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La Rueda

S E R V I C E A B O V E S E L F
THE ROTARY CLUB OF MONTEREY, RI DISTRICT 5230



A Conversation With Supervisor John Phillips

John grew up in the Culver City area of Southern California. During his college and law school years, he worked with his dad at Fox Studios where his dad was a key grip for 20th Century Fox for 40 years.

He graduated from Long Beach State College in 1964 with a B.A. in Political Science.

In 1968 he graduated from Boalt Hall Law School at Berkeley.

After graduation from Law School he practiced Law in Oakland, CA for several years as a civil litigator for a private law firm.

After traveling throughout New Zealand and Australia for a year, John moved to the Monterey area and began his long career at the District Attorney's office in 1971. He served as a Deputy D.A. from 1971 to 1975.

In 1975 he was appointed the Assistant District Attorney in charge of the Salinas office. He served as the Assistant District Attorney until he was appointed to the Monterey Superior Court Bench in 1984. He served on the Monterey County Bench for 21 years before retiring in 2004.

He served as presiding Judge of the Monterey Superior Court in 1989, 1996, 1998-2000. While on the Bench he created the Domestic Violence Court and was the first chairman of the Domestic Violence Council. He also was responsible for the

development of the Mental Health Court. He devoted many years on the Bench to the Family Law Court and was responsible for many of its current innovative services. In 2000 he, along with other concerned citizens, founded Rancho Cielo, a successful and innovative program for at risk youth. Since his retirement in 2004, he has devoted most of his time to the continued development of Rancho Cielo, until he was elected to the Monterey County Board of Supervisors in 2014.

John and his wife, Patti, live in the Prunedale area. They have three grown children; Sara, a teacher in Livermore; Mike, a teacher and coach at North Monterey County High School; and Ellen, Food & Beverage Director at Round Hill Golf Course. They have two grandchildren, Michael and Peyton.

Professional Activities:

- Founder and President of Rancho Cielo
- Jefferson Award, 2002
- Former Board of Directors, Gateway Center
- Citizen of the Year award, Salinas Chamber of Commerce, 2005
- Rotary International Paul Harris Fellowship Award, 2006
- Talcot Bates Award from CAPC, 2008
- Gibson Award, 2009
- Former Board of Director, Community Foundation
- Elected as Monterey County Supervisor 2nd District 11/14
- Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce Ruth Vreeland Memorial Public Official of the Year, 2018
- Elected as Monterey County Supervisor 2nd District 11/18



Wayne Downey



Salvation Army Safari

WAYNE DOWNEY owes a lot to Rotary. He was born in 1937 in Fort Morgan, Colorado, where his father, Gordon, was past-president of the local Rotary Club. Eight years later Gordon traveled to Los Angeles. While there, he attended a Rotary Club meeting and sat next to the Superintendent of Schools in Monterey...who invited Gordon to stop in Monterey on his way to San Francisco...which led to an offer to teach at Monterey High School and three weeks later the family had relocated to Monterey! Wayne remembers: "Since it was the end of World War II and housing was scarce, we had to live for six months in a log cabin in Big Sur. My dad drove the

school bus to Monterey High School. We lived in a one bedroom cabin, my sister and I took heated rocks to bed with us to keep warm while sleeping on the porch. The generator to the area was turned off at 9:00pm."

Now a Californian, Wayne attended MHS, MPC and San Jose State. He began his career in public education by teaching fifth grade in Campbell. A trip back to Colorado in July of 1961 changed his life again. His cousin brought him to a swimming / pool party) in Denver. The party was hosted by an intensive care nurse entertaining 12 of her colleagues from University of Colorado Medical Center. Wayne remembers: "I was the only male and the hostess worked hard to make me feel comfortable. I regretfully returned to California to teach my third year."

At Thanksgiving, the hostess (fellow Rotarian Libby) came out to California to visit and they decided to get married, which they did the following June in her home town of High Point, NC. They returned to California and Wayne enrolled

in graduate school to get his master's. Upon graduating, they moved to Monterey. Libby was the first school nurse at Seaside High School when it opened in 1963 and Wayne taught seventh grade for two years before opening King Junior High School as a counselor.

Wayne's career has included serving as Assistant Principal at Colton Junior High School, Director of District Summer School/Driver Training, 20 years as MPUSD Director of Adult Education/Regional Occupational Program (ROP), MPUSD District Hearing Officer for student expulsion/student transfers, and MPUSD District Affirmation Officer.

Another notable connection for the Downeys occurred during the many years when he was Director of Adult School in MPUSD (which encompassed Monterey, Marina, and Ft Ord). I often employed Generals' wives to teach our English-as-a-second language courses. In one of the Christmas parties given by Gen. Ed Burba, his wife Trish and I shared that she had a daughter at University of Boulder, and I had a son at the Air Force Academy. Guess what? In a year and a half they were married! (Ed Burba was also a member of this Rotary club and many of you "older guys" knew Ed.)

More from Wayne: My community involvement has been both fun and satisfying. Salvation Army has been a primary one with 30 years under my belt. I have served on Board of Trustees for Carmel and Monterey Presbyterian church and was honored to replace Tom McCullough on the Chapman Foundation Board which supports scholarships to local public and private schools.

Libby and I have been married 58 years and are the proud parents to Scott, retired Lt.Col. US Air force-T-38, MH53L Pav Low, A-10. Currently United pilot-787, 777, 747, 737, 727.

Wayne & two sons, Scott and Heath



Son Heath is Account Manager for a Research Company called Thermo-Fisher Scientific. Our daughter Paige previously worked for Tucker and Marks in San Francisco and GSDM Advertising in Austin, TX and is currently a stay-at-home mom. Seven grandchildren ranging from Kindergarten to a Junior at Texas A & M with a full ride as an engineering major.

While attending the Presidents' Conference in Singapore 1999 I was introduced to the idea of a Cog program. Came home and initiated it and have so enjoyed getting to know new members through the program.

Rotary has been a big influence on my life starting when my Dad moved the family to California from Colorado through his Rotary connection, to my membership in this Rotary Club. My thanks to Billy Mac, who brought me into the Club in 1989.

Congratulations go out to Randall Freeman and Nate Kadlecek for completing their COG term.



JANUARY

Thursday – 01/14 Dr. Mara Orscanin – Oceanography: Why Our Beaches Come and Go

Thursday – 01/21 Jorge La Roza – What's Up In Buenos Aires Rotary

Tuesday – 01/26 COG Meeting – 5:30 PM (Via Zoom)

Thursday – 01/28 Board Meeting – 8:00 AM (Via Zoom)

Thursday – 01/28 TBA

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Support The Martin/Hurd Rotary Club of Monterey Fund

at the CFMC that provides grants to local non-profit organizations supporting youth and scholarships for students.

For More Information:
<http://www.cfmc.org/about-us/fund-list/rotary-club-monterey-martinhurd-fund/>



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Dan O'Brien – January 3

*A special thank you to our
Sergeant at Arms, Gregg Wutke
for hosting the **Holiday Social**
on December 15, 2020.
A great time was had by all, including
new members and old members truly cele-
brating the Holiday Season
together in fellowship.*