

2020 - 2021

## EDITORIAL STAFF

Joan D'Onofrio: Editor  
Clayton Worsdell: Photographer  
Mary Kernnitz  
Rich Lueck  
Barbara Reifschneider

## ROTARY DISTRICT 5160

Mark Roberts: District Governor  
Milt Smith: Assistant DG

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Vicki Sexton: President  
Monica Fraga: President-elect  
Julia Dawson Aguilar: Treasurer  
Fred Nelson: Secretary  
Bob Sundberg: Sergeant-at-Arms  
Irene Davids-Blair: Vocational  
Monica Fraga: New Generations  
Ken Nishimori: RI Foundation  
Ben Wentling: Community Services  
Tommy Wolf: Membership  
Ewa Sobillo: International  
Barbara Reifschneider: Club Services

## CHARITABLE BOARD

Larry Hutchings: Chair  
Mary Kernnitz: Vice Chair  
Vicki Sexton: Treasurer  
Steve Weir: Secretary  
Bob Hooy  
Bob Sundberg  
John Wenzel  
Hugh Toloui

## COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

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

## CONTENTS

Thought of the Day  
Announcements / News  
Milestones  
International News  
Happy Bucks  
The Gallery

## IMPORTANT MEETINGS 2020

1/12/21 Board Meeting 7 AM  
Zoom  
1/11/21 Charitable Fund 5:30 PM  
Zoom



# SAN FELIPE STUDENTS GET LAPTOPS



LARRY HUTCHINGS STUDENT



HUGH TOLOUI'S STUDENT



**Tina Sweeney**, of the San Felipe Club, said, "Due to the COVID pandemic, this has been a very unusual year. School has been on-line and will continue until the end of the school year. Many students are unable to take class or complete assignments because of the absence of necessary technology."

Luckily, due to generous donations from sponsors and the Rotary Club of San Felipe, they were able to distribute new and refurbished computers. They have so far distributed nine computers to the sponsors of the scholarship students and will be purchasing five more computers this month to distribute to students in need. They will also be receiving \$3,000 from a sponsor to buy more computers so more students will be getting computers soon. All the other students were given computers by their sponsors.

(more photos on page 7)

# “Will the Meeting Please Come to Order”

President Vicki Sexton called the 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting to order. (Actually, it's our 36<sup>th</sup> zoom meeting.)



## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: Irene Davids-Blair

“Christmas will be moved to January 9<sup>th</sup> because when Santa Claus arrives, he'll have to quarantine for 15 days.”

“A Beautiful Soul loves without condition, talks without bad intention, gives without reason, and most of all, cares for people without any expectation.”

## TODAY'S GUESTS



**HERBERT MUYINGA**

Rotary Club of Muyenga, Uganda



**DEB LUYIMA**



**DIANE COVINGTON**

Adopt a Grandparent

# A ROTARY MINUTE

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

## The Rotary Club of Havana, Cuba

The first Rotary club to be organized outside an English-speaking country was established in Havana, Cuba in 1916.

By 1917 the club had nearly 100 members had

- established traffic laws for its city
- developed a city plan
- acquired land for parks and playgrounds



Havana even hosted the 1940 International Convention

By 1957 there were nearly 60 Rotary clubs in Cuba, but in 1979 the charters of all Cuba clubs, and in all countries that restrict free speech and freedom of assembly, were terminated by Rotary International.



Is the history of Rotary in Cuba complete? Only time will tell.



*Gracias, este ha sido el minuto dieinueve de la historia de Rotary en (unos) quarenta minutos.*

Thank you. This has been the 19<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 introduced our guest speaker.



## TODAY'S SPEAKER: Diane Covington



Concord resident, **Diane Covington**, delivers a bit of holiday cheer to isolated seniors in local nursing homes through the 'Adopt a Grandparent' program. She said that, *"Although it can get hectic, gathering funds and assembling more than 500 gifts, the payoff is the delight on the recipient's faces."*

The day of the deliveries involves an entourage of people. For many years, high school students would bring guitars or flutes and play music. The seniors' faces would light up whenever a student comes in. Local dentists, attorneys, and contractors always donate generously to the program that is now in its 15th year.

Rotary has also been very supportive. Members of the Concord Chamber, makes local connections through her work as a Mary Kay representative. After starting with one nursing home, the Mary Kay Adopt a Grandparent program has grown to five: Concord, Pleasant Hill, Martinez, Antioch, and Pittsburg.

This year they worked out a way to perform their caroling program. Instead of going into the buildings due to the pandemic, the grandparents will all assemble in the dining room and face the windows. The caroling volunteers will then perform a collection of Christmas melodies. If you want to make a donation or donate gifts, contact Diane. If you want to help deliver them or if you want to participate in the caroling, Diane is the person to contact: Diane Covington, 900 Lee Lane, Concord CA 94518 or call at 925 348-4054

## ABOUT THE SPEAKER



Diane Covington has a Bachelors and a Master's Degree in Business and Economics and did Marketing Research and Sales Training for Leshar Newspapers. She is the future Executive Senior Sales Director with Mary Kay Cosmetics an organization she joined while in college and became a Director in 1989. She has earned 15 Mary Kay cars (14 of them Pink Cadillac's) plus top director International trips to the Greek Isles, Spain, Copenhagen, and Sweden. Diane is a California native and has grown up in the Bay Area. Being involved in the community has always been important, so Diane has been a member of the Concord Chamber of Commerce for 17 years and served on the Board of Directors and is now proud to be a Chamber Ambassador. Diane is also an educator for LEG (Life-skills Empowerment Group) teaching "time management and organization skills" to local high school kids. This is Diane's 16<sup>th</sup> year in the "Adopt a Grandparent" program bringing personal care products and teddy bears to five local skilled nursing homes.

## WHEN I BECAME A ROTARIAN: The Wind beneath Her Wings



**Past President Julia Dawson Aguilar** has been a member for 14 years. She was the 2015 Rotarian of the Year and the 2019 – 2020 President. Julia always talks about how much fun she had as a member and participated in many of the Club's projects. She remembers with fondness housing many exchange students, entertaining the Russian bakers, hosting many Friday Night Live parties, and helped clean the Clayton Creek with her 3-year-old in tow. But Julia had some hard times in her personal life, so in 1999 she took a leave of absence to deal with a painful divorce she was enduring. When she finally returned to Rotary, Fred Nelson took her under his wing and saw her through many issues. Fred was particularly attentive when Julia assumed the Presidency. Julia said, "I knew I was a Rotarian when I realized that everyone was helping me, and that put the wind back in my sails."

## IN HONOR OF WILLIAM (BILL) HOOPY: From Bob Hooy



**Bill Hooy**, 1995 Rotarian of the Year, is **Bob Hooy's** late father. Here is a message from Bob in honor of his dad:

*"I know that our club has given generously to the **Food Bank** in 2020 through our Cars Second Chance Program; I still wanted to honor my father, William J. Hooy, and his legacy by offering an opportunity to our individual club members to join me in giving an additional amount to the Food Bank. This year, I am not asking the club to contribute anything to this effort. Instead, my law firm and I are willing to match any and all contributions by our club members to the Food Bank up to a total of \$2,000. It is my hope that we, as a club, can contribute an additional \$4,000 to the Food Bank, which ably distributes food to those in need in our community.*

*Contributions may be made by check payable to the Food Bank and delivered to me or to our charitable foundation; the foundation can then cut a single check payable to the Food Bank in the amount of those contributions. As I have done in years past, I will aggregate all of our contributions and forward them to the Food Bank with a letter so that they know that the monies came from the Clayton Valley Concord Sunrise Rotary Club." Contact Bob at: [rhooy@hooy.com](mailto:rhooy@hooy.com)*

## MILESTONE: Larry Hutchings

Paul Harris Fellow, **Larry Hutchings** celebrated his birthday on December 8, quietly at home. He didn't tell us his age, but said he would make the proper amount to his Paul Harris account and a donation to the Annual Fund. Larry was our 1998 - 1999 President and the 2000 Rotarian of the Year.



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

## ABOUT THAT HUMMER

**Mary Kemnitz** reported that the 1985 Hummer that was donated to the club sold for \$12,000 and Joan never got a chance to test drive it. So sad, but so great for our club.



## SERVICE ABOVE SELF



**Larry Hutchings** does a lot of work with the Cars 2nd Chance team, but **Dennis**, although not a member, devotes countless hours processing the correspondence and assorted clerical tasks.

There is much to be done handling this program, and, like Dennis, you don't need to be a Rotary member to lend a hand.

If you want to help, contact Mary and see what you might be willing to do. 925 356-0683



**SOLD** Mary reported that the Hummer sold for \$12,000 and they received \$10,000 from Copart. A 2005 Cadillac Seville sold for \$3,000 in partnership with the Walnut Creek Rotary, and a 2002 Toyota Avalon sold for \$3,245 in partnership with the Lamorinda club.

**FOR SALE** Spread the word. Eight vehicles arrived along with a 1973 Honda Motorcycle. These are other cars ready to be sold: 1988 Nissan 300x, 1998 Volkswagen Beetle, 2000 Nissan Quest, 2001 Ford Escape, and a 2001 Honda Civic.

## A HOME FOR SOMEONE

Mary and Dave will donate this 1976 Terry Travel Trailer to a family in need of short term lodging. If you have any suggestions let Mary know.





## SAN FELIPE LAPTOPS



The four girls were picked because they were doing their on-line schooling on their phones.



# FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

FUND RAISING



NEWSLETTER #8

## COMMITTEE REPORT

*Choose Your Fun: Walk or Run for Rotary*



JEFF IS STILL WORKING ON A FINAL COUNT BUT HE DID SAY THAT 60 REGISTRANTS TOOK PART AND \$1,543 IN REVENUE WAS REPORTED TO THE CLUB. VICKI SAID THAT SHE HAS \$130 CONTRIBUTED BY THOSE WHO PREFERRED NOT TO PARTICIPATE THROUGH THE *ACTIVE.COM* WEBSITE. AND WE UNDERSTAND THAT A FEW MORE ARE CONTRIBUTING TO THE CAUSE SO WE ANTICIPATE THAT WE WILL NET ABOUT \$ 2,000 + WE HOPE YOU RUNNERS ENJOYED YOUR RUN. T-SHIRTS AND MEDALS WILL BE FORTHDOMING.

OUR NEXT FUND RAISER IS A WINE BARREL AUCTION. WE ARE CURRENTLY COLLECTING \$ DONATIONS OR TWO BOTTLES OF WINE FOR THE CAUSE. WE ASK THAT THESE CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD BE GOOD WINES IN A PRICE RANGE OF \$ 20 OR MORE. MONICA IS COLLECTING THE WINES AND A LIST OF THE WINES WILL BE PREPARED. NO DATE HAS BEEN SET FOR THE AUCTION.

LARRY HUTCHINGS HAS ARRANGED TO HAVE A VIRTUAL WINE TASTING EVENT WITH LANDMARK WINERY, SONOMA AND *IS SCHEDULED FOR SUNDAY, DEC. 13<sup>TH</sup> AT 5:00 PM.* LARRY HAS ALSO ARRANGED FOR US TO ENJOY A DISCOUNTED PURCHASE OF THREE BOTTLES OF THEIR FINE WINE. TWO BOTTLES OF PINOT NOIR AND ONE BOTTLE OF CHARDONNAY FOR \$95.26.





# HAPPY / GRUMPY BUCKS

Compiled by Barbara Reifschneider



**TORSTEN JACOBSEN** had a Happy Burger because his mother has passed. She was 101 and had a wonderful life and now she is in a much better place.

**CLAYTON WORSDELL** had \$5 happy bucks because he finally completed his upstairs shower. It was a tortuous adventure but luckily Frank Westphall was on hand to help him. Carol is in her glory, but Clayton is not ready to take the plunge.



**IRENE DAVIDS-BLAIR** had \$5 happy bucks because Max is finally home. He got home before Thanksgiving but spent time quarantined. She is happy that he had a negative Covid test after being in Chicago for two months.



**JOAN D'ONOFRIO** had \$5 happy buck because H&R Block gave her a dollar-an-hour raise. She will now earn \$15 an hour when she returns to work in January.

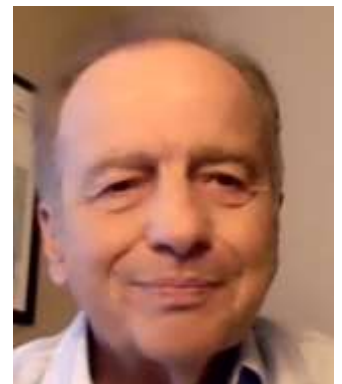
**BILL SELB** had \$5 happy bucks explaining how a Comcast tech sent him on an expensive wild goose chase to buy a new TV. He said he felt like he traveled the world just to buy new TVs while back at home Emily fixed the problem. Turns out they didn't need a new TV.



**KEN NISHIMORI** had \$5 happy bucks because he is very happy about the donations that have come in.



**LARRY HUTCHINGS** had \$5 happy bucks as he looks forward to the wine tasting. He is going to pick up the wine and get it to the members who signed up for the Wine Tasting on Sunday.



**RICH LUECK** was very \$5 bucks happy because the DMV is on line so he was able to renew his registration online and pay by e-check.



# THE GALLERY



Courtesy of Bo Morse.



The Taiwan Blue Magpie



# ALWAYS LEAVE 'EM LAUGHING ...

## THINGS TO CONTEMPLATE

Today I was in a shoe store that sells only shoes, nothing else. A young girl with green hair walked over to me and asked, "What brings you in today? I looked at her and said, "I'm interested in buying a refrigerator." She didn't quite know how to respond, but had that deer in the headlights look.

When people are visiting me and see a cat's litter box they always say, "Oh, have you got a cat?" I just say, "No, it's for company!"

Employment application blanks always ask who is to be called in case of an emergency. I think you should write, "An ambulance."

The older you get the tougher it is to lose weight because by then your body and your fat have gotten to be really good friends.

The easiest way to find something lost around the house is to buy a replacement.

Have you ever noticed: The Roman Numerals for forty (40) are XL.

The sole purpose of a child's middle name is so he knows when he's really in trouble.

I was thinking about old age and decided that old age is when you still have something on the ball, but you are just too tired to bounce it.

Did you ever notice that when you put the 2 words "The" and "IRS" together it spells "Theirs?"

Aging: Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it.

Some people try to turn back their "odometers." Not me. I want people to know why I look this way. I've traveled a long way and a lot of the roads were not paved.

Ah! Being young is exciting but being old is comfortable.

## 22 CALIBRE BERETTA PISTOL AGAINST AN ALLIGATOR

### Using a 22 caliber Beretta pistol Against a 12' Alligator

Another good reason to have a concealed weapons permit (well, maybe in the US, not Australia). A Florida Woman Stops Alligator Attack Using a Small .22 caliber Beretta Pistol. This is a story of self-control and marksmanship by a brave, cool-headed woman with a small pistol against a fierce predator.

Here is her story:

*"While walking along the edge of a pond just outside my house in the Villages discussing a property settlement with my soon-to-be ex-husband, and other divorce issues, we were surprised by a huge 12 foot Alligator which suddenly emerged from the murky water.*

*It began charging us with its large jaws wide open. She must have been protecting her nest because she was extremely aggressive. If I had not had my little Beretta .22 caliber pistol with me, I would not be here today!*

*Just one shot to my estranged husband's knee cap was all it took. The gator got him easily, and I was able to escape by just walking away at a brisk pace. The amount I saved in lawyer's fees was really incredible and his life insurance was also a big bonus!``*

*...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



