

Rotary



Club of Concord

Events

September 18th

Concord Weekly Club Meeting

Speaker: Mark Bustillos,
Concord Police Chief

Subject: Meet the new
Concord Police Chief talk
about fighting crime in
the City of Concord.
Understand the impact of
policing in this new age of
"Defunding the Police".

October 2nd

Concord Weekly Club Meeting

Speaker: Kay James,
League of Women Voters

Subject: Learn about the
Pros and Cons of the
different ballot
propositions on the
November General
election.

Birthdays

Christos C. Moulis

September 15th

Joshua P Gotto

September 19th

Parmod Kumar

September 28th

Leticia Almaro Nicolini

September 29th

Debra J Powell

October 1st

Nelson Meeks

October 6th

Gerald D. Hoobler

October 10th

Christine L. Loscalzo

October 14th

WELCOME TO THE ROTARY CLUB OF CONCORD!

WELCOME TO CONCORD ROTARY CLUB!

[ADD DAY OF THE WEEK, MONTH AND DAY AND YEAR] Newsletter

Read below for what's going on at your club! Do you know how to add to this newsletter? Send articles, or ideas for articles, to committee chair Tony Akins <takins15@gmail.com>. Photos are an important part and Treasurer Greg Grassi will insert them into the newsletter. Send photos to Greg Grassi <greg.grassi@yahoo.com>.

September 15, Concord Rotary Newsletter

By Rick Ernst, September 11, 2020 Zoom Meeting

After a minor, but annoying, technical glitch challenging a few of us attempting to log-in, the ninth meeting of our new Rotary year was off-and-running with President ♦ aka Captain ♦ **Brad** at the helm. Once again, legendary Western hero John Wayne lead us in the pledge to our flag - - a brief time-honored ritual reminding us to never take our democracy and our freedom for granted. It was so Fitting for today, the 19th anniversary of the attack on our country in New York and at the Pentagon.

The First Lady of Concord Rotary (that would be **Stephanie**) announced that today is very special for her hubby - - he ♦s 62, and now eligible to receive Social Security benefits. Whew! Brad, we know you ♦re looking forward to those huge monthly checks to keep food on the table and the wolf away from your door!



Welcome to our invited guests

Guests included P.A. Melissa Allen, long-time volunteer at RotaCare. **Memory Woodard** had two guests: Naomi Sullivan, a 2019 graduate of YV, a student camper in our Camp Venture program and 2019 Rotary Scholarship recipient. Also here to ♦take a look at Rotary ♦ is Moya Stone, editor of ♦Over Dressed for Life, ♦ a blog covering all that is unique and off-beat about fashion. Welcome to both of you.

Melissa Allen thanked our club for its ongoing support of RotaCare, providing both

in-person and tele-health care for those with no medical insurance. President **Brad** presented Melissa with a check for \$7,500 and assured her that our club will continue to include RotaCare in its annual Plan of Work.



Our Speaker Program

The topic of today's program - *Stressless RV Camping* - generated comments and shared experiences even before our speakers were introduced. Seems a few of us have previewed the RV life and shared their adventure. **Brad** and **Steph** reported that, en route to the Grand Canyon, they almost demolished a gas station pump following their fill-up. Paul and his wife missed seeing overhead branches when backing into a campsite on their initial outing - yes, the damage to their roof was extensive. That brand new RV spent its first summer undergoing major roof repairs. **Al Kappadahl** recalls the adventure he and Gloria had as they travelled with their five youngsters to the Seattle World's Fair summer of 1962. Hmmm, your scribe gets the sense one needs much patience, exceptional driving skills, a fat checkbook and a little bit of luck to be a successful RVer.

Today's light-hearted program takes a look at the world of RVing and RV camping. Sharing their own extensive experience were veteran RV aficionados, Tony and Peggy Barthel, who have done it all for more than twenty years. Their blogs and a presence on the major social media networks helps to provide valuable information for first-time buyers, as well as helpful tips for experienced RVers such as themselves. Tony has held a fascination for RVs since he was a nerdy little kid as he puts it. He bought his first RV - a replica of a Tonka Winnebago - which he still displays in his office. Although the RV lifestyle continues to grow in popularity, it's not for everyone. There's a large initial investment to buy one, there's storage costs when not using the vehicle, and ongoing repairs and maintenance to keep the rig in good running order. We learned there are over one million Americans living in their RVs right now and the demand continues to be high. By the time their presentation concluded, enough information had been shared by the Barthels that either got you excited about the RV life, or you may conclude that is absolutely not anything you'd want to get involved with. We know **Tom** and Rosamund Wentling embraced the RV life which included multiple odysseys to the Southwest and one or more caravans to Alaska. Some time ago, when asked about the expense associated with this mobile sport Tom replied "if you have to ask, you can't afford it." Another way to look at the financial aspect of RVing is to remember that axiom "RVing is a space in the campground into which you pour \$\$. Today's program concluded with a referral to their website. (www.stresslesscamping.com).



Welcome to our newest Rotarian, Josh Gotto

It was now Membership Co-Chair **Rick Ernst**'s honor to welcome estate planning and litigation attorney **Josh** **Josh** **Gotto** into the Rotary family. (ed note: we've scuttled the word **induct** as it sounded too much like joining the military and that's clearly not what our grassroots organization is about. In lieu of that, and looking ahead, we'll simply have a **Welcoming** day for those joining our club.) **Josh** is sponsored by **Brad** and there is yet another family connection through the **Prescotts** and the **Kaminski** family. In fact, **Josh** and Kayla's newborn son, Theodore Gotto, is the **Kaminski**'s 20th great-grandchild. In his remarks to our club, **Josh** shared his passion for volunteer work and in fact, he grew-up in a small Arizona mining community where Rotary had a strong presence and **Josh** became aware of all the good deeds our organization does.

He believes in the **power** of the people and did quite a bit of research before deciding to become a Rotarian at this stage of his life and career. **Josh** would like to become involved in International or Vocational Service; and as a point of beginning, he'll link with our community service team. **Josh**, welcome aboard!

Member Announcements:

Nace Ruvolo announced that a program hosted by DVC called **Piranha Pool** - their version of Shark Tank - will involve teams of three to five students, each team linked with a mentor from the business community. Their goal is to develop a business plan that will also have a presentation component. If you are interested in being a team mentor and working with these college students, please contact **Nace**.



Stephanie Prescott updated us on the **Meals on Wheels** program where several of our fellow Rotarians have now signed-up to be drivers on Tuesdays and Thursdays for their 10:00-noon breakfast delivery. Contact **Stephanie** or Community Service committee chair **Bill Bobetsky** if you have an interest in serving.

Rick Vossekui updated us on fellow Rotarian **Mike Hurd** whose family vacation home near Shaeffer Lake (foothills East of Fresno) was threatened by the wild fires. As a precaution they were evacuated, however a shift in the wind resulted in their property being saved. The family is safely at home in Antioch.

Happenings worthy of these Rotarians being fined!

Brad's birthday resulted in donations of \$100 to the Rotary Foundation and \$20 to the club. **Chris Moulis** said he would match **Brad**'s \$20 and added \$1 for each day he was recently in Greece for thirty days. **Ingrid Hempell** made her annual contribution of \$100 toward another Paul Harris. **Rick Vossekui** has a September birthday and gave \$20 to the club. **Greg Grassi** closed escrow on the sale of his parent's vacation home and contributed \$100 to our Concord Rotary Endowment. (ed note: We'll presume **Greg** informed his parents of this transaction, right?) **Gary Collins** gave \$100 toward his next Paul Harris. **Nick Virgallito** pleased that Pat's cataract surgery was successful and contributed \$10 for each eye and a few more \$\$ for the eye in the center of her forehead. (I'm not making this stuff up.) They also have plans for boat camping in the Delta and that generated a few more bucks; so we believe the total contribution from the **Virgallito**'s is \$40. **John Kaminski** contributed \$100 to his next Paul

Harris and in honoring arrival of his 20th great-grandchild, Theodore Gotto. **David Miller** tells us Judy took a fall and will be undergoing major knee surgery. He contributed to the CRE. **Pete Baldacci** suggested this latest great-grandchild should justify opening that premier bottle of Sutter Home Zinfandel. **Al Kappadahl** and Gloria had an overnight getaway to Pacifica, then across the Golden Gate Bridge where protestors made a stand against whatever the flavor of the day was. Thanks to the stalwart CHP presence, traffic was not delayed more than 45 minutes on the bridge. **Al** is donating \$20 recognizing the Highway Patrol for all they do to keep us safe on the highways. **Alan Hermens** is back at work and always good to see this Honorary Rotarian attend our club meetings. Past president **Marilyn McClaskey** is determined to master Zoom and will welcome tech support. She donated \$25 to recognize a high elected office her son has achieved in an international organization related to the elevator industry. And to conclude the many donations today, Joanne Kaminski is happy her son, our club president, is having a birthday today and she contributed \$100 to the Foundation.

Our Closing Thought by Stephanie Prescott

To help us get through next six months, a bit of patience may help

- ◆ I want to be patient until the wild fires stop ravaging California
- ◆ I want to be patient till I can hug my family and have dinner with friends
- ◆ I'm working to be patient when I cannot take our granddaughter to the park
- ◆ I try to be patient because some day I know I can will get on a plane and visit my elderly mother and father.
- ◆ The best way for me to be patient is to remember that I am grateful to have a family, grateful to be safe from the fires, grateful for my wonderful husband, and grateful to be part of our wonderful Rotary club that does so much for our community.

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On This Day



15 Sept, 1916 - France Battle of the Somme

1916 : The British launch a major offensive against the Germans at the Battle of the Somme, using 40 primitive tanks for the first time in history.



15 Sept, 1940 - Battle of Britain

1940 : The Battle of Britain turns in British favor when the Royal Air Force (RAF) flying the new Spitfires down 56 German aircraft in two dogfights lasting less than an hour.



15 Sept, 1959 - U.S.A. Nikita Khrushchev

1959 : Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev arrives in the United States for an extended visit and summit with President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

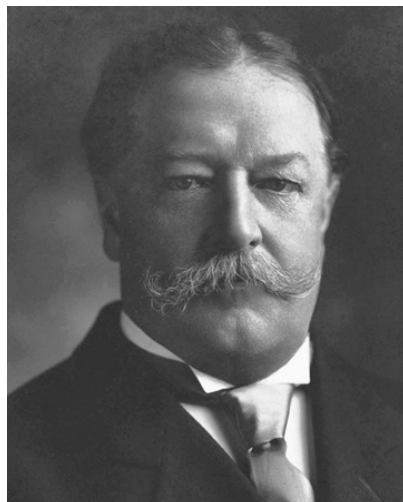


15 Sept, 1928 Scottish bacteriologist Alexander Fleming discovers penicillin while studying influenza

BIRTHDAYS September 15



1254 Marco Polo, Italian explorer, born in Venice, Venetian Republic (d. 1324)



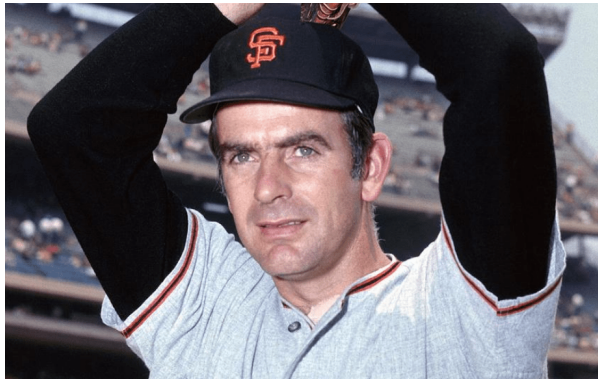
1857 William Howard Taft, 27th US President (Republican: 1909-13) and Chief Justice, born in Cincinnati, Ohio (d. 1930)



1890 Agatha Christie, English crime writer (Murder on the Orient Express), born in Torquay, Devon (d. 1976)



1922 Jackie Cooper, American actor and director (Skippy, Superman), born in Los Angeles, California (d. 2011)



1938 Gaylord Perry, baseball player (1972 AL Cy Young winner)

Cartoon of the DAY



Meals on Wheels

Concord Rotary helps Its local community by delivering bagged breakfasts to homebound elderly. MOW Diablo region is a wonderful organization doing great things for our community. If you'd like to volunteer, please go to meals on wheels website and download the volunteer application form.



Where Do We Meet Next?

Date: Friday, September 18

Time: Regular Zoom meeting, 12:15

Our new year brings a new schedule. Watch for the specifics to be included on our club website, and in our weekly newsletters. Note there are now upcoming club speakers listed in the sidebar to the left. Mark your calendars, folks!

September 2020 Meetings

Friday, September 18 - Zoom

Friday, September 25 - Zoom
Thursday, October 2 - Zoom

Upcoming Speakers

September 18th

[Mark Bustillos, Concord Police Chief](#)

Meet the new Concord Police Chief talk about fighting crime in the City of Concord. Understand the impact of policing in this new age of "Defunding the Police".

October 2nd

[Kay James, League of Women Voters](#)

Learn about the Pros and Cons of the different ballot propositions on the November General election.

Club Leaders

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[Bradford T. Prescott](#)
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[Ronald E. Leone](#)
President-Elect



[Sandra J. Newman](#)
Secretary



[Tina S. Akins](#)
Treasurer



[Paul F. Meyerhofer](#)
Treasurer



[Richard Andrus](#)
Public Relations
Chair



[Guy S. Bjerke](#)
Public Relations
Chair



[Marcus Pierre](#)
Youth Services
Chair



[Wanda D. Waltman](#)
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Memory A. Woodard](#)
Youth Services
Chair



[Inge Z. Yarborough](#)
Club Director
Fundraising



[William Chan](#)
Rotary Foundation
Chair



[Gary Collins](#)
Membership Chair



[Rick Ernst](#)
Membership Chair



[William Bobetsky](#)
Community
Service Chair



[Nelson Meeks](#)
Community
Service Chair



[Stephanie Prescott](#)
Club Service
Chair



[Richard Wm. Vossekuil](#)
Club Service
Chair



[Susan Cohen Grossman](#)
International
Service Chair



[Gashaw Takele](#)
International
Service Chair



[Ignacio J. Ruvolo](#)
Vocational Service
Chair



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Assistant
Governor