

From the Editor's Desk:

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLUB FOR CHOOSING ED HEEREN PRESIDENT – ELECT 2000-2001 ROTARY YEAR!
Nominating Committee President Jack Keegan President-Elect Don Wile Past President Victoria Avery Past President Rich Frieder Past President George Cooper

INTERACT CLUB OF MISSION VIEJO HIGH SCHOOL VISITORS SCHEDULE

"Our Interact Club is very active and lively"-Bob McQueen, Director

Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesday monthly 12:15Noon Rm 100 MV High School

- Jan 26 Jim Peterson, Norm Miller
 - Feb 9 Scott Walker, Larry Gilbert
 - Feb 23 Don Wile
 - Mar 9 Rich Frieder, George Cooper
 - Mar 23 Bob Bridges, Ed Heeren
 - Apr 13 Tom Wessel
 - Apr 27
 - May 11
 - May 25
- Please sign up at our next meeting.

Rotarians who have already served:

- F Buckhalter
- B Craycraft
- J Eisenbeisz
- J Keegan
- R Murray

WHITE ELEPHANT SCHEDULE

- | | |
|---------------------|--------|
| Victoria Avery | Jan 19 |
| Bob Bridges | Jan 26 |
| Dr Pushpa Chandwani | Feb 2 |
| George Cooper | Feb 9 |
| Bill Craycraft | Feb 16 |
| Jack Duffner | Feb 23 |

CHICKADEE AND WORLD KIDS VOYAGE LOST SOME FRIENDS

Ship's Log -January 11, 1999 -Angry Seas and Force Winds devastated the lives of many friends who put to sea in small boats



Poet John Masefield wrote " I must go down to the seas again. To the lonely sea and the sky, and all I ask is a tall ship and a star to steer her by."

When I decided to haul the Chickadee out of the water in Nicaragua for Hurricane season, it was by the grace of God that we did so in the safe confines of San Juan Del Sur. The 180 mile per hour winds and torrential floods that wrecked half of Central America spared the little red sailboat tucked away in the corner of it all. Now my little bird awaits to spread her wings once more. To go down to the seas again, to sail under the sun and the moon.

Meanwhile, on the other side of the Pacific, angry seas and hurricane force winds devastated the lives of many who put to sea in small boats. The appalling loss of lives directly effecting the whole of this close-knit sailing fraternity.

The horrific storm that battered racers in the Sydney-to-Hobart race did so with out mercy. Six racers were reported washed overboard and missing. Presumed lost at sea. Another 54 were rescued from their stricken vessels. While 71 of the 115 contenders were disabled.

To add salt to wounds, a separate tempest caught a different fleet of blue water cruisers, (many of which I had sailed with last year) off guard in the passage between Tonga and New Zealand. Sadly four more lost their lives and four other cruising boats were sunk.

Among the boats lost, one in particular shared many fine evenings at anchor with Chickadee in Zihuatenaajo, and helped me deliver "Friendship Boxes" to the schools. S/V Freya headed west across the Pacific in the spring while Chickadee continued deep into the heart of Central America with the rest of the school supplies

Freya had been making the crossing from Tonga to New Zealand when the 70-knot winds and 30- foot seas capsized the boat several times. The roll over caused extensive damage including the rigging to de-mast and storm anchor drogue to snap. The battered 45 foot boat began taking on water as it pitch-poled wildly in the gale.

The crew of three, Marianne, Bruce and their 13 year old son Heath were rescued by a coast guard helicopter dispatched from New Zealand. They were suffering from bruises and hypothermia but otherwise in good shape physically.

Other sailors caught in the storm were not so lucky. Two men from a Kiwi ketch named Janamarie II were swept overboard when the 41-foot vessel rolled 360 degrees. The boat was also dismasted, pilot house torn away and taking on water.

A badly injured skipper and first mate managed still to radio for help and were later picked up by an U.S. Navy Helicopter.

The lovely 54 foot Woody Goose was blown ashore on the North Island near Great Exhibition Bay. She broke up and was destroyed in the heavy surf during the darkness of the night. Miraculously her captain swam ashore to survive the nightmare grounding. Regrettably, Roger's wife and first mate of many years did not make it. Her body was found washed up on the beach in the early morning hours. After hearing of the tragedy, cruisers from down south traveled up from the Bay of Islands to console a devastated heart broken Roger. His wife was buried after a memorial service in a nearby town.

A Tayana 37 from San Diego also became a victim to the storm tossed seas when a rescue attempt by a summoned freighter went foul. Apparently the freighter's large bulk of steel came along side the stricken sailboat in order to harness up and lift the crew of the Tayana 37 to safety. However, the towering steel ship rafted alongside the sailboat in 30 foot seas crushed the ant size sailboat like an elephant. In the process, a crew member was swept overboard by large seas never to be seen Going to sea in small boats is always a risky affair. These dangers are very much a part of every day life on the vast oceans of the world. Each of us that go by the sea learn this reality very quickly. Yet life is a daring adventure. To live it to the fullest, to reach out and grab hold of that dream and guide it restlessly across chosen horizons requires courage and tenacity. Those we lost in last months storms had both. God Bless and Fairwinds.

Captain Eric Blackburn
World Kids Voyage
eblackb@ibm.net

NOTE: World Kids Voyage is an International Project of our club and can be found on www.worldkidsvoyage.org

AMBASSADORIAL SCHOLAR KAREN WALSH REPORTS ABOUT THE "Best Year of My Life!"



Karen with loads of enthusiasm told us about her exciting impressions as a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar in Cambridge. Karen talked about her school with a cultural all its own including age (old buildings dating back to 1448) and a wooden bridge (North bridge) built in 1600 by Isaac Newton which he put together without nails. In this century engineering students tore it down and attempted to rebuild it but had to use nails (so sad). Karen will be back to report more at a later date including her plans to be a power force in the world today creating a "Circle of kindness" just as Rotary does that in so many ways"

COMING EVENTS

WEEKLY PROGRAMS

- Jan 19 Speech Contest
 - Jan 26 Audubon Preserve– Starr Ranch Pete De Simone
 - Feb 2 Growing Up In Los Alamo, NM During the Manhattan Project DGN Judith Prather, Ph.D.
 - Feb 9 Grand Jury of Orange County Foreman Sheldon Singer
 - Feb 16 YMCA-Tim Strauch
 - Feb 23 Deaf India Dr. Rajendra G Desai
 - Mar 23 Against El Toro Airport Roy Miller
 - Mar 30 El Toro Airport Master Plan Tom Wall
- SPECIAL EVENTS**
- April 23-25 R.I.District 5320 Conference
 - May 6 Annual Prayer Breakfast
 - June 13-16 R.I. Convention– Singapore
 - June 19 Build A Home in Mexico with Corazon
 - June 26 District Demotion & Awards "Cliff's Roadhouse"

WE MISSED YOU!

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|--------------|---------------|
| Jan 5 | Jan 12 |
| B Craycraft | J Eisenbeisz |
| J Duffner | R Jones |
| J Peterson | J Koschwanez |
| D Rukstalis | D Rukstalis |
| B Shipin | L White |
| T Straugh | |
| T Wessel | |

VISITING GUESTS

- Meeting Jan 5**
- Camie Christensen
- Nancy Christensen
- Karen Walsh
- Meeting Jan 12**
- Cristin Guzman
- Phil Charlton

VISITING ROTARIANS

- Mike Marshall
- Coto De Caza

The Internet and Rotary Listings
www.ROTARY5320.ORG
www.ROTARY5320.ORG/MVR.html
Rotary International
www.ROTARY.ORG
The Rotarian Magazine
www.rotary.org/publications/magaines/the_rotarian