

2019 - 2020

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Mary Kemnitz: Correspondent  
Rich Lueck: Correspondent  
Clayton Worsdell: Photographer

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Cheryl Wilson: Assistant DG

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

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## IMPORTANT MEETINGS 2020

TBA Board Meeting 7 AM  
Buttercup Restaurant  
TBA Charitable Fund 5:30 PM  
US Bank



**STAY WELL . STAY APART . WORK TOGETHER**

# WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER

**Monument Crisis Center Receives \$5,000 from Our Club**



**Chris Ruzicka hands the \$5,000 check to Sandra Scherer as Steve Weir looks on.**

Our Club responded to the Monument Crisis Center's food bank's increased need for resources for emergency food distribution by presenting them with a check for \$5,000 on Monday. **Executive Director Sandra Scherer** shown here accepting the check from **Chris Ruzicka** said, "Charities all over the USA are facing shortages because organizations, that typically donate large volumes of food, have shut down. Grocery stores, which ordinarily share unsold inventory, have less to donate due to supply chain interruptions and increased demand due to the Stay-at-Home program." To add to this crisis, many of the nation's largest farms are struggling with another ghastly effect of the pandemic. Because restaurant, hotels, and schools have had to close, they are being forced to destroy tens of millions of pounds of fresh food and millions of gallons of milk.

# Zooming Into the Future

President **Julia Dawson** called the fourth **Zoom** meeting to order and took attendance. Here are the members who tuned in today: **Larry Hutchings, Clayton Worsdell, Vicki Sexton, Bob Huck, Renee Rushworth, Fred Nelson, Rich Lueck, Jeff Wilson, Ewa Sobilo, Robert Sundberg, Tommy Wolf** and **Torsten Jacobsen**. A rousing chorus of "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" was sung after which the meeting began.



## THOUGHT OF THE DAY: Fred Nelson

*I am not afraid of tomorrow, for I have seen yesterday, and I love today.*

**Noah's Ark:** Everything we need to know about life, we learned from Noah's Ark.

1. Don't miss the boat.
2. Remember that we are all in the same boat.
3. Plan ahead! It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.
4. Stay fit. When you're 600 years old, someone may ask you to do something really big.
5. Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.
6. Build your future on high ground.
7. For safety's sake, travel in pairs.
8. Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.
9. When you're stressed, float a while.
10. Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.
11. No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting.

**Most people walk in and out of your life, but FRIENDS leave footprints in your heart.**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS & NEWS

## APRIL 14 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MONTHLY MEETING VIA ZOOM



Everyone from a bunny rabbit, to an infant, and someone getting a head start on Halloween attended the monthly Board meeting. Looks like Zoom is here to stay.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Just a heads up from **Treasurer Vicki Sexton** who reminds us that no meeting fees are due this month, so be sure to cancel your automatic payment.



## FUNDRAISING REPORT



**Fred Nelson** reported that the Promo Demo and Pancake Breakfast events are in jeopardy of being canceled due to the COVID-19 situation. It is imperative that we put our heads together to come up with possible solutions to raise money. The Pancake Breakfast generates approximately \$6,000 and gets added to the treasury while the Promo Demo party is our 'passing of the guard' or our version of the inauguration of a new administration. If you have suggestions, primarily for fundraisers, please let us know.

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

**Mary Kemnitz** reports that at 7 am this morning she and **Dave** did a Zoom presentation with the Oakley Rotary which is a brand new club. It was about partnering the **Cars2ndChance** program with them. Dave Kemnitz has chosen to join the Rotary Club of Lamorinda Sunrise to continue his "Service above Self" on Friday mornings. Mary will remain a member with us.



## SAN FELIPE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM: Rising to the Occasion



**Rich Lueck** announced that we met the deadline and here are the members who are participating in the 2020 – 2021 San Felipe Matching Grant Scholarship program.

Each participant donated \$200 to support one student and our club matched it, so in essence they are all supporting two students except for **Hugh** and **Flor Toloui**. They decided to sponsor three students and submitted a check for \$600 which means they will be sponsoring six students. Way to go, Hugh and great job, everyone.



## SAN FELIPE ART COMPETITION 2019 - 2020



**Torsten Jacobsen** and **Tineke** received half a dozen student paintings from the San Felipe art competition and will be bringing them back when they return. We will judge them, pick a winner, and reward the winners. The reasons there wasn't a lot more entries, despite almost 40 students involved in the competition supplied with art materials, had to do with timing. We started the competition too late into the semester. All the students otherwise were delighted and look forward to doing this again in the fall.

Tineke mentioned that *"in the poblado—a small village near our place—kids are so talented that they have sold their paintings at the annual art shows to raise money."* This is a great opportunity to focus on the Power of Art and know that it will continue into the 2020 – 2021 term.

# MESSAGE FROM DISTRICT GOVERNOR TINA AKINS

**Governor Akins** said: "I am making an extraordinary request of you, and all members in our district, to join the fight against COVID-9. It's called **Volunteer Surge**. Our district is one of two leading in the Volunteer Surge program and your immediate participation is critical to its success. Two weeks ago, Rotarians in a local club engaged Rotary International to recruit **1 million volunteers** in two weeks to sign up with Volunteer Surge, a new program that allows us to train online, for free, to become a Telehealth Worker, or a Community Health Worker. These volunteers will provide basic assistance, and will reduce suffering and save lives, locally and across the nation. How? By helping our health care providers to focus more of their attention where it is most needed. The world is watching, and we, as Rotarians, people of action, are now truly defined by our actions in this crisis."



## BLOOD DRIVE

**Steve Pignataro**, Donor Recruitment Representative of Vitalant, notified us that a community blood drive will take place at the Clarion Hotel Concord on April 27 and 28. They are letting us use their ballroom thereby giving us the extra space to practice social distancing. Vitalant is a nonprofit organization that collects blood from volunteer donors across the United States and was founded in 1943 in Phoenix, Arizona. They provide blood, blood products, and blood services to 40 states, have 127 donation centers, and collect about 1.8 million donations of blood each year from about 780,000 donors. They are the sole blood provider to nearly 1,000 hospitals and health care facilities across the Nation. You must make an appointment if you wish to be a donor: contact [www.vitalant.org](http://www.vitalant.org) or call 877 258-4825. Location: Clarion Hotel 1050 Burnett Ave, Concord, April 27 & 28, between the hours of 10 am to 3 pm.

## THE AFFECTS OF QUARANTINE

**Torsten Jacobsen** reports the following: "I previously wrote of the potential benefits of folks having to slow down and be in Quarantine; but there is, of course, a flip side to that. A survey done before the pandemic noted that about half the population in the U.S. suffer from loneliness-whether it is due to the fact that they are single, divorced, or separated from family and loved ones due to geographical fragmentation in a very large country. On top of that, if those people didn't develop hobbies, pursue creative activities that they can engage in alone, or even perform chores, their mental condition could go from bad to worse. That applies to a deteriorating physical condition that will develop if they cut back on sports, chores, and exercise. Worse yet this can very likely be compounded by excessive intake of food and booze leading to obesity and ill health; In addition, if this is compounded by conflict, then a rise in domestic violence and true conflict is not unlikely in some situations with nowhere for the wife or child to flee. So this is something we all should have heightened awareness of. I saw, that during the massive earthquake in Haiti that literally killed and massively injured hundreds of thousands of people, decent folks were emotionally and physically drained and we REALLY had to support each other especially with severe sleep deprivation and exhaustion. Sometimes even small children would give support to us medical providers on the verge of collapse. Physical support and medical treatment is not enough. It is important that we are aware of these problems and make every effort to help find a solution."



# HAPPY BUCKS

**Steve Wilson** is on a roll. He has two more houses in the pipeline and they are all vacant, so he can take clients on a walk-through.



**Ewa Sobilio** is happy to report that all is well at Moose Metals. They have remained open and are practicing all the safety rules necessary through this pandemic—everything from masks, gloves, and safe distances.



**Julia Dawson** told us that she had her cat checked at the vets the other day and found out that the cat has diabetes. Julia is now responsible for giving the cat insulin shots every single day.



**Renee Rushworth** was happy to tell us that her granddaughter is turning seven. It won't be a typical birthday party celebration but there will be a bouncy house and a popcorn machine for the family to enjoy. This is one birthday she will never forget.



# STAYING CONNECTED

## HELLO, FROM BELGIUM

Aline Collard

(Our former foreign exchange student)

2015



2020



"I hope everyone is ok. I think a lot about you from Belgium. Here everything is good. We stay and work from home. We stay at home to be safe. I'm not done with school yet. It's my last year and I'm studying beauty. I'd like to be a beautician and open my own space, but we don't really know how it is going to be because of the virus. All of my family is alright. My cousin is in Canada for her student exchange, and she is ok.

So right now, I'm helping my mom at home because she's still working. I help mom with the garden, cleaning the pool, and I do a lot of sports too. With my step brother we are building a chicken house. We have really nice weather right now in Belgium. One of my best friends had the coronavirus but now it's over, and nothing really important happened to her.

It's been 5 years, but I feel like it was yesterday. I'm still in contact with Beri. I wanted to come [to California] in September, but with the virus I'm not going to take that risk. Next year, I hope. And again, thank you to everyone for the year I passed with all of you. It was amazing. It was the best year of my life. I'll never forget you."

*Aline celebrated her birthday April 13, and if you want to wish her a Happy Birthday here is her email address [alinecollard1996@gmail.com](mailto:alinecollard1996@gmail.com). She was our foreign exchange student 2014 – 2015 and spent her junior year at Clayton Valley Charter High School. She also attended Haute Ecole Robert Schuman HERS, and studied Psychology at Université catholique de Louvain. Belgium has a population of 11,578,377 and approximately 30 thousand of its citizens are affected with the Coronavirus.*



## KEEPING OUR BRAINS ALIVE

By Bill Selb



*"Emily and I are doing a few things to pass each day (whichever day it is). We get out of bed at sunrise and go to bed when we're bored with TV. We take a neighborhood walk once or twice a day. Somehow Emily manages to put together some great meals from what's in the refrigerator (our daughter helps with shopping). We have a 1,000 piece jigsaw puzzle and word puzzles to keep our brains active. And I'm going through old files wondering why I've kept all that paper."*

## STARTING A BUSINESS FROM SCRATCH



**Pamela Jensen**, former member who was the Club Services Director, emailed us and brought us up to date on her situation and said: *"I hope you are all staying safe. I am super busy. I started a ready-made meal delivery company, and I am working seven days a week at the moment. My husband was put on furlough, so he is helping me. I just hired my hair stylist to help me out as well because her studio is closed. When she and Ken go back to work, I will have to figure out a new plan. Nick is doing online studying again as the schools here are out of in-person schooling until the end of the year. My daughter is here and working from home as well. How are you all doing?"*

If you want to contact Pamela and find out what those yummy meals are, here is her email address: [pamelasue2007@gmail.com](mailto:pamelasue2007@gmail.com).



## THIS TOO SHALL PASS

By Monica Fraga



*"Sorry I have been dark for the last few weeks. It's been a wild and crazy ride at work. This is clearly a very dark period for the travel industry. We have been busy cancelling or rescheduling trips into 2021. There are many of my friends within this industry that won't make it or are being laid off. This is a very sad time for my travel community. I have worked hard to reduce unnecessary overhead in order to keep my girls employed. I optimistically believe that the travel market will come back and we will recover. Maybe I'm dreaming, but I prefer it that way.*

*As for home, my husband Matt is an essential worker so he is back to working 5 days a week. My daughter works for a law office and has been working from home—interesting having us at home 24/7 together for the last several weeks. Richie is distance learning aka online schooling. He loves it. He works efficiently through his lessons and then spends the day putting on his truck or another car project. Thank goodness he has hobbies.*

*I am personally leaving once a week to go grocery shopping for my family and my mother in law. I have completed spring cleaning, have been working from home, and have started a new exercise regimen. I am personally trying not to go stark raving crazy, but we will see. As they say, "this too shall pass." Cheers my friends!"*

## SAFETY ABOVE SELF



**Barbara Reifschneider** said she made this mask this morning, and it took her about an hour to complete. It used to be a rotary shirt that went down to her knees. She checked with the CDC website, and it said the fabric should be 100% cotton, and you should not be able to see through it. So this very old rotary shirt, left over from some convention she attended years ago, was perfect. Barbara said: *"I'm not taking orders because sitting here and sewing is killing my neck and lower back."*

# THE POWER OF ART

## **Photography • Mixed Media • Sculpture**

Enjoy this exhibit of our very talented members, their relatives, and students throughout the county. Please send us artwork so we can keep our exhibit going and enjoy the Power of Art.



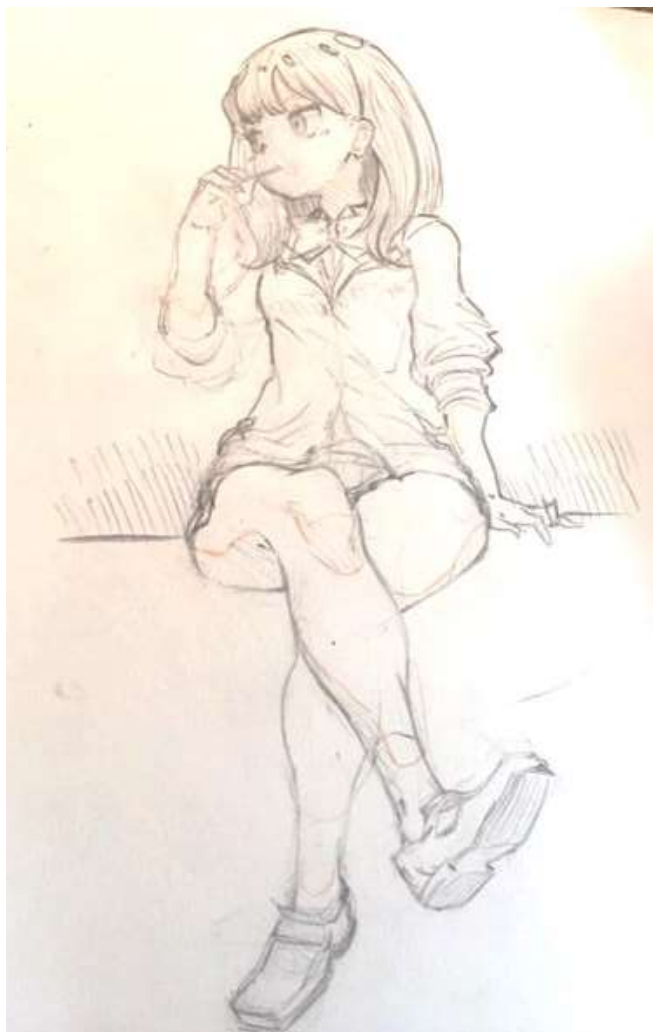
WATERCOLOR STILL LIFE

Members' contributions.  
Can you guess who did them?

PEN & INK FASHION ILLUSTRATION



# Student works from Clayton Valley High School





# LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE

I don't think anyone expected that when we changed the clocks we'd go from Standard Time to the Twilight Zone.

I used to spin that toilet paper like I was on Wheel of Fortune. Now I turn it like I'm cracking a safe.

I need to practice social-distancing from the refrigerator.

Every few days try your jeans on just to make sure they fit. Pajamas will have you believe all is well in the kingdom.

This morning I saw a neighbor talking to her cat. It was obvious she thought her cat understood her. When I came into my house, I told my dog..... We laughed a lot.

Quarantine Day 5: Went to this restaurant called THE KITCHEN. You have to gather all the ingredients and make your own meal. I have no clue how this place is still in business.

Day 5 of Homeschooling: One of these little monsters called in a bomb threat.

Day 6 of Homeschooling: My child just said "I hope I don't have the same teacher next year".... I'm offended.

Better 6 feet apart than 6 feet under.

## KEEP SMILING

We have just heard a Doctor on TV saying that during this time of Coronavirus while staying at home we should focus on inner peace. To achieve this we should always finish things we start and we all could use more calm in our lives.

I looked through my house to find things I'd started and hadn't finished, so I finished off a bottle of Merlot, a bottle of Chardonnay, a bottle of Baileys, a bottle of wum, the remainder of Valiumun scriptuns, and a box of chocletz. Yu haf no idr how damn fablus I feel rite now. Snd this to all who need inner piss. An telum u luvum.

And two hash yer wands, stafe day avrybobby!!!



CHRIS RUZICKA

STEVE WEIR

THE CHECK

SANDRA SCHERER

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