | Indochina Restaurant                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Occasion</b>           | Paul Harris Fellows Night & RC Unley's Birthday Celebration                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Chairperson</b>        | David Middleton                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Guest Speaker</b>      | PDG Euan Miller                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Visiting Rotarians</b> | DG Peter Shipp, AG Roy Armstrong                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Guests</b>             | Judy Shipp, Marilyn Armstrong, Bill Rojas, Mrs. Rojas, Ken & Pauline Daly, Margaret Payne, Richard Taylor, Colleen Marcos, Genese Mullins, Joan Calder, Jenn Casburn, Catherine Reed, John Pettinger, Mark Minuzzo, Linda England, Susan Westgarth, Maria Mills, Wendy Andrews |
| <b>Apologies</b>          | Muriel & Norm Wallace, Sharron & Tom Tirrell, Pam Goodgame, Marni Phillips, Helen Lithgow, Barbara Russell, Fiona Nettelbeck, Neesha Nandasena                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Make Ups</b>           | Janet Singh                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Attendance</b>         | 83%                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Anniversaries</b>      | <b>Birthday:</b> Bob Mills (14/4)<br><b>Inductions:</b> Geoff Howland (14/4), Vince Michielin (19/4)<br><b>Wedding:</b> Norm & Muriel Wallace (14/4)                                                                                                                           |

## President's Announcements

1. District 9520 are desperately seeking clubs to host one of four long term youth exchange students, to do this we need to have at least four willing host parents, can you please advise me if you are interested in hosting for a three month period.

The four female students are from Germany, Norway and two from Belgium and their ages are 16 to 17 years on arrival in July 2009.

2. I have circulated the Social Calendar again and I would be grateful if you would advise any changes. This is for the beach party on Sunday April 19<sup>th</sup> and an evening at the TAFE training college for a meal at Martinhas restaurant. The evening will include a talk from one of the lecturers on the college's activities and a three course meal, excluding wine will cost around \$30.

## Guest Speaker: PDG Euan Miller "Update on The Rotary Foundation"

Chairman David Middleton introduced Past District Governor Euan Miller to present an update on the operations of The Rotary Foundation.

Euan is a member of the Rotary Club of Norwood and in 2004-05 was District Governor of D9520. His day job is as Deputy Commissioner for Consumer Affairs for SA. He is Chair of the Grants Committee of TRF and Promotional Chair for RAWCS for Districts 9520 and 9500.

**Euan Miller:** The mission of The Rotary Foundation (TRF) is to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education and the alleviation of poverty. It is a not for profit organisation supported solely by voluntary contributions from Rotarians and friends of the Foundation throughout the world. TRF was set up in 1917 by Arch Klumpf from the Rotary Club of Cleveland, USA. From an initial endowment of \$26.50 TRF funds have since grown dramatically, particularly following the death of Paul Harris in 1947, the year that the first Ambassadorial Scholarships were granted.



PDG Euan Miller

As TRF is run as a trust there are strict requirements on accountability for how the Foundation's money is spent, which is where the goats come in. The inability of Rotary Clubs in D9520 and in Nepal to account for the whereabouts of some TRF funded breeding goats for Nepal resulted in D9520 being black-listed by TRF until the goats could be located and accounted for; a salutary warning for all.

In 1957 the concept of Paul Harris Fellows was implemented, which led to a continuing uplift in contributions to TRF.

Group Study Exchange and Matching Grants, such as for the recent project undertaken by Unley and the Rotary Club of Dharmavaran, India, were set up in 1965.

In 1978 the Health, Hunger and Humanity (3H) Program was set up to provide some large grants to fund projects such as the current anti-malaria campaign in the Solomon Islands. The 3H program was suspended in the 1990s due to loss of fund earnings during a recession and issuing of grants only resumed three years ago.

In 1985 the PolioPlus campaign came into being with the objective of ridding the world of polio. This has now been

achieved in all but four countries: Afghanistan, India, Nigeria and Pakistan.

In 2002 the Rotary Peace Fellows program commenced and now funds peace studies scholars at seven universities around the world, including in Queensland, Australia.

Up to 2008 more than US\$1 billion has been raised for TRF's various funds: Annual Programs Fund (47%), Permanent Fund (6%) and other (1%). Currently fundraising exceeds US\$200 million per year. Rotary Australia's Centurion Fund is part of the "Every Rotarian Every Year" campaign that aims to have Rotarians donate A\$100 to TRF each year. Currently TRF grants are distributed 61% to the PolioPlus campaign, 27% to

Humanitarian grants, 11% to Educational grants and 1% to other activities.

The current Global Financial Crisis has caused a significant drop in TRF fund income and TRF trustees have announced a significant drop in the level of grants for the foreseeable future.

Euan concluded by relating the full story of the goats in Nepal along with the salutary lessons learned, particularly the value of Rotary changing presidents every year. The money provided by TRF to Rotary clubs for our projects is given in trust and so must be managed and accounted for carefully.

Thanks Euan for a most interesting briefing on TRF. ●

## Recognition of Paul Harris Fellows

Chairman David Middleton opened Paul Harris Fellows Recognitions segment of the meeting by acknowledging the mission of



### The Rotary Foundation.

**David Middleton:** The mission of The Rotary Foundation is to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty.

The Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation supported solely by voluntary contributions from Rotarians and friends of the Foundation who share its vision of a better world.

Tonight we heard from Euan Miller about the role and recent achievements of The Rotary Foundation.

A Paul Harris Fellow is awarded in recognition of a donation of US\$1,000 to the Projects Fund of The Rotary Foundation. In Australia it is the custom for Rotary club's to make such donations on behalf of persons whom the club wishes to recognise for their contributions to Rotary and/or the community. It is the highest award that a Rotary club can make. The awarding of a Paul Harris Fellow is not restricted to Rotarians.

David then asked Rotarians and guests to acknowledge and toast the many Paul Harris Fellows present at this special meeting.



**Back Row:** Greg McLeod, David Payne, Euan Miller, Geoff Hill, Colin Schirmer, AG Roy Armstrong, Alex Jonson, DG Peter Shipp, John Russell;

**Middle Row:** Margaret Payne, Kevin Rogers, Colleen Marcos, Mavis Martin, Pauline Daly, Ken Daly, Joan Calder, Bob Mullins, Jerry Casburn, Bob Laws;

**Seated at Front:** Stephen Westgarth, Bob Mills and Bill Rojas.

Chairman David then introduced President Jerry who proceeded to award three Paul Harris Fellows.

The first PHF awardee was **Bob Mills**, a Rotarian who is well known to members of this club for his continued involvement in a variety of activities and who has always contributed to the control and running of the club's activities. He became a member of Rotary in 1979.

Since that time Bob has chaired every committee and held most Board positions, culminating in Presidency of the club in 1994/95. During that year the Rotunda was rebuilt in the Unley Memorial

Gardens. From 1997 to 1999 he was Assistant District Governor.

For the past eight years he has managed the Police Officer of the Year programme working alongside Bill Rojas, then of SAPOL. For a similar period he has been the club's Historian.

Bob Mills had already been made a Paul Harris Fellow for his devotion to Rotary and the Community. Pres. Jerry asked the club to applaud Bob's commitment to the Police Officer of the Year project and awarded him a Sapphire Pin in recognition of this work. It was also nice to note that he was receiving this award on his birthday.



L to R: AG Roy Armstrong, Bill Rojas, Pres. Jerry Casburn, Stephen Westgarth, Bob Mills, DG Peter Shipp

The next awardee was **Stephen Westgarth**, a Rotarian who has been with Unley Rotary since 1995. As with Bob, he has served the club on the Board for many years and chaired several committees. Stephen has also served as Thrift Shop Committee Chairman, as the "best Bulletin Editor in District 9520, possibly Australia", and as our club's Webmaster since 2001.

Stephen became President in 2006/07, a difficult year for the club and one which he skilfully navigated leaving the club stronger.

Not many of us can lay claim to having a suburb (Westgarth in Melbourne) named after their family, but he can. His only failing may be that he barracks for the Western Bulldogs.

The final awardee was **Bill Rojas**, a non Rotarian. Married with one daughter Bill now lives in Canberra serving the Federal Police as Ceremonial and Protocol Officer. His career with the police began in 1987 on joining SAPOL. First working in Financial Services and then Protocol he managed Special Events for the next 11 years, which involved coordinating activity with the Rotary club of Unley for the Police Officer of the Year Award.

It is now our chance to recognise Bill Rojas for his dedication and support over that time as we award him a Paul Harris Fellowship.

Pres. Jerry then presented the awardees for the Paul Harris Fellow for 2008/09 to the assembled Rotarians and guests. ●

# Rotary News

## Constitution & By Laws

From the DG's March Newsletter

**CONSTITUTION:** The only amendments the club can make to the standard Rotary club constitution are the name and/or the locality of the club, and then only subject to approval by the Board of Rotary International. If the club does not wish to modify either, no further amendment is required but the club must adopt the revised constitution (to retain membership in RI) and report that to the relevant Government agency for incorporated bodies.

Some examples of amendments made to the standard club constitution at the last Council on Legislation included:

A new article 5 on Four Avenues of Service is inserted with subsequent renumbering;

- 10.5(b) a future club President becomes President-elect on 1 July in the year before taking office as President (even if no successor has then been appointed);
- 10.5(c) a President-elect may not assume office as President if required training has not been completed, in which case the previous President must continue in office as President;
- 12.4(1) a member must attend or makeup at least 50% of club regular meetings in each half of the year;
- 12.4(2) Assistant Governors are excused from the requirement to attend at least 30% of club meetings.

It is recommended all club Board members make themselves aware of the full text of the current standard club constitution.

**BYLAWS:** The club can (and may have in the past) amend the standard club Bylaws approved by Rotary International, provided such amendments are not in conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws of RI and the Constitution of the club.

Bylaw amendments include:

- Board: variations now allow a club to include or exclude Directors and the Vice President on the Board;
- 3.1 Directors and Officers: a revised final sentence to state when a person can take the title of President-elect;
- 4.4 Secretary: wording of duties varied to include paying per capita dues to RI;
- 11 Leave of Absence: delete reference to specific clauses of the Constitution in the footnote.

### VARIOUS:

- Amend changes due to renumbering of Articles in the Constitution;
- A number of clubs, because they use the model RI Constitution, refer to the requirements of the SA Associations Incorporations Act 1985 in their Bylaws. If this is the case with your club Bylaws, you will need to send a copy of the amended Bylaws to the Office of Consumer and Business Affairs each time a change is made.

## Rotary Partnerships

From the DG's March Newsletter

The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PHRMA) donated \$100,000 toward Rotary's \$100M Challenge.

Deputy Vice-President of PHRMA stated "Our relationship with Rotary is very much part of our efforts to advance innovative and responsible approaches to provide access to sustainable health care.

Our industry is driven by the search for cures and a genuine desire to improve health outcomes all over the world. When looking at the advancement of this goal, there is no better example than Rotary's work to rid the world of Polio.

Rotary is a leader in public and private partnerships that rely on the spirit of volunteerism and community service. PHRMA is honoured to be on Rotary's team. ●

## REMINDERS

### EXCEPTIONAL WINE TASTING 200 McLaren Vale Wines

**Sunday 26 April 2009**

**2:00-9:00pm**

**Maxim's Wine Bar**

**194 The Parade, Norwood**

(Upstairs opposite Norwood town Hall)

In conjunction with Winestate Magazine and the management of Maxim's Wine & Coffee Bar this is a wonderful opportunity to taste a selection of some 200 wines from the McLaren Vale region of South Australia

**Jazz Music by Wally, Schmo & Co**

- Admission \$15 per head
- Cocktail food platters available at \$10
- After 6:00pm admission \$10 per head
- Bottomless tea & coffee
- Full bar facilities

All funds raised will go to local community projects including "Street Swags" for the Homeless and International projects including School of St Jude's, Tanzania "eliminating Poverty Through Education"

**Rotary Club of Hyde Park**

**Tickets:** Sam 0407 828 455 or

Margaret (0439) 845568 or at the door

**Website:** [rotaryhydeparkau.org](http://rotaryhydeparkau.org)

### Donations In Kind [DIK]

#### Clean Up Day at the DIK Warehouse

West Avenue, Edinburgh, opposite main gate to air base  
Look for the Rotary sign

**Sunday 24 May 10am – 4pm BBQ Lunch**

**Can you help? You can!**

**Contact:** Geoff Howland on 8337 7434 or email to:  
[howland@adam.com.au](mailto:howland@adam.com.au)

## OSSAA Film Night "STATE OF PLAY"

**Sunday 31 May**

**5.30pm at the**

**Chelsea Cinema**

275 Kensington Rd  
Kensington

Tickets \$16 ea incl.  
champagne supper

Buy your tickets from:

Stephen Baker,  
Bob Laws,  
Alex Jonson or  
John Russell



## Rotary District 9520 Youth Program of Enrichment 2009 (RYPEN)

By Wendy Gaborit -- DG's April 2009 Newsletter

On 13 March 2009, 55 young people from across District 9520 arrived at the Woodhouse Activity Centre, Piccadilly for a weekend of learning and fun. All came willing to share, participate and enjoy the experience.

The 2009 RYPEN was hosted by the **Rotary Club of Unley**, and we thank President Jerry Casburn for his willingness to commit resources to underwrite the administrative costs, provide a committee member and host parents.

The underlying philosophy of RYPEN is "youth leading youth" with RYPEN providing an opportunity for graduates of RYLA to develop and trial new skills and behaviours cognizant with those of leadership.

Committee Members, Coordinator and Host Parents are there to support the leaders in their roles and provide a, adult authority role for the participating awardees.

Our Directors – Bonnie McCrossan a graduate, Director and Leader of RYLA took a lead role as mentor to some first time "leaders" Matt Neale, Nick Dittmar and Jessica Collins-Roe, watch out for these young people, they exemplify the term "leader" through their capacity to develop relationships, coach, mentor and encourage others.

Host parents **Martin and Angie Cooper**, were awesome, coping with catering, coping with a sleepless night and a suspected case of "gastro", along with a willingness to participate in everything, encouraging awardees as they met and overcame their individual challenges.



Martin and Angie Cooper with some of the RYPEN awardees.

## Exhibitions for Art Lovers

Rotarian art lovers are advised that art exhibitions will be held by the following:

### RC of Noarlunga

The Art Centre,  
Gawler Street,  
Port Noarlunga,  
9<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup> May  
10.00 am - 4.00 pm daily

### RC of Flagstaff Hill

Flagstaff Hill Primary School,  
Black Road,  
Flagstaff Hill  
18<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> April  
10.00 - 5.30 pm daily

## District Conference Fun-d Ride

DG Elect Dick Cuttle and his team are working hard on the Conference to be held in Loebethal 08-11 October 2009. Two rides have been planned from Summertown to Loebethal on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October with a free BBQ lunch to start with. If you have any cyclists in your Club, we would love to have them come and join us. Raise some funds for ARH and have some fun in the process. Details obtainable from Dick Wilson on 0412 003 110.



A young girl bathes in Río Bajabonico in La Grúa, Dominican Republic. Recipients of bio-sand filters have found that when they bathe in filtered water, skin conditions clear up. *Rotary Images/Alyce Henson*

## Walking to Beat Polio

By Arnold R. Grahl - Rotary International News -- 8 April 2009

Bad weather and loneliness couldn't keep Hans Wiesner from completing his Walk to Beat Polio. The Canadian Rotarian encountered headwinds of 15 miles per hour and near-freezing temperatures during the toughest part of his 620-mile journey along the Via de la Plata, part of an ancient network of trails in northwestern Spain used by pilgrims to reach the cathedral in Santiago de Compostela.

"I thought about quitting, but I really had no choice but to keep going," he recalls. "At the point of the journey I was at, there is really nothing around you anyway. What inspired me most was all the people who were supporting me: Rotarians from all the clubs in District 5360 [parts of Alberta; Saskatchewan, Canada]."

Wiesner, a member of the Rotary Club of Red Deer East, Alberta, completed his 35-day Walk to Beat Polio in November, raising C\$54,000 (about A\$62,500) for Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge to benefit PolioPlus. Before the walk, he visited roughly half the clubs in his district and e-mailed the others to solicit donations.

The idea for the walk stemmed from a trip Wiesner completed in 2007 on the same network, called the Camino de

Santiago (Way of St. James), shortly after he retired as a chemical engineer. He says he made the journey as a personal challenge and for spiritual reasons.

After joining his club later that year, Wiesner thought about repeating the trip. A close friend, who had served as best man in his wedding, contracted polio as a child. The friend survived, but was weakened by the disease. "He was born in 1944, I in 1945. We went through the era where a lot of people got polio," Wiesner recalls. "I was fortunate, he was not. It seemed like a nice segue using this walk to raise funds for PolioPlus."

Wiesner feels positive about the whole experience of preparing for and doing the walk. He is happy with the amount he raised, which he calls "a fair chunk of change," and is already planning future hikes in France and Spain.



Wiesner arrives at the cathedral in Santiago de Compostela, the end of his Walk to Beat Polio.

# Jerry's Jottings

First my congratulations to our new Paul Harris Fellows **Stephen Westgarth** and **Bill Rojas**, and to **Bob Mills** for the Sapphire Pin. All of the awards were well deserved and in a club with many active Rotarians it is always difficult to determine who should be presented with the awards; this year I was not presented with difficult choices. I would also like to thank Past Presidents **David Middleton** and **Greg McLeod** for acting as Master of Ceremonies and organizing the event and slap up meal at Indochina.

Although many will know by now, it is with disappointment that I need to confirm that we will not be proceeding with the Fireworks. A shortage of time and concerns relating to the amount of work for the club, as expressed by the newly formed committee resulted in a vote not to proceed. We have advised those who need to know but I would like to place on record my thanks to **Andy Hill** for all his hard work in single-handedly pulling the programme and event together. Sadly we will not be able to postpone again, the Showground management have been very tolerant in letting us defer for one year; I am loath to ask them again.

Finally I am looking forward to our Beach Party on Sunday the weather bureau has promised good weather and high tide is not until 7.44 so it bodes well for some fun. Although the arrangements will be the same as our last aborted attempt, I will send a separate note to those who said they would join us, advising time and place. The Fish and chips will be organised for collection at 4.45pm.

Yours in Rotary,

*Jerry*



President Jerry

## Our Upcoming Meetings

| Date     | Venue               | Time            | Occasion                                                       | Venue Set-up/<br>Plaque Board | Sergeant      | Attendance<br>Desk                |
|----------|---------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| 21/04/09 | Tiffins on the Park | 6 for 6.30pm    | Bob Ellis: "The Curse of Land Mines"                           | Sheila Evans                  | Natalie Bowen | Chandra Sluggett & Colin Schirmer |
| 28/04/09 | Tiffins on the Park | 6 for 6.30pm    | Club Assembly                                                  | Glenys Ferguson               | Natalie Bowen | Colin Schirmer & David Middleton  |
| 05/05/09 | Tiffins on the Park | 6 for 6.30pm    | Ray Pincombe, CEO City of Unley                                | Andrew Hill                   | Bob Laws      | David Middleton & David Payne     |
| 12/05/09 | Glenelg Golf Club   | 6.30 for 7.00pm | Police Officer of the Year Presentation Dinner; Partners Event | Geoff Howland                 | Bob Laws      | David Payne & Geoff Hill          |

**Apologies To:** Anne Wehr on 8357 0486; e-mail: [unley.secretary@rotaryclub.org.au](mailto:unley.secretary@rotaryclub.org.au).

**Rotarians, who are unable to attend as rostered, please arrange a swap or contact:**

**Sergeant-At-Arms:** Bob Laws: 8223 6403; (M) 0438 865 305; e-mail: [unley.sergeant@rotaryclub.org.au](mailto:unley.sergeant@rotaryclub.org.au)

**Venue Set-up or Plaque Board:** Bob Laws: 8223 6403; (M) 0438 865 305; e-mail: [unley.sergeant@rotaryclub.org.au](mailto:unley.sergeant@rotaryclub.org.au)

**Attendance Desk:** Martin Cooper on 0403 910 161 or e-mail [unley.membership@rotaryclub.org.au](mailto:unley.membership@rotaryclub.org.au).

Members are urged to diarise when they are required to serve and then they will be unlikely to overlook their rostered service duty.

Members rostered on Venue Set-up and Plaque Board should see Tiffins on the Park staff to gain access to the club's meeting paraphernalia. Please remember to gather up all items at the end of the meeting and return them to the storeroom.

## Diary Dates

| Month | Day     | Date     | Activity Details                                         | Venue             | Enquiries     |
|-------|---------|----------|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| April | Sunday  | 19/04/09 | <b>Beach Party</b> Fish and Chips: \$10. BYOG            | Somerton Beach    | Jerry Casburn |
| May   | Tuesday | 12/05/09 | <b>Police Officer of the Year</b> 7.00 for 7.30pm \$40ea | Glenelg Golf Club | Stephen Baker |
|       | Friday  | 22/05/09 | <b>Dinner at Martinhas</b> \$30 ea + drinks              | Adelaide TAFE     | Jerry Casburn |
|       | Sunday  | 24/05/09 | <b>Donations In Kind</b> Clean Up Day                    | DIK Warehouse     | Geoff Howland |
|       | Sunday  | 31/05/09 | <b>OSSAA Film Night</b> "State of Play" 5.30pm \$16ea    | Chelsea Cinema    | Stephen Baker |

## Saturday Thrift Shop Roster: March-April 2009

| Week No. | Dates This Month | Early Shift: 9am to 11.30 am                  | Late Shift: 11.30am to 1.30pm    |
|----------|------------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 3        | 18/04/09         | Glenys Ferguson & Neesha Nandasena            | Joan Reed & Bob Laws             |
| 4        | 25/04/09         | John Peacham, Chandra Sluggett & Kevin Rogers | Martin Cooper & Sheila Evans     |
| 5        | NA               | Reno Elms & Bob Mullins                       | Natalie Bowen & Joan Reed        |
| 1        | 09/05/09         | Lindsay England & Rohan Singh                 | Mavis Martin & Stephen Westgarth |
| 2        | 16/05/09         | Stephen Baker, Greg McLeod & Kevin Rogers     | Janet Plumb & David Middleton    |

**Rotarians, who are unable to attend as rostered, please arrange a swap or contact:**

Bob Laws: 8223 6403; (M) 0438 865 305; e-mail: [unley.sergeant@rotaryclub.org.au](mailto:unley.sergeant@rotaryclub.org.au)

# The Back Page

## What Happened to Stanley?

George Bush goes to a primary school to talk to the kids to get a little PR. After his talk he offers question time. One little boy puts up his hand and George asks him his name.

"Stanley," responds the little boy.

"And what is your question, Stanley?"

"I have four questions: First, why did the USA invade Iraq without the support of the UN? Second, why are you President when Al Gore got more votes? Third, whatever happened to Osama Bin Laden? Fourth, why are we so worried about gay marriage when half of all Americans don't have health insurance?"

Just then, the bell rings for recess. George Bush informs the kiddies that they will continue after recess.

When they resume George says, "OK, where were we? Oh, that's right: question time. Who has a question?"

Another little boy puts up his hand. George points him out and asks him his name. "Steve," he responds.

"And what is your question, Steve?"

"Actually, I have six questions. First, why did the USA invade Iraq without the support of the UN? Second, why are you President when Al Gore got more votes? Third, whatever happened to Osama Bin Laden? Fourth, why are we so worried about gay marriage when half of all Americans don't have health insurance? Fifth, why did the recess bell go off 20 minutes early? And sixth, what the hell happened to Stanley?"

## Excerpt from a dog's Diary

8:00am - Dog food! My favourite thing!  
9:30am - A car ride! My favourite thing!  
9:40am - A walk in the park! My favourite thing!  
10:30am - Got rubbed and petted! My favourite thing!  
12:00pm - Lunch! My favourite thing!  
1:00pm - Played in the yard! My favourite thing!  
3:00pm - Wagged my tail! My favourite thing!  
5:00pm - Milk bones! My favourite thing!  
7:00pm - Got to play ball! My favourite thing!  
8:00pm - Wow! Watched TV with the people! My favourite thing!  
11:00pm - Sleeping on the bed! My favourite thing!



## Excerpt from a Cat's Diary

Day 983 of my captivity. My captors continue to taunt me with bizarre little dangling objects. They dine lavishly on fresh meat, while the other inmates and I are fed hash or some sort of dry nuggets. Although I make my contempt for the rations perfectly clear, I nevertheless must eat something in order to keep up my strength. The only thing that keeps me going is my dream of escape. In an attempt to disgust them, I once again vomit on the carpet.

Today I decapitated a mouse and dropped its headless body at their feet. I had hoped this would strike fear into their hearts, since it clearly demonstrates what I am capable of. However, they merely made condescending comments about what a "good little hunter" I am.

There was some sort of assembly of their accomplices tonight. I was placed in solitary confinement for the duration of the event. However, I could hear the noises and smell the food. I overheard that my confinement was due to the power of "allergies." I must learn what this means, and how to use it to my advantage.

Today I was almost successful in an attempt to assassinate one of my tormentors by weaving around his feet as he was walking. I



must try this again tomorrow -- but at the top of the stairs. I am convinced that the other prisoners here are flunkies and snitches. The dog receives special privileges. He is regularly released and seems to be more than willing to return. He is obviously retarded. The bird has got to be an informant. I observe him communicating with the guards regularly. I am certain that he reports my every move. My captors have arranged protective custody for him in an elevated cell, so he is safe. For now...

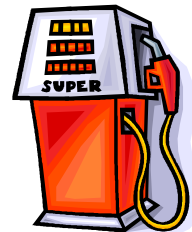
## Catholic Petrol

Sister Mary, who worked for a home health agency, was out making her rounds visiting housebound patients when she ran out of petrol. As luck would have it, a petrol station was just a block away.

She walked to the station to borrow a petrol can and buy some petrol. The attendant told her that the only petrol can he owned had been lent out, but she could wait until it was returned.

Since the nun was on the way to see a patient, she decided not to wait and walked back to her car. She looked for something in her car that she could fill with petrol and spotted the bedpan she was taking to the patient. Always resourceful, she carried the bedpan to the station, filled it with petrol, and carried the full bedpan back to her car.

As she was pouring the petrol into her tank, two men watched from across the street. One of them turned to the other and said, "If it starts, I'm turning Catholic."



## The Funeral

Joe died, leaving a will that provided \$30,000 for an elaborate funeral. As the last of the visitors departed the affair, his wife, Helen, turned to her oldest friend and said, "Well, I'm sure Joe would be pleased."

"I'm sure you're right," replied friend Jody, who then lowered her voice and then leaned in close, "How much did this really cost?"

"All of it," said Helen, "thirty thousand."

"No!" Jody exclaimed. "I mean, it was very nice, but \$30,000?"

Helen replied, "The funeral was \$6,500. I donated \$500 to the church. The wake, food and drinks were another \$500. The rest went for the Memorial Stone."

Jody computed quickly. "\$22,500 for a Memorial Stone? Good Lord, how big is it?"

"Two and a half carats."

## I Can Hear Just Fine

Three retirees, each with a hearing loss, were playing golf one fine March day.

One remarked to the other, "Windy, isn't it?"

"No," the second man replied, "it's Thursday."

And the third man chimed in, "So am I. Let's have a beer."



## Senior Driving

As a senior citizen was driving down the freeway, his car phone rang. Answering, he heard his wife's voice urgently warning him, "Harry, I just heard on the news that there's a car going the wrong way on the South Eastern Freeway. Please be careful!"

"Heck," said Harry, "It's not just one car. It's hundreds of them!"

Remember our Rotary theme for the year:

**Make Dreams Real**