



LODI ROTARY



SERVICE Above Self

# STRIPPINGS

OCTOBER 20, 2005

ROTARY YEAR  
2005-2006

## WELCOME BACK DAVE

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The program this week is His Excellency Past District Governor Sir **David Gallagher** who will speak to us on the International Project for Bucharest, Romania. A search on the web shows us that we are going to Bucharest to extend the helping hand of fellowship for a project that is so secret, the web-master for Rotary International still hasn't heard of it. So, if we put two and two together, we learn that PDG Dave, who I believe is an Optometrist in real life, will continue in his efforts to bring sight to the multitudes using only his two hands and a million dollar laser instrument.

In defense of my own self, Dave did have, as his project and motto when he was DG, the gift of sight to those who needed it. Anyway, you will hear what the Bucharest project is and how you can help.

Last week: Development Director, Robin Everding, has 13 years experience as a political fundraiser in Arizona. Her clients consisted of candidates for elective offices, and initiative campaigns. After moving to California Robin felt the need to assist youth in what can sometimes be difficult times, the teen transition years. She discovered the California Coalition for Youth and due to a personal experience that her niece had, Robin knew she had found the right place to give back. This is the bio I was sent for Ms. Everding in her role as the spokesperson for the California Coalition for Youth.

Robin is the first Everding we have had speak to us, we have had a few people whose name would have better been Everdingy, but she was a nice presence and I am sure she does a ton of good. One of the problems of speaking to Lodi Rotary is the fact we have a really established club with members who have wonderfully behaved children in their 40s and 50s who seem to be more or less immune to the foibles of kids on streets in less fortunate neighborhoods.

Good news. I have it on good authority that the Uptown-Lowdown Jazz Band will be back here to play for us soon.

What is it gonna take to make you guys all as crazy as **Bob Hartzell**? The one thing this group is sadly lacking is the spirit of back-stabbing and hell-

raisin' that goes on in every really successful service club where the object at the meetings is to have fun and get your buddies fined just for the laughs. So what if you get nailed in the process, this club has a long and glorious history of dirty tricks the members have played on one another. The least you can do is two things: Raise a little hell in here while you get your good friends fined and bring some people to the club even if they already belong but haven't been here for a spell.

Things around here can be about as exciting as the Annual Alzheimer's Geriatric Chess Tournament in Fort Lauderdale.

Many years ago, when people still wanted to belong to a service club, the Tracy Club was essentially nuts...they had a ton of fun while accomplishing huge strides for their club and Rotary in general. The whole thing seemed to hinge on the fact their club was constantly in competition with itself and there was no limit to the excitement and enthusiasm they seemed to have for everything from the day to day meetings to the District Scrapbook competition.



Enthusiasm is not easy to generate when what you are doing doesn't matter in your mind. I mentioned that the more contagious is still ennui. The real experts on blasé attitudes are high-school boys who are being cool. Cool doesn't cut it, man. We still have a viable club here which may be as old as the hills...older even than the oldest members. It still has pizzazz to burn.

The unfortunate thing these days is it feels as though we burned it.

There is another answer to what ails us and that is the cooperation of the members as regards the acquisition of exciting and energizing programs. The short answer is we let the president elect do all the work and many of us know people who would be fun to have here entertaining us. **Mike Smith** is easy to talk to and he would be only too happy to have you call him and tell him you have a great idea for a meeting we could rave about later. The closest we have come to that is the CHP who is running for sheriff, he got great reviews and all he did was stand there and tell us like it is.

I do pay attention to what you birds have to say and I report what I hear, expurgated, of course... If I really said what you are saying, I would be run out of Lodi on a rail. Ironic as that seems...the guys who cuss the most are the most holier than thou, but that is how it should be, they know all the words.

Clue: This individual is a very dedicated Rotarian, but he is always