

## TODAY

That annual battle of wits and articulation - the famous Rotary 4 Way Test Speech Contest will be coordinated by **BERNIE O'PREY**.

## LAST WEEK

We recognized our students of the month. **JIM NOLAN** does a great job with this program. Then our wonderful Valentine's Day program, courtesy of the Redlands Symphony, was an outstanding performance by Esther Back, award winning graduate student and Kyle Champion, Principal Cellist for the symphony, and professor of Music at the University of Redlands. Many thanks go to **BRUCE STAZGER** for a great program.

## NEXT WEEK

We can all look forward to hearing from one of our witty raconteurs. In honor of Lincoln's Birthday **DON MCCUE** will reflect on our 16th president's life and it's meaning to our community. We all do know that Lincoln's Birthday was on February 12th - **DON** just had too much going with all the festivities earlier this month.

## PAST PRESIDENT PONDERINGS

**SHIRLEY HARRY:** I do remember a time when the speaker did not show up. **AL CHICHESTER** graciously agreed to present a program and it was a great impromptu discussion of his work.

**KEN STEIN:** The most fun moment I had was a prank I pulled on **JOE RICHARDSON**. It started when I realized that I didnt have much fining material for a meeting. So I decided to google a few members who I had not yet reached out "to touch". **JOE** was one.

Much to my surprise, I found that **JOE** had recorded a CD of inspirational messages, 25 of them. The next to the last was called Rap Star. It was a recording of **JOE** rapping about President Reagan and the Iran Contra Affair. I bought the song for \$.99. I borrowed a boom box, and waited for the perfect moment. **JOE** was carrying the microphone that day and was in the back of the room. I introduced the subject to the club, saying that I had come across some recorded material that I thought all would enjoy, and started the track. **JOE** took seconds to recognize the recording. He grabbed his head with both hands and just started rocking back and forth. Incredulously he muttered, "How did you find that?" The club broke out into uncontrolled laughter. **JOE** got fined \$50. Another of those moments you wish you had recorded in your life passed without anything more tangible than a memory.

Rotary is so much of so many things. But interspersed in all we do is the time we take to have fun with each other.

**CHRIS WALKER:** **DON KLECKNER** loved Rotary and did anything he could to make the club and its presidents look good, particularly at the District level. I remember going to a district conference at the end of my year and being called up time after time to accept awards our club won for the best programs, best Spoke, best service project etc. I think the club received 16 in all that year, a record. I found out later that an application had to be filled out for each one and that **DON** had done most of the work

himself because the rest of us were "too busy". Past presidents were very helpful to me during my term. For example, the wine tasting chair came to me in late November and told me he was sick and wasn't able to chair the event. I checked into what had been done and found it was little to nothing. He subsequently left the club. The club was facing a disaster and I was on the hook. Former club president **RAY MILLS'** reputation as a "great person" and "get it done guy" was confirmed when he stepped in at that late hour to chair the event. Along with co-chair **RAY WATTS**, a brand new member to our club, a great event was organized in less than two months.

Being the first single male president, the issue arose as to whether the club would pay for "a young lady of my choosing to accompany me" to the Rotary International Convention. The club had always paid for the president and his wife to attend to represent the club. Some were concerned "that he might take some Playmate" with him to Australia. Then what about the reputation of the club? In the end, the club agreed to pay for two with no strings attached. Irony of ironies, in the end I was unable to attend at all due to the U of R graduation. As **LARRY BURGESS** still says of my decision to forgo the free trip to Australia, "vat an idiot".

**RED WINE AND BLUES:** Last week, the White Team was the sweetheart of the ball! Or was that Coach Cooter?! This week, let's see how much further along our teams have taken their Team Captains toward the success of being the one who produces the most auction items and can call themselves the winning team. Who knows? They may actually receive a winning prize!

The annual wine tasting gala will be held at Orton Center on February 27th from 5 to 8 p.m. Tickets are \$50 in advance and \$60 at the door.

## ALLAN'S AVENUE

The time is at hand for each member to begin thinking about how they can best serve the Club for **PAM HUSTON'S** 2010-2011 year. Within the next few weeks **PAM** will be sending out to each of you the Committee Assignments & Pledges form which gives you the opportunity to select which two (or three) committees you feel would best allow you to apply your time and talents. Any president will tell you this decision should not be taken lightly, for the true effectiveness of the Club resides in the productivity generated by these groups of dedicated individuals. Currently our Club has forty four committees, which may seem a bit unwieldy, but in fact does address issues from the food we eat to those plagued by malaria and Aids across this globe. If you haven't thought of it before, the scope of Rotary is truly extraordinary, and the world needs our help more now than ever before. If you have any questions about what a particular committee is all about, feel free to talk to the committee chair or your Club Directors, all of which are listed in the Roster pages 15 through 20, or speak to Pam or me. We would be more than pleased to share our thoughts with you on any committee listed, and how it might relate to your interests.