

BULLETIN



ROTARY
CLUB OF SAN JOSE

Meeting: June 14, 2006 Number 4611

2005-2006 President, Richard S. Campisi



Marilyn Morgan **Bankruptcy: Who Are The Real Abusers**

The Wall Street Journal recently said that "the biggest and most underrated" change in the U.S. economy in 2005 is that the rate of personal savings went negative. For the first time since the Great Depression, Americans spent more than they earned. The result was that in 2005 1.8 million bankruptcies were filed. Who are these people? How has Congress addressed the problem?

Our own member, Marilyn Morgan, is uniquely situated to answer these questions. During her eighteen years of service as United States Bankruptcy Judge in San Jose she has presided over more than 40,000 cases, including Garden City, the American Basketball League, Mountain Winery and Beyond.com. But the Bankruptcy Court is not only the nation's commercial law court, it is also the people's court because more people and more money pass through its doors than any other court. Of the 350 bankruptcy judges in the nation, Marilyn is one of only 66 women. Her jurisdiction spans Santa Clara, Monterey, Santa Cruz and San Benito counties. In 1999, Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren commended Judge Morgan in the Congressional Record as a "shining example of the best in our legal system" because of her leadership in the consumer bankruptcy field and her integrity, compassion and fairness.

You should also know that Marilyn is the senior woman Rotarian in our club, having joined in 1987. A graduate of Emory University and Emory Law School in Atlanta Georgia, she served as the first woman president of the Santa Clara County Bar Association and later became the first woman appointed to the bankruptcy bench in San Jose. But as a native San Josean, Marilyn remembers this community when it was small and its values were neighborly.

She is married to another native San Josean, our former member Jim Grube. They are the only husband and wife federal judges in the nation.

Club Board Approves 2006-2007 Budget

Good News! The Board of Directors of the Rotary Club of San Jose recently approved the 2006-2007 budget and the annual dues will remain the same. The price of lunch will remain at \$20 (special lunches like the BBQ's and Holiday lunch will be \$40) and parking will remain at \$3. Missed meetings will also remain the same at \$20 each. ***The only increase this year will be for "coffee only" which will increase July 1 to \$10.***

Rotary Week

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|--------|--------------------|-------|-------------------|
| Jun 13 | Membership | 7:30 | Gordon House |
| | Downtown Develop | 8:00 | Hopkins & Carley |
| | Program | 11:45 | Boy Scouts |
| Jun 14 | Youth & Family | 11:30 | Summit Center |
| | Rotary Meeting | 12:00 | Summit Center |
| Jun 15 | Member Invol | 7:30 | Gordon House |
| | Los Amigos | 7:30 | Washington School |
| | International Svcs | 11:45 | Bellarmino |
| | Rotacare | 4:00 | Health Trust |

Rotacare Open House
Wednesday, June 28
5:30pm to 7:30pm

District Seeks Co-Chair For Project Share Life

District 5170 is seeking Co-Chair for Project Share Life - a bone marrow typing project. If you are interested, please contact Jeanne MacLaren at (831) 457-7007 or jeanne.maclaren@chw.edu.

Women Build Work Day: Sunday, June 25th @ 9am

Silicon Valley Habitat for Humanity (SVHfH) along with the community, helps low-income families build and own their own homes in Santa Clara County. SVHfH is embarking on the first Women Build (WB) program for Silicon Valley. WB projects provide an environment in which women can feel comfortable learning skills they might not otherwise have the opportunity to learn.

The first WB project for SVHfH is building a home for a family with a child with disabilities. The home will comply with the Americans with Disability Act accessibility guidelines.

If you are interested in finding out more about this opportunity visit the following web site - www.habitatsanjose.org/womensbuild

Spring BBQ a Huge Success!!!

Over 480 Rotary Members attended this year's Rotary Spring BBQ. Many thanks go out to Mark Minor for generously donating a Rotary Wheel ice sculpture, Bert George for the excellent wine, Randy Hall and the Motor Vehicle Enthusiasts, John McLeod providing the music, Greg Yoder, Al Williams, Frank Biehl and the Red Badge Committee for their hard work, the Rotary staff for their support and, the wonderful Executive Chefs for all their hard work. It was a collaborative effort greatly enjoyed by Rotarians and their guests.