



ROSSMOOR ROTARY NEWS



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

Notes: Jaems O **Photos:** Paul W April 17, 2024

Club Website: www.rossmoorrotary.org

District Website: www.rotary5160.org

MEETING NOTES: 04/17/2024

Call to Order: Sue called the meeting to order, David led the Pledge, the patriotic song National Anthem, from the Women's NCAA Basketball Championship

Guests and Visiting Rotarians: Tom C. Guest Speaker; Tom P. Patrice's husband; Debbie R. Moraga Rotary; Philip M. guest; Richard G., Diablo View, W.C., Rotary; welcome return member Steve E.; Jack P., Lamorinda Rotary.

Thought for the Day: Carolyn: "Oprah Winfrey says, 'Everyone wants to ride in the limo with you, but what you want is someone who will take the bus with you when the limo breaks down.'"

Happy Dollars: Bill B.; Carolyn H.; Eddie F.; and David B.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

John R- Rossmoor Rotary Foundation Nominating Committee, Jim O., Patrice J, and Connie P., submitted these candidates for the upcoming May 22, 2024, annual meeting of the Foundation; Freda A., Mike S., and Bill Br. Additional nominees can be submitted prior to the annual meeting. If not, a voice vote by acclamation will succeed. If more nominees are introduced, election by ballot will be required. Please give names of new nominees to John R., or Eddie F.

Carolyn H.- First breakfast at Trinity Center including members will be Thursday, May 2, 2024, from 7-9 am

Raffle- Jim O. got the yogurt; Joy A. drew the money. Hooray! \$197 to be donated to the Brian Fund.

PROGRAM

The speaker was Tom C; Deputy Athletics Director & Associate Vice-President Advancement and Athletics, St. Mary's College, Moraga. Tom gave a thorough review of the state of NCAA collegiate athletics nationwide, and the prominent place of a small college of 2200 located in our neighborhood.

The landscape of college athletics, i.e., football, basketball, has seen prominent schools such as, CAL, USC, Stanford, and UCLA, moved from West to East. Regardless, St. Mary's, the smallest school in the NCAA Basketball tournament, was the top of 2 California schools in the tournament.

He also discussed the complicated creation in 2018 of the "Transfer Portal," enabling athletes to transfer amongst schools and compete. He also discussed the Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) "Fair Pay to Play" act enabling athletes to receive compensation for their services to their schools.

Tom emphasized the importance at St. Mary's of the "student athlete." At St. Mary's, there are 340 student athletes for seventeen team sports. 150 of the 340 have GPA's of 3.25. There is a ninety-five percent graduation rate. The valedictorian for 2023 was a member of the women's soccer team.

During the past sixteen years, St. Mary's is only one of four teams in the nation to have had post season success. For the past fifteen years St. Mary's has had the highest winning percentage, .771% in California amongst twenty-four Divisions.

All proud accomplishments for "the little school that could."

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 24	Member Bios
May 1	Sgt. Kyle Baker, Pittsburg PD – Human Trafficking
May 8	10:30 Club Board of Directors Meeting
May 8	Bill Leary – <i>Rossmoor News</i> Columnist

PHOTOS



Sue and speaker Tom