



Rotary ROSSMOOR ROTARY NEWS



President: Carolyn H **Address:** PO Box 2177, Walnut Creek CA 94595 D5160 Club 461

Notes: Jim O. **Photos:** Paul W. April 16, 2025

Club Website: www.rossmoorrotary.org

District Website: www.rotary5160.org

MEETING NOTES: 04/16/2025

Call to Order: President Carol called the meeting to order. David B. led the pledge. The patriotic song was a bluegrass medley of the National Anthem.

Guests and Visiting Rotarians: Doug S. (former Rotarian from Walnut Creek Sunrise) interested in our club; Ed J. (guest of Anne H.), past-president and current member of Oakland Rotary.

Thought for the Day: Patrice told us Ten Things that Require Zero Talent. 1. Being on Time; 2. Making an Effort; 3. Having a Positive Attitude, etc.

Happy Dollars: Bill B., happy on receiving his Paul Harris Award; David B., happy for being happy; Nace, finally got a replacement of his PC that he likes; Jim D., his wife's cousin plays for the A's and is leading the American League in homeruns; John K., going to Porto in a couple of weeks staying in a "timeshare" he won at our Gala "pre-covid;" and John S. for seeing a movie on Peacock he liked.

Sunshine Report: Jean D. still recovering from surgery. Get well soon!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

District 5160 Annual Conference-May 2-4, San Ramon. Still taking registrations. 150-200 participants expected. This is a worthy event to get excited about Rotary.

Rotary Foundation Board Meeting-Chair Eddie F. announced that Jim O. will complete the term of Mike S. He announced that Sharon L., Teddi S., and Anne H., want to serve on the Foundation Board until 2027. John R., treasurer will be termed out and is seeking someone to replace him. This is a highly important job. We are hopeful someone with experience will step up. The Foundation's annual meeting where candidates will be voted on by all Club members, is Wednesday, May 21, 2025. If any other club members are interested in serving on the Board, please let Eddie F., or John R., know by May 7.

Trinity Update-Carolyn is working on training members to work in the Trinity mailroom. Work begins in May. Members will be assigned to work 2 hours, once a week, each month. This is an ongoing project.

Blackhawk Museum Tour- April 30, 2025. Lunch and regular meeting will take place before. Then we will carpool to the museum for a 2-hour tour.

Member Anniversaries- Freda A., 4/2022. Norm A., 4/2024

Membership- Prospective member, Susan S. has registered waiting the Club Boards vote.

Program Committee Update- Jim O., lead, described the purpose of the program committee; who is on the committee; when the committee meets; how guest speakers are found and selected; and, where to find information on when and who guest speakers will be and their topics. The goal of the committee is to select speakers and programs that are topical, interesting, not repetitive, and interesting to our members and guests.

Fun and Games- Carolyn led by calling on members to stand. She told stories about experiences that members had previously stated. She then asked us to choose which members she called on had those experiences. Those who hadn't were asked to sit. The one who remained standing would then tell us more about their experiences. It was fun and revealing.

Raffle: Jim O., lunch; John K., wine.

PROGRAM

Sharon L. was born in San Francisco, 3/41. Lived in a basement house on Waller Street in the Haight /Ashbury. At 10, the family moved to Sunnyvale. Fruit processing was the main industry then.

Her first job was cutting apricots at 12 years old working alongside Mexican Braceros. She earned 50 cents a tray earning \$12.50 a week. She used her earnings to buy school clothes and supplies.

Tract homes started to be built, and her dad worked long hours doing sheetrock installations. Her mother negotiated to buy a 3 bedroom, 1bath home for \$13,000. It is now valued at \$2,212,500.

Sharon consistently pursued leadership roles in school. She was high school Treasurer, and a "pom-pom" girl. At 19, she went to work for Lockheed Missiles and Space Division that had just moved there. She was the only woman in the Guidance and Control lab. Her most memorable moments were huddling in front of a TV watching Alan Shepard and John Glenn make their historic space flights.

She met her husband Ed at Lockheed in 1963. They married in 1963, had two children, and lived in Los Gatos for 38 years.

In the 70's she started in high tech and worked her way up to Marketing Director earning a 6-figure salary. She walked in with her resume to apply for a job at American Microsystems. In this career, she worked for 5 different companies. Working for Philips Semiconductors led her to managing promotions and resolving issues for the sales team. Another memorable experience happened at a trade show standing in a crowd next to Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak.

In 2000, she retired and moved with Ed to Lone, in the California gold country. She again put her organizational skills to raise money to create a skateboard park. She led the town in establishing a visioning project, a written document with a 15-year vision plan for growth and development. In 2005, she became Community Outreach Manager for an open space preservation project. She then joined Rotary. Rotary helped build a library, a Veterans Memorial Park, and women's shelter.

In 2011, her husband passed away after 48 years of marriage. In 2020, she moved to Rossmoor and transferred her Rotary membership. Our Rotary has provided her wonderful meaning and comfort especially during the time she lost her son to alcoholism.

Despite not having any grandchildren, she has her wonderful companion---her dog Missy.

Dick O. was born in Brooklyn. Dick moved to Long Island when in high school and lived there until finishing college. He joined the Navy and went to Newport R.I., then he received orders to go to San Diego.

Dick’s impressions of California life were formed by watching the Rose Bowl, dressing in bermuda shorts, and listening to popular music of the Beach Boys, regaling pretty girls in bikinis, and participating in the beach scene.

His first time in an airplane was on a TWA Boeing 707, flying to California. He went from the very cold, to the very warm. His first beach experience in California was shocking. He did not know that the Pacific was not the Atlantic.

His first naval duty in San Diego was on the staff of a Vice-Admiral who was commander of the First Fleet. His second was as a skipper on a swift boat in Viet Nam.

After discharge from the Navy, he went back to Long Island. He dreaded the thought of commuting back and forth to work in Manhattan each day dreaming of California.

Watching Rice A Roni ads on TV and seeing cable cars ascending the streets of San Francisco, he decided San Francisco was where he wanted to be. When he arrived in San Francisco, he only knew one person, his apartment manager. The following Monday, he began what became a 43-year career in the investment business. He never left the Bay Area.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 23	Lauren MacDonald – St. Mary’s College Museum – Works of Art
April 30	Blackhawk Museum Tour and Lunch
May 2-5	District Meeting – San Ramon
May 7	Bryan Riddle – Home Placement Services

PHOTOS



