

LAST WEEK

TOM ROGERS presented an in-depth account of his (and many other dentists and dental assistants) work in helping those without dental care in Nicaragua. These visits are for a two week period. The dental teams work 91/2 days and see more than 1,000 patients of all ages. Since 2003 Tom has been going to Managua and points elsewhere (some of them considered hellish even by locals). Some of the Rotary clubs are involved in assisting the teams and in establishing clinics that can become self-supporting. As a side note to this valuable and humane work, **TOM** notes that during his recent trip to Geneva he stayed at a fancy boutique hotel, "Hotel Rotary." Whether that qualifies for a makeup is up to Secretary **RALPH FELLER**.

TODAY

Assemblyman **BILL EMMERSON** is here to discuss the recent happening in Sacramento. Now, most of us will immediately begin asking him about the budget. Let's remember, boys and girls, there is also much in the way of legislation and spending authorizations that are important to us as well.

NEXT WEEK

San Bernardino County Assistant Fire Chief and county Fire Marshall, **PETER BRIERTY** will discuss the preparations and state of readiness for the forthcoming (ongoing?) fire season.

Heard on the street...first, a *mea culpa* from the editor. Last week, **JANET GREENFIELD** was absent when I publicly apologized for my reporting that no table cloths would be at our weekly luncheons. Alas, **DON MCCUE**, my source, was in error and caused me public shame and humiliation. **JANET**, poor shy creature, was besieged by some of our members who read my error and berated her

for it. Isn't somebody in **LYNDA SCHAUF's** world being married in Mexico? Very little about this glamorous setting has been mentioned. How to beat the heat? **MARK BULOT** decamps to his cabin in Big Bear. A thousand miles nearer heaven and a lake full of hungry fish. **BILL MCCALMON** is on a cruise to St. Petersburg, Russia via London with a large family entourage. Clearly, the recession has passed. **JEFF MARTINEZ** is preparing for the 100th celebration of football at the University of Redlands. Look for special patches on the players' uniforms.

ALLAN'S AVENUE

It has been a pleasure for me in the past couple of years to realize that District events really do provide not only camaraderie with fellow Rotarians, but also some seriously useful information. The case in point being the Membership Seminar **TOM RODGERS** and I attended this past weekend. Membership has become a serious issue for Rotary, as it has for so many other service related groups. In particular, it was interesting to me that an organization like Rotary, with its long history and tradition is willing to take a close look at itself and realize that **CHANGE** is not necessarily a bad concept. The District, and I presume International, is apparently recognizing that new approaches to membership and how flexible we are in retaining members not only can, but need to be, discussed in open forum. **RAY WATTS** and I will be bringing membership issues, including our responsibility in this area, to your attention periodically this year. I ask you all to sincerely think about membership, think about who needs to be invited, and most important of all – **INVITE THEM**.

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