

2019 - 2020

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ROTARY DISTRICT 5160

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John Wenzel: Webmaster
Bill Kinsey: Public Relations Chair

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IMPORTANT MEETINGS

10/08 Board Meeting 7 AM
Buttercup Restaurant
11/12 Charitable Fund: 6 PM
US Bank



UGANDA COMPUTER LAB DONATION



Past President Chris Ruzicka accepted a check for \$1,000 from **Daniel Kodam's** Danville/Sycamore Rotary Club. **John Wenzel** worked with Daniel to complete the funding of the Uganda Computer Lab. **Past President Irene Davids-Blair** and **Madam President Julia Dawson** happily accepted the check and thanked the grant committee for their tireless work: John Wenzel, Larry Hutchings, and Torsten Jacobson. John also contributed \$10 to the club.

“WILL THE MEETING PLEASE COME TO ORDER”



THOUGHT OF THE DAY FROM DON OUMET



Tell Me and I Forget,
Teach Me and I Remember,
Involve Me and I Learn.

—Benjamin Franklin



TODAY'S GUESTS



WALTER NELSON
Lamorinda Rotary Club



DR. CARLOS de la ROSA & HOLY HUGHES
of the Lindsay Wildlife Experience



ALBA

Club Services



Club Services Chair Barbara Reifschneider and her assistant, **Alba**, announced that **the District Governor Tina Akin** will attend our meeting September 26.

"Friday Night Live" September party will be held at **Commissioner Joan D'Onofrio's** house. She's having it there because it is her and **Don Ouimet's** birthday: September 27 at 3731 Merridan Drive Concord. Starts at 6 pm and ends whenever.

Fall Seminars: Register Now

District 5160's Fall Training Seminars are here. The Fall Seminars are an opportunity for Rotarians from across the District to come together to strengthen our Clubs. The theme of this year's Seminars is the Rotary 3-legged stool: Public Relations/Branding, Foundation and Membership. This is a chance to better understand how these three areas of focus work together to strengthen your Club. These Assemblies have new and improved breakout sessions. And free lite breakfast and free lunch!

Everyone is encouraged to attend. Yes, I mean everyone. New members can learn more about Rotary. Club leadership and more experienced members can get together to share best practices and new ideas to strengthen your Club. We all have room to learn more!

Register now, let us know you'll attend. There is so much more. Of course, the best part is the fun of hanging out with Rotarians from other clubs and communities and learning from one another.



Fall Training Seminar – Fairfield Saturday, October 5, 2019 Location: Fairfield High School, 205 E. Atlantic Ave, Fairfield

Fall Training Seminar – Redding Saturday, October 19, 2019 Location: Simpson College 2211 College View Drive, Redding

Questions? Contact District Trainers Claire Roberts (cmroberts@comcast.net) or Patricia Bergman (pcochranb@hughes.net)

AWARDS



Madame President bestowed the "Service Star President Awards" on **Secretary Fred Nelson** and **SSA Rob Waldman** for the indispensable work they do week after week, year after year. Fred has been a stable force in our club for what seems like forever while Rob handles the badges and schedules the banner workflow each week.



Really Great News... and Just in Time for World Polio Day

President-elect Vicki Sexton spoke with the **Oakhurst County Club General Manager, Mike Vandergoes**, Thursday afternoon about placing a banner for **World Polio Day** on the building that will be seen from Clayton Road, as well as a "Rotary Meets Here" sign somewhere on the property. Vicki reported that Mike is all for it. She said: "Now we need to get banners as soon as possible as well as some volunteers to hang it on the building. Then we will walk the property after our next meeting to see where a good place would be for our permanent sign. Any volunteers?" No sooner said than done. **Community Services Co-sponsor Clayton Worsdell** immediately stepped up to the plate and volunteered. **Secretary Fred Nelson** and **Rotary Foundation Chair Ken Nishimori** are researching and, thus, a committee is formed.

A Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary Project

Walter Nelson of the Lamorinda Rotary Club displayed a wine basket fund raising project that his club is sponsoring for children who age out of the foster care system. He told us that John Muir Land Trust through its program, **Family Harvest Farm**, will operate an urban farm and culinary garden in Pittsburg for the benefit of those traumatized youth who are some of the most at-risk youth in California and the United States.

When leaving the foster care system, these youth are often left without family, adequate housing, income, and other support systems. Statistics for these youth demonstrate an unfortunate reality in our society. Four years after aging out of the foster care system: · 25% have been homeless · 42% have become parents themselves · Less than half have graduated from high school · More than 80% are unable to support themselves. Family Harvest will employ these more traumatized youth, as they are especially in need of healing. As these youth transition out of foster care, they need continuing support, especially jobs, so they can continue in school or begin work in a chosen field. To help in this event, Walter is raffling a basket of wine.



Tickets are only \$10 each

It Takes a Village



Dave and Mary with Jackie Gleason the driving force behind making this happen shown here with the donated vehicle, the family who received it, and Jackie's group.

Thanks to **Dave and Mary Kemnitz**, the Clayton Concord Sunrise Rotary Foundation, and the kindness of strangers for providing help to a local homeless family.

In mid-August, during an extreme heat wave, a local Concord resident, **Kathy Gleason**, found a homeless family of four living in their 4-door Toyota Corolla sedan behind Hobby Lobby in Concord. The family included two children ages five and 10 years old. She stopped to offer them cold water and discovered the car was filled with personal belongings with little room to sit much less sleep in. Kathy and her friend **Kathy Barnett** brought them food, water, clothing and toys daily until their car died, leaving them to survive on the streets.

When Kathy posted a plea for help on Facebook, **Sharon McGinnis Girdlestone** from the Lamorinda Families Facebook website answered the call for help. After Sharon posted a plea on Lamorinda Families, **Debbi Babb** stepped up to repost and request \$100 per family, and **Sarah David** reposted on her Lamorinda Treasures website. Collectively, Lafayette and Orinda families donated \$5,000 to purchase a van and to house the family in a motel until a van could be found. Kathy also raised funds for motel nights through Facebook friends, and she and local resident **Anna Chan** provided food, drinks, toys and clothing for the kids to wear to school.

With the intention of finding a vehicle for the family, Kathy ran into **John Hemm** at Safeway and mentioned the family and the need for a vehicle. John suggested contacting Dave and Mary Kemnitz at D & H Enterprises in Concord. John talked with Mary and Dave who told him that they might have the perfect vehicle for this family! As it turned out they had a beautiful 2010 Chrysler Town and Country van for sale. The van had been donated to the Rotary. A discounted price was negotiated and the van was purchased and presented to the homeless family September 11 which was a miracle considering that this all transpired in about 3 weeks.

Through a member of Lamorinda Families, this homeless family now benefits from shelter and counseling at Winter Nights, a rotating family shelter sponsored by churches in Orinda. It truly took a village to accomplish this "miracle and will be followed up to ensure that the two children in this family get the help they need to live a normal, stable life.

SEPTEMBER MILESTONES

Length of Service



John Wolfe has been a Rotarian for 27 years while **Clayton Worsdell** hits his 10th year. All are diligent Rotarians and contribute so much to our Club: Clayton and his photography, John for scheduling very interesting speakers throughout the years, and Carrie Kroeger has been a Rotarian for 8 years.

Happy Birthday

Miles Bell 11th, Ben Wentling 20th, Mary Kemnitz 15th, Bill Arena 25th, Eric Rehn 20th, Joan D'Onofrio 29th, and Don Ouimet 30th.

Happy Wedding Anniversary's

Clayton and Carol Worsdell 6th, Tommy and Vanessa Wolf 10th, Jeff and Meg Rondini 15th, Larry Hutchings and Dennis 20th, Rich and Pam Lueck 22nd, Ken and Phyllis Nishimori 26th, and Monica and Matt Fraga 29th.

HAPPY BUCKS



Check out the cool **Wenzel Dudes** who donated \$20 Happy Bucks in honor of **Ian's** first baseball game.

Neither was at the Thursday meeting, but they wanted us to know what the two of them have been up to.



Vicki Sexton is happy to report that Saturday she is off to her High School's 50th reunion and will challenge Miles Bell regarding the women not being so hot looking at his reunion. Vicki guarantees us that the women at her high school will still be fabulous looking.

John Wolfe is back from his Mississippi River cruise that held 177 passengers all of whom developed an upper respiratory illness at the end of the vacation. Otherwise they had a great time in New Orleans and even visited the World War II Museum.





Let's face it, **Jeff Wilson** is one heck of a successful real estate broker. He is happy to report that he has many properties in the pipeline.



Ladies and gentlemen, meet your NYC tour guide. Seems **Monica Fraga** has plantar fasciitis. Despite that, in a few weeks Monica will be off and running with 44 tourists in tow. The cure we are told is a pastrami sandwich at the Stage or Carnegie Delicatessens. Oooops, just found out they are both closed. You'll have to go to Katz's Deli but it is in lower Manhattan on Houston St. It is worth it as it is the best ever.

TODAY'S SPEAKER

LINDSEY WILDLIFE EXPERIENCE



Program Coordinator John Wolfe introduced us to **Executive Director Dr. Carlos de la Rosa**, Animal Handler **Holy Hughes**, and **Alba** the owl who told us that the Lindsay Wildlife Experience saves animals lives, teaches and inspires children and adults through up-close-and personal encounters with live wild animals, and strengthens the connection between people and the natural world. It was established in 1955 by **Alexander "Sandy" Lindsay** who started by teaching neighborhood children about

nature in the early 1950s. He soon drew parents in to help, and this group of civic-minded people incorporated as the Diablo Junior Museum Association with a governing board of directors in June 1955.

Initially housed in an elementary school, the museum began offering school age children summer classes and field trips focused on the natural world. In 2015, the name Lindsey Wildlife Museum was changed to Lindsay Wildlife Experience to better illustrate what the center means to the community and visitors.

Lindsay Wildlife currently serves more than 100,000 visitors each year, including 40,000 school children. Approximately 600 volunteers are active in the Lindsay's work, contributing more than 120,000 hours of service each year to education, wildlife care, operations, fundraising and outreach. In 2012 the Lindsay was re-accredited by the American Alliance of Museums.

MEET OUR SPEAKER

Dr. Carlos de la Rosa received his Ph.D. in Ecology from the University of Pittsburgh, was Adjunct Professor/Senior Researcher at the University of Costa Rica, worked extensively in environmental education programs, sustainability issues, and conservation of wildlife and wildlands. He has led wildlife protection and conservation programs in California, Florida, and Central America and is committed to communicating to the public the urgency for a better relationship with nature and wildlife.

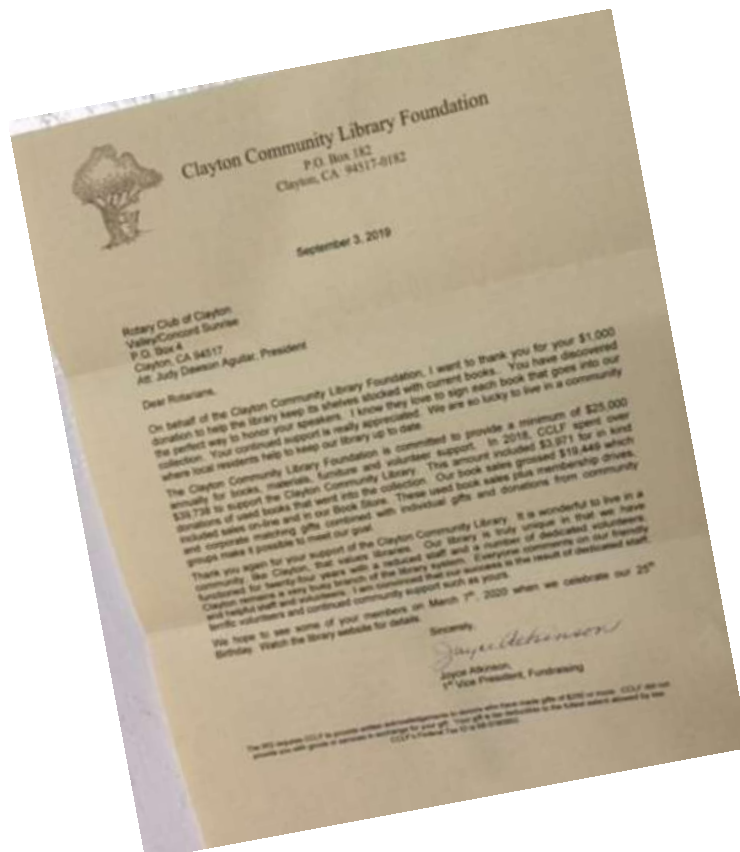
After an extensive search, Dr. de la Rosa was selected to serve as the Executive Director of the wildlife hospital and 64-year-old education center at the Lindsey Wildlife Experience. Dr. de la Rosa believes that, besides our innate human drive to nurture and care for helpless creatures, saving an animal can do something else of great value to conservation of species. It reaches deep into our emotional centers; it puts us in contact with information while in a highly emotional state of caring and attention. It galvanizes us to want to do something to help, to donate our time, money, or talents. It makes us want to ACT..



Literacy Program



After each presentation, we donate a book to the Clayton Library once it is signed by the speakers of the day as part of our Literacy Program. This week we received a thank you letter from the library regarding our Club's generous donations.



THE GALLERY

From the lens of Barbara Reifschneider on one of her early morning walks.



...and this from Clayton's photo collection.



ALWAYS LEAVE 'EM LAUGHING

VERY CLEVER

Don Ouimet told us this story about a man who had worked all of his life and saved all of his money. Don said that he was a real miser when it came to his money. He loved money more than just about anything, and just before he died, he told me that he instructed his wife to take all his money and place it in the casket with him. He wanted to take all his money to the afterlife.

So he got his wife to promise with all her heart that when he died, she would put all the money in a box and place it in the casket.

Well, one day he died. He was stretched out in the casket while his wife was sitting there in black next to their best friends. When the ceremony was finished, and just before Don got ready to close the casket, the wife said, "Wait a minute!" She had the box and placed it in the casket. Then Don locked the casket and rolled it away.

One of her friends said, "I hope you weren't crazy enough to put all that money in there with that stingy old man." She said, "Yes, I promised. I'm a good Christian, I can't lie. I promised him that I was going to put his money in the casket with him."

Don heard what was going on and he said: "You mean to tell me you put every cent of his money in the casket with him?"

"I sure did," said the wife. "I got it all together, put it into my account and I wrote him a check. It's in the box"

KEEP 'EM COMING

A man goes into a bar and seats himself on a stool. The bartender looks at him and says, "What'll it be buddy?"

The man says, "Set me up with five whiskey shots, and make 'em doubles."

The bartender does this and watches the man slug one down, then the next, then the next, and so on until all five are gone almost as quickly as they were served.

Staring in disbelief, the bartender asks why he's doing all this drinking.

"You'd drink 'em this fast too if you had what I have."

The bartender hastily asks, "What do you have pal?"

The man quickly replies, "I only have a dollar."

...that's all folks.