



# ROSSMOOR ROTARY NEWS



[www.rossmoorrotary.org](http://www.rossmoorrotary.org)

District 5160 Club 461

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Photos: John Rice

April 29, 2020

## MEETING NOTES: April 22, 2020



**Call to Order:** Jim Olson called the virtual meeting to order and announced that this was World Immunization Week (4/24 to 4/30). We contribute to the Rotary Polio Plus program to help end the corona virus pandemic.

**Masks:** We contributed \$1,000 to the Rossmoor Quilting Club to make masks and shields to prevent the spread of the corona virus. Several of our Rotary members have now contributed \$500 to replenish funds after the \$1,000 that was spent. They have made 600 masks. When not making masks, the Rossmoor Quilting Club makes quilts for those in need.

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**Sunshine:** Ed S. has medical issues. Al B. is in the hospital. Pat Z.'s surgery has been postponed. Joy is feeling better

**Happy Dollars:** David Brown gave in celebration of his birthday. Patrice was happy to have puzzles. Bill B. was excited about becoming a great grandfather. Jean celebrated a family birthday. Dale, Ruth, and Jann added happy dollars as well.

Jann will be announcing an Ambassador Red Shield meeting soon.

Checks for our cancelled social dinner will be cancelled if requested. New checks should be mailed to Irv at his home.

## PROGRAM



Our own Irv Ford was the speaker of the day. After starting with a joke, he discussed the history of the San Francisco Mint, emphasizing the second Mint. The first mint opened in 1854 to serve

the gold mines of the California Gold Rush and the Nevada area. It quickly outgrew its first building and moved into a new one.



The second building, completed in 1874, was designed by Alfred B. Mullett in a conservative Greek Revival style. Opened in 1874 at 5<sup>th</sup> and Mission, this building is also known affectionately as The Granite Lady, although it was made of sandstone. It is one of the few buildings that survived the great 1906 earthquake. It is a beautiful and ornate architectural wonder which cost \$2,100,000 to build. It had 22 secure vaults with rebar throughout. The granite lady minted gold and silver coins, casting 750,000,000 gold and silver coins during its existence. The number of coins outdid the Philadelphia mint. It served until 1937, when the present facility was opened.

The San Francisco earthquake did some internal and external architectural damage, but the building remained open and functional. Since many banks were devastated by the 1907 quake, the mint became the main bank in San Francisco because it was still functional. In 1961 the Old Mint was designated a National Historic Landmark and, in 1974, it became a California Historic Landmark. The city bought the building for \$1 and they are working on its restoration as a museum.



The new San Francisco Mint Building was built in 1937. It is located at 155 Hermann Street, but only admits visitors on rare exception. They call it the Fort Knox of the West.

## CALENDAR

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| April 29 | Susan Grossman & Michael Barrington – Honduras WASH Program Update |
| May 6    | Kenneth Pon & Katie Gomez – Bringing Education to Honduras         |