

TODAY

PREZ KEN will formally turn over the keys of power to our new **PREZ, NEAL WANER**. In other words, **PREZ KEN** will be formally demoted. No doubt, some members of the Club will provide maudlin recollections of **PREZ KEN**'s halcyon days, though most of us will only remember his tyranny and oppression as he exacted one unjust tithe from us after another.

LAST WEEK

GLENN BECK, President of Beck Oil, Inc., introduced by his other half, **BETTY AUTON-BECK**, talked about "The Truth behind the High Cost of Oil." The first part of his presentation focused on the history of the oil industry, and particularly on the growth of the "Seven Sisters" (the original big oil companies) and the evolution of international oil. He noted that competition in the oil industry in recent decades began to decline, as some of the Seven Sisters were allowed to merge, and as the governments of oil producing countries increasingly nationalized their energy assets. He also noted that not all barrels of oil are created equal: highly viscous, high sulfur oil that requires more refining costs less, though that differential does not appear at the gas pump. **GLENN** also observed that oil companies have been getting out of the retail gas station business, and that for independent retailers the profit at present is about 13 cents/gallon (reduced to 4 cents if you use a credit card). Reading between the lines, one could assume from his presentation that sky-high oil prices are a result of a combination of factors: supply and demand, profit-taking by oil companies, speculators in the energy futures market, political uncertainty in some parts of the world (especially the Middle East), and mendacity on the part of some oil producing countries (Saudi Arabia, Iran, Venezuela and Russia come to mind, among others).

NEXT WEEK

Next week will be **PREZ NEAL**'s first meeting. It was not clear at the time this *SPOKE* went to press what will happen, though rumor has it that **FORMER PREZ PAT MEYER** and his Plate Spinning Committee have been practicing for the usual New Prez reception. **PREZ NEAL** has let it be known that he will be even more oppressive than **PREZ KEN**, and is going to start cracking down on what appears in the *SPOKE*. No First Amendment here . . . or any other Amendments, for that matter.

FIREWORKS AND 4TH OF JULY

Rotary and ticket-taking at the U of R Stadium, 5-9 P.M.!! Some traditions only get better. Mark your calendars and plan on volunteering . . . Rotarians will again be taking tickets at the stadium gates between 5 and 9 P.M. Look for a sign up sheet and plan on bringing your family for special seating. Or see **DAVE MAUPIN**.

DEMOTION PARTY

PREZ KEN's demotion was graciously celebrated last Saturday at the home of **LARRY** and **BARBARA WORMSER**. The theme of the party was "The 60s," and the entrance to our festivities was adorned with a 60s photograph of a significantly younger **PREZ KEN** sporting a beard and long hair (no indication as to whether he "inhaled" or not). **FORMER PREZ DON McCUE** demonstrated his radical origins by arriving wearing an Afro and psychedelic regalia. One couldn't help but notice that far-away, wistful look in his eyes when The Doors cranked up with "Light My Fire." A graying **CAL BOOTHBY**, still sporting his beard, recollected his own days of "Turn On, Tune In, Drop Out" to those assembled at his table. Younger members of the Club wondered what all the fuss was about. "The 60s? What was that? Jim Morrison? Timothy Leary? Eldridge Cleaver? The Berrigan Brothers? The hungry i? The Beatles?" Well, maybe the Beatles. A good time was had by all, and **PREZ KEN** had an appropriate send-off.

SHARING THE GIFT OF ROTARY THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Don't forget our commitment to the opening night of the Redlands Bowl. The following club members have committed to usher on June 27th (that's this Friday night): **NEAL WANER, LYNDA SCHAUF, CAROLE BESWICK, ED MALESKY, ROSS JONES, DAVE MAUPIN, DOUG PEW, FLOYD WILLIAMS, RON HELBRON, AL CHICHESTER, CHRIS WALKER, DICK BARTLETT, JOHN PRESTON, RALPH FELLER, CAL BOOTHBY, SHARON BOOTHBY, NEAL ADAIR, JIM NOLIN, DICK ROMO, SHIRLEY HARRY, DON McCUE, JACK BURKE, MARV HUDSON and JAN STEPHENS.**

Countdown: This is it! The final column by "has-been" **STEIN**, the first President of Redlands Rotary to have a celebration of his demotion before the actual demotion takes place. Not that I am bitter, in fact I am tart, as you will see this Thursday noon. Just so you know, the following day, June 27th is also celebrated as "**KEN STEIN** Day" in the City of Richmond. What might it take to get such a celebration in the City of Redlands you ask? That was the day I left Richmond to come to Redlands so that gives me a hint of what it takes to be honored!

Don't miss the final meeting. I intend to get into the spirit of demotion and hope that you will all join with me. If you have any 60's regalia, this will be the time to "Turn on, tune in and drop out". Timothy Leary or one of his Redlands' cohorts made a clandestine delivery today which will be featured as part of the demotion skit. Bring a hat, a scarf, some tie dye or madras, or any other paraphernalia that will contribute to the spirit of the day.

If I don't get to say it Thursday, I have really enjoyed this stint as your fearless leader. The Rotary Club of Redlands and all its members make a mighty force for good in our community and the world. I am very proud to have had the chance to lead such a great group of humanitarians during the year! Thank you for all you have done and all that is yet to be done by us! Best wishes to **NEAL WANER** on the next great year of Rotary and thanks to **DON McCUE** for his leadership, mentorship and preparing the way for my turn to lead.

Ken Stein

WHERE IN THE WORLD IS . . . ?

The new Rotary International President from? New R.I. President **DONG KURN LEE** (or "D.K.") hails from Seoul, South Korea, where he is chairman of Bubang Co. Ltd. And Bubang Techron Ltd., a group of companies that manufactures electronics and home appliances. He is the first Korean R.I. President, and has been a member of Rotary since 1971. His choice of R.I. theme for this year is Make Dreams Real. Originally from the ancient village of Yangdong, about a three hour drive south of Seoul, D.K. is depicted in this month's Rotarian magazine as embodying the Korean traits of tenacity, passion, determination, and a hungry spirit. In addition to its article about D.K., this month's Rotarian also includes an article on "Rotary in Korea." "In the early 1960s, when the per capita gross national product was US\$100, Korea had a single Rotary district comprising 11 clubs. Today, there are 1,338 clubs with 54,925 members in 17 districts, Korea's per capita GNP is approaching \$20,000, and its economy is ranked 13th in the world."