

2019 - 2020

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Clayton Worsdell: Photographer

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John Wenzel: Webmaster
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Bill Selb: Pancake Breakfast Chair
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IMPORTANT MEETINGS 2020

4/14 Board Meeting 7 AM
canceled
4/13 Charitable Fund 5:30 PM
canceled



STAY WELLL STAY APART WORK TOGETHER

Zooming Into the Future



If you've been on a neighborhood walk lately, you may have noticed some windows have teddy bears sitting in them. Many families with young children have been going on neighborhood "bear hunts" in the COVID-19 age to get some fresh air, exercise, and a way of bringing the community together in this strange time. Some parents have said the bear hunt is a good reminder for kids (and adults) to look for the good in the world at a time of uncertainty and worry. The idea was inspired by a popular book and song for preschoolers called "We're Going on a Bear Hunt."

“WILL THE 2nd ZOOM MEETING COME TO ORDER”

President Julia Dawson said that as long as we are dark, weekly meetings will be conducted via Zoom. In attendance today were: **Richard Lueck, Larry Hutchings, Lisa Truesdell, Bob Huck, Clayton Worsdell, Jeff Wilson, Vicky Sexton, Mary and Dave Kemnitz, Bob Sundberg, Ewa Sobilo, and Joan** (who was neither seen nor heard). After a brief breathing exercise Julia asked **Jeff Wilson** to recite the Four-Way Test.



SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Every publication of The Rotarian magazine devotes an entire column of the guiding principles that comprise Service above Self. Several members did not know that there is a Code of Conduct and an Object of Rotary so here they are:

FOUR WAY TEST

Of the things we think, say or do:
Is it the TRUTH?

Is it FAIR to all concerned?

Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

CODE OF CONDUCT

As a Rotarian I will:

- 1) Act with integrity and high ethical standards in my personal and professional life
- 2) Deal fairly with others and treat them and their occupations with respect
- 3) Use my professional skills through Rotary to: mentor young people, help those with special needs, and improve people's quality of life in my community and in the world
- 4) Avoid behavior that reflects adversely on Rotary or other Rotarians.
- 5) Help maintain a harassment-free environment in Rotary meetings, events, and activities, report any suspected harassment, and help ensure non-retaliation to those individuals that report harassment

THE OBJECT OF ROTARY

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

FIRST: The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

SECOND: High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

THIRD: The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;

FOURTH: The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

THOUGHT OF THE DAY: Julia Dawson

A husband asked his wife why she cut off both ends off the roast before roasting it and she said: "I cut the ends off because that's the way my mother did it." However, the question got the young woman thinking. So she called her mom and asked her and she said: "Because that's how your grandma did it, and I learned that from her." Now the young woman was really curious, so she called her grandma and asked her the same question and grandma said: "Because the roast was always bigger than the pan, so I cut the ends off to make it fit." As this story demonstrates, for any change to take place, **the first step is to gain awareness of what we are doing.** Until we gain awareness, we cannot begin to question the relevance of thought, behavior, or action that we are taking. **This means that we need to analyze and evaluate our current actions and behaviors, as well as our current thoughts in order to create change.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS & NEWS

NOTES FROM OUR PRESIDENT

President Dawson said that her son Jordon, who lives in Washington, is being tested for *Corvid-19* as he has all the symptoms. Our second zoom meeting covered the following:



CHARITABLE FUND & BOARD MEETING CANCELATIONS

Secretary Fred Nelson announced the cancellation of the April 13 Charitable Board meeting at the request of **Chris Ruzicka** who also asked Fred to conduct an e-vote on two critical items after he has a report from the **Treasurer Renee Rushworth**.

Secretary Nelson also canceled the April 14 Board meeting and will ask **President Dawson** to decide if the meeting will be held electronically as there are many issues to be discussed.

SAN FELIPE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Rich Lueck will distribute application forms for those members who plan on donating \$200 to sponsor a student for the 2020 - 2021 San Felipe Student Scholarship program for the next semester.

HELPING OUR COMMUNITY

President Dawson will be sending out an email asking for ideas and suggestions on how our club can help and support the community which is the Object of Rotary.

MESSAGE FROM OUR DISTRICT GOVERNOR TINA AKINS



For the last few weeks, I've been focused on encouraging clubs to continue to stay corrected. "Rotary Connects the World" is this year's theme and it turns out to be more important than ever. Rotary connects the world because we connect to each other. You are doing great job out there by learning Zoom and creating phone trees—in short, making sure to connect with our fellow club members. Keep it up.

This extraordinary time is NOT a hiatus from Rotary. Instead we are going to see the number of people in need increase. We always had a lot of work to do, and now we have more. Remember—everything you do to help your fellow man matters.

SHELTER-IN-PLACE ORDER EXTENDED TO MAY 3

Health officers in seven Bay Area jurisdictions are extending a previous stay-at-home order. The new stay-at-home order will supersede the previous order and went into effect on Tuesday, March 31 and will end on Sunday, May 3, 2020. **Dr. Chris Farnitano**, health officer for Contra Costa County said: "Extending the stay-at-home order should reduce the number of sick patients seeking care at one time, giving us time to acquire more medical supplies for providers who will be providing care to people sick with COVID-19. The extension will allow doctors and nurses to better treat those who do get sick, and save countless lives." The SOS Hotline is **(925) 521-5065** for more information.

STAYING CONNECTED

Ken Nishimori tells us that his wife, **Phyllis**, spent this week making face masks for the daughter of a neighbor who is a nurse at Enloe Hospital in Chico. There are not enough supplies to keep these people safe, so every bit helps—fourteen done for this batch.

Since the daughter/nurse gets only one real medical mask to wear all day, she can wear these supplemental ones over the regular one to protect the one mask she gets each day. The supplemental ones are washable and can be sterilized and re-used.



MEETING UNANTICIPATED NEEDS Winter Nights Family Shelter Can Use Your Help

The Winter Nights' budget was never intended to cover the demands that COVID-19 has put on the Shelter. **Volunteers:** Staff is putting in extra hours to clean restrooms and showers, serve meals, and also work with families on employment and housing options. Volunteers are needed now more than ever. **The Children:** We are buying more laptops for their use in online schooling and creative engagement while "stuck" inside the shelter. We have lists of wonderful videos for them to watch and looking at online conferencing for tutors to check in with them. **Dinners:** The estimated costs for take-out meals for families and staff each night run about \$200 plus which is well in excess of what congregations usually donate per meal when prepared on-site. **Emergency reserve:** Should a family need to be quarantined and put up in a motel the estimated cost approximately \$900 - \$1000 per week for a family of four. **Emergency fund for rapid housing:** Each family saves for the cost of moving into housing. In this environment, in order to move families into housing as quickly as possible, WN will consider helping with deposits, supplies, and other essentials that could speed their transition. To help in any way contact Ann Lawrence: anlawrence617@gmail.com

POSITIVE ASPECTS OF NATURE'S TANTRUM

By Torsten Jacobsen



There are, indeed, positive aspects to the current pandemic when mankind is forced to redirect from daily nonessential ambitions and activities, so many of which are destructive in the long term to the very existence of life on earth. We are forced to bow before the forces of Mother Nature and accept her might. We have been doing a superb job of damaging her badly especially during the past century. For among other things, while our species has been here for more than a quarter of a million years, we have increased fivefold (500%) at an exponential rate over the past century. and have decided that the world should adapt to us. But she can be mighty. At the beginning of the 14th century, the Black Plaque in took out nearly half of mankind in a matter of months. She knows no man-made borders, whether with walls or not, and recognizes no nationalities or passports. Should it be that her ultimate survival rests on our non-existence? Hopefully, not if we wise up in time TOGETHER.

Isolation and quarantine offers us the opportunity for serious and deep thought, communication, and not frivolous time spent with viewing and conspicuous consumption. We must be emotionally and psychologically closer to each other and all mankind.

This pandemic should, indeed, help us realize that we are one human family; one species who must share and preserve this planet together or persist in national selfishness and ultimate destruction of ourselves and flora and fauna. There cannot be "China first" or "Russia first" or "America first" which is the current slogan and modus operandi being bantered about these days—nor a particular "religion first and foremost."

The pandemic should thus be a moment of inspirational reflection and introspection on both a personal and national level. Not to be forgotten but a lesson in humility and a source of wisdom and truly long term planning and cooperation on a grand scale.

OUR FAMILY IS COPING

By John Wenzel

It's definitely been busy on my end. With client calls, and now the kids at home, there is always something going on and the quite time Kristyn and I get is typically between 9:30-11PM. Then again, between 6-7:30AM, it's rinse and repeat. I really can't complain because we are all doing well and work is going very well.

Normally, I keep an eye on the markets and economic data that comes out, but during this time, that really becomes my sole focus, which is really draining, but par for the course. I suspect with the 14-days off extension and the additional stay at home mandate till May 3, we can just hope we keep this curve flattened.

As of now, with an extremely short commute, my work hours have naturally been extended, but with most adjusting to this new normal, I'm hopeful I'll be able to schedule in a recess time with my kids during the lunch hour and try and reclaim my evenings again. I'm glad I still have work; we are doing well, so that's the blessing during all of this.



SOME THINGS NEVER CHANGE

Albert Camus in his 1947 novel titled *The Plague*, set within the walls of a quarantined French-Algerian town during World War II, writes: Unlike other species of apocalyptic fiction, where the enemy can be chemicals, or volcanoes or earthquakes or alien invaders, the enemy here is other humans: the touch of other humans, the breadth of other humans, and very often the mere existence of other humans.

PETS



I will try to recount the major points covered at the PETS seminar. As all previous PE's, it was exciting to arrive and see so many members and leaders that comprise Rotary. My primary breakout sessions really revolved around growing and re-engaging club members. My first breakout session was "Increase Our Impact" noting that the keys to our success are:

- Attitude - Leaders
- Active Participation – All members
- Adaptability – All members
- Application – Club Board

Active Participation creates service projects that all members can participate in such as "Reading Pals." This was a service project that one of our clubs does with children that have lower reading skills. The school/teacher pairs a rotary member with a child and at regular meeting times they get together and read. The nice part of this is that even Interact kids can be tutors.

Also, is there a member that would like to join the Clayton Business Community Association and be our club liaison? As most of you know, the CBCA is a huge and active club in the Clayton area. They are primarily responsible for most of the community events in Clayton and provide much money to scholarships and community needs. This might be an opportunity to get some of their members to join our club as well. They only meet once a month.

Adaptability is the quality of being able to adjust to new conditions. Well, we certainly understand this one. But beyond figuring out our ability to meet over the next few weeks and possibly longer, we covered adaptability in just about every breakout session we had. Mostly this covered what we can do to grow our club membership and keep the current membership engaged. The following breakout sessions covered these areas: Expand our Reach, Enhance Participant Engagement and Increase Ability to Adapt. I'll just give you the high points at this time because I'm pretty sure if you haven't already stopped reading this, you will soon:

- Lower costs of meetings
- Help with financial costs for new members joining
- Corporate membership
- Finding young professional's passions
- Passport Clubs/different hours, locations, pop-ups
- Monthly or twice a month meetings
- Change up time of meetings (Like Tommy's once a month evening meeting)

There was more which I will finish in next week's Newsletter.

HAPPY BUCKS



Julia Dawson had a grumpy buck because of her son's situation. But she was very happy to announce that she has only lost two students because she is doing lessons on Zoom.

Jeff Wilson announced that he received new guidelines from his Real Estate firm and shared them with us. He told us that he is only allowed to show vacant homes and must conduct virtual tours if people are living in them. Safe to say he's busy.

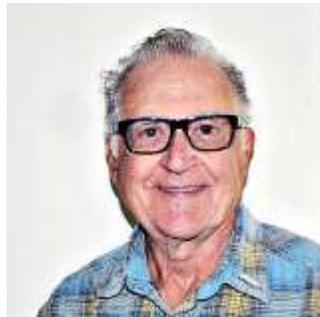


Joan D'Onofrio is not happy that the Lafayette HR Block office closed. She worked at Block for 12 years and will now be bored beyond belief—at least till May 3.



Rich Lueck happily keeps up his exercise routine by riding to Yosemite on his bike, but he is even happier that he got rid of the pesky goffer in his backyard by installing solar panels.

Vicky Sexton is still hugging and kissing her grandchildren and taking very long walks.

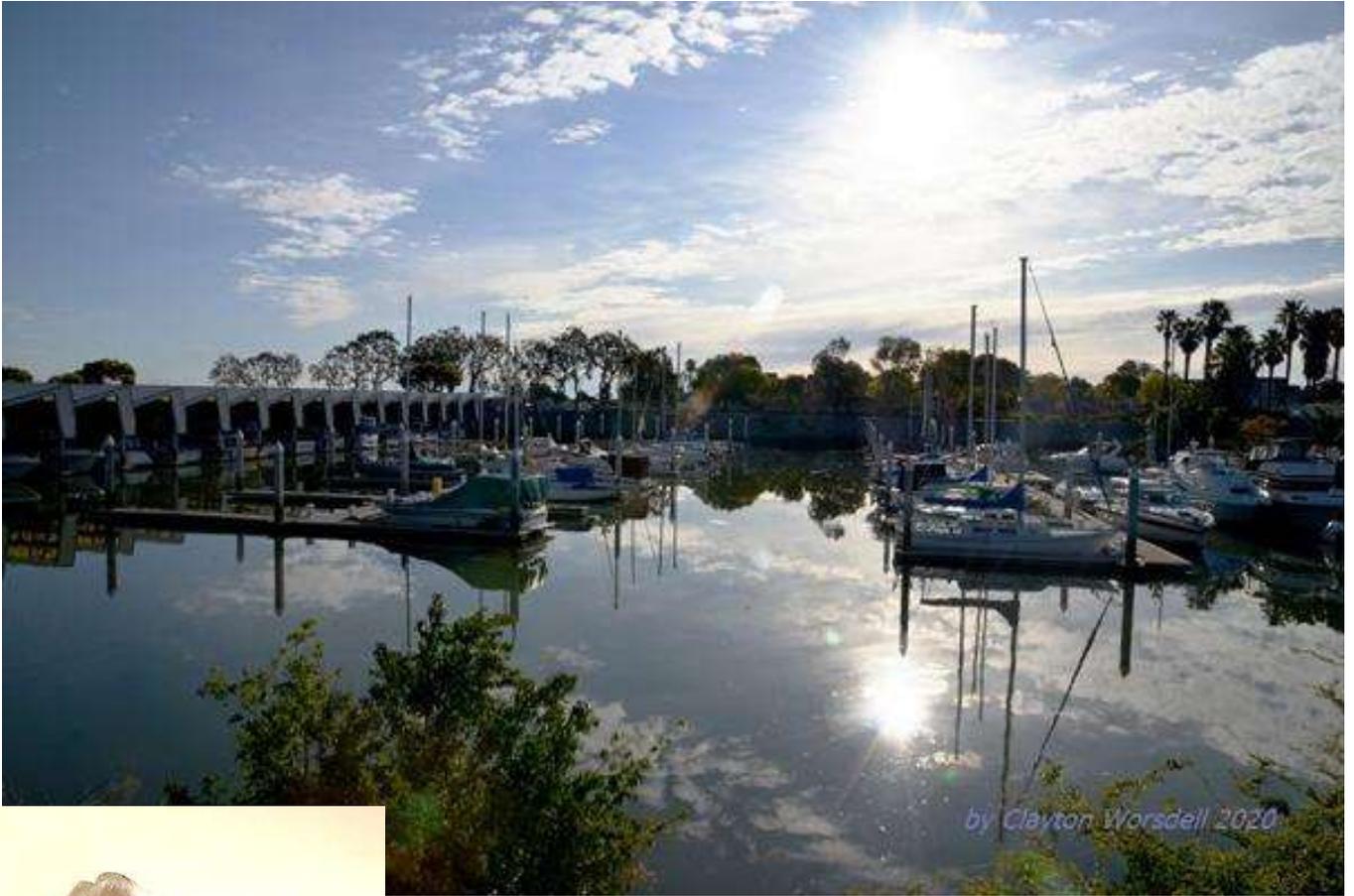


Clayton Worsdell is very happy that his PT (Poor Thing) Cruiser has been saved thanks to the tender loving care that the crew at D&H Enterprises bestowed on it. It was given a clean bill of health.



Mary Kemnitz's comments were a beautiful way to end the meeting. She said that this Coronavirus thing is making her appreciate the life she had. She also gave a special shout-out to her husband **Dave** who has been doing all the grocery shopping.

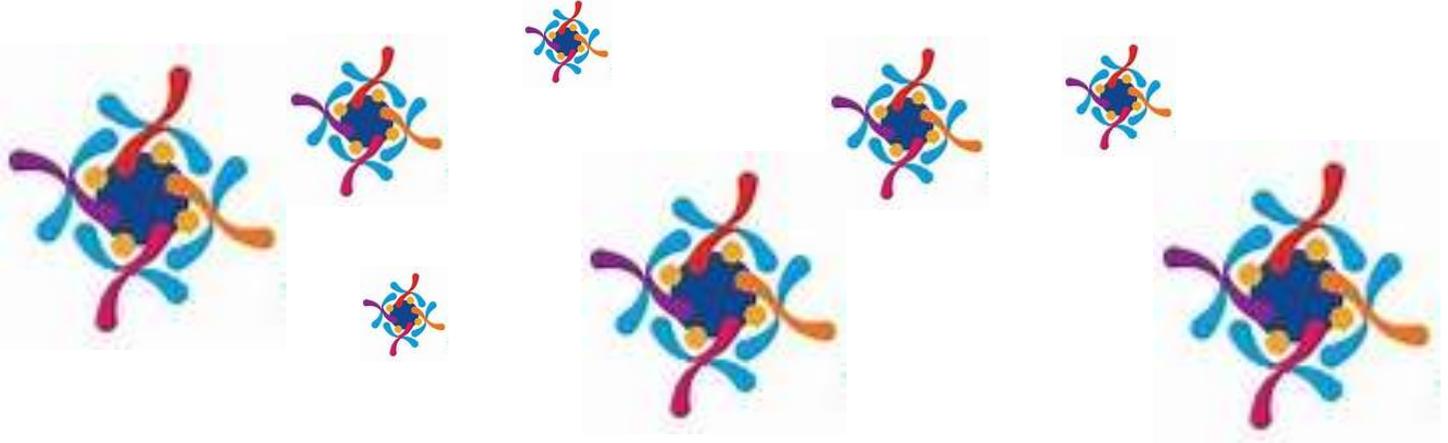
THE GALLERY



From the lens of Clayton Worsdell who is always camera ready.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Rich Lueck pointed out that our current logo resembles the Coronavirus! He also sent us some very funny jokes that are printed below.



HOW TO HAVE A HAPPY MARRIAGE

There once was a man and a woman who had been married for more than 60 years. They talked about everything. They kept no secrets from each other, except that the old woman had a shoe box in the top of her closet that she cautioned her husband never to open or ask her about it.

For all these years he had never thought about the box, but one day the little old woman got very sick and the doctor said she would never recover.

In trying to sort out their affairs the little old man took down the shoe box and took it to his wife's bedside. She agreed it was time that he should know what was in the box.

When he opened it he found 2 beautifully crocheted doilies and a stack of money totaling over \$50,000. He asked her about the unusual contents.

"When we were married," she said, "my grandmother told me the secret of a happy marriage was to never argue. She told me that if I ever got angry with you, I should just keep quiet and crochet a doily."

The little old man was so moved; he had to fight back tears. Only two precious doilies were in the box. She had only been angry with him two times in all those years of living and loving. He almost burst with joy and happiness.

"Sweetheart," he said, "That explains the doilies, but what about all this money? Where did it all come from?"

Oh," she said, "that's the money I made from selling the doilies."

LOVING HUSBANDS

A group of women were at a seminar on how to live in a loving relationship with their husbands. The women were asked: 'How many of you love your husband?'

All the women raised their hands.

Then they were asked, "When was the last time you told your husband you loved him?"

Some women answered today, a few yesterday, and some couldn't remember.

The women were then told to take out their cell phones and text their husband - "I love you, Sweetheart."

Next the women were instructed to exchange phones with one another and read aloud the text message they received in response to their message.

Below are 12 hilarious replies. If you have been married for quite a while, you understand that these replies are a sign of true love. Who else would reply in such a succinct and honest way?

1. Who the hell is this?
2. Eh, mother of my children, are you sick or what?
3. Yeah and I love you too. What's wrong?
4. What now? Did you wreck the car again?
5. I don't understand what you mean.
6. What the hell did you do now?
8. Don't beat about the bush; just tell me how much you need.
9. Am I dreaming?
10. If you don't tell me who this message is actually for, someone will die.
11. I thought we agreed you wouldn't drink during the day. (My personal favorite!)
12. Your mother is coming to stay with us, isn't she?

LAST RIDE ON MY HARLEY

While riding my Harley, I swerved to avoid hitting a deer, lost control and landed in a ditch, severely banging my head. Dazed and confused I crawled out of the ditch to the edge of the road when a shiny new convertible pulled up with a very beautiful woman who asked, "Are you okay?"

As I looked up, I noticed she was very beautiful and I replied as I pulled myself up to the side of the car to get a closer look, "I'm okay I think,"

She said, "Get in and I'll take you home so I can clean and bandage that nasty scrape on your head."

"That's nice of you," I answered, "but I don't think my wife will like me doing that!"

"Oh, come now, I'm a nurse," she insisted. "I need to see if you have any more scrapes and then treat them properly."

Well, she was really pretty and very persuasive. Being sort of shaken and weak, I agreed, but repeated, "I'm sure my wife won't like this."

We arrived at her place which was just few miles away and, after a couple of cold beers and the bandaging, I thanked her and said, "I feel a lot better but I know my wife is going to be really upset so I'd better go now."

"Don't be silly!" she said with a smile. "Stay for a while. She won't know anything. By the way, where is she?"

"Still in the ditch with the Harley, I guess."

. . . and that's all folks.