

What's Happening to our Big Trees?



Todd Hamilton is a Forester with Shasta-Trinity National Forest and a California native. He shared information on forests across California that have been affected by: historic activities, climate change, and bark beetles. He also touched on the current approaches to the issue including proactive stocking density, species diversity, fire as a maintenance tool, and defensible space.

Todd shared photos of the history of forests, showing logging photos of forests from late 1800s, and the comparative views 100 years later, demonstrating the trees' regrowth. Fire suppression has helped the forest to regrow, however current forest density can be an issue. "Successful fire suppression has also contributed to the increasing abundance of understory vegetation", his presentation explained.

Todd talked about the western pine beetle, which attacks ponderosa and coulter pines and prefers older, larger trees. He stated that this beetle will also attack young, smaller trees when it is under stress. The most destructive "pest" of this type, western pine beetles, will grow about two or three generations per year. A 25" diameter tree can produce 30,000 beetles 2 or 3 times a year!



(Continued on page 2)

This Week's Recognitions

Todd & Kristi Davis, Kristy Lanham and Nikki Anthony were recognized for their house boating trip on Lake Shasta. Greg Balkovek recognized his granddaughters amazing educational accomplishments. Lara Wells Osborn's family got an early start on summer vacation with a Disney Cruise to Alaska. Cindy Fisher is a new grandma! Bill Howland celebrated his 60th wedding anniversary. Past President Ed Rullman fined President Dave \$100 to enter the "Past Presidents" club.

Member Annual Reminders

President Elect Ray Stewart reminded the club that annual pledge sheets are due. He also encouraged every Rotarian to participate in a minimum of two committees, and to notify Kim at the Rotary Office of your committee choices.



Reading Rotarians

Peggy O'Lea discussed our club's Reading Rotarians. Matt Morgan shared a bit about his experience at Turtle Bay school and what it meant to him. Teachers from Turtle Bay and Manzanita School spoke on the positive influence that the Reading Rotarians have on their young students. Peggy encouraged other Rotarians to join Reading Rotarians next year.



Honor Youth Presentation



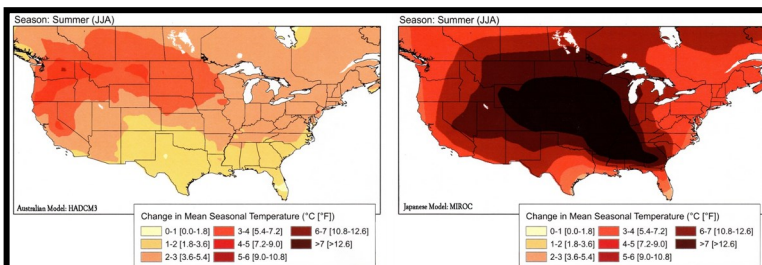
Kristy Lanham introduced Callie as a young lady who is the epitome of the Rotary motto, "Service above Self". Callie was presented this month's Honor to Youth award. She shared some of her story and expressed her appreciation of the recognition.

Thank You's

Thank you to everyone who helped out with this week's meeting: AV Ken Wood; music Marjeanne Stone; back table Gene Poch & Diane Kempley; FUNdraiser ticket sales Amelia Ward; pledge by Todd Davis, invocation by Rick Fauss, Past President John Mathena introduction of visiting Rotarians & guests; Brian Seamans and Team 7 for this week's meeting and presenter.

("What's Happening to our Big Trees" continued from page 1)

Climate change is another issue affecting our trees. Todd went on to explain that scientists know temperatures are increasing, but there's uncertainty among climate scientists about how much change to expect. The Australian Models are less sensitive to change than the Japanese Models (image below). Pine beetles' natural enemies are woodpeckers and temperatures below 20 degrees, which kills the pests. As temperatures continue to rise, there are not enough really cold days to kill them off.



Currently, the Forest Service budget is 65% dedicated to fire suppression. Focusing on that instead of growing forests may have had a negative affect on our forests' health as well.

Todd's goal is to grow big trees fast. He stated that the Black Oak has a significant role in the mixed conifer forests, and that they along with Aspen are "legacy" trees" and fire-tolerant. He would also like to "maintain and promote species diversity through radial thinning around desired species", according to his presentation. Other goals are to keep small diameter trees in proportion to larger trees for replacement over time, and apply prescribed fire to promote fire-tolerant vegetation and maintain understory structure.

Rotary Calendar

June 23rd	No Noon Rotary Mtg.
June 23rd	Demotion for President Dave, 5:30pm @ Malotky's (6120 Riverside Drive)
June 30th	No Noon Rotary Mtg.
July 7th	Rotary New Year: Welcome President Ray

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