

# Rotary



## Club of Mt. Shasta

### Club Leaders



Doug Carter  
Membership Chair  
President



Thomas F. Stienstra  
President-Elect



Gary L. Bostwick  
Secretary



Lorinda Forrest Meyer  
Secretary



Donna Boyd  
Treasurer



Audra Beylik  
Public Relations Chair



Mark Foster  
Rotary Foundation  
Chair



Heather Maria Solus  
iPast President



Heather Maria Solus  
Assistant Governor

### Mt. Shasta Rotary Meeting 9-9-2020

Wednesday, September 9, 2020



**Call to Order & Welcome**

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Tom Stienstra

**Guests/Visiting Rotarians:** John Liu

**Thought of the Day:** Its what you do when you don't need to that makes you what you are when you don't have to

#### Announcements:

- Our district governor, Mark Roberts, is here this coming week to hold two meetings. One is with the leadership team at 11am and the second with the entire club at 12:00
- Today's Mt Shasta Herald is the debut of the Rotary Corner. It is an opportunity to create a larger footprint in the area and region. It is a great opportunity to share our accomplishments. Audra is the coordinator, so if you have a story, contact her.
- Rotary Foundation scholarship recipient, Darian DeBotroli sent the following thank you note: ***"Thank you so much for your generous scholarship! Because of you, I will be able to attend my dream college debt free. I will attend UC Davis in the fall to pursue a major in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. None of this would be possible without you! Thanks again."***

#### Program:

John Liu is a Chinese-American filmmaker, ecologist and researcher at several institutions. In January 2015 John was named Visiting Fellow at Netherlands Institute of Ecology of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences. He is also Ecosystem Ambassador for the Commonland Foundation based in Amsterdam. In 2017 John Liu founded Ecosystem Restoration Camps, a worldwide movement that aims to restore damaged ecosystems on a large scale. John is also the recipient of a Paul Harris Award.

John has been staying at the Hotlum Camp. He was a CBS journalist, filmmaker, photographer. He has since become involved in the restoration of landscape ecosystems.

Greg showed a video called Commonland, Four Returns from Landscape Restoration. John's work as a filmmaker documenting a change in landscape from barren land into a green area in the Liss Plateau in China. The locals transformed barren slopes into terraces and dirt into a lush landscape. This work impressed him so much, he decided to become a soil scientist.

Ethiopia is another country with soil problems. In just six years a severely eroded area was transformed by planting local trees. Instead of flash flood run-offs, the area now has a year-round creek because of the impact of the trees. It is possible to transform land around the world. Restoration can sequester carbon, mitigate famine, and drought.

#### Questions:

Gary: What steps are required to revegetate arid areas?

John: Visit his academia page <https://knaw.academia.edu/johndliu/>

Biodiversity, biomass and more accumulated organic matter. Over history, we have been reversing this trend, degrading our ecosystems and leading to desertification. We have not valued these life-giving functions.

Kathy: Are there areas in the US where this type of large-scale restoration would be beneficial today?

John: We need to restore all over the earth. Wherever you try to do restoration, it works. What we've seen is that normally what is happening when human beings intervene, they remove megafauna. This alters predator-prey habitat. Agriculture caused us to remove vegetative cover. The height of the canopy is the place where solar radiation is disrupted. When you remove canopy, you heat the land, increase evaporation. Once the vegetative cover is altered, the end result is the area temperature is increased and it changes the winds, moisture is now leaving the area.

Kathy: Are you concerned about the impacts of destructive wildfire on the broad landscape?  
John: Absolutely!

Kathy: For which of your work were you awarded the Paul Harris Award?

John: That was from the president of Rotary International, for one of their meetings. John was asked to give a keynote speech.

John showed a second video about his work in the Mt. Shasta area. He is located at the Hotlam Camp in Mt. Shasta. With all the smoke in the area, Camp Hotlam is dedicated to teaching fire management. Ecosystem Restoration Movement ♦ 36 different camps all over the world in six different continents. Ordinary people can learn how to restore soil fertility, ecological biocycle and food security, restore biodiversity, ecological function and the hydrological biocycle. It is possible to rehabilitate large scale damaged ecosystems.

Two upcoming films: The Age of Nature (on PBS), Feel the Bliss  
Visit: [EcosystemRestorations.org](http://EcosystemRestorations.org)

John started working with the United Nations and other large organizations. Unfortunately, the speed at which these organizations operate means they will fail. John had this dream that people could go camping and learn to restore the earth. He started writing about it on Social Media. Hundreds and thousand of people responded, saying they have the same dream. They are now up to 36 camps around the world. Now, the United Nations is creating a Decade of Restorations starting in 2021. We can make our own landscape as resilient as possible. It is about changing our values and our activities.

The first camp in the U.S. was in Paradise. After the Paradise fire, he got a call from someone fleeing the fire, saying ♦You♦ve got to come back now to help us!♦

Paul: Do you have any pictures of the area in China you can share with us that show what it looked like before it was terraced?

John: The plateau was called the most eroded place on earth. Visit the academia page on our website to see more. Now after 25 years, it is lush.

Kathy: Grazing of livestock can result in desertification. On the north slope of Mt. Shasta has lost 95% of vegetation. What are you accounting for the desert conditions there?

John: I think it is about the canopy. The highest canopy on earth is 350 feet. We don♦t have any canopies here this high because of clear cutting. The trees which have grown back are sparse and there is a lot of manzanita. The manzanita has been bull dozed which has desiccated the area. Solar radiation directly hits the surface of the earth. The decaying organic material is the habitat for micro organic communities. Instead of respiration and the recycling of moisture, we have evaporation. It will come down somewhere else, most likely in the form of a flood.

Rather than looking at forests in terms of how many board feet, we should look at them as a source of water for our environment. You almost have to double what you don♦t see ♦ root systems which have a capillary system bringing moisture to the surface. This information has to be basic ecological literacy for every person on earth.

Doug: Where do we go from here (in 30 seconds)  
Go to [ecorestorationcamps.org](http://ecorestorationcamps.org)

### Happy Bucks:

- Gary: \$5 because he can see the sun today. There are a lot of people in California who can♦t.
- Paul: \$5 my son is back from Afganistan in quarantine in NY. Thank everyone for prayers & thoughts while gone. Daughter and hub in Okinawa station
- Ted: Will give \$5 for every person who joins the ecosystem site
- Merle: \$5 happy so far nucks for all family in evacuated from Oroville ♦ six family members have had to evacuate
- John: will give money to Greg to thank Ted for his request. If we get to 10,000 members, we are opening up millions in funding from various European foundations that want to be part of a global movement
- Kathy: \$5 for the joy of hearing an international perspective. This gives us hopes for giving us grass roots groups to get people engaged in something to feel good about. Every one of us can come up with ways to improve our life in our region. Thank you, John
- Doug: for Kathy Morter and Shayna Cassidy for the work you are doing to find people to speak at our meeting program - \$10 appreciates their time and support.

The program next week is District Governor Mark Roberts

The following week's speaker is Stephen Brian, Executive Director of local resource center, and so county community resource center collaborative (weed, Dunsmuir, Mt, Shasta and McCloud)

### Birthdays

No Birthdays Found

### Wedding Anniversaries



[Paige A. Bullerwell](#)  
September 11th

## Years of Service



[Merle Anderson](#)  
23 Years

## Club Meeting

Mt. Shasta

Meets at Normally, Mt. Shasta Resort. Currently via Zoom. \* Please note first meeting of each month is an evening meeting at 5:30PM; same location

1000 Siskiyou Lake Boulevard

Mt. Shasta, CA 96067

Time: Wednesday at 12:15 PM