



Basilica of Saint Mark, Venice in the rain in March a long time ago!

Burlingame Rotary H.G.

Editore: Mary Murphy - April 5, 2010

Cosa una riunione! That's Italian for "What a Meeting!" And it was a very green, red and white luncheon, with the Group Study Exchange from Italia!

Presidente **Joe La Mariana** called the meeting to order and began by welcoming the charming visitors from Italy. We also had multitude of visiting Rotarians and dignitaries from all over the Peninsula including – **Menlo Park, Millbrae, and San Mateo.**

The pledge was led by **Colonel Alden Cunningham** and **Pierre Bouquet** was absent due to a fall so **Bob Davidson** gave the invocation stepped in to fill his very large shoes.

Bill Tiedeman stepped up to introduce our Italian Visitors who are staying with Rotary members and bringing Italian **Gioia** (joy) to the Bay Area



Carlotta Casotto is touring **Chez La Mariana**

Diego Vianello team leader who brings Italian culture to the **Bill & Pat Tiedeman's** household.



Francesca Mariotto brings espresso coffee knowhow to Casa **Jesus Nava**



Monica Poli is advising **Marilyn Orr** on alian finanza (finance)



Filippo Zanella is teaching **Jennifer Pence** Italian ingeniria (engineering)



Rosemary Rayburn's Sunshine report alerted us to the happy news that **Jay Plant** is doing well after heart surgery.

Club Announcements **Chuck Voltz** announced that Rotary Work Day is April 24th. We will be installing a garden at Community Gatepath. Volunteers are needed. Contact **Sepi**, who is the team leader, if you want to volunteer.

Chuck also announced that today is the last day for applications for the Community Service Grant program.

4/6 The Rotary Program Committee will meet at 7:30am at the offices of Carr McClellan



Giovane donna Frances Boscacci was doubly proud to receive her Round Badge today, since she has an Italian surname. She was welcomed into the club by **Presidente Joe** and gave a moving thank you speech – in English and a little Italian!

Jean Silveira finally received her square badge, after 10 years of hard work – it certainly feels like 10 years.



News cast

Dave Carr began the News cast by warning our Italian guests that the news cast had nothing to do with news. He was true to his word!



Presidente Joe announced that the District Convention would be in San Francisco in 2 weeks. What an opportunity to attend! Usually it's held out of area – our Italian GSE friends will be there, so it would be a good time to get to know them and learn more about World Community Services – a committee he heads. See you there.



Bill Tiedeman stepped up again, this time to introduce our Italian Visitors who presented us with a presentation with photos, of their home towns, including Venice, Padua and Valdobbiadene, a city in the lovely province of Teviso. We were also delighted to get to know each of them independently, as they stepped up to the mic. Their English was commendable – better than my Italian. Caio bella is all I know!



After a delightful presentation there was time for Q & A. **Jay Miller** asked about interacting with other countries, and the team leader **Diego Vianello** told us living with a person makes it a more human experience. He also told us that the average age of his Rotary club in Venice is 70 to 80 years old, and that he is the youngest member.

Jerry Wings asked if the Italians have a different impression of the United States now that Obama is President. **Diego** told us that only in the United States could an African American become President and that it would never happen in Italy. He applauded the U.S. for this fact... and Italians feel that anything is possible in the United States.

The presentation ended with **Presidente Joe** exchanging flags with the Italian group



April 12, 2010 - FEATURING: Michael Giari

Overview: **Michael Giari**, executive director of the Port of Redwood City, will give an update on the major renovations to the port. The project will significantly increase port capacity as well as generate hundreds of jobs.

About Our Speaker: **Michael J. Giari** is Executive Director of the Port of Redwood City, California. He joined the Port in 1988 as Manager of Trade Development and was appointed Port Director in 1995. Prior to joining the Port, he worked for the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey as Assistant Manager of a major waterfront development project and as a marine transportation planner. Prior to this position, **Mike** was with the American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA) at their headquarters in Washington, D.C. **Mr. Giari's** port-related career began with the U.S. Maritime Administration in San Francisco.

He is currently president of the Bay Planning Coalition. **Mr. Giari** is past president of the California Association of Port Authorities (CAPA) and past chairman of the Redwood City/San Mateo County Chamber of Commerce where he has been an active member for over 15 years, chairing various committees and currently serves on the Board of Directors. **Mr. Giari** holds a Bachelor's Degree in Economics from St. Mary's College, California and a Master's Degree in Marine Affairs and Maritime Policy from the University of Rhode Island