

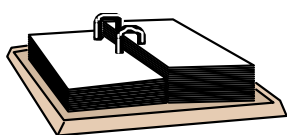
The Strand

The Newsletter of PRLS

Volume 7 Issue 1

July 1, 2004

PRLS Calendar



July 17 Master PRLS 3 (Facilitation Skills), CLU, Thousand Oaks.

August 14: Basic PRLS, CLU, Thousand Oaks.

September 18: Master PRLS 4, CLU, Thousand Oaks

October 2: Basic PRLS, CalState, Bakersfield

The new Rotary year is upon us, with all it can mean to changes in our leadership and our leadership training. DG **Jan Lindsay**, however, has indicated no desire to change something that already works well in helping to develop those who go on to staff our district.

As we speak, PRLS Chair **David Gore** is on a missionary trip to District 9300 (Zimbabwe, Zambia, etc.), “teaching the teachers” in that

District’s incipient PRLS program.

When 9300’s incoming governor was in California last February, **David** and two others spent a Sunday afternoon telling him about PRLS – how it got started, how it works, what it costs, how often it happens, who’s involved, etc.

The contents of our PRLS website have been the basis for a flurry of e-mailed messages back and forth between countries. They’re trying to get it right the first time, even though they know what we’ve gone through in our eleven years of existence.

The upshot was an invitation to visit their district, meet the movers and shakers, “teach the teachers,” and see what he might be able to do to further the cause of Rotary Leaders in that part of the world.

When he returns next week, we’ll ask him to give us a report on how the trip went.

Want to be an in-print author? Send your “Strand”

contributions by e-mail to rbm717@adelphia.net.

Well, What Do We Expect? (Part 4)

By reading about business leadership traits in the various periodicals available to all of us, you come across some decent lists of qualities possessed by those whom we consider “successful.” Here’s the fourth of five in the newest list I’ve read. The last will be seen in the next issue.

They had the marketing genius to turn their good ideas into successes. They got others to buy into their programs. They went to group or district staff for help when stymied by paperwork and resistance from those in their clubs whose own goals were set considerably lower. They went around road blocks appearing before them. They defused resistance to high objectives and ambitious plans by being tactfully determined to turn resistance around to become support. They were sales people of their products, and in this case their products were their ideas for unprecedented humanitarian

successes in Rotary while presidents of their clubs.

“Marketing” isn’t always newspaper clippings and TV spots. Sometimes, it’s just getting people to see that your dreams can be theirs.



PRLS Registrar **Mary Howard** asks that those in receipt of the printed version of this newsletter send her your updated e-mail address. mhoward@venturalaw.com



Not Me!

As president of a club, you can get to feeling overwhelmed at the breadth of your leadership responsibilities, particularly if you consider that you’re in a competition for major District awards and consequent public recognition that you’re the greatest Rotarian in the history of the world.

The only way to address that feeling is to break it down into small parts. Make little deals with yourself. You know, for example, that there will be 52 meetings during your leadership year in your club. Some of those will be dark because of holidays; some will be cancelled for one reason or another. Let’s say there are 45 meetings.

At each one, let yourself consider that

For a half hour, people will eat. That doesn’t affect you.

For a half hour, someone will talk about something new. Except in general terms, you don’t know what they’re going

to talk about and in any event have no control over that person.

For a half hour, you run the meeting and have something to say about how it’s done.

We’re going to introduce visiting Rotarians and guests. (five minutes)

Someone will lead the Pledge of Allegiance. (two minutes)

Someone will lead an invocation. (two minutes)

Someone will lead the singing. (two minutes)

We’ll induct a new member, give a Paul Harris Fellowship or hear a report of an Avenue of Service. (ten minutes)

That’s twenty-one minutes shot out of “your” half hour, leaving nine minutes, at the most.

That’s 405 minutes spread over a year! That’s roughly six and one-half hours. That’s not as much sleep as most of us get in one night. That’s less than the time some of us spend daily watching television. It’s eighteen holes of golf. It’s driving from Westlake Village to Paso Robles and back.

It’s *nothing!*

Are there still readers going through this note who don’t want to be club presidents because it involves so much of your lives?



District Staff and Leadership Positions

Determined

DG Jan Lindsay has announced that the following Education and Training

responsibilities have been accepted for this Rotary year.

Director, Education and Training

Dick Wieler (Thousand Oaks)

Deputy Director

Steve Goad (China Lake)

E&T Committee Members:

DGN Richard Abbott (Montecito)

PDG Brenda Cressey (Paso Robles Sunrise)

David Gore

(Goleta Noontime)

Tony Huff

(Camarillo Breakfast)

PDG Jock MacKenzie

(Westlake Village)

Bill Wilmer

(Santa Barbara Sunrise)

Director, PRLS

David Gore (Goleta Noontime)

Deputy Director

Stewart Fries (Solvang)

Registrar

Mary Howard (Camarillo)

Treasurer

Carol Wright (Camarillo)

Regional Coordinators

North

Nancy Carr (Cambria)

Bonnie Cameron (Cambria)

South

Ed Pope (Westlake Village)

East

Harley Pinson (Bakersfield Breakfast)

Website Coordinator and “Strand” Editor

PDG Jock MacKenzie

Instructors

PDG Brenda Cressey (Paso Robles Sunrise)
Holly Culhane (Bakersfield)
Les Esposito (Montecito)
Stewart Fries (Solvang)
Chris Garey (Arroyo Grande)
David Gore (Goleta Noontime)
Ed Graper (Goleta Noontime)
Doug Hoffman (San Luis Obispo Daybreak)
PDG Jock MacKenzie (Westlake Village)
David Rachford (Santa Barbara)
Rodney Skidmore (Simi Sunrise)
David Tennessen (Camarillo Breakfast)
Bill Wilmer (Santa Barbara Sunrise)

Director, Mid-Term Seminars

Butch Walls (Simi Valley)
Mid-Terms Committee
Dick Wieler (Thousand Oaks)
Steve Goad (China Lake)
David Gore (Goleta Noontime)
PDG Jock MacKenzie (Westlake Village)

DGN Selected

The District Nominating Committee, under the leadership of PDG **Brenda Cressey**, met July 10 to elect the person who would be the DG for the Rotary year 2006-07.

Richard Abbott, of the RC of Montecito, was named DGN. He is a past president of both Goleta and Goleta Noontime Rotary Clubs, a multiple PHF, a Rotary Foundation Benefactor and a MPRLS Graduate.

PRLS Website Down

As this is being written and circulated, the PRLS website is non-functional.

Age took out the server on which the site was hosted, and as this goes to press there is some doubt that we'll be able to recover the information on the failed server.

It will mean months of attempting to insert onto the "new" site the information that was available to us on the "old" one.

In the meantime, we'll set up shop on the District website with the critical stuff: when, where, how, who.

Rotary Leadership For the Ages

I've seen and heard of as many decent leaders as the next person. We all remember those who were heroes on the playground in grade school and those whose high school or college days were highlighted by runs at student government positions.

But when we go back for our class reunions, the leaders now are not the same people who were the leaders then. I almost wrote the word "never" in there, but assumed that sometime, in some school, somewhere, early leadership traits persisted through the years.

You get to thinking that leadership is fleeting, that it's a talent which disappears along with faultless memory or a high degree of physical coordination.

But it isn't, of course,

because it has more to do with character than most personal traits we take to our graves with us.

You heard it here first!

Incoming President?

On July 1, leave your goals behind. This is the paradox of leadership: you have to focus on goals before your year starts. That's what pushes you through the boring wait to take the helm. But if you take your goals into your year with you, you'll be setting up to fail. Instead, when it's time to perform in public, trust that you and everyone around you are prepared and just play out the year.

District Education & Training Committee

District Chair: **Dick Wieler** (Thousand Oaks)
whippet239@aol.com

PRLS Chair: **David Gore** (Goleta Noontime)
david@davidcgorecfa.com

Mid-Term Seminars Chair:
Butch Walls (Simi Valley)
tlwalls@edmsvc.com

Registrar:
Mary Howard
mhoward@venturalaw.com

PRLS Website Editor and "The Strand" Editor: **Jock MacKenzie** (Westlake Village)
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