

## Club Assembly

The September 1<sup>st</sup> evening Club Assembly was attended by only 14 members, but was a lively and productive session. Several past events were discussed and reviewed for ways to improve the handling of any future similar situations. Then President Neil Rauschhuber declared “we are moving on”, setting the tone of the rest of the meeting and then shifting to forward planning.

**AVRC Financial Position:** The club’s financials are solid. John Baker presented a check for \$2,000 from our fund-raising effort when we served dinner at the Duck’s Unlimited event. That brought club current assets and total assets above their values at this time last year. Even so, receivables are elevated and need to be worked down.

**Report on the Endowment:** Results of the election for board members of the Endowment of the Rotary Club of Almaden Valley were announced. Members for the coming year are: Ken Tavernier, Paul Consentino, John Baker, Greg Consentino and Miles Yamamoto.

Ken presented the Endowment’s financial position, annual investment performance and list of 2015-2016 grants. Ken’s summary showed the Endowment’s value rising from \$300,378 in 2010 to a peak of \$410,413 in 2013; then tapering down in the last two years due to flat 2015 market performance and higher annual grant totals. The Endowment ending value as of 8/31/2016 is \$387,751.

Grants requested and approved so far for the 2016-2017 club year total \$12,400 and consist of \$2,000 to send 5 students to Camp RYLA, \$6,000 for the AVRC portion of Area 6 local and world projects, \$2,100 for the annual senior Christmas lunches, \$ 600 each for two Boy Scout troops, \$500 to help our Interact club participate in the Interact Winter Retreat and \$600 for support of Polio Plus.

**Club Administration:** Several steps are being implemented to clarify and speed up meetings. Bill Pope and Mark Finney will share Sargent-at-Arms duties, supervising room setup and sufficient assistance to speakers. Paul Cosentino will insure that some member is at the front of the meeting area to greet visitors and sign in members. Paul Venezia offered to be the primary greeter. President Neil set an objective of running weekly meetings on time, commencing with members being in their seats promptly at 12:15.

**Rotary Foundation:** Mel Bandanza reported that about \$5,000 has been pledged for 2015-2016 year contributions to the Rotary Foundation. Approximately 20 people still need to respond with their pledges for this year. President set an objective of \$10,000 for AVRC members’ commitment to the Foundation this year. Letters have been sent to honorary members, soliciting their support.

**Membership:** A venue is needed for a “Meet and Greet” event to allow prospective members to meet present club members and spouses and hear about the club’s service activities. Criteria for the facility for such an event would include space for club members and guests to mix and talk and a setup to show highlights of our projects.

**Social Programs:** Lori Popovich and Nancy Consentino are planning the club’s social calendar and have events planned for the next few months, but will welcome help and suggestions for 2016 events.

**Grapevine:** Replacements for departing/retiring editors have been needed for the weekly Grapevine. Miguel Cruz has volunteered to be a new editor. Herschel Higgins is going to assess his ability to take readable notes and again be an editor. And finally, Brian O’Neill has been appointed to also serve as an editor. So more good Grapevines are ahead!

-THE END-