

# Rotary



## Club of Livermore

### Club Meeting

Livermore  
Meets at GHMG Hotel (Good Hotel Management Group)  
720 Las Flores Rd.  
Livermore, CA 94551  
Time: Wednesday at 12:00 PM  
No story selected for story\_1

### Club Leaders



Jay Davis  
President



Carolyn Siegfried  
President-Elect



Glenn D. Kubiak  
Treasurer



David Michael Rounds  
Secretary



Patrick Coyle  
Bulletin Editor



Jonathan Hart  
Club Director  
Youth Services



Barbara Hickman  
Attendance Secretary



Dale E. Miller  
Club Director  
International Service



Dennis William O'Brien  
Club Director



James P. Schmidt  
Club Director



Sonya D. Sheffield  
Club Director  
Club Service



Joel C. Swanson  
Club Director

### Rotary Sept 4, 2019

By Don Wentz on Thursday, September 5, 2019

### Spur for Aug 4, 2019

Spur reporter - Lynn Freeman

Photographer -- Pat Coyle

Videographer -- Nile Runge

Audio/Video -- Alan Frank

President Jay Davis was away, so former president Kathy Coyle led the meeting. She asked Linda Tinney to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance, after which the Songsters led us in singing This Land is Your Land. Alan Burnham gave the Thought for the Day.



There were no visiting Rotarians, but several guests of Rotarians: Lawrence Kohl of the Pacific Chamber Orchestra, and Cal Wood, a board member for the Pacific Chamber Orchestra, were introduced by Sonya Sheffield. Our



Don Wentz  
Bulletin Editor



Lance Cavaleri  
Sergeant-at-Arms



Patrick McMenamain  
Rotary Foundation Chair



John Raymond Hudson  
Membership Chair



Kathy S. Coyle  
iPast President



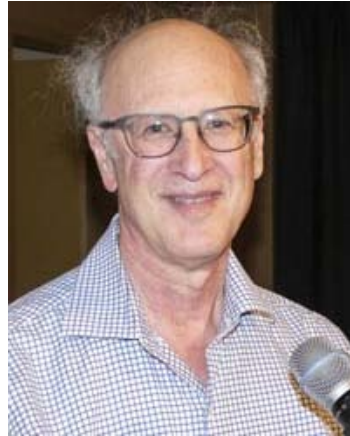
Lee Denlinger  
Assistant Governor

## Events

No Events found



new exchange student, Elisa Delinci from Belgium was introduced by Paul McCandless, and Carolyn Sigfried introduced our speaker, Yoshiko Konaszawa.



Former president Kathy noted that Debbie Peck's husband, Keith, passed away a few weeks ago and that cards were being circulated for club members to sign and send on to Debbie.

Lawrence Kohl, the director of the Pacific Chamber Orchestra, discussed the upcoming 30 anniversary of the Orchestra and invited all to attend the Monumental concert on September 14 at the Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church in Lafayette at 7:30 pm, and the September 15 concert at the Bankhead Theater at 3:00 pm, with party to follow. The concert will feature Beethoven's Ninth Symphony.

Mary Anne Rozsa mentioned that Mini Grant applications are due next Wednesday. Dennis O'Brien requested that the Walk for Vets with be held on Nov 9, 2019 be notede. More information in the "read more" section

Evonne Hopkins introduced our speaker, Yoshiko Kanazawa, who was held in a Japanese intern-ment camp for three and a half years during World Was II. Ms Kanazawa has a bachelors degree from UCLA and a Masters of Education from the University of Illinois, and after many years of silence about the camp, she has decided to speak about her experiences so that it will never happen again.

Prior to WW II, the Japanese government's tremendous need for oil and metal was being stymied by the United States. Japanese military leaders decided on a pre-emptive strike at Perl Harbor on December 7, 1941. That

attack caused the deaths of 2,400 American military as well as 68 civilians. As a consequence, many newspapers and politicians pressured president Roosevelt to remove all people of Japanese ancestry fearing that they might be spies or saboteurs.

There were two groups of Japanese in the US, Issei, who were born in Japan but immigrated to the United States, and Nissei, who were the children and grandchildren of Issei and were United States citizens. All people of Japanese ancestry, especially those near the West Coast, were rounded up quickly and sent to temporary camps in Washington, Oregon, California, Hawaii and parts of Arizona and Alaska. Some 110,000 people were forcibly moved. They each wore a tag with a family- issued identification number, and they could take only a few belongings that they could carry. They had to sell off or leave all other property. They lived in temporary camps in places such as Fresno, Sacramento and Stockton. Ms Kanazawa was a child at the time and her family were removed from the Santa Clara Valley where they lived and sent to a camp in Arizona. They were given a list of items that were permissible to bring, and they traveled by train or bus guarded by armed soldiers. Cameras were not allowed, and they were all given small pox and typhoid vaccinations.

Over the years in the camps, the residents rigged together hospitals, schools, musical groups and even a newspaper. They had Catholic, Buddhist and Christian services.

They managed to endure with the help of three Japanese concepts:

Gaman -- perseverance with patience.

Gambare -- Hang in there

Shikataganai -- The situation cant be helped so make the best of it.

Trouble ensued when all adults were asked to sign two statements; one that they would serve in the US armed forces wherever they were sent, and two, that they would foreswear allegiance to the Japanese emperor and pledge total allegiance to the US. Adults who said no to both statements were sent to a maximum security facility.

Many people of Japanese ancestry did serve in the US military as translators, regular soldiers or in the famous Unit 442. At the end of 1945 the camps were closed and each individual was given \$25.00 and a train ticket to any destination in the US. In 1988 Congress mailed each former detainee a letter of apology and \$20,000 tax free. The kFederal Appeals Court for the Ninth Circuit ruled that the internment was unconstitutional.

Yoshiko Kanazawa concluded her talk to a standing ovation. She suggested that we may wish to visit the Japanese-American Museum on 5<sup>th</sup> Street in Japantown, San Jose.



Next week, Alan Frank will present a program on 150 Years of Livermore and the Railroad.

More photos of our guests and members on the "**read more**" section below.

[Read More](#)

## Links and Advertisers

Check out our Flickr site for all of today's photos and more!  
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/62794352@N07/albums/with/72157709710922731>

Today's video will be available on our web site: <https://livermore-rotary.org/2019-2020/>