



ROSSMOOR ROTARY NEWS



President: Sue A **Address:** PO Box 2177, Walnut Creek CA 94595 D5160 Club 461

Notes: Teddi S **Photos:** Paul W March 6, 2024

Club Website: www.rossmoorrotary.org

District Website: www.rotary5160.org

MEETING NOTES: 03/06/24

Call to Order: President Sue rang the meeting to order at 12:30. David B led the flag salute. The Patriotic song was "This is Your Land – Wild Blue Yonder."

Guests and Visiting Rotarians: There were two visiting Rotarians, Tom R from Oakland Rotary and Tom from Bloomington, IN. Guests were Victoria H and David C and Barbara R.

Thought for the Day: Eddie F: "It is impossible to live without failing at something – unless you live so cautiously that you might as well not have lived at all; in which case you fail by default." – J.K. Rowling. "Your mind is like a parachute: If it doesn't open it doesn't work." - Buzz Aldrin

Happy Dollars: Joy A. the members who attended the Presidents Elect Training all loved Carolyn H., Carolyn H. for the future Presidents Elect Training, David B. happy to see Merilee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

South Spring Assembly in Fairfield on March 23.

Introductions/Awards: David L new member and Anita C new member.

Raffle- Joy A. won a bottle of wine and David L. won a bottle of wine.

PROGRAM

Our own Rotary member, California Associate Justice Ignacio "Nace" Ruvolo (Ret.) spoke to us about the Appellate Court system in California.

The Appellate Court in California is made up of six districts, and each district has from one to five divisions. The largest districts are San Francisco area, L.A. area, and Sacramento area. Our San Francisco area, District Four, has five divisions. Nace became presiding justice of Division Four in 2006.

The Appellate Courts must take all appeals from final decisions of the lower Superior Courts of California. The California Supreme Court has discretion as to which Appellate Court appeals it will hear. But the Appellate

Courts have no discretion as to the cases they will hear. Most of their cases are criminal cases, as every convicted criminal has a right to an appeal. If they have a public defender, it costs them little. Civil appeals however can be expensive. The appellants must pay for their attorneys and must pay for the preparation of briefs and evidence before the court.

Each Division has four judges. Since only three judges sit on every case, they rotate the cases. If the presiding judge is one of the three, that judge decides who writes the opinion. If two judges disagree with the opinion, then one of the other judges writes the opinion and the first judge can do a dissent.

The Appellate Courts also hear writs from appellants before or during trial. Here the Court has discretion as to whether or not to take the case. Each division has a Writ Attorney who vets the writs and suggests to the judges which writs to hear. Only about 10% of writs are granted a hearing.

After the hearing in an appellate case, the judges are bound by the 90-day rule. They must decide the case in 90 days, or they do not get paid! This keeps the cases moving. Only about 10% of appellate cases are published. If the case is not published it cannot be used as precedent on later cases.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mar 13	10:30 Club Board of Directors meeting
Mar 13	Connor Merrigan – Summit Financial
Mar 27	10:30 RRF Trustee meeting
Mar 27	John King – SF Chronicle Journalist

PHOTOS



