



## MEETING NOTES: May 13, 2020

**Call to Order:** Jim Olson called the virtual meeting to order. He read the Rotary affirmation- "committed to service both locally and globally as well as influence community and display passion and energy".

**Guests** were Eva Lucas, Ann Casuel, and Ann Kneissel.

**Sunshine:** Pat Z. had surgery. Joy's shoulder has healed.

**Thought for the Day:** Patrice presented many humorous views of social distancing. It involved spending time counting seeds, getting confused over areas of her house, and confusion about the calendar. Social distancing reminded her of the saying "can't touch them with a 10 ft pole".

**Five Minute Bio:** Paul Wilson arrived in California in 1953. He served in the military where he was involved in JFK's funeral procession. His career involved computer technology and financial services.

**Happy Dollars:** Chuck Lamb, Ruth Reeves, and Jim Olson gave in honor of Mother's Day celebrations.

**Sintaro Project:** John Rice presented follow up on the Sintaro Project in Ethiopia. We help the local schools with advice and education.

**Thank You:** We received thank you letters for our donations to Meals on Wheels, Winter Nights Shelter for Children and LARQ, an Alzheimer's support group.

## PROGRAM

Rossmoor resident, Robert Sieben, spoke on the changing paradigm of fire prevention. He has written a book and given lectures on the subject. He recommended checking out the National Fire Protection Association website for additional information at [www.wildfireprevention.info/new-nfpa-goals-for-home-ignition-zone/](http://www.wildfireprevention.info/new-nfpa-goals-for-home-ignition-zone/)

The primary strategy for the prevention of home fires is reducing the source of ignition in and around our houses. One way to do this is not build homes in highly flammable areas. A positive bi-product of tackling climate change could be a reduction of home fires.

Most wildfires are caused by humans. In cases where homes are affected, ninety percent of the time they are affected by the embers. Therefore, it is essential to monitor your property regularly, keeping a defensive non-ignition space of five to ten feet around your home.

Dead wood should be removed as well. Roofs should be free of leaves and needles. This creates a wildland fuel reduction buffer zone and reduces ground fuel. Keep combustibles away from fences and make the fences out of non-combustible materials. Using metal masonry or stucco between the fence and the house attachment is safer.



All homes should have functioning fire extinguishers readily available inside. There are several things to



remember which will help prevent kitchen fires. When cooking, do not pour water on a grease fire or open a microwave when there is fire inside. When barbecuing, do not use combustible fuel.

There are additional areas inside homes that can be hazardous too. Often there are combustibles under stairs and desks that should be removed. Flammables should be kept at least four inches away from glass windows. No gas should be kept in garages and garage doors should be closed when leaving the home.

Fire prevention requires a year round effort. Alleviating the risk factors in homes is more cost effective than insurance.

## CALENDAR

May 20	Paul Schieffer, Senior Director of Sustainability – Amy's Drive Thru
May 27	Lauren Jonas – Diablo Ballet Performances 2020