



# *Pacific Breezes*

## Rotary Club of Mission Bay



Summary of Meeting January 4, 2010

**President Jim Willis** led the pledge to open the meeting

**Song:** America the Beautiful

**Thought of the Day:** Don't live in the guilty past. Don't live in the fearful future. Live in the present.

**Visiting Rotarians:** Herb Pierson, Femie Cupit, Kathleen Tansey, Larry Eberlein.

### **Announcements:**

Jan 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>: Boy Scout display at Mission Valley Mall

Jan 17<sup>th</sup>: District Governors are visiting our area. Airport greeters needed.

Jan 30<sup>th</sup>: Leadership seminar in Vista

April 24<sup>th</sup>: Humanitarian Charity Golf Tournament in Bonita. Anyone who wishes to participate, please contact fellow Paradise Valley Rotarian, Femie Cupid, for further details.

Election of Officers: Nominees: Susan Thorning(President), Petra LaVictoria(President-Elect), Vanessa Vleck(Secretary), Tricia Hunter(Treasurer), Alan Rezner(Club Services), Dick Kinney (Community Services), Matt Cowman(Vocational), Peter Scheuchzer(International). The nominees were elected.

**Happy/Sad\$\$\$** were contributed by Susan; George; Dick; Herb; Jim; Alan.

**Raffle:** The pot is currently at \$162. The Raffle (\$10) was won by Jim Green, but he did not pick the green marble.

### **Guest Speaker/Summary: Mr. Ghulam Isahq Hassan , Ambassadorial Scholar**

He was born in Pakistan and immigrated to Afghanistan which he refers to as "The Place at the end of the World". Mr. Hassan has an impressive background in law and specializes now in Human Rights. He showed many slides from his country and pointed out many interesting facts. Some of those were: Dogs are kept for watching and sometimes fighting. Poppy production has been reduced by 95%. The 1st Democratic election in history of his country was held in 2004. Women took an active part in the election. Women are now taking an active role in education, however, cannot attend class if the teacher is not a woman. Portable water is still a concern in some rural areas. No roads, therefore people use donkeys for transportation. Students take exams on the floor outside because there is no room in the classroom. Children are not concerned about parks and toys to play with ... they play in Russian tanks that were left behind without knowing the possible danger they are in. Buzkashi (goat grabbing) is the national sport (There are 2 teams and the goats are used like balls).

**Next Week: David Calder, SD Lifeguard: San Diego Lifeguard River Rescue**