



LODI ROTARY

STRIPPINGS

JANUARY 26, 2006



SERVICE Above Self

ROTARY YEAR
2005-2006

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Kathy Martens and a gang of Interact brats will be here to tell you of the many wonderful things the kids have been doing in and around Lodi in the name of Rotary and Interact. It took a bit of sleuthing to bring you this message. The first reports came in saying that a "Debby Martin" would be here to tell us about Interact at Jim Elliott Christian High School. A call to the school revealed two things: 1. Kathy Martens is the school secretary who single-handedly runs that whole operation and is also the adult advisor for the Jim Elliott chapter of Interact. 2. [Mike Smith](#) would be a great candidate to take a penmanship class in any school.

Speaking of [Cecil Dillon](#) and the problems he has had out there at Saddle City/Flag City: It seems the sewer situation may be in the final stages of being solved. After at least 10 years of hassle, with one snag after another solved, [Cecil's RV park](#) is finally open and getting rave reviews. I was in [Phillips Farms](#) restaurant one rainy day and a couple from Seattle (trying to get away from the rain) stopped in and asked me a few questions which lead to them talking about the park. They were really impressed with [Cecil's](#) place, they couldn't say enough about it. So, if you ain't got nothing better to do, pull your RV out there and stay for the weekend some time. It'll make [Cecil's](#) day. Just so you know, the rest rooms are impeccable.

Our new City Manager, [Blair King](#), had a hand in the sewer situation...well you know what I mean...and things look better out at the corner of 12 and five than they have for a mighty long time. I was a friend of Rocky's, who owned the restaurant of the same name; he told me he had to have the septic tank guys out nearly every day years ago. They did have a cute saying on the truck: "It's sewage to you but it's our bread and butter."



[Blair](#) is building a reputation of being a decision maker and it's a treat to have such a person working for Lodi. I like his attitude.

It was good to see [Jack Carter](#). I really hope the end has not come to the way service clubs meetings fared in the old days. When [Dick Reineke](#) was president, the fines were very small but indeed

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frequent, so the money the treasury realized was easily as much as it ever had been and is, but there was a lot of fun and games that went with it. Usta be that you could sort of leave your inhibitions at the door and raise a lot of cane (Cain?) at the meetings, fun was had by all and the treasury grew and grew. But it grew in small enough increments that nobody was afraid to shoot off his mouth.

The last good laugh we had in here was when [Harold](#) tripped and fell on the carpet and [Doc Howen](#) wanted to flip coins with me to see who would have to give [Harold](#) mouth-to-mouth. Fortunately [Harold](#) self resuscitated.

This club needs a couple more [Bob Hartzells](#) and a little more [Bob Hartzell](#) out of [Bob Hartzell](#).

Not that it's anything but heroic, but [Dan Ingram](#) is a perfect example of somebody having something to say and then have it develop into a lasting monument when all is said and done. To quote one of the older members, "That [Dan](#) is alright!"

For hevvin's sake, if you have something you would like to get out in the open at the meeting, do it. It's hard to be the president when everyone is sitting there like a bump on a log hoping somebody else will provide the entertainment until the entertainment gets here.

It's OK to struggle to get a project off the ground and then done, but the meetings aren't all for that kind of planning. And let's get the bell back in the meetings and start stealing cars or something that will really get a rise out of somebody.

When I belonged to a Fraternity at Cal, there was a no-cuss zone at the table and if somebody slipped, they either had to pay a fine or try to get out of the door without being clobbered by the pledge class. We don't need that kind of physical abuse to be visited upon one another, besides, [Steve Furry](#) would have to slap a few of you upside the head if he accidentally was caught saying a bad word. But it would be fun to fine a lot of people a little money each and make a little more verbal mayhem happen in here. I'll start it off by buying a roll of quarters and saying "Ding blast it!" (Quarters, that's what the fines were at Cal for the poor little rich boys.)

I have been a member of this club for nigh unto 23 years and I can only remember a few programs, but I can talk all day about some of the conversations and fun stuff we have had in the club itself. A good example is how I got you all to believe how smart [Brian Kanegawa](#) is, and you are still buying that story to this day. He does, in all honesty, leaf through the Rotary magazine practically every month. He still don't read it nur nuthin', but he looks at it. Besides, it's always the newest magazine in his waiting room...along with "Dental Economics".

So this week, find out something about somebody and tell it at the meeting. It'll be good for you, good for the other person and good for the treasury.

Oh yeah, next week, Giselle Somebody will be here to ask you how does your garden grow. I would tell you more, but nobody in [Mike Smith's](#) office can read his handwriting.