



Propeller

Volume 87 Issue 20

The Vallejo Rotary Club
A family of caring and
Energetic Rotarians

November 12, 2009

The club meets
12:15 to 1:30 p.m..

Every Thursday
at the
Zio Fraedos of Vallejo
23 Harbor Way



This weeks Program

Speaker

Vallejo Rotary Club Meeting 11/12/09

This evening we were hosted by the California Maritime Academy ("CMA"), Doug Webster, and Bill Eisenhart acted as emcees.

Our members were treated to hands on tours of the Academy's Simulator Center and the Golden Bear, its training ship.

The new (2007) \$13 million Simulator Center building houses state of the art marine simulators, including the only two 360 degree ultra high-tech simulators of this sophistication the world.

Members were allowed to take the controls of an ocean going vessel in the San Francisco bay, and experience attempting to navigate among other vessels and obstacles, while experiencing different weather conditions and times of day. Those weather

conditions ranged from sunny calm waters to raging seas and electrical storms.

The sensations that we experienced were most real, leaving many of feeling the effects of motion sickness. Pete Friesen confessed to taking a Dramamine tablet, and I wish I had applied a Scopalamine patch. Sara Ghavimi steered the vessel as tho' she was Danica Patrick of the sea, but confessed to being a bit queasy.

Bill Eisenhart gave an interesting presentation about the workings of the Simulation Center. There are 111 computers in the center, which can stream 55 layers of variables into a specific scene. The simulators can profile every major port in the world, and then replicate 11 different types of vessels into either the same background scene or different ones.

Most recently the simulator has become capable of streaming real events such as oil spills into the simulator in real time.

The simulators are vast storage media of every conceivable type of data related to a given session. Recent simulator analyses include profiling how women handle a given situation versus men. It's no surprise that each of the sexes has its own advantages over the other. Women seem to be more analytical and team oriented, while males tend to react more promptly to a crisis situation. The simulator is also being used to teach English to foreign seamen because it is the internationally recognized language of the maritime industry.

The training ship has a new \$1.3 million environmental lab which monitors whether just about anything and everything related to "green" operations of vessels, e.g., whether

non-native species have contaminated the vessel when entering a port.

Despite the economic recession, the CMA enjoyed admitting its largest freshman class ever in September, 2009.

Its alumni enjoy a 90% employment rate within 1 year of graduating, averaging \$77,000 in starting salaries.

While the average time a student takes to graduate from a public college or university is 5.6 years in the U.S., the CMA's students graduate on an average of 4.5 years. Within that statistic 70% of CMA's students graduate versus only 46% in other public institutions.

Most of CMA's graduates are engineers, and many of them pursue careers in bio-tech, any discipline in which use of water and water purification as part of the manufacturing process. Many graduates are entering "green" industries, as well as pursuing public service in the Peace Corps.

A very enjoyable off-site meeting for all who attended, and who also enjoyed a nice array of food and beverages.

Thank you CMA.

2009-10 Rotary International President

John Kenney

District 5160 Governor

Earl Kilmer

Vallejo Rotary Club Officers

Scott Peterson	President
LaGuan Lea	President-elect
Connie Howard	Immediate past President
Rich Curtola	Secretary
	Treasurer
Roberta Grubbe	Sgt. at Arms

Vallejo Rotary Club Directors

Luis Romero	Kevin Rahill
Debbie Egidio	Helen Pierson
Viviana Loera	Gordon McMahon
Tom Phillips	

Nearby Clubs for Make-Ups

Mon.	12:00 PM	Davis-Community Church
Tue.	7:15 AM	Vacaville Sunrise -Opera house
Tue.	12:10 PM	Benicia Yacht Club
Tue.	12:10 PM	Fairfield-Suisun Hilton
Wed.	7:00 AM	Cordelia- Holiday Inn Select
Wed.	12:15 PM	Napa- Elks Club
Wed.	12:15 PM	Concord-Concord Sheraton
Thur.	7:15 AM	Napa Sunrise- Silverado
Thur.	12:15 PM	Vacaville- Opera house
Fri.	6:50 AM	Davis Sunrise- Senior Center
Fri.	12:15 PM	Concord- Concord Hilton

Rotary Club of Vallejo P.O.. Box 4026 Vallejo, CA 94590

