

2019 - 2020

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John Wenzel: Webmaster  
Bill Kinsey: Public Relations Chair  
Bill Selb: Pancake Breakfast Chair  
Rich Lueck: Cars2ndChance

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## IMPORTANT MEETINGS 2020

3/10 Board Meeting 7 AM  
Buttercup Restaurant  
4/13 Charitable Fund 5:30 PM  
US Bank



# GOING ONCE. GOING TWICE. SOLD!



**Dave Kernitz** shown here accepting Rossmoor Club member, **Marlene Miller's**, donation of this beautiful Ford Ranger with only 67,906 miles on the odometer! When **Major Clay Gardner** saw it, he bought it instantly. As you know, Clay and his wife Pam have been with the Salvation Army for nine years but will be retiring this coming June. The Ranger is just what they needed and will be used to tow the camp trailer they happen to be staying in and is parked in Rich Lueck's driveway while they are in town. Clay and Pam will be returning to Long Beach soon with the 'bargain' of the century.

# “WILL THE MEETING PLEASE COME TO ORDER”



## THOUGHT OF THE DAY: *Don Ouimet*



If you can lie down at night knowing in your heart that you made someone's day just a little bit better, you know you had a good day.



## TODAY'S GUESTS



**MAJOR CLAY GARDNER**  
Salvation Army



**BEN ELLIS**  
Vector Media  
Marketing Manager



**DANIELLE JOHN and BILL SHAW**  
Winter Nights Family Shelter Speakers

# ANNOUNCEMENTS & NEWS

## MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT-ELECT



**President-elect Vicki Sexton** attended a pre-PETS seminar and brought the future to us. Vicki sent us all a questionnaire asking for our input, club ideas, and comments. At the seminar she learned what other clubs are doing or proposing and here are some of the suggestions intended to increase membership and make meetings fun:

- Reach out to school principals
- Contact PTA committees
- Allow corporate membership
- Work with community organizations
- Hold field trips
- Bring back jokes
- Advertise on buses

Vicki also encouraged all of us to discuss with her any ideas or suggestions or ideas you may have.

## MILESTONES: Wedding Anniversaries



**Frank Westphall** and **Barbara** were married on Valentine's Day. Frank is a Paul Harris Fellow, was Rotarian of the year 2017, been a member for 16 years, and is a dedicated member of the Home Team.

**Irene Davids-Blair** and **Max** were married on February 20. She is a Paul Harris Society member, a past president, Rotarian of the Year 2012, a 12-year member, and serves on the Board of Directors Nominating Committee. Best of all, Max is also a Paul Harris Fellow.

**Chris Ruzicka** and **Laura** were married on February 17. Chris is a past president, a 21-year member and a Paul Harris Fellow. He also serves on the Charitable Board.



# SERVICE ABOVE SELF

## RIDE-FOR-ROTARY: Man on the Move



In case you're wondering why we haven't seen **Torsten Jacobsen** for the past month, it's because he was participating in the Ride-for-Rotary Motorcycle event. Here is his report.

*"It all began in Southern India as a fundraising event to raise Rotary fellowship via motorcycle. The drive across South India enabled us to experience the heritage, culture, cuisine and hospitality of incredible India. District 3181 covered all travel expenses including providing the vehicles, fuel, food, lodging, superlative hospitality, and organized many club meetings along the way. This was an experience like no other. Forty Rotary participants from around the world—only ONE from the USA—commented about how much such a two week trip would cost with the funds going directly to the TRF. With a population of 328 million, it was interesting to learn that this was the birthplace of Rotary. In fact, their first meeting was held September 26, 1919 and three meetings later, they received their charter."*



Here are 17 of the 40 Rotary bikers who participated in the Ride-for Rotary event

## MANGALORE: Brilliant Idea

*"The trip started in Mangalore where we were supplied with Vintage Royal Enfield motorcycles and full riding gear. We traveled through the land of spices, silk, sandalwood, Asiatic elephants, tigers, leopards, temples, Ghats mountain range, tea plantations, and lots of holy cattle on the roads. Driving was unique. It was like slalom skiing in two directions. Delightfully, there were no stop signs, and it was extremely rare to encounter red lights. With only minor recommendations such as not driving in the reverse direction on one way roads, we visited 17 clubs and experienced grand receptions, entertainment, and insight into their vast and numerous district projects that amounted to 501 last year."*

## **ADDIS ABABA: The Cradle of Mankind**

*"In Addis Ababa, Ethiopia we checked in on previously initiated medical projects that our club supported for five years (e.g., shipping a container filled with medical supplies and trauma surgery instrumentation to assess the current need from skin grafting instrumentation for soft tissue injuries and severe burns. I also lectured at Black Lion Medical School in their orthopedic surgery department."*

## **UGANDA: The Pearl of Africa**

*"Then on to Uganda, where we have our 10-year-old Nsawa 14 village project for "sanitation, education, occupation" and specifically to check on our health clinic for women where coincidentally my M.D. daughter is volunteering there for a short time to help train the very competent nurse practitioners and teach her 10 and 13 year olds what life is "really like" in other parts of the world. Forget screen addiction, clothing and food likes and dislikes, rides, sit down toilets, eating utensils and all that bizarre stuff."*



Torsten ended his presentation where it all began—the airport in the USA. He said: *"It was a most memorable chapter in my journey through life, but after 80 hours on airplanes and umpteen useless airports, "pseudo" security checks, and pat downs, it was relaxing to come home even though my luggage was lost".*



## Clunkers Keeps on Giving



Actually it's **Mary** and **Dave Kemnitz** the couple that keeps on giving and their Team that keeps on working. Dave announced the following donations. Here is one from **Russell Lai**, longtime customer of D&H Enterprises, who donated this beautiful Cadillac DTS to our Cars2ndChance project.



This is the donation we received from **Marlene Miller** who is a member of the Rossmoor Rotary Club. It is a beautiful Ford Ranger with only 67,906 miles on the odometer! It sold quite quickly early in the afternoon.

# MEETINGS & CONFERENCES

## Spring Training Assemblies

**District Governor-Elect Mark Roberts** of the Rotary Club of Lamorinda Sunrise announces the Spring Assemblies are planned for multiple dates and locations for your convenience. Both of these Assemblies have great breakout sessions...and free lite breakfast and free lunch! Just choose the Assembly you prefer, and register NOW. Feedback from prior Assemblies helped us choose topics that you said you most want and need. The agenda is posted on the District calendar and is guaranteed to include topics for everyone.



- Taking Your Club to the Next Level
- Personal skills-development including
- Giving effective presentations and effectively introducing a speakers
- Club focused sessions on fundraising
- Building your Club's 3-legged stool (Branding, Membership and Foundation)
- Learn more about what Rotary is about.
- Navigating Rotary Online tools including strengthening your Clubs communications

Of course, the best part is the fun of hanging out with Rotarians from other clubs and communities, and learning from one another! Looking forward to seeing you at the Spring Training Assemblies!

### Northern Spring Training Assembly - Red Bluff

**Saturday March 21st** Tehama County Department of Education, Red Bluff **Register NOW**

### Southern Spring Training Assembly - Fairfield

**Saturday, April 4th** Fairfield High School, Fairfield **Register NOW**

## Passport to Adventure



Our District Governor **Tina Akins** reminds us that the biggest Rotary event of the year is the Passport to Adventure May 1 - 3 at the Sheraton Redding Hotel at the Sundial Bridge, Redding CA.

It's a weekend you won't want to miss, and it lives up to the **Four Way test**:

**Is it the TRUTH?** Yes, because we have an exceptional list of fun pre-conference activities

**Is it FAIR to all concerned?** Yes. Unless your golf game is one club short of a full set. We can only do so much. Tours range from free to private and everything in-between and an e-bike that requires no pedaling

**Will it build GOODWILL AND BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?** Yes, yes, yes, and yes

**Will it be FUN for all concerned?** We're Rotarians. Fun is our middle name!

Register Now!

# HAPPY BUCKS



**Russ Anderson** was very happy to thank Dave and Mary for all the customers they send his way.

**Ewa Sobilo** was happy to tell us that her husband, Rick, just celebrated his 63<sup>rd</sup> birthday and was freaking out over that number until he met a 90-year old gentleman who is still working. She said he felt a little better after that experience.



**Clay Gardner** said his son just bought a house in Concord and he is very happy about that. He said that means he will be visiting more often, and we can count on seeing more of him as well.

**Bill Selb** always makes us laugh. This week he told us that his computer decided to slow down. In fact when he turned it on that little circle kept go round and round. It was taking so long that he went off and took a shower, got dressed, ate breakfast and it finally was up and running. Bill said it was okay with him, but Emily would have none of it, so he took it to Johnny Morgan and got it fixed.

**Jeff Wilson** took on commercial real estate which is not his forte, but he is pursuing it anyway. The property is in Antioch. He also is very happy to report that his daughter turned four on Valentine's Day.



**Irene Davids-Blair** dedicated her happy bucks in honor of Torsten Jacobsen, Rob Waldman, and Major Clay for all they do.





# TODAY'S SPEAKERS



**Program Chair Miles Bell** introduced today's speakers, **Bill Shaw** and **Danielle John** of the Winter Nights Family Shelter. Bill and Danielle told us that Winter Nights was established to protect homeless families from winter weather by providing shelter in a clean, safe, and warm environment and to help them break the homeless cycle by assisting them toward self-sufficiency and getting them into stable housing.

The shelter opens in September, closes in early June and serves up to 30 persons at any given time. The shelter site moves every two weeks throughout the winter, between hosting faith communities from their 107 member congregations. The goal of Winter Nights is to provide shelter and food to homeless families throughout the winter; help families find sustainable housing; keep the children in their own schools; encourage reading habits; and keep homeless families together during the stressful period of homelessness.

They also developed a Parking Lot Program (PLP) that is the only program for families with children in the county that provide staff-supervised overnight parking with access to bathrooms, hot dinner, breakfast, and a day center for showers and client services. The Winter Nights Family Shelter is a project of the Social Justice Alliance of the Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County and welcomes your help through volunteering and donations. Contact: [info@cccwinternights.org](mailto:info@cccwinternights.org) for more information/.

**BILL SHAW** is a native of Berkeley and has been with Winter Nights since 2010 where he started as a site supervisor. In 2014 he was promoted to Program Manager. He serves on the Coordinated Entry Emergency Shelter Referral Workgroup, is on the Co-Applicant Board of Health Care, and directs the Safe Parking Lot Program. Bill has a BA in Child Development and a MA in Spirituality and Culture.



**DANIELLE JOHN** is a volunteer at Winter Nights and maintains the organizations social media pages and runs a twice weekly art program at the shelter. She moved to the US from Oxford, England in 2005. In 2014 she founded Pots and Paints that provides pottery and painting classes at schools throughout Danville, Alamo, and San Ramon. She also provides classes to children in shelters and foster homes.



## **Literacy Program**

**Bill** and **Danielle** happily signed this week's book titles: *The Complete Cookbook for Young Chefs* that will be donated to the Clayton Public Library in honor of our Literacy Program.

# ALWAYS LEAVE 'EM LAUGHING

## The Good Wife

Alan and Sandra lived on a cove at Gull Lake Alberta. It was early winter and the lower portion of the cove had frozen over.

Alan asked Sandra if she would walk across the frozen part of the cove to the general store and get him some smokes and beer. She asked him for some money, but he told her, "Nah, just put it on our tab. Old man Stacey won't mind."

So Sandra, being the good wife walked across the ice, got the smokes and beer at the store and then walked back home across the cove. When she got home with the items she said, "Alan, old Stacey did actually mind putting the purchase on the tab and gave me a long lecture. Why didn't you just give me some money?"

Alan replied, "Well, Sandra, I didn't want to send you out there with cash when I wasn't sure how thick the ice was!"

## Guess Who's Coming to Dinner

A man brings his best buddy home for dinner unannounced at 6:30 after work.

His wife screams at him while his friend sits and listens in.

"My hair and makeup are not done, the house is a mess, the dishes are not done, I am still in my pajamas and I can't be bothered with cooking tonight! Why in the world did you bring him home?"

Calmly the husband replies, "Because he's thinking of getting married and I promised him a demo."



*...that's all folks.*