



ROTARY CLUB OF BENICIA



Steve Goetz

Benicia Tree Foundation

Steve Goetz is on the Board of Directors for the Benicia Tree Foundation. He was going to start today's talk by getting us to smile, but quickly decided that we were already a happy group! His message was simple – the Benicia Tree Foundation is making Benicia better!

The Foundation was established in 2009 and it is a 501(3)(c) nonprofit organization. The Foundation helps to strengthen the community by promoting and supporting tree planting, maintenance and education. So far the Foundation has planted 670 trees in Benicia. The Foundation works with the City program by helping to maintain over 4700 trees. The Foundation fills in the gaps in public information and seeks resources to fulfill the Foundation's mission.



Trees are important to cities! They provide shade, they improve business, they increase property values, they reduce storm runoff, they slow traffic, they absorb greenhouse gases, they clean the air, they provide food and habitats for wildlife, and they strengthen the community. Steve specifically spoke about several of these areas, but all are equally important.

The perfect tree is one that has adequate space, lives in the proper climate (temperature, precipitation and wind), grows in the appropriate soil, has desirable cultural characteristics, and requires minimal maintenance.

Several ideal trees for Benicia (with our cooler temperatures, excessive wind, quantity of rainfall and somewhat clay-like soil conditions) are the Chinese pistache, Incense cedar, Maidenhair tree, Coastal live oak, and the Canary Island pine. These five trees are pictured, in order, on the bottom of page 1.

Besides planting trees, the Foundation has started to use saplings and seeds in order to reduce their operating costs.

Some of the Foundation's 2017 accomplishments: two tree plantings (a total of 18 trees), 17 tree care days, 234 volunteers, and 683 volunteer man hours. The Foundation's goals for 2018 include sponsoring more tree care days, assisting the Benicia Unified School District in replacing the trees that were recently removed by the new solar panel projects at school sites, and participation in the City's Tree Subcommittee.

So how can you make Benicia better? Plant a tree on your property, volunteer for a community tree planting day, or volunteer for a Tree Care Day. Want more information? Contact Steven Goetz (925) 525-5527, or email to info@beniciatrees.org or visit the Foundation's website at www.beniciatrees.org.

Happy Dollars

- * Mario is a big 40! He finally attained the age that he has always been! Although he cooked steaks for his family on Sunday evening, wife Lacey baked a Samoan cake for him. In the normal chaos of a young family, the cake was placed in the microwave, but somehow, one of the kids turned on the microwave and melted the cake. Mario was \$40 happy!
- * Jamie Spence returned today with his new knee! He wanted to get his new knee at ACE Hardware, but opted for John Muir Medical Center variety instead. During his recuperation, he had a retired canine Navy seal come live with him — a lovely, small German Shepherd suffering from PTSD. He felt the visit from the dog was wonderful — a real joy. Jamie was \$10 happy.
- * Jim Lessenger just returned from a cruise through the Panama Canal. Along the way, he suffered from kidney stones, he still managed to enjoy the trip. He was \$40 happy.
- * Alex Lobban, Mr. Soccer Coach of Benicia, has been coaching the now U-13 team for years. This year, his team qualified for the top eight teams in CA. He also just returned from Cambodia and dropping of soccer balls in Siem Reap. He will be talking about his Cambodian experience as our speaker in the near future. He was \$20 happy.
- * Eric Hoglund was asked about the bulletin. Eric knew most of the answer, but not enough to satisfy Jim. Jim fined him \$5.

- * André Lewis was asked about the bulletin. André simply ponied up \$5 without being asked any question because he was sure he would not know the answer.
- * Mario was asked a question about the bulletin and he answered it....but not well enough, according to Jim. He was fined \$5. Susan Hurl offered to pay his fine for coming to her defense earlier in the meeting.
- * Jack Bell (pictured in last week's bulletin) spent an "excruciating" moment at the last City Council meeting where he received a lovely piece of Lindsey art glass for his business being one of the Recycling Businesses of the Year.
- * Jon Dwyer just returned from the RI assembly in San Diego — one of the best ever. Next year's Rotary International theme....*Be the Inspiration*. He was \$20 happy.



Noteworthy!

- * We will have our regularly scheduled Rotary meeting on **February 13**, but at the Camel Barn Museum. ***Same time, lunch included, but different location.***
- * On **February 27**, our noontime Rotary meeting has been moved to **5:30 PM** that evening at Estey Real Estate. No speaker, just fun, fellowship and small bites. Please bring what you wish to drink. Water will be included with the appetizers. ***Different time, appetizers, different location.***
- * The annual Rotary Ski Challenge is **March 2** at Northstar. Skiers (or snowboarders) are needed. See Scott Reep for more information.
- * Apologies to Curt Johnston for misspelling his name in the January 9 club newsletter. This has been corrected in the document that will soon be available on our new web Benicia Rotary website.

- * The semi-annual **Night of Honor** for Firefighters is **March 23, 2018**. No host bar at 6:00, dinner at 7:00. Our club helps sponsor this great event. Diane Smikahl has tickets — free for the first 8 Rotarians that wish to attend. A flyer is included in the bulletin.
- * Liberty High School is once again hosting its annual golf tournament (4th annual) on **April 18**. Only 9-holes, Blue Rock, 1:00 check-in, 2:00 start. Dinner is included. This is a great fundraiser for Liberty High School.

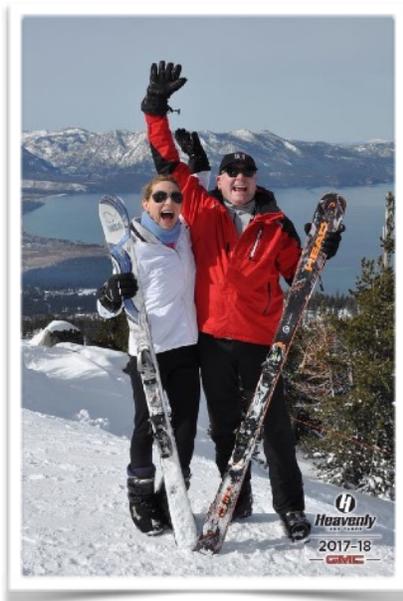
4th Annual
Swing for Success
Golf Tournament
Liberty High



April 18, 2018
1-6 pm

Blue Rock Springs Golf Course
655 Columbus Parkway Vallejo CA
more information or register with
Chris Winder at cwinder@beniciaunified.org

Wheres is Scott Reep???
We haven't seen him for
weeks.....



The Rotary Clubs of Solano County
Present
26TH ANNUAL
A NIGHT OF HONOR

To Recognize The Firefighters Of The Year
From Solano County Fire Departments

FRIDAY,
MARCH 23, 2018

FAIRFIELD
HILTON GARDEN INN

No-host Cocktails 6:00 pm
\$40.00 per person
Dress — Business Casual
*Table Sponsor: \$400 eight seats
No tickets will be sold at the door.

FOR TICKETS CONTACT:

Cordelia.....	Candy Pierce	707-953-3735
Dixon.....	Steve Bird	707-685-5217
Fairfield-Suisun.....	Tom Myers	707-439-6880
Vacaville.....	Mike Vieira	707-592-4118
Vacaville Sunrise.....	Chris Kistner.....	707-483-7803
Rio Vista.....	Lee Williams	707-689-3960
Fairfield-Suisun.....	Ed Lydon	707-333-8390



Printed by Sir Speedy Printing • 1070 Horizon Drive, Suite A, Fairfield, CA 94533 • (707) 426-2300
* All proceeds used to defray expenses. This donation may not be 100% tax deductible.