



Sept. 6th

The Newsletter of the Rotary Club of San Francisco West

2006

Welcome Today's Speaker

MICHAEL ROCHAT

Michel Rochat, past president of the Rotary Club of Lausanne-Ouest, Switzerland, and member of the executive board of the [Haute Ecole Spécialisée de Suisse Occidentale](#) (HES-SO) (Universities of Applied Sciences of Western Switzerland). The UAS are professional Universities providing studies in specific disciplines (technical, business, fine arts, design, health, social, oenology and hotel management). Their mission is to develop expertise in applications for these fields and to train professionals. The HES-SO is a network of five state and two private universities. The HES-SO is the biggest university of applied Science in Switzerland, with 12,000 students, 3,000 diplomas annually, and an annual budget of U.S.\$220 million. Mr. Rochat is working in the United States with the [Swiss House in San Francisco \(Swissnex\)](#). Swissnex is part of the Consulate General of Switzerland in San Francisco. Swissnex accommodates several Swiss institutions to develop contacts "connecting the dots" between Western USA, Canada and Swiss institutions and firms. Initiated by the Swiss State Secretary for Education and Research, Swissnex stimulates strategic collaboration and active thinking. Mr. Rochat will be joined by Swissnex Mission Chief **Christian Simm**. Topics include the Swiss education system, Swissnex, and the HES-SO.

Community Service

The third Saturday of September is **California Coastal Clean-up Day**. This year, it's **Saturday, Sept. 16, 2006 from 9:00 am to noon**.

Please give Bill your name and the number of volunteers you will be bringing along. After the clean up maybe we can have a little barbeque or something to further fellowship and Rotary Information....let's all talk about it!

For more information, see the California Coastal Commission web site: <http://www.coast4u.org/>

**Have you signed up for the District Conference at Yosemite ?
April 19-22, 2007, Mention Rotary District 5150 for \$140 rate!**

Rooms are almost gone so call 1-800-635-5807 soon!

(they will only charge one day on your card and you can cancel up to 7 days in advance of the event and get a full refund, if something comes up.)

Next Week's Speaker : Dee Dee Tran Que Nguyen,

Development Officer, [East Meets West Foundation](#), which has been working for over 17 years with the people of Vietnam to build a peaceful and prosperous future. Currently the largest non-governmental organization (NGO) working in Vietnam today, EMW has built a reputation of implementing high-quality programs and projects that make a lasting impact on thousands of children and families living in poverty. With headquarters in Da Nang, Vietnam, and Oakland, California, EMW employs an exceptionally dedicated and knowledgeable staff that is committed to sustainable development in Vietnam.

Due to major Traffic snarl-up behind 2 separate accidents our editor has no Board of Directors news. If another Director could fill in the report this evening (one who actually made it) that would be great.