



BOARD MEETING TODAY AT 12:15

All are welcome!

Contact Brad Prescott for zoom link.

SEE BOTTOM OF THIS NEWSLETTER FOR UPCOMING CLUB MEETING PROGRAMS (ALL ARE VIA ZOOM)

UPCOMING CLUB MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- Christine L. Loscalzo
October 14th
- Howard Jenkins
October 17th
- William Bobetsky
October 23rd
- William H. Guthreau
October 27th
- Stanley Gaunt
November 6th

WELCOME TO THE ROTARY CLUB OF CONCORD! October 12, 2020 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>.

Club Meeting Report for October 9, 2020 by Rick Ernst

Setting Sail: It's noon on a beautiful Indian Summer afternoon, and the good ship *S.S. Concord Rotary* set sail with **Captain Brad** at its helm. Your scribe did not catch the name of the very talented 7-year old contest winner from Los Angeles who brought her rendition of the Star Spangled Banner to new heights; however, we'll certainly see more of this young lady, perhaps on American Idol or other talent shows leading her to stardom in the entertainment world. What a voice and with multiple octaves! If you were dozing off as she began her tribute to our flag, you certainly were fully awake and applauding when she hit that final high note.



Guests: Invited guests included program speakers, League of Women Voters representatives, Carol Woods and Betty Felton. **Memory Woodard's** guest is Ivan Hernandez, a 2020 YV graduate and now public relations director of the Diablo Valley Rotaract Club. **Gary Collin's** guest is painting contractor Rebecca Sgambati, a Rotarian in the Benicia Rotary club assisting with the Salvation Army remodel project that is now underway at their Clayton Rd facility.



October Board of Directors Meeting: **NOTE late date change!!!**

For club officers and directors, the regularly scheduled meeting for this month has been changed to Monday, October 12 at 12:15pm. All members are welcome. Please attend!!

Today's Program: Our two representatives of the League of Women Voters informed us they would be covering the basics of Propositions 20 through 26; therefore, their remarks would be limited to a recitation of the proposition, a brief recap of its background, and the published (often complex and confusing) statements of those favoring and opposing each measure. Also included in their remarks was the impact of the passage of each measure. However, unlike the prior week's presentation, on this visit the League did not voice a position on the six propositions being discussed. That being said, your scribe will, in the interest of brevity and maintaining the reader's attention, not elaborate or editorialize on propositions being presented today. Should you be eager to learn more about these props, refer to the *Voter Information Guide* all registered voters in CCC received in recent weeks. And good luck in understanding the impact of their passage or failure. Most are complex and easily misinterpreted by the average voter.



A question was raised pertaining to Prop 23 (establishing state requirements for dialysis clinics). Fellow Rotarian and dialysis patient himself, **John Kaminski**, strongly urged the defeat of this proposition. The fiscal impact is that additional

◆ government costs are likely in the low tens of millions of dollars annually.◆

Further, the requirement that a licensed physician be present during all procedures (for most patients that is 3x weekly) is totally unnecessary. A competent staff of RN◆s who are responsible for the well-being of the patient and proper operation of the equipment is all that is necessary and what is currently being provided.

Regular state audits are already performed on a semi-annual basis to insure the competency of the staff and the dialysis center. **David Miller** suggested that voters should always ask ◆what◆s really going on here?◆.



President Brad commented that in the years he operated a surgical center, the medical component was his responsibility. Whenever the state got involved, it never increased the quality of care. It was always ◆about the money◆ and how more of that commodity can be separated from the health care professionals. **Pete Baldacci** summed it up best. ◆Follow the Money.◆

Inge Yarborough commented on the measure involving whether app-based transportation providers should be classified as independent contractors or employees. One of the speakers also responded to a question from **Inge Yarborough** regarding the requirement for a 7/8 majority being required in the state senate and the assembly for passage of some bills. Such passage makes any future change of that bill almost impossible.

Club Bike Ride: The club bike ride on Saturday, October 10 was a huge success, with a 14 mile ◆over hill and dale◆ trek from Martinez to Port Costa and return trip, including a ◆quench your thirst◆ stop at one of the breweries in downtown Martinez. A big THANKS to **Stephanie Prescott** for arranging the event and for ordering perfect biking weather for the 12 participants.



Wellness Calls to Seniors: Making regular monthly ◆Wellness Calls◆ to seniors residing in Concord is a new community service program being launched by our club. **Inge Yarborough** chairs this sub-committee. At the present time, eight Rotarians have signed-on to participate in this program and have committed to making those calls on a rotating basis. (Each senior receives one call each month). Want to learn more about this opportunity to serve others in our community? Contact Inge and she will e-mail additional information. It requires no outlay of money on your part, just a regimen of ten outbound phone calls each week to a select list of seniors assigned specifically to you. **Celeste Graham**, thanks for signing on during today◆s meeting.

Rotaract Club of Diablo Valley: Memory Woodard announced the partnering of the (recently chartered) Diablo Valley Rotaract Club with the YV High School Robotics Club. The Rotaract Club will serve as mentor to those students enrolled in the school◆s Robotics Club, helping them in both club and personal goal setting. How rewarding it is for us as Rotarians to see these students ◆in action◆! And how motivated they are to have robotics as the catalyst for the potential launch of careers in engineering or robotics. An initial zoom-based meeting of the students and Rotarian mentors occurred on Friday afternoon, October 9. Contact Memory or Rotaract Advisor **Michael Barrington** if you◆d like to become involved with these amazing young folks.



Pete Baldacci asked **Major Gwyn Jones** how The Salvation Army manages to prepare such huge quantities of meals. Some 78,000 meals were served to those impacted by the horrific fires in northern CA. In Crescent City alone, The Salvation Army served 16,000 meals from their mobile canteens. Major Gwyn also announced that Safeway & Von◆s Supermarkets in the Western United States will not permit bell-ringing this year, representing a potential loss of \$2 million throughout the

Western US and \$90,000 here in Contra Costa. OK Rotarians, working with Gwyn, we need to identify more high-traffic retail sites where our weekend bell-ringing efforts in early December can be continued.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Debra Powell was recognized for her October 1 birthday, shared with her daughter◆s family in the LakeBerryessa Highlands. Their family is grateful to still be in their home where 100 of the 300 homes in that neighborhood were lost to the recent fires.

Rick Ernst asked fellow Rotarians to reflect back to October 9th, 1951 when the late **Chris Basman**, a former club president and everyone◆s favorite

community banker, came into the world. Sadly, we lost Chris in July 2018 when he succumbed to ravages of several heart attacks and strokes. We miss you, good friend.



Retired judge **Nace Ruvolo** shared a little about his role in arbitration hearings regarding Cal State and several Title IX allegations of sexual misconduct. He is currently writing his decision on that case and has just been assigned two more arbitration cases. A busy guy in retirement.



Stand-in treasurer **Greg Grassi** and Sgt-at-Arms **Wanda Waltman** share duties for maintaining a tab on who has been fined. They will get caught up-to-date shortly, so don't be surprised if you see incoming emails reminding you that you probably were fined this fall and it's time

to pay the piper.

Our Closing thought was by **John Kaminski**: *In our Rotary Mission and Vision statement it is essential in every organization that we should be able to inform our members and our customers on our purpose, intention and direction. With our statement we will be able to establish our brand identity (which we often fail to do) to the public and internally provide a compass for decision making.*

Rotarians doing business with Rotarians:

We are just on the other side of the tunnel from the Rotary Club of Oakland (Club #3 in the world). You may have done a make-up meeting here on the shores of Lake Merritt. Thanks to Debra Powell, for alerting us to this upcoming (virtual) event to be held on November 5.

The purpose of Shop Rotary Business Expo is to invite Rotarians and guests to support one another with their endeavors. This event is to raise awareness by Rotarian business owners to collaborate and seek to do business with one another to

support their own clubs, their communities and one another. This is a perfect time to unite as one Rotary Family.

Upcoming Speakers

Be watching for a note about the Nominating Committee...you might want to consider stepping up! Contact Ron Leone for details!

October 23rd

[Ron Mullin and Michael Barrington](#)

Hear of the the exciting adventures of two of our most illustrious Rotarians.

October 16th

[Mark Roberts, Rotary District Governor](#)

Rotary District 5160 news and events discussed

November 6th

[Steve Taddei](#)

Braver Angels presentation helping us to navigate discussions through these politically divided times.

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[Sandra J Newman](#)
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[Tina S. Akins](#)
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