

2020 - 2021

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Clayton Worsdell: Photographer  
Mary Kernitz  
Rich Lueck  
Barbara Reifschneider

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## COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Miles Bell: Program Chair  
John Wenzel: Webmaster  
Bill Kinsey: Public Relations Chair  
Bill Selb: Pancake Breakfast Chair

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## IMPORTANT MEETINGS 2020

12/8 Board Meeting 7 AM  
Zoom  
TBA Charitable Fund 5:30 PM  
Zoom



# “THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE”



CLAYTON WORSDELL, 1962, FORT EUSTIS VIRGINIA

November 11<sup>TH</sup> is Veterans Day. This year, on October 30<sup>th</sup>, the President signed a proclamation declaring the entire month of November to be National Veterans and Military Families Month. In 1999, the late Senator John McCain introduced formal legislation to designate the month of May as National Military Appreciation Month. Since then, November is now a time to acknowledge the tremendous sacrifices our military families made, and continue to make. The entire month of November, therefore, is dedicated to the Veterans and their families by so we may honor, remember, recognize, and appreciate those who have served and those who are now serving.

# “Will the Meeting Please Come to Order”

President Vicki Sexton called the 19<sup>th</sup> meeting to order. (Actually, it's our 33<sup>rd</sup> zoom meeting.)



## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY



“The positive thinker sees the invisible, feels the intangible, and achieves the impossible.”

— Winston Churchill, My Early Life, 1874-1904

## TODAY'S GUESTS



**HERBERT MUYINGA**



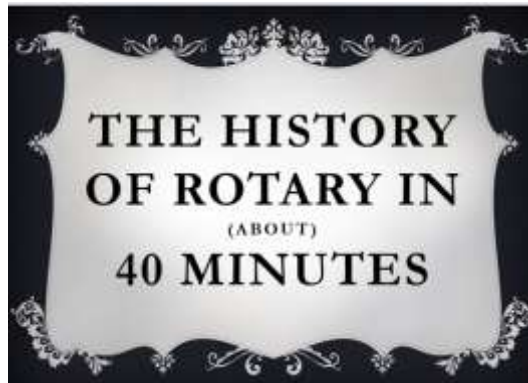
**DEB LUYLIMA**

Representing the Rotary Club of Muyenga, Uganda

# A ROTARY MINUTE

Clayton Worsdell Brings You  
The History of Rotary in 40 Minutes—One Minute at a Time

## 1924 – Inner Wheel

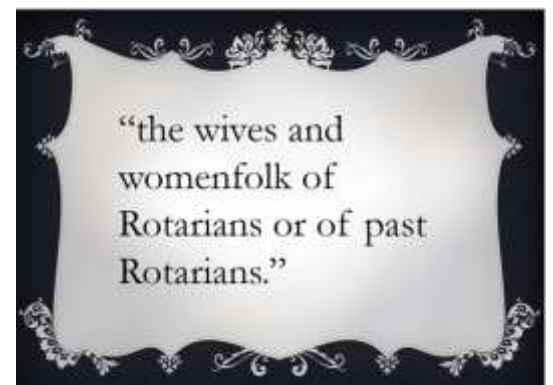


Even before the term “Rotary Ann” was coined the wives of Rotarians had joined together in many, many forms for fun and fellowship and to support the volunteer community service of their husbands. As hard as they and their husbands tried the Rotary International Board steadfastly refused to embrace the idea of a women’s version of Rotary.



Then, in 1924, Mrs. Margarette Golding, a nurse, business woman and the wife of a Manchester, England Rotarian, started the Inner Wheel movement.

Her new organization was formed exclusively for the “the wives and womenfolk of Rotarians or of past Rotarians.”



Today, International Inner Wheel boasts 100,000 members in 3,900 clubs in over 100 countries around the globe.

Including here in the US and including District 5160 where the Inner Wheel Club of El Cerrito works in close partnership with the Rotary Club of El Cerrito. Its purpose, among other things, is for “Happier Futures” by “helping children around the world now.”

**Thank you. This has been the 16<sup>th</sup> minute of the History of Rotary in (about) 40 Minutes.**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**President Vicki Sexton** welcomed us to this morning's meeting and made the following announcements:



## 2021/22 NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee members, **Larry Hutchings**, **Monica Fraga**, **Tommy Wolf**, and **Julia Aguilar**, presented the list of projected new executive officers and directors for the 2021 – 2022 term. The Secretary position will be forthcoming. Voting will take place at the December 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

**PRESIDENT-ELECT  
MARY KEMNITZ**



**TREASURER  
VICKI SEXTON**



**SERGEANT AT ARMS  
BOB SUNDBERG**



### DIRECTORS

**CLUB SERVICES  
BARBARA REIFSCHNEIDER**



**FOUNDATION  
KEN NISHIMORI**



**YOUTH SERVICES  
TOMMY LEE WOLF**



**VOCATIONAL SERVICE  
MILES BELL**



### DIRECTORS OF CHARITABLE FUND

**HUGH TOLUI**

**LARRY HUTCHINGS**

**BILL SELB**

**No meetings will be held on 11/26, 12/24, and 12/31.**



## “WHEN DID I BECOME A ROTARIAN”

**Monica Fraga** presented the monthly version of when she realized the moment had come when she was a Rotarian. Monica said that just as soon as she came into Rotary she also took over the running of her family's travel agency known as Travel to-Go. Almost instantly, **Chris Ruzicka** got her interested in handling the Youth Services program. Chris showed her the ropes, and that's when she felt the call. She got her family involved and made great friends. She planned many travel trips for many of our members while we pretty much grew up with her son Ritchie. In fact, Monica said that Ritchie never hesitated to use the Four-Way Test in moments of family disagreements and say to her, “*Mom Is this fair to all concerned*”?



But Monica's magic moment came on a trip to San Felipe, with a large group of our members and participated in the Cancer Walk. Torsten's input, the walk, helping at the clinic, and socializing with so many members that she realized she had come full circle and understood why we do what we do. She said, “*My whole family became involved in Rotary, and it was at that moment, on that trip, when I understood and realized what Rotary was all about. I was now a true Rotarian.*”



THE CANCER WALK EVENT



## STUDENT ART PROGRAM UPDATE



We are living up to the 'Inner Wheel Campaign' by reaching out to young children through art. Our goal is to have students from each continent throughout the world, participate in art challenges and competitions. **Deb Luyima** and our team are relieved to report that the medals for the student winners in Uganda were finally received. Deb will present them and take photos. The winning students will receive the medals while all participants will receive the pin.



## CARS 2<sup>ND</sup> CHANCE



**Larry Hutchings** and **Mary Kemnitz** reported that \$10,000 was received from Copart for four cars. The Lamorinda Rotary presented and signed MOU's with Project Healing Water, the Paradise Rotary, the San Pablo Rotary, and the Orinda Association. The Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing organization, dedicated to the physical and emotional rehabilitation of disabled active military service personnel and disabled veterans through fly fishing, just signed on.



Larry also announced that C2C will be depositing a little over \$8,000 into the Charitable Foundation account. They recently deposited \$4,000.00 in the account, so the monies are coming in nicely thanks to the C2C program and the Team.

The MOU is a document we created and it is a quasi-contract between us and the new partners. Mary said, *"I want to applaud Larry and let him know that we are appreciative of his efforts in this endeavor. C2C meetings are held every other Monday. Everyone works together. It is a great thing, and we have made so much progress."*

## NEWS FROM SAN FELIPE

**Rich Lueck**, **Clayton Worsdell**, and **Joan D'Onofrio** attended the San Felipe Rotary Monday morning meeting, via zoom, and had the opportunity to listen to the District 4100 **Governor Oscar Guillermo Nava** speak. **Carlos Carillo** translated. **Tina Sweeney** and **Anna McCort** reported that they are getting the "My Hero" student art program started.

# FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

FUND



RAISING NEWSLETTER #5  
COMMITTEE REPORT

*Choose Your Fun: Walk or Run for Rotary*



GREETINGS ALL:

AS OF THIS MORNING'S ZOOM MEETING WE ARE NOW UP TO 49 REGISTRANTS. AND BY A SHOW OF HANDS THERE ARE MORE COMING. WITH TEN DAYS TO GO WE'RE STILL HOPING FOR 100.

MONICA AND MILES HAVE AGREED ON THE DESIGN FOR THE T-SHIRTS. MILES STATES THAT HE IS WAITING FOR THE FINAL COUNT BEFORE PLACING THE ORDER.

VICKI HELD UP THE MEDALS FOR US ALL TO SEE AND THEY LOOK TERRIFIC.

OUR MAIN FOCUS, AT THIS TIME, IS COMMUNICATING THE EVENT. THE RECENT ISSUE OF THE DIABLO GAZETTE HAD A NICE ARTICLE ON THE EVENT AND OUR ROTARY CLUB. HOPEFULLY CLUB MEMBERS ARE GETTING THE WORD OUT TO FRIENDS AND FAMILY. AND VICKI IS ARRANGING TO SPREAD THE WORD TO THE DV8 CLUBS.

REMEMBER , THERE ARE TWO PLACES ON [CLAYTONVALLEYROTARY.COM](http://CLAYTONVALLEYROTARY.COM) WEBSITE TO REGISTER. ONE IS A STANDALONE LINK JUST UNDER THE POLIO PLUS PART ON THE HOMEPAGE. THE OTHER LINK IS UNDER THE MEETINGS AND EVENTS DROP DOWN MENU AT THE TOP OF THE HOMEPAGE ON THE LEFT SIDE. LET'S ALL PITCH IN AND MAKE THIS EVENT SUCCESSFUL.





# THE NELSON FAMILY



Dear Rotarian Friends,

The family and I thank you for the special Rotary meeting last week. The slide show, your anecdotes, and comments about Fred you shared with us were all priceless. I am so glad that our sons had the chance to “meet” you and have a little taste of what a special group Rotary has been all these years for their Dad.

It was a sad time because we all miss him, it was happy because we all loved him, and it was healing to hear you put your feelings into words. He loved being a Rotarian, and he loved working with all of you.

Bless you,  
Lois

PS I have loved being a part of Rotary all these years also and hope to be able to continue seeing you.

## Letters to the Editor

*I am so very sorry to hear about Fred. I can't imagine the rotary without him. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife and family and everyone that his life has touched.*

**Pamela Jensen**

*The Rotary World lost a Real Champion. Those shoes will be hard to fill. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family, personal and Rotary.*

**Rob Waldman, D.D.S.**

*Fred was a great guy with a fantastic laugh. I took your advice in the last newsletter and called him. He definitely was surprised to hear from me, but we had a good talk for about 10 minutes. He sounded in good spirits.*

**Rich Bailey**

Tucson, Arizona

*I just picked up Joan's dedication remarks to Fred only to learn of his passing. I am so shocked and saddened. What a special and wonderful friend. He was such a straight arrow of character—uncomplicated, straightforward, true to his word...and fun. A true Rotarian, through and through.*

**Memory Woodard**



# MILESTONES

## Happy 50<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary

This Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>, **Bob** and **Aleta Huck** will celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Funny thing is, 1970 the year they were married, turned out it was also on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>. Bob said they were married in Eckert, Colorado.

Aleta and Bob were both working at a grocery store for the summer during their break from college. They eventually connected at a company picnic in 1969 and got married a little over a year later. They moved to California in 1985, have three children, eight grandchildren, and two great grandchildren..



Congratulations NICE GOING!  
GREAT! Way to Go!  
Yea! FELICITATIONS  
CHEERS Take A BEST  
BOW! WISHES!

## Length of Service

**Larry Hutchings** celebrates 29 years of service. He told us that **Chuck Jordan** and **Art Kroeger** (Carrie's dad) were his sponsors. **Monica Fraga** chimed in that Chuck was her principal when she was in high school. Larry was a past President, 2000 Rotarian of the Year, and is a Paul Harris Fellow.

**Bob Hooy** joined Rotary 22 years ago. Bob is a Paul Harris Fellow, was President in 2008/09, and his dad, Bill Hooy, was 1994 Rotarian of the Year.

**Eric Rehn** celebrates eight years.

## Birthdays

Birthday wishes go out to **Hugh Toloui**, **Frank Westphall**, and **Jeff Wilson**.



# TODAY'S SPEAKER

**"PEOPLE FIRST"**



Today's speaker needed no introduction. **Irene Davids-Blair**, the current **Vocational Services Director**, has been a member since 2008, a Past President, the 2012 Rotarian of the Year,

member of the Paul Harris Society, and, in fact, even her husband, Max is a Paul Harris Fellow. But most important is that Irene is our friend. Known for her dedication and work with Rotary, one thing is always on hand is her smile and cheerful greetings. Love is all around when Irene is in our company.



Irene talked about the state of banking as it has had to deal with the corona virus, then went on to tell us how she embraced banking as her vocation. One day, as she was on her way to work, she saw two women walking out of a bank, and they were wearing beautiful uniforms. That's right, she was drawn to the uniforms, so she marched inside the bank and applied for a job. She was hired on the spot, but she told them she had to give her current employer notice and then she would start. She said that the uniforms were quite beautiful and changed with the seasons.

Fast forward to 2001, and Irene was promote to manager of US Bank—a bank, by the way that has won the Ethics Award for the pas six year. US Bank, the fifth-largest commercial bank in the United States, has been named one of the World's Most Ethical Companies by the Ethisphere Institute, which is a global leader in defining and advancing the standards of ethical business practices. This is the sixth consecutive year US Bank has received this recognition. In 2020, 128 honorees were recognized, spanning 21 countries and 50 industries. US Bank is one of only five honorees in the banking category.

It was 3/17/20 that Irene said they were faced with the Shelter-in-Place situation. Bank managers are now operating under a business continuity plan as they respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and a new environment. Irene said her bank can only have 10 people inside, and that includes the staff. Basically, only six customers are in the lobby while the rest of the customers remain outside. It is not a happy situation she said.

## ABOUT OUR SPEAKER



**Irene Davids-Blair** came to the USA in 1987, as an au pair, to take care of two little boys in Oakland. Her plan was to spend one year here and then return home to her job at the bank in South Africa, where she worked for seven years. Max was very involved in the Free South Africa Movement and had a friend who felt that he needed to meet a real South African. It just so happened, that Irene, also his friend, was the ideal person. The friend introduced them to each other, and the rest is history. They were married on February 20, 1988, four days before her Visa expired. Irene said, *"that was really cutting it close!. All legal, though, no shenanigans."* She lived in Oakland, near Piedmont, and moved to

Millbrae as a companion to a woman who needed care and assistance. They have a son named Jared, who is 30 years of age. Jared's middle name is Nelson, named after Nelson Mandela, who is her hero. Jared was born on January 15<sup>th</sup> and shares a birthday with Martin Luther King, Jr.

# HAPPY / GRUMPY BUCKS



**BARBARA REIFSCHNEIDER** took over the reporting of the Happy/Grumpy Bucks section when Joan had computer problems. Barbara is now officially the Happy/Grumpy editor.

**TORSTEN JACOBSEN** had five happy bucks because while in Baja my Ukrainian neighbor Ed arrived late at night with his dog. While unpacking, the dog ran around outside and then came yelping full speed into the house with a bloody rear end; Looking outside, there stood a pack of no less than 5 coyotes. The lesson learned is that you may never always know where danger lurks. So learn to cover your ass.



**DEB LUYIMA** is happy she got the metals and did not give any money.

**LARRY HUTCHINGS** was happy and gave a dollar because he thinks the inner wheel does good work.

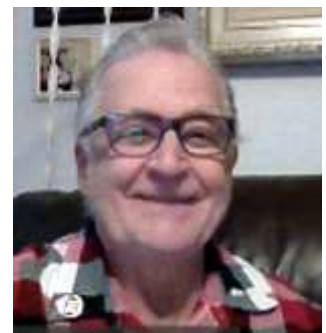


**IRENE DAVIDS-BLAIR** gave a sad dollar because of she was thinking about the losses of her sister, mother-in-law, and Fred.

**MONICA FRAGA** gave a happy five bucks she is thankful that Larry and the nominating committee were able to help her with her president elect things that she needs to get done.



**CLAYTON WORSDELL** had a happy buck in appreciation for the inner wheel.



**TOMMY WOLF** had a happy buck singing the praises of Stryker.



# WEEKLY RAFFLE



**President Vicki** had the honor of picking the winner this week, and it was **Mary Kemnitz**. She selected the Guadalajara Restaurant.

if you attend the zoom meetings, your name will be put in the drawing. Among the prizes you could win are a beautiful thermos, an olive oil and Balsamic vinegar set, very sophisticated wine (no two buck Chuck), and gift certificates to various restaurants in the area.



**BUT you have to be in it to win it.** So be sure to log on to our Thursday zoom meetings, and your name will automatically be put in the drawing.



# THE GALLERY



Incredible photos of the various phases of the moon taken by Clayton Worsdell. The full moon was blue and occurred on Halloween, October 31, Half-moon was on November 8, and the Crescent moon was on November 12. The next phase is a new moon.

# ALWAYS LEAVE 'EM LAUGHING . . .

## FRESHMAN TEST

While visiting Annapolis, a lady tourist noticed several students on their hands and knees assessing the courtyard with pencils and clipboards in hand.

"What are they doing?" she asked the tour guide.

"Each year," he replied with a grin, "the upperclassmen ask the freshmen how many bricks it took to finish paving this courtyard."

When they were out of earshot of the freshmen, the curious lady asked the guide: "So, what's the answer?"

The guide replied: "One."

## COLLEGE FRESHMAN

The huge college freshman figured he'd try out for the football team. "Can you tackle?" asked the coach.

"Watch this," said the freshman, who proceeded to run smack into a telephone pole, shattering it to splinters.

"Wow," said the coach. "I'm impressed. Can you run?"

"Of course I can run," said the freshman. He was off like a shot, and, in just over nine seconds, he had run a hundred yard dash.

"Great!" enthused the coach. "But can you pass a football?"

The freshman rolled his eyes, hesitated for a few seconds. "Well, sir," he said, "if I can swallow it, I can probably pass it."

## FEELING REMORSE

After her conviction of murder in the second degree, the District Attorney, during the sentencing hearing said to the defendant, "Mrs. Packard, after you put the arsenic in the stew and served it to your husband, didn't you feel even a little remorse for what you were doing?"

"I did," the defendant calmly.

"And when was that?" quipped the D.A.

"When he asked for seconds!" came the reply.



## BRONZE STATUE

A tourist wanders into a back-alley antique shop in San Francisco's Chinatown. Picking through the objects on display he discovers a detailed bronze sculpture of a rat. The sculpture is so interesting and unique that he picks it up and asks the shop owner the price.

"Twelve dollars for the rat, sir," says the shop owner, "and an extra one thousand dollars more for the story behind it."

"You can keep the story, old man," he replies, "but, I'll take the rat."

The transaction complete, the tourist leaves the store with the bronze rat under his arm.

As he crosses the street in front of the store, two live rats emerge from a sewer drain and fall into step behind him. Nervously looking over his shoulder, he begins to walk faster, but every time he passes another sewer drain, more rats come out and follow him. By the time he's walked two blocks, at least a hundred rats are at his heels, and people begin to point and shout. He walks even faster, and soon breaks into a trot as multitudes of rats swarm from sewers, basements, vacant lots, and abandoned cars, following him.

Rats by the hundreds are at his heels, and as he sees the waterfront at the bottom of the hill, he panics and starts to run full tilt. No matter how fast he runs, the rats keep up, squealing hideously now not just hundreds but thousands, so that by the time he comes racing to the water's edge a trail of rats twelve city blocks long is behind him.

Making a mighty leap, he jumps up onto a light post, grasping it with one arm, while he hurls the bronze rat into San Francisco Bay with the other, as far as he can throw it.

Pulling his legs up and clinging to the light post, he watches in amazement as the seething tide of rats surges over the breakwater into the sea, where they drown.

Shaken and mumbling, he makes his way back to the antique shop.

"Ah sir, you've come back for the rest of the story," says the owner.

"No," says the tourist, "I was just hoping you had a bronze sculpture of a politician!"

*...that's all folks.*

# PARTNER LIST

MEMBER	PARTNER	CONTACT	TITLE	PHONE
	Alhambra High School	Karen Sloper		925-335-5810
Mary Kemnitz	AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE COUNCILS	Gloria Peterson	Admin	916-290-5828
	Bay Area Crisis Nursery	Tara Bartholomew	Exec Dir	925-685-8052
	Blue Star Moms Contra Costa	Loretta Masnada		925-775-5084
	Buttercup Farms Organization	Jorie Hanson	Manager	925-963-4104
	California Reentry Institute	Collette Carroll,	Exec Dir	925-549-1416
	CALIFORNIA VOCATIONS/PARADISE	Bob Irving	Director	530-519-4146
	CCRIM Real Estate in Motion	Ryan Keller	CEO	925-295-9223
	Crohn's & Colitis Foundation	Derek Aitken, Esq		415-356-2232
Monica Fraga	CVCHS # ROTARY Interact	Monica Fraga		925-672-9840
Richard Lueck	Delta Blues Festival Scholarships	Frank Giovanni		209-603-7240
	DIABLO CHORAL ARTISTS	Mark Tuning		925-930-0516
	Dogs and Katz Rescue	Kathleen Stercks		925-852-1217
Clayton Worsdell	FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH	Clayton Worsdell		925-207-2509
	Food Bank	Joel Sjostrom	CEO	925-676-7543
	Highlands Elementary	David Swider	President	925-672-5252
	HISTORICAL SOCIETY CONCORD	Vivian Boyd		925-827-3380
	Historical Society Contra Costa	John Greitzer	President	925-229-1042
Vicki Sexton	MOBILITY MATTERS	Elaine Welch		925.284.2207
	MONUMENT CRISIS Center	Sandra Scherer	Exec Dir	925-222-6868
Richard Lueck	Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club	Rich Lueck	Admin	925-683-7865
	North Creek Academy	Erin James		925-954-6300
	OAKLAND RITECARE CHILDHOOD CENTER	Nan Busse		<u>510-839-1513</u>
	POA EMERGENCY FUND CONCORD	Ron Bruckert	President	925-676-8298
Richard Lueck	RotaCare Concord	MELISSA ALLAN NP	Chair	925-429-6409
	Solo Opera – San Francisco	Sylvia Amorino		925-685-4945
	ST JOHN'S EPISCOPAL Clayton	Rev. Audrey Miskelley	Vicar	925-672-8855
	St. Agnes School	Jill Lucia	Principal	925-689-3990
	Veteran's Affordable Home Ownership	Jim Etherington	President	530-662-2237
Mary Kemnitz	White Elephant Museum BOD	Lori Fogarty	Director CEO	510-839-5919
Mary Kemnitz	White Pony Express	Eve Birge	Exec Dir	925-322-0604
	YGNACIO VALLEY MUSIC BOOSTERS	YV Instrumental Music	C. Adams	925-685-8414

