

July 30, 2009

NO MEETING
"FIFTH THURSDAY" Social on Friday, July 31
at the Game Park Safari – 6pm

Cooks Tour of Port Orford
(by Elaine Roemen)

In the mining and lumber days around the turn of the century, this was a booming little town. Among the architectural treasures left behind are the old Craftsman style farms, Victorian Lindberg homes of the 1890's; the central part of Paula's Bistro is the oldest, built in 1879. The Grantland Mayfield was a community building in the 1890's with a dance floor and basketball court upstairs and general store downstairs.



**Port Orford's newest Rotarian
Mick Lane**



**Mick receives his Rotary pin from
sponsor John Johnston**



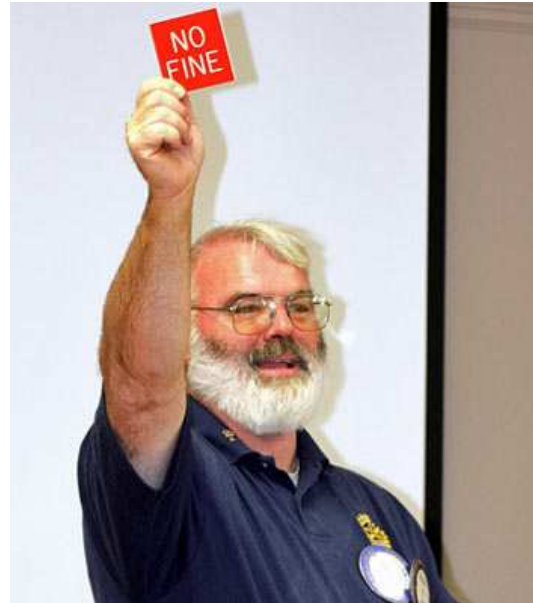
We saw many more historic buildings from that era when Grace Bonnell and Wendy Thomas, both passionate historians, took us on a slide show tour.

Wendy's interest in Port Orford was kindled by reading "Fools Hill". She and Ken

Stevens adapted John Quick's stories into the recent play at Theatre 101. She wanted to find out more about Port Orford in the 1930's and before long she was knee deep in Port Orford memorabilia, interviewing old timers and exploring archives. Her biggest help came from Alan Mitchell who lent her his extensive historic photo collection, which she and Joyce Kinney exhibited in the Arts Council Gallery during the run of "Fool's Hill."

Grace Bonnell's passion for history comes from her pioneering family whose roots can be traced back to the Mayflower. She coyly admits that her ancestors helped unite the country after the civil war, when there was a marriage between the Emerson and the Calhoun families. John C. Calhoun from South Carolina was one of the writers of the Confederate Papers and Ralph Waldo Emerson was the transcendentalist writer and preacher from Boston. As a child in California Grace remembers her Grandfather returning from vacations with myrtlewood mementoes and he couldn't stop talking about a beautiful place on the Oregon coast. Later when she bought the Joan of Arc with its big myrtlewood trees and fascinating history she realized this was the place her grandfather always talked about.

You can learn more about historic homes in Port Orford that Grace has documented on www.discoverportorford.com/historicHomes.php and keep up with Rotary on www.portorfordrotary.org.



Sergeant at Arms Mike Hewitt auctions off the No-Fine badge

Calendar:

Don't forget Community Tennis on Wednesday evenings, 7 PM at Buffington park.