



LODI ROTARY



SERVICE Above Self

# STRIPPINGS

APRIL 27, 2006

## MEETING AT PHILLIPS FARMS

ROTARY YEAR  
2005-2006

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This week: The meeting will be held at Phillips Farms and rumor has it the speaker will be Dale Gillespie, who is with the RPM Company. The sheet I have before me with the programs listed is 20 days old, and a lot can happen in those three weeks. I will take responsibility however because I ain't afraid of nothin'. Well, maybe [Doug Holck](#) and [Neil Anderson](#), but that's all.

Speaking of [Neil](#) and [Doug](#), I believe they were out on the litter clean-up last Saturday. Neil's job was made easier by partnering up with [Sheila](#). [Sheila](#), incidentally carried her team out at the Golf Course last week as well. She can't play golf, but she can deliver a 400 yard smile.

Last week was the Annual Lodi Rotary Golf Tournament and Liar's Contest. There were about six teams and the scores were essentially realistic. True to form, [Ron Beckman](#) brought a ringer, David Graves, who hits the ball so hard, his putts roll sideways. It was a perfect day, and when the game was over, even the preachers were in the bar drowning their sorrows.

The week before last, we had a [Dr. Walter Howen](#) Birthday Tribute and a marvelous time was had by all...exactly the way Doc would have liked it. [Don Phillips](#) saw to it every detail was perfect from the table décor to the dessert. Everyone who was there smiled as they agreed that it was the best meeting we had enjoyed in a long time.

Doc had a way of making everyone happier than they were the minute before he strolled into view. I just talked to some people from the hospital who marveled over the fact Doc was "Immer besser" (always better) whenever you asked him how he was...if you asked in German, "Wie geht's?" the answer above is the one you would hear. It was pretty incredible when you consider the pain Doc had for a long time before he went to heaven. He limped but he didn't act as though he hurt. We can all learn from that. His unspoken motto was, to be happy, act happy, to be successful, act successful and to be healthy, act healthy.

It worked for about 85 years in his case...try it.

Make it a point to be here on the 18<sup>th</sup> when Alan Frumkin will be down from

the north state. Alan is nuts so the program will be one you will long remember. (Alan and I are likethis, so I can say he is nuts without fear of great bodily harm befalling me.) Alan is one of those True Rotarians who has several dozen Paul Harris Fellowships but never says anything about it. That's about the only thing he never says anything about. Be ready to have him motivate you to a fare-thee-well when he gets here. He drives a Corvette (or did) and he still thinks he's behind the wheel of that thing when he enters the room. The man is vroom, vroom about everything.

I don't remember when the Uptown Lowdown Jazz Band will be here, but it is soon. Just about when the Sacramento Jazz Festival rolls around. Those of you who have heard these gentlemen play need no further introduction, but allow me the reiteration when I tell you they are practically the only band who have two bass saxophones and the talent to play them with finesse and élan. (Finesse and élan, sounds like a law firm.)

Even [Jerry Evans](#) has learned to enjoy them and they ain't nothin' like Willie Nelson.

The Science Museum is progressing by leaps and bounds. [Dan Ingrum](#) deserves more and more pats on the back as that project develops fully. It will be a permanent asset to this community and when his son gets to be Dan's age, it will still be growing and fascinating the people of Lodi and the surrounding communities (which, I sincerely hope won't be touching by that time.)

If you can drive, sign up for the parking duty for the Zin Fest. I would like to help, but I worked my way through school parking cars and I swore I would never do that again.

Special thanks go to [Bob Hartzell](#) and [Joe Cotta](#) for the great job they did at the keyboard for the Howen Birthday Party. Far be it from me to rat on a fellow Rotarian, but Hartzell had another feature interview on TV for the Harmony Wynlands. The TV crew talked to Bob's bride and filmed a long sequence as he played the organ for two women who danced out there in the Tasting Room/Organ Auditorium. Very San Francisco indeed except the one looked like a North Dakota square-head likely named Bertha.