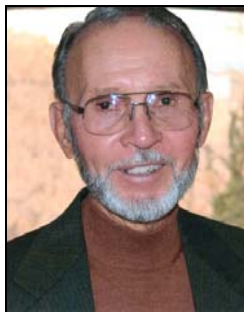


## Reindeer Safari in the Home of Santa Claus

TODAY'S PROGRAM



Off we go on another adventure courtesy of Herb and Laura May Bacon. This time we'll vicariously travel on a Reindeer Safari in the Home of Santa Claus, Lapland.

Lapland is not a country in itself, but is in fact made up of regions in Northern Finland, Sweden and Norway, above the Arctic Circle. Lapland is traditionally the home of nomadic reindeer herders and of course Lapland's most famous resident - Santa Claus!

Lapland only has an average of 5 hours of daylight a day in December, known as "grey light" - this is generally between 10 am and 3 pm - the rest of the time is like night time. If you go you might find it useful to pack a torch!

### Can You Believe This Actually Happened??

By Reed Mitchell

So begins the joint meeting with those heathen Kiwanians held each year to decide just which club gets to ring the Salvation Army Bells first next Saturday. Our "Cool" Hero President Joe meekly admitted that he'd already failed us miserably and gave Club "X" the honor of first dibs on the bells and donation cans. He had some lame excuse that didn't ring quite true with our Club members but in true Rotary spirit he was instantly forgiven by almost everyone. After Joe and Miss Mailyne started the festivities King David and Stewart Cruickshank led the caterwauling with good ole' America the Beautiful and another very meaningful song. We then set about this week's announcements without a functional Microphone (Good ole Dos Rios).

Joe's grievous error gave our adversaries just the opening they needed to berate our Club's average age and carry on and on about us oldsters needing to sleep until noon before braving the cold. Actually they're not entirely wrong; it will be warmer in the afternoon and our collective tootsies will be all the better for it, so we'll have an early Chile Supper instead of a nice warm lunch. We win already!!

There were no Happy Bucks or gifts this day as tensions were high pending the **name that tune** competition in which we were about to engage. Teams were selected and both Clubs held their collective breath as we got through the announcements and squared off to show just who knew his/her musical stuff. More later...

#### Announcements:

- **Bob Czarnecki** announced that all PHF donation forms are needed by next week in order to receive the tax deduction we all crave, now'd be a good time to step up folks.
- **Jim Rybak announced a Bell Ringing Sign up** sheet and offered space for errant Kiwanians to join our superior club's efforts. Jim's comments were met with "boos from the heathens.
- **Nate Williams** made an announcement about the Horizon Safeway being too coveted a location and that he'd reassign almost of all the members desiring that ringing spot.
- **Barb T. Smith** spoke of the December 15<sup>th</sup> Christmas party and mentioned that our own Walt Smith was performing that night along with the regular entertainment. **Be there at 5:30 for your drinkiepo.** Barb also touted a **Polio Plus meeting next week just before club.**
- **Dale Beede** stood in for Bill Sisson and spoke of Colorado and Nebraska's football teams meeting on the gridiron on Friday. Coach Hawkins will be unemployed after Friday per Dale.
- **Kiwanian Steve (upside down) Thompson** announced the Golden Coral opens at 2:00 on Saturday; thanks Steve for that info. We might see you there with your Kiwanian pals (Not)
- **Dan Wilson of Salvation Army fame** gave a mini-program about SA's good works and then introduced Rose, a rehab graduate who explained her being clean and sober for 14 months, congratulations Rose. I'll share your story with Dennis Baker; he needs to know there's a place for him to go for the help he needs. Come to think of it perhaps I'll join him...

## Warner's Corner



Congratulations are in order for our winning "Name That Tune" team on their thrilling victory over Kiwanis last week. Our championship squad included Barbara Bowman, Merritt Kinsey, Reed Mitchell and Walt Smith. Many thanks to David Durham for emceeing the event.

Our annual Rotary-Kiwanis joint meeting, of course, is a prelude to this Saturday's bell ringing effort pitting our club against the Kiwanis. This competition supports the Salvation Army and the many people they serve on the Western Slope.

As you know, we will be taking the 12 noon to 2 p.m. time slot. Nate Wallace, who has charge of coordinating our bell ringers asks that we assemble at the Salvation Army building at 1235 North 4th Street from 11 to 11:30 a.m. on Saturday to pick up our bells, buckets and aprons. Drinks and snacks will be available.

Following what certainly will be a most successful shift, we'll head over to Hospice (3090 North 12th Street) to turn in our bells and buckets and savor both our victory and our traditional bowl of chili -- **See you Saturday!**

#### The "Name that Tune" Contest:

This reporter (with no small amount of personal pride) virtually dominated the contest with instant knowledge of each and every tune from the 50's and 60's that King David and Stewart Cruickshank selected for us to quickly identify. We can vividly remember each and every one of those tunes but can't recall what we had for breakfast today, hmmm. The contest got down to the last song with both sides at a draw and somehow miraculously they played a Martha and the Vandellas tune: **Dancing in the Street** that this reporter instantly recognized and our club won the day. Does anyone know what a Vandella looks like in real life? Another of life's great mysteries. Our Rotary team handily won a \$100 donation from the Kiwanians; who asked if we'd take a post dated check for our spoils. Heathen cheapskates...

#### On the Beat:

Has anyone else caught our own Dean Massey on the TeeVee outlining our Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce's position on the important issues of the day? They pretty much have it right in my humble opinion and are doing their best to look out for us. I'm sure there are differing opinions, but we Rotarians do our best to be good concerned citizens, so good on ya' Dean. I did however notice: **not a trace of a Rotary pin** on our hero, just FYI President Joe.

#### Legends of Rotary Calendars:

The perfect Christmas gift for those you love or for those you don't, See Reed for yours today; only \$10. Get one online at: [www.LegendsofRotary.com](http://www.LegendsofRotary.com) or at all area Walgreen's. Hurry there's only 2,000 left!!!

### Killer Bees in Grand Junction

By Reed Mitchell

In my ever expanding effort to keep our readers well informed and to remain ahead of the other major news agencies, we bring you this breaking story of a problem here in River City.

A colony of the dreaded Africanized Bees arrived last year and has in fact set up camp on a garage in a local Redlands neighborhood. These babies can be quite dangerous so if you discover an ominous looking hive anywhere on your property call someone right away. But please not me, I'm allergic to bee stings and will faint even before I'm stung. But please gentle readers don't tell my wife she still thinks I'm a fearless hero.



### ***Upcoming Dates***

**Meeting Programs  
Barb Bowman and Gwen DeCino  
Program Committee Co-Chairpersons**

- December 9 Discoverability Program**  
*Pete Wynn*
- December 15 Rotary Christmas Party**  
*6:00 p.m., Bookcliff Country Club*
- December 23 No Program**
- December 30 New Year Resolutions/Sock Hop** – *King 'N Trio*

### **Upcoming Meetings**

- December 4 Past President's Meeting**  
Noon, Bookcliff CC
- December 15 Rotary Christmas Party**  
*6:00 p.m., Bookcliff Country Club*

**December 2, 2009**