



2019 - 2020

## EDITORIAL STAFF

Joan D'Onofrio: Editor  
Mary Kernitz: Correspondent  
Rich Lueck: Correspondent  
Clayton Worsdell: Photographer

## ROTARY DISTRICT 5160

Tina Aikens: District Governor  
Cheryl Wilson: Assistant DG

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Julia Dawson Aguilar : President  
Vicki Sexton: President-elect  
Vicki Sexton: Treasurer  
Fred Nelson: Secretary  
Rob Waldman: Sergeant- at-Arms  
Irene Davids-Blair: Vocational  
Monica Fraga: New Generations  
Ken Nishimori: RI Foundation  
Clayton Worsdell & Bob Huck: Com-  
munity Services  
Tommy Wolf: Membership  
Ewa Sobilio: International  
Barbara Reifschneider: Club Services

## CHARITABLE BOARD

Chris Ruzicka: President  
Vicki Sexton: Vice President  
Steve Weir: Secretary  
Renee Rushworth: Treasurer

## COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

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

## CONTENTS

Call to Order  
Thought of the Day  
Guests  
Club Announcements / News  
Milestones  
International News  
Happy Bucks  
Service Above Self  
Guest Speaker  
The Gallery

## IMPORTANT MEETINGS 2020

4/14 Board Meeting 7 AM  
Buttercup Restaurant  
4/13 Charitable Fund 5:30 PM  
US Bank



# HONOLULU, HAWAII 2020 CONVENTION CANCELED



**Secretary Fred Nelson** informed us that Rotary International has canceled the 2020 Rotary International Convention scheduled to be held June 6-10, 2020, in Honolulu, Hawaii in response to the ongoing threat of COVID-19, the illness caused by the novel coronavirus. They are sorry to say that we will not meet up in Honolulu this year, but this decision is necessary to protect the health of everyone involved.

# “WILL THIS **ZOOM** MEETING COME TO ORDER”



This is a first. **President Julia Dawson** arranged today's meeting via Zoom. As long as we are dark, weekly meetings will be conducted on the Zoom program. In attendance were: **Richard Lueck, Torsten Jacobsen**, (relaxing in Baha) **Larry Hutchings, Lisa Truesdell, Bob Huck, Clayton Worsdell, Jeff Wilson, Vicki Sexton, Tommy Wolf**, and 25-year-member **Owen Murray**.

## THOUGHTS OF THE DAY Vicki Sexton & Clayton Worsdell

**From Vicki:** Do y'all remember before the internet that people thought the cause of stupidity was the lack of access to information? Yeah. It wasn't that!

**Clayton said:** "Everyone received a card like this one in the mail. If everyone would follow these guidelines, we could flatten the curve!"



## TODAY'S GUEST VIA ZOOM



**CHERYL WILSON**  
Assistant District Governor



# ANNOUNCEMENTS & NEWS

## NOTES FROM OUR PRESIDENT



**President Dawson** said: "We had our lovely zoom meeting this morning, and it went pretty well. Now we will work out the bugs for next week's meeting. There was an awful lot of talk about the Covid-19 virus and how everyone was spending their days. Until we are off the Shelter-in-Place rule, all events are cancelled."

## CANCELATIONS

**The District Assemblies scheduled on March 21 in Red Bluff and April 4 in Fairfield will NOT take place.** District Trainer Claire Roberts is working with the presenters scheduled to speak at the Assemblies to create ways to share the content of their presentations in a different way. We are considering webinars or Zoom calls, for example.

**The Redding Passport to Adventure District Conference, May 1-3, has been cancelled.** The District Governor Line is working hard to figure out what's next. When can we have a conference? How do we structure it to insure a wonderful experience? Stay tuned for details as we put the pieces of the puzzle together.

**Thursday meetings** will be closed until further notice. We will continue to produce the newsletter. Your input is valuable, so send us information that you want to share with our members.

## CARS2NDCHANCE SENTIMENTAL DONATION



This stunning 1999 Miata belonged to the late **John Wolfe**. He bought it 21 years ago. **Dave Kennitz** said that his wife Carol donated it. The asking price is \$6,995. Thank you, Carol.

# STAYING CONNECTED

**Tommy Wolf** writes: "Fortunately our Chiropractic business gets to stay open and continue to help our patients with their ailments. A percentage of our patients are not coming out, so we are taking a hit. I'm creating a webinar to educate our patients about the stress that this pandemic is causing and how to refocus our attention on what we know about health as compared to what we don't know about the virus. What we do know is that taking the proper persuasions and keeping our bodies healthy is our best approach during this time."



**Larry Hutchings** said: "Along the line of what Tommy said, I felt so refreshed after an hour walk on and around our golf course after sitting at my computer stressing over the latest news."

**Bill Selb** writes "This was great reporting on our scourge from days of old. And thanks for amusing us with The Best of Jokes from the Past. They continue to make me laugh at a time when we certainly need humor. And now if you'll excuse me I'm keeping myself busy by sitting here in my home office sorting my paperclips by size."



**Fred Collignon** writes: "We did an email meeting with videos last week's meeting, and tried Zoom with an outside speaker this week. We're in the middle of offering Zoom training sessions to all members. I have heard the latest account, but I think about 40 have taken the training so far. We also have phone calls going out by our team captains to all members. Most of the committees and our Board have shifted to Zoom meetings for the duration. As for my wife and I, we miss our friends, social gatherings, various jaunts, whether hikes, shopping, breakfast or lunch meetings. Fortunately, we're both avid readers, and even with the libraries closed, we have enough books in the house to last for a 150-year shutdown."



**Jeff Rondini** writes: "Death and taxes—the two certainties of life! We are proceeding as normal at my tax office. Unlike HRB's directive, the state has placed tax offices under "essential businesses" and is permitted to remain open. Let's face it, if I didn't stay open now, I'd be on unemployment or worse in the fall. Relying on our government for financial survival is ludicrous. Clients continue to come in, while others inquire about providing documents remotely via website uploads, emails and Apps like Dropbox. People are paying remotely through Venmo and Zelle rather than writing checks. It's a relief the IRS and the California Franchise Tax Board has extended the filing deadline three months. It gives us enough time to catch-up on the backlog of tax returns we already have. Hope you're all doing well. Stay safe and remain healthy. We'll do the same."

**Ewa Sobilo** wants us to know that: "Moose Metal is still open for business Mon-Fri 8a-5p. We are a metals supplier to the essential businesses such as Contra Cost Water District and Contra Costa County Fire Department. We sell steel, aluminum and stainless. We specialize in custom fabrication and can help with your needs to complete projects or do welding repairs. Great time to do home projects that are on your to-do list, but you've not had time to get around to. We don't deliver so you would have to pick up materials at our shop, just a couple of blocks behind Costco in Concord. I can also connect you with a delivery service located in our industrial park."

**Judith Stillman** said: "Thank you for sending this out. If you remember I spoke at your meeting a few weeks ago about the Winter Nights Family Shelter. I want you all to know that the car we donated to one of their homeless families a few months ago are very happy and thankful. We have been very busy planning on how to have our homeless families' shelter-in-place and how to allow our army of volunteer to do the same. So, we are not allowing any volunteers (usually 100 to 150 a week) from coming to the shelter. Many are still providing breakfast, lunch and snack foods for the families, but we are having food from restaurants and caterers brought in for dinners. The County's Shelter-in-Place order this week impacts Winter Nights enormously. Families cannot leave the shelter and volunteers cannot enter. We have twelve weeks left in the season, and our commitment to our families is unwavering."



**Renee Rushworth** writes: "Thank you for putting together this informative newsletter. I have heard stories of the polio epidemic and my late step-mother, Pam (Johnny Morgan's mom), was a polio survivor. I believe she even became a poster child for the vaccine. Johnny can probably tell you more about that. It was a scary time. Our newsletter is an eye-opener to the similarities of the epidemic we fought and won not too long ago. It also gives me reassurance that we can pull through this, just as we did before."

"As for the Coronavirus, my family and I are all hunkered down in our home. My daughter is performing school lessons daily that she finds on the internet to my two granddaughters who are in Pre-K and 1st grade. Work for the rest of the family is scarce due to business closures or furloughs. Most of my work is remote so, luckily, I am not too affected. Our plans to sell our home have been put on hold temporarily. I'm hoping that once the Shelter-in-Place is lifted, we can resume our plans to move to Arizona."

**Torsten Jacobsen** writes: "We turned our house over to some of our kids and grandkids for logistical reasons and took off for time on the beach of the sea of Cortez. A bunch of corona viruses were high-tailing us, but we out ran them on the way down here, and they also realized that it was not to their liking; virtually no people, sunshine, and warm weather. Not a place for gatherings, no real old people's senior centers for easy targets; they would have to fly an enormous distance over the sea or in from the deserted desert, and no poor air quality with high particulate matter. So, 99.9% of the little opportunistic cowardly bastards turned around. We plan to return pre-mortem in a vertical position, unless Odin sends me off to do battle."

**Chris Ruzicka** writes: "As with everyone else, the last week has been stressful. We have reduced our hours in the office and are seeing only patients for urgent care visits. Unfortunately, we have had to lay off our staff because of the situation and we have no work to offer them. I spent last weekend on a overnight trip to Irvine to move my daughter home. The UCI sent all the students home, and next quarter will all be online only."



**Rich Lueck** writes: "Looking back reminds me that when I was barely 14-years-old, and it was much later when the Hong Kong flu went around, that I thought about the spread. I don't remember anybody in my Boy Scout troop that didn't get sick, nor do I remember scouts leaving and being sent to the hospital but that doesn't mean it didn't happen. When we had a fever, we had to stay in our tents except to use the porta potty. When we were in NY City, some scouts stayed in the hotel too sick to see the sites. I guess Google could give the big picture of the worldwide Asian Flu stats. but the fact a flu was given a name says something about it."





# QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS

**President-elect Vicki Sexton** filed this report: Thank you to all who answered my questionnaire. A few things showed up on almost every response I got. Almost all of you thought that we needed membership from Clayton City leaders, i.e., City Manager, Chief of Police, and a Counsel Members. Also suggested were young professionals. Corporate memberships were mentioned as well; such as Safeway. One member went so far as to say we need everyone. I agree.



Everyone liked the idea of having a 3 – 5 year plan for the club, but there was mixed opinions on what areas we need to focus on. This may be an issue we need to work more closely on as a board, but of course I would continue to want the club members input. Possibly we could have one of our “5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the month” meetings just on this issue. Bring back Candy’s plan when she was the district governor.

You all liked having raffles or 50/50 drawings and are sad that this can't be revived. This is what Rotary has to say about them. Can we have raffles? Yes, we can, but no matter what, we cannot hold 50/50 drawings. It would have to be a 90/10 drawing, as the law requires that 90% of any raffle must go to a charitable cause. If you think that enough money could be raised at each meeting that the members would be happy with 10% of the pot, then maybe we can revisit. Can we ignore the rules like **we think** some clubs are doing? RI says NO!!! We could get in big trouble, not only financially but with bad publicity.

Everyone agrees that having fun at our meetings is important and humor plays a big part in that, but it isn't just jokes that you all are missing. You want to hear what Rotary is doing and what our club is doing. We probably don't have to wait for our general meetings to cover this. We could have a segment of Rotary information at each meeting. Of course the social aspect of our meetings is important as well. There were some ideas at PETS regarding social interaction. All members wanted engaging speakers. I think we do a pretty good job in this area, but there is always room for improvement. If you have ideas or have heard a compelling speaker, get their information and give them to Miles.

The area that had the most diverse opinions were the ones you would like to stop and the ones you would like to adopt. 1) Everyone should stop sitting in the same seat every week (we could play musical chairs which was a PETS suggestion) or just fine folks that continue to sit in the same place; 2) Start the meetings at 7AM promptly; 3) Adopt new practices especially when programs that are eliminated without anything to take its place; and 4) The biggest controversial suggestion was stopping the Pledge of Allegiance. This was brought up by more than one person. Basically we have gotten stale.

# HAPPY BUCKS



**Julia Dawson** had a grumpy buck because her son won't be able to visit during the Easter holiday as planned because of the virus. The sad thing is they not only won't be together to celebrate her birthday, but they also didn't buy a refundable ticket. On the happy side, however, reported that all her students are keeping up with their lessons online through Khama, WhatsApp, or Skype.

**Torsten Jacobsen** is very happy because he is in Baja with his wife, Tineke, where they are enjoying themselves on the beach and all that clean air.



**Tommy Wolf** is very happy because they are allowed to keep their business open so they can still work and see clients in this sequestered situation.

**Larry Hutchings** is very, very happy that he lives in Rossmoor where they have plenty of trails and a golf course to walk on and about all of the issues going on with their homeowner's association in Palm Springs.



**Vicky Sexton** is super happy that she's healthy and staying at home and still able to hug and kiss her grandchildren.



**Clayton Worsdell** is very happy that Carol's asthma and pulmonary hypertension is at Bay and she's able to walk for 20 minutes at a time.



# THE GALLERY

This space usually features the beautiful photography of our members and especially Clayton Worsdell's submissions. Since words generate beauty as well, here is a beautiful and meaningful poem from Rich Lueck which he said is to remind everyone that the last thing left in Pandora's Box was hope.



## IN THE TIME OF QUIET

No one's told the daffodils about the pause to spring  
And no one's told the birds to roost and asked them not to sing  
No one's asked the lazy bee to cease his bumbling round  
And no one's stopped the bright green shoots emerging through the ground  
No one's told the sap to rest, deep within the wood  
And stop the sleepy trees from waking, wreathed about in bud  
No one's told the sky to douse its brightest shades of blue  
And stop the scudding clouds from puffing headlong into view  
No one's asked the lambs to still the springs beneath their feet,  
To stop their rapid rush and quell each joyful bleat  
No one's told the stream to halt its gurgle or its flow  
And warned the playful breezes, not to gust and blow  
No one's asked the raindrops not to fall upon the earth  
And fail to quench the soil in the season of rebirth

No one's locked the sun down, or dimmed the shimmer of the moon  
And even in the darkest night, the stars are still immune

Remember what you value, remember who is dear  
Close the doors to danger and keep your family near  
In the quiet all around us take the time to sit and stare  
And wonder at the glory unfurling everywhere  
Look towards the future, after the ordeal  
And keep faith in Mother Nature's power and will to heal



# ALWAYS LEAVE 'EM LAUGHING

## SQUIRRELS

In a small American town, a band of squirrels had become quite a problem.

The Presbyterian Church called a meeting to decide what to do about their squirrel infestation. After much prayer and consideration, they concluded that the squirrels were predestined to be there, and they shouldn't interfere with God's divine will.

At the Baptist church the squirrels had taken an interest in the baptistery. The deacons met and decided to put a water-slide on the baptistery and let the squirrels drown themselves. The squirrels liked the slide and unfortunately, knew instinctively how to swim, so twice as many squirrels showed up the following week.

The Lutheran church decided that they were not in a position to harm any of God's creatures. So, they humanely trapped their squirrels and set them free near the Baptist church. Two weeks later the squirrels were back when the Baptists took down the water-slide.

The Episcopalians tried a much more unique path by setting out pans of whiskey around their church in an effort to kill the squirrels with alcohol poisoning. They sadly learned how much damage a band of drunken squirrels can do.

But the Catholic Church came up with a more very creative strategy! They baptized all the squirrels and made them members of the church. Now they only see them at Christmas and Easter.

And not much was heard from the Jewish synagogue. They took the first squirrel and circumcised him. They haven't seen a squirrel since.

## DOCTOR WANTED

A well respected surgeon was relaxing on his sofa one evening just after arriving home from work. As he was tuning into the evening news, the phone rang. The doctor calmly answered it and heard the familiar voice of a colleague on the other end of the line.

"We need a fourth for poker," said the friend. "I'll be right over," whispered the doctor.

As he was putting on his coat, his wife asked, "Is it serious?"

"Oh yes, quite serious," said the doctor gravely. "In fact, three doctors are there already!"

# GOOD THINKING

A doctor of psychiatry is doing his normal morning rounds at the hospital when he enters the ward. He finds Arnold sitting on the floor, pretending to saw a piece of wood in half. Meanwhile Mark is hanging from the ceiling by his feet.

The consultant asks Arnold what he's doing. Arnold smiles and answers, 'Can't you see I'm sawing this piece of wood in half?'

The consultant nods and continues talking to Arnold and asks him what Mark is doing on the ceiling. Arnold looks up and murmurs, 'Oh, he's my friend, but he's a little crazy. He thinks he's a light bulb.'

The consultant looks up and notices that Mark's face is turning red and blue.

The consultant remonstrates with Arnold and says, 'If he's your friend, you should get him down from there before he hurts himself.'

Arnold replies with a sigh, 'What? And work in the dark.'

*. . . and that's all folks.*