



LODI ROTARY



SERVICE Above Self

STRIPPINGS

JUNE 22, 2006

ROTARY YEAR
2005-2006

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STENHAMMER**

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BOB BADER**

A word from President Elect **Mike Smith** on his European sojourn to the R.I. International Convention:

“Københavns tusinde års historie er blandt andet skrevet af ambitiøse konger, der havde store planer for byen. Kanaler blev udgravet i 1600-tallet og flotte bygninger opført i de gamle stræder. Kunstnere og berømte designere har siden gjort deres for at sætte kulør på København.

Fra dets beskedne oprindelse som lille fiskerby over velmagtsdagene som hovedstad for det vældige danske rige til den nuværende position som en af verdens førende designbyer har udviklingen været rivende.”

This, in a nutshell is what **Mike and Leslie Smith** experienced as they attended the Rotary International Convention in the beautiful city of Copenhagen, the gateway to the fjords. Denmark is to Scandinavia what Sicily is to Italy, the little football at the end of the boot.

Leslie reveled in [Vi guider dig til møbler, mode, boligindretning og antikviteter på loppemarkeder, i stormagasiner, auktionshuse og butikker.](#) *But Mike was a big fan of [Der er kommer fokus på det danske køkken de seneste år. I København finder du både michelinstjerner og etnisk mad.](#)*

It was a thrill to be a guest in a nation that has everything one would hope for as regards Northern European culture and scenic wonder. From what I heard, we can expect a rather colorful and interesting program that has to do with the experiences of the Smiths in the capitol of Denmark. What a great experience for a deserving couple.

Next week: The axe falls.

In referring to the Internet for hints as regards the life and times of one Mark Chandler, I discovered Google has 116,000 entries that fall roughly under the aegis of “Mark Chandler”. Here is one:

Mark Chandler

“**Mark Chandler** is a 7th generation Californian with a passion for making wine a greater part of American culture. He holds a degree in Agricultural Business

from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, and is a graduate of the California Agricultural Leadership Program.

Chandler's 25 year wine industry career includes winemaking, marketing and winery management. He has been Executive Director of the Lodi Woodbridge Winegrape Commission since 1991. In the last 15 years the commission has helped increase the number of wineries in Lodi from 8 to over 60 today. For his efforts Chandler was recently named Sunset Magazine's "Wine Professional of the Year."

Chandler is past president of the Society of Wine Educators. He is a well known wine judge, a frequent speaker at wine venues around the country, and is a winegrower in the Lodi appellation."

You can say what you want; the man is a genius, suave, urbane and is a silver-tongued devil.

People who can start a sentence with a word in the English language when a microphone is thrust in his face is a genius. Most people begin such a sentence with, "Um, ah, er..."

Mark is never come up wanting in situations that require a cool head and an encyclopedic knowledge of the fruit of the vine here in Lodi. I happen to not care what he thinks he knows, I still maintain White Zin is the best tasting wine. Call me a possessor of a palate made of rusty iron, I know what I like.

But that don't matter none, **Marky's** gonna suffer the slings and arrows as those who went before him who also happened to befall the great misfortune of becoming a president of the Lodi Rotary Club.

The Kick-out Committee has been particularly secretive about the program **Mark** will enjoy on the 29th. So, in the words of the late, great Sargent Schultz, "I know nottink."

Waiting impatiently in the wings is **Mr. William Gerald Evans**, ready and waiting to take on the mantle of President Elect with all the rights, responsibilities and pitiful remuneration thereto appertaining. **Jerry** has begun the search for fascinating programs and we will be entertained by such luminaries as Cindy Sheehan, the world's oldest champion flaming baton twirler who happens to share the name of a woman who was visiting the Socialist President of a Middle European nation this past week. Then we will have Angela Jolie, the bag lady who has overcome poverty, sin and degradation through the art of computer terminal reconditioning ... she draws realistic stick figures on the front glass thereby faking out little blonde pre-schoolers. Jerry spoke earlier to a guy named Brad Pitt, who ran a pick-pocketing school in Brazil. He will show you how to get into your own pocket before a nearby politician does.

The tension is mounting...