

2019 - 2020

## EDITORIAL STAFF

Joan D'Onofrio: Editor  
Mary Kemnitz: 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: Community Services  
Tommy Wolf: Membership  
Ewa Sobilo: 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  
The Gallery

## IMPORTANT MEETINGS 2020

6/09 Board Meeting 7 AM  
Zoom  
TBA Charitable Fund 5:30 PM  
Zoom



## STAY WELL . STAY APART . WORK TOGETHER

# SAN FELIPE, MEXICO

# 2020 ART AWARD

# WINNERS



1ST NOELIA CORTEZ, 2ND DANNA MEDINA, 3RD SOLANGE RICO, HONORABLE MENTION FLORINTINO CORRILLO

**2020 A YEAR THEY WILL NEVER FORGET.** Tina Sweeney of the San Felipe Rotary Club sent us this photo of the four art contest winners who participated in the COBASH High School art contest. It is the first time ever that such a competition was held and was so successful that they are already working on the 2021 contest. The four winners shown here were thrilled to be a part of this event and thanks to COVID-19 it is something they will never forget.

(Cont'd on p. 6)

# Zooming Into the Future

President **Julia Dawson Aguilar** called the TENTH **Zoom** meeting to order and took attendance. Here are the members who Zoomed in today: **Clayton Worsdell, Vicki Sexton, Fred Nelson, Rich Lueck, Torsten Jacobsen, Bill Selb, Ewa Sobilo, Barbara Reifschneider, Johnny Morgan, Hugh Toloui, Joan D'Onofrio, Ben Wentling, Mike Sweeney, Tina Sweeney, and Miles Bell.**



## THOUGHT OF THE DAY: Julia Dawson Aguilar

*"Whether you realize it or not, you have the opportunity to make a positive difference in this world. Somebody out there can benefit from your unique talents and gifts. Sometimes all you may need to keep going is a simple sign letting you know that someone cares and wants you to keep living."—anonymous*

## GUESTS



**MIKE & TINA SWEENEY**  
Honored guests of the Rotary Club of San Felipe

# ANNOUNCEMENTS/NEWS

## SECRETARY REPORTS

**Secretary Fred Nelsn** said it is official. The City of Clayton refunded our deposit, so be sure to remove June 27 from your datebooks. There will not be a Promo Demo event that is our official Changing-of-the-Guards ceremony.

This, on top of the cancellation of the Pancake breakfast, is a huge disappointment—so much so that ideas for when to hold the event were tossed around but was tabled for a special meeting-of-the-minds.



## COVID-19 TESTING

Testing is available to any resident who believes they need a Covid-19 test regardless of insurance, ability to pay or whether they have symptoms or not. Call **1-844-421-0804** from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. to schedule an appointment. For more information [coronavirus.cchealth.org/testing](https://coronavirus.cchealth.org/testing).

## VIRTUAL SPRING ASSEMBLY

**District Governor-Elect Mark Roberts** is encouraging club members to Register now for one, or all, of the Virtual Spring Assembly sessions May 23 to June 18. Just choose the Sessions most relevant to you. The beauty of virtual is that you don't have to choose between the sessions. You can attend as many as you want to by registering with your personalized link. Feedback from prior Assemblies helped us choose topics that you most want and need. The agenda is attached, and is guaranteed to include topics for everyone. Check out the agenda for all the classes and descriptions and register now. The Zoom link will be sent the day before each session.



## 2020 ROTARY VIRTUAL CONVENTION

As you all know, the 2020 District 5495 Conference has been cancelled in favor of the first-ever **Rotary International Virtual Convention** and will take place June 20-26. Now, more than ever, *Rotary Connects the World* is spot on.

This year's virtual convention will be a great opportunity to connect with Rotary participants from around the world to experience the spirit of Rotary, find inspiration through innovation, celebrate our resilience and ability to adapt, exchange ideas, explore how clubs are addressing COVID-19 around the world—all without having to leave your own home!

The virtual convention will be a great opportunity to expand our reach. Rotarians will have the opportunity to share the virtual convention with their community, club, family, and friends and invite them to experience the best of Rotary. Check the convention website [riconvention.org](https://riconvention.org) for program updates and information.



## SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT



**Bill Selb** was moved by an item he read and wanted to share it with us. It is titled: **We Are Not in the Same Boat:**

*I heard that we are all in the same boat, but it's not like that. We are in the same storm, but not in the same boat. Your ship could be shipwrecked and mine might not be, or vice versa.*

*For some, quarantine is optimal; a moment of reflection, of re-connection, easy in flip flops, with a cocktail or coffee. For others, this is a desperate financial & family crisis.*

*For some that live alone, they're facing endless loneliness. While for others it is peace, rest & time with their mother, father, sons & daughters.*

*With the \$600 weekly increase in unemployment, some are bringing in more money to their households than when they were working. Others are working more hours for less money due to pay cuts or losses in sales.*

*Some families of four just received \$3400 from the stimulus while other families of four saw \$0. Some were concerned about getting a certain candy for Easter while others were concerned if there would be enough food to get them through the weekend.*

*Some want to go back to work because they don't qualify for unemployment and are running out of money.*

*Others despise those who break the quarantine. Some are home spending 2-3 hours/day helping their child with online schooling while others are spending 2-3 hours/day to educate their children on top of a 10-12 hour workday.*

*Some have experienced the near death of the virus, some have already lost someone from it and some are not sure if their loved ones are going to make it. Others don't believe this is a big deal. Some have faith in God and expect miracles during this 2020. Others say the worst is yet to come.*

*So, friends, we are not in the same boat. We are going through a time when our perceptions and needs are completely different. Each of us will emerge, in our own way, from this storm. It is very important to see beyond what is seen at first glance. Not just looking, actually seeing. We are all on different ships during this storm experiencing a very different journey.—Author unknown.*

## FUNDRAISING IDEAS



It's that time again.

It's time to plan fundraising programs and **Rich Lueck** suggested holding a Virtual Auction while **Barbara Reifschneider** thought it would be cool to hold a Virtual Garage Sale.

Some of us are still waiting for a Virtual Crab Fest.

# FOOD BANK PROGRAM UPDATE



**Mary Kemnitz** reports that 15 cars have been donated for application to the Food Bank program to date. She said: *"Today we sold a 97 Toyota Camry which was donated by our DH customers who saw the KPIX segment. The vehicle had been sitting in their garage for months and when they saw the segment they immediately decided to donate to the Foodbank."*

Pictured below are the new owners of the Camry who are also D&H customers who brought their Volvo in for repair which they deemed was DOA (dead on arrival). While strolling around the lot they spotted the Camry and minutes later they were negotiating the price with Dave.



Literally 10 minutes later another vehicle was towed in. It belonged to a donor from Oakland who also saw the KPIX segment and donated her Honda Civic Hybrid!

*So lots of action here today," Mary said, "and many, many donations coming in I go home at night "limp" like a noodle from the extra work but the reality is that I don't mind. The end game is that we are helping others and that is why we joined Rotary."*

Mary went on to quote Ronald Reagan who said, *"We can't help everyone but everyone can help someone."*

**IF YOU WANT TO DONATE** use this website <https://cars2ndchance.com/food-bank/>



## **SAN FELIPE ART CONTEST WINNERS** (Continued from p.1)

Putting a face to the winner's and their art.



**First Prize: Noelia Ibarra Cortez**



**Second Prize: Danna Berenice Ruelas Medina**







**Third Prize: Solange Elena Garcia Rico**



What is doubly special about the Honorable Mention winner is that he just happens to be the student that **Fred** and **Lois Nelson** are supporting through the current scholarship program.



**Honorable Mention: Florentino Alexander Santiago Carrillo**



# HAPPY BUCKS



**BEN WENTLING** is happy now, but we all just found out that he had a mild stroke and was hospitalized. Stunning news to all of us, but we are happy to report that he is doing well. Even better is that his clients are slowly coming back and he has more work once again. It is still slow-going he said, but it is improving.

**LARRY HUTCHINGS** complemented the art work in last week's newsletter and the talents of the student. It brought back the memory of the scholarship project in 2002 that dealt with very

poor hearing-impaired children in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia. He told us how in 2000 he was on a cruise, and when it docked one day, he decided to skip the city tour and visited the Rehabilitation of Deaf Children Institute instead. Long story short: his involvement generated thousands of dollars in grants making it possible for approximately 30 students to complete their education through scholarships that included books, uniforms, audio equipment, and the opportunity to become integrated into society. Even though this was quite a long time ago, it was perfect that he recalled this project now as it fit perfectly with our Youth theme.



**HUGH TOLOUI** is totally amazing. For the past two months, and through his personal fundraising efforts, he raised \$5,000, put together and distributed 750 food boxes, and 280 hygiene kits for the Monument Crisis Center. Hugh clearly made a lot of people happy

**FRED NELSON** told us that when he saw his blood pressure reading was 80/55 he immediately paid a visit to his doctor who took him off of his current BP meds. He is now happy to report that his numbers are now 106/55.



**TORSTEN JACOBSEN** maintained a happy disposition despite the plumbing problem that surfaced during the meeting. It had something to do with animals.





# TODAY'S SPEAKER

## WELCOME TO THE MIKE & TINA SHOW



**Miles Bell** introduced us to our Twin Club members, **Mike and Tina Sweeney** of the San Felipe Rotary, who did an awesome presentation. For a club that is only open eight months out of the year, the amount of events and programs they administer, organize, operate, and promote is mind-blowing. Before moving from California to Mexico many moons ago, Mike was a

landscape architect with Dell Sun City and Tina was a schedule coordinator and dispatcher with the Northern CA Power Agency. They have three children. Our clubs have been partners since 2003. Here are the highlights of all they accomplish in those eight months:



 <p>One season with the Rotary Club of San Felipe</p>	<p>Fund Raising Efforts</p>  <p>TAMALE FESTIVAL</p>	<p>Fund Raising Efforts</p>  <p>Taste of San Felipe</p>
<p>Fund Raising Efforts</p> 	<p>Fund Raising Efforts</p>  <p>Rotary Breakfast Trailer at the Saturday Farmers Market</p>	<p>Fund Raising Efforts</p>  <p>Polio Plus Social</p>
<p>Gracie/Kuchy Sanchez Youth Education Program</p> <p>Scholarships Provided for over 150 Students in San Felipe</p> <p>In 2018 there were over 30 High School Graduates</p> <p>9 University Students</p> <p>7 Secondary Education Students</p>	<p>Gracie/Kuchy Sanchez Youth Education Program</p>  <p>New Shoes</p>	



### Hearing Clinic Grant



### Equine Therapy Support



### Children's Orchestra

\$23,000 dollars worth of woodwind and brass Musical Instruments donated to the Rotary Club of San Felipe in 2016 by the Baja Cultural Department.

We have now obtained string instruments to complete the orchestra

### First Responders Fund

A community fund to assist the Fire Department and Cruz Roja  
To sustain a high quality of local First Responders by providing, equipment and training for any local emergencies

### First Responders Fund



### Christmas G



### Christmas Gift Bags



### Other Projects

Hearing Grant-\$ 143,000  
Cancer Society-\$58,000  
Education -\$190,000  
Vision and Eye Care-\$121,000  
Local Orphanage-\$26,000  
Aid to the poor/elderly-\$18,000

Host of Local Projects:  
Rowing team  
Children's Orchestra  
Men's Rehab Center  
Reading Glasses for Seniors  
Mammogram Machine  
Wheelchair Donations  
Monthly food bank donations  
Active in "San Felipe Limpio"

## Gracie/Kuchy Sanchez Youth Education Program



The youth education program was named in honor of Gracie and Kuchy Sanchez

These two people proved to be instrumental in helping young people of San Felipe realize their dreams by providing food, clothing and any other assistance required to further their education.

Many students were able to attend school because of the caring attributes of this Mother-daughter combination

The Rotary Club of San Felipe has taken the efforts of Gracie and Kuchy and expanded on the program. The Club believes that these women would be proud of what they started and what it has become today

The program begins each year by contacting existing and potentially new sponsors. This provides funding for the program and the students

Once funding is secured Existing students and new students are added to the program, the number of students in the program is based on the amount of funding received

Students and their families are notified of their acceptance into the program and requirement forms are sent out

In July new students and families are introduced into the program at an orientation usually held at Rosita's Restaurant

They are made aware of the requirements to remain in the program These include:

- Maintaining at least a "B" average
- Good attendance
- No drugs or alcohol
- Participation in community service
- Good citizenship
- Completion of all assignments
- Attend at least 6 Rotary Interact meetings





# ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

## A SNAKE AND A RABBIT

A snake and a rabbit were racing along a pair of intersecting forest pathways one day, when they collided at the point where the pathways meet. They immediately began to argue with one another as to who was at fault for the mishap.

When the snake remarked that he had been blind since birth, and thus should be given additional leeway, the rabbit said that he, too, had been blind since birth. The two animals then forgot about the collision and began commiserating concerning the problems of being blind.

The snake said that his greatest regret was the loss of his identity. He had never been able to see his reflection in water, and for that reason did not know exactly what he looked like, or even what he was.

The rabbit declared that he had the same problem. Seeing a way that they could help each other, the rabbit proposed that one feel the other from head to toe, and then try to describe what the other animal was. The snake agreed, and started by winding himself around the rabbit.

After a few moments, he announced, "You've got very soft, fuzzy fur, long ears, big rear feet, and a little fuzzy ball for a tail. I think that you must be a bunny rabbit!"

The rabbit was much relieved to find his identity, and proceeded to return the favor to the snake. After feeling about the snake's body for a few minutes, he asserted, "Well, you're scaly, you're slimy, you've got beady little eyes, you squirm and slither all the time, and you've got a forked tongue. I think you're a lawyer!"

## THE WEDDING CEREMONY

At a wedding ceremony, the pastor asked if anyone had anything to say concerning the union of the bride and groom. It was their time to stand up and talk, or forever hold their peace. The moment of utter silence was broken by a young beautiful woman carrying a child. She started walking toward the pastor slowly.

Everything quickly turned to chaos. The bride slapped the groom. The groom's mother fainted. The groomsmen started giving each other looks and wondering how best to help save the situation.

The pastor asked the woman, "Can you tell us why you came forward? What do you have to say?"

The woman replied, "We can't hear in the back."

## **ALWAYS LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE**

Frank always looked on the bright side. He would constantly irritate his friends with his eternal optimism. No matter how horrible the circumstance, he would always reply, "It could have been worse."

To cure him of his annoying habit, his friends decided to invent a situation so completely bad, so terrible, that even Frank could find no hope in it.

On the golf course one day, one of them said, "Frank, did you hear about Tom? He came home last night, found his wife in bed with another man, shot them both and then turned the gun on himself!"

"That's awful," said Frank, "But it could have been worse."

"How in the hell," asked his bewildered friend, "Could it have been worse?"

"Well," replied Frank, "If it happened the night before, I'd be dead now!"

## **QUICKIES**

Twenty years ago we had Johnny Cash, Bob Hope and Steve Jobs. Now we have no Cash, no Hope and no Jobs. Please don't let Kevin Bacon die.

A man walked into the doctor's. He said, 'I've hurt my arm in several places.' The doctor said, 'Well don't go there anymore.'

Police arrested two kids yesterday. One was drinking battery acid, the other was eating fireworks. They charged one and let the other one off.

A woman told her doctor, 'I've got a bad back.' The doctor said, 'It's old age.' The woman said, 'I want a second opinion.' The doctor says, 'OK, you're ugly as well.'

I picked up a hitchhiker. You gotta when you hit them.

Once I beat up the school bully with a baseball bat. Both his arms were completely broken which is what gave me the courage to do it.

*. . . That's all folks.*