

2019 - 2020

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

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Cheryl Wilson: Assistant DG

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Vicki Sexton: President-elect  
Vicki Sexton: Treasurer  
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Ken Nishimori: RI Foundation  
Clayton Worsdell & Bob Huck: Community Services  
Tommy Wolf: Membership  
Ewa Sobilio: International  
Barbara Reifschneider: Club Services

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Miles Bell: Program Chair  
John Wenzel: Webmaster  
Bill Kinsey: Public Relations Chair  
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**

# HAPPY VIRTUAL MOTHER'S DAY



In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed Mother's Day an official holiday. It all started in 1908 with Anna Jarvis, who never married or had any children. She organized this observance to honor her own mother, who gave birth to 13 children, only four of whom lived to adulthood due to the Typhoid Fever that was ripping through her Appalachian community. The holiday Anna wanted to start was strikingly different from how we celebrate it today. Her idea was pretty much **Service Above Self** that she envisioned as informational sessions called 'Mothers' Day Work Clubs' intended to educate women about proper hygiene and give their children a better chance of staying healthy. Interesting to note that Typhoid Fever was their cross to bear at that time just as Covid-15 is ours.

# Zooming Into the Future

President **Julia Dawson** called the seventh **Zoom** meeting to order and took attendance. Here are the members who tuned in today: **Clayton Worsdell, Vicki Sexton, Bob Huck, Fred Nelson, Rich Lueck, Irene Davids-Blair, Bob Sundberg, Larry Hutchings, Torsten Jacobsen, Bill Selb, Ewa Sobilo, Barbara Reifschneider, Johnny Morgan, Anna McCord, Tina Sweeney, Kathy Suvia, Ben Wentling, Joan D'Onofrio, and Hugh Toloui.**



## THOUGHT OF THE DAY: Rich Lueck

**"Keep Calm and Carry On"** was from a motivational poster produced by the British government in 1939 in preparation for World War II. It was intended to raise the morale of the British public and encourage self-discipline, fortitude, and remaining calm in adversity. It just happens to fit perfectly with our current Covid-19 situation, doesn't it?



## GUESTS From our Sister Club Rotary of San Felipe



**TINA SWEENEY** and  
Scholarship Chair



**ANNA McCLOUD**  
Vice President



**KATHIE SUVIA**  
5160 District Governor Nominee

# ANNOUNCEMENTS & NEWS

**JUST LAUNCHED**



**Rotarians are turning your vehicle donations into Food Bank dollars!**

**Donate your vehicle to provide food to Food Banks throughout Northern California .**

Cars 2nd Chance has been turning vehicle donations into cash for charities for over 12 years in the spirit of Service Above Self.  
**We accept vehicle donations of ALL types, anywhere in the USA, running or not, and we will pick up your vehicle At No Charge.**

Let us get it out of the driveway or off the street!

- The Food Bank has seen a **50% plus increase in food distributions** due to the COVID-19 health and financial crisis. That number is only going to climb with skyrocketing unemployment.
- Many of the people now receiving food **have never had to turn to the Food Bank before.**
- The Food Bank has been serving the community for almost **45 years and has a 5-star rating on Charity Navigator.**
- **96 cents for every dollar received goes directly to food programs.**

For more information call us or visit our [website](#) .

Learn more about our valued partners [Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary](#) and [Clayton Sunrise Rotary Clubs](#).

**Rotary**   
Clubs of  
Lamorinda Sunrise &  
Clayton Valley/Concord Sunrise

**Larry Hutchings** announced that our club joined forces with the Rotary Club of Lamorinda Sunrise in the **CARS 2<sup>ND</sup> CHANCE** program. It is intended to change donated cars into dollars that will be donated to Food Banks through Northern California. **Dave and Mary Kemnitz** want us to know that they are very excited about this opportunity to be a part of giving back to our local community and living up to the **Volunteer Surge** program. This will be featured on the news tonight on KPIX Channel 5 at 5 pm.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS/NEWS

## “OH, NO, SAY IT AIN’T SO.”

**Bill Selb** announced that our annual **Pancake Breakfast**--our club's most important fundraiser--is officially canceled. Totally hard to believe, but it is true. It will not be held this year. Bill, and several club members, will check what is left in storage to find out if anything can be donated to one of our local community organizations,



## ON THE FENCE

**Fred Nelson** announced that the **Promo Demo Party**, scheduled for



June 27, is on shaky grounds but has not officially been canceled—yet. Fred suggested that we could postpone it to September and **Ewa Sobilo** put forth the idea that we could still hold it at the scheduled time but do it as a tailgate party. We can all drive to some parking lot just like they do at football games. Anyone else have other suggestions?

## COVID-19 TESTING AVAILABLE

**Supervisor Karen Mitchoff** informs us that Contra Costa County will now offer an appointment for COVID-19 testing at eight sites throughout the county to any resident who believes they need one, 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. daily for an appointment at any Contra Costa site that includes Antioch, Concord, Walnut Creek, Martinez, Pittsburg, San Pablo and San Ramon. Testing is available by appointment only. All Contra Costa Health Services (CCHS) offer drive-through testing but you must make an appointment. Testing is done in your car. [coronavirus.cchealth.org/testing](https://coronavirus.cchealth.org/testing) for more information.



## VOLUNTEER SURGE

**Volunteer Surge** is a program **District Governor Tina Akins** encouraged us to pursue. While we are not health care providers, we are doing our best to *reduce suffering by focusing our attention where it is needed most*. Our club made a large donation to the **Monument Crisis Center** and the **Winter Nights Family Shelter** earlier this month, and now we are embracing the CARS 2<sup>ND</sup> CHANCE program, in conjunction with the Lamorinda Rotary Club, by accepting car donations that will be sold and funds donated to the **Contra Costa and Solano Food Banks**.



# MAY 2020 MILESTONES

## BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to all.

**Ken Nishimori 2<sup>nd</sup>**



**Irene Davids-Blair 5<sup>TH</sup>**



**Chris Ruzicka 23<sup>rd</sup>**



**Bob Huck 27<sup>th</sup>**



**Jeff Wilson 31<sup>st</sup>**



## LENGTH OF SERVICE

**Past President Chris Ruzicka** joined Rotary in 1999 and served his 21 years faithfully and productively. He served on the Charitable Fund Board, is a Paul Harris Fellow and was president 2018 – 2019.

## SAN FELIPE ART WINNERS



Winners were selected and will appear in next week's newsletter. The prizes include U.S. cash, medals, and certificates and will be sent to **Tina Sweeney** who will make the announcements to the students and present them with their awards. First prize is \$50, second prize is \$25, third prize is \$15 and one student will get \$10 as an Honorable Mention. The team is now preparing for the 2021 competition.



## CONNECTING WITH OUR TEACHERS

**National Teacher Appreciation Week** is a week-long celebration from May 3<sup>rd</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> in recognition of teachers and the contributions they make to education and society. It is held the first full week of May of every year and provides an opportunity for students, parents, and school principals to show their appreciation for the hard work teachers do and the long hours many of them put in.

# CONNECTING WITH THE YOUTH OF THE WORLD

**Past President Clayton Worsdell** (2016 – 2017) sent us this photo of the exchange student under his administration who we called **Sophie** and was inadvertently left off of last week's newsletter. Her real name is **Wen-Lin Su** and she is from Taiwan. Clayton took this photo when they attended the District 5160 Centennial Conference in Berkeley. We apologize for not including Sophie as she was one of our most active students. She stayed with **Mureleen and Joe Benton** when she first arrived, then spent a few months with **Monica and Matt Fraga**, and eventually ended her year with **Jeff and Meg Rondini**. Sophie was very active during her semester at Clayton Valley Charter High School both academically and athletically. She was on the baseball team, was a dancer, and participated in the senior play. She even attended the senior Prom. Last month, May 24, Sophie celebrated her 20<sup>th</sup> birthday.



## *Meet the Youth with whom we connected*



**KATHI WOESTE, GERMANY**



**SOPHIE ETTER, SWITZERLAND**



**ALINE COLLARD, BELGIUM**



**"SOPHIE" WEN-LIN SU, TAIWAN**



## TALK ABOUT CONNECTING WITH THE WORLD!

**BLAST FROM THE PAST.** Clayton Worsdell took this photo at the Rotary Club of Taipei Taiwan's booth at the **2016 Rotary International Convention** in Korea. He said: *"I mentioned to this group of Rotarians that Sophie was our Club's exchange student and, lo and behold, they were aware of it. They asked me to be in the photo with them, and gave me a flag of Taiwan to take back to give to Sophie."* The **2021 Rotary International Convention** is to be held in Taipei, Taiwan. It would be an outstanding opportunity if we could arrange to meet her.



CLAYTON IS IN THE BACK ROW

## HAND SHAKING: We've come a long way baby...or have we?



Did you read where **Anthony Fauci** told the Wall Street Journal that *"I don't think we should ever shake hands ever again."* Pretty strong stuff when you consider that the practice of shaking hands began around 850 BC when Assyrian King Shalmaneser and King Marduk-Zakir-Shumi of Babylonia took up the practice as shown in this sandstone relief. It is presumed to be a way to show no one was holding weapons. As a result, shaking hands became a global standard for greetings both personally and in business. Hmmmmm, now where do you suppose that leaves cheek kissing?

# HAPPY BUCKS



**Rich Lueck** had a sort of virtual birthday party for his son-in-law. No they didn't zoom. They did something even better. He and Pam baked a birthday cake and ate it all by themselves.

**Julia Dawson** got snagged. She spent \$32 for 12 rolls of toilet paper on EBay but she neglected to read the fine print. The rolls were for a doll house. They were beyond tiny.



**Larry Hutchings** said he went to Peet's for coffee but they told him he could only buy it online—the grounds that is. So he placed an order, and, voila, the next day he received one pound of freshly ground coffee all the way from Costa Rica.

**Torsten Jacobsen** informed us, all the way from Baha, that there are no coronavirus outbreaks in his neck of the woods and there is no shortage of food.



**Clayton Worsdell** dusted off his bike, that he hasn't used in 12 years, took it on a test drive, and learned the hard way just how many hills there are in Concord. Now, if only he can find a helmet.



# TODAY'S SPEAKER

## Grace/Kuchy Sanchez Youth Education Program

**Rich Lueck** introduced today's speaker who actually needed no introduction as she is our very special member, **Tina Sweeny**, from our sister club of San Felipe. Tina's presentation was about the **Grace/Kuchy Sanchez Youth Education Program**. She said this program is named in honor of two women, Gracie and her daughter Kuchy, who proved to be instrumental in helping young people of San Felipe, realize their dreams to further their education. It costs money in San Felipe to attend high school and most young people and their families cannot afford the tuition. The program begins each year by contacting existing and new sponsors to secure funding for the students. Once funding is secured, existing students and new students are notified of their acceptance and added to the program.

It all starts with orientation where students receive their new shoes, uniforms, back packs and assorted items. To remain in the program the students are required to: maintain at least a B average, have good attendances, do not use drugs or alcohol, engage in community services, practice good citizenship, complete all assignments, and attend at least six Rotary Interact meetings each year.

The program ends with graduation. But it doesn't have to.

The Grace/Kuchy Sanchez Youth Education Program not only assists students in high school but also assists a few selected students at the university level by paying for tuition and testing. The program encourages participation in the local Interact program and has students assist in Rotary fundraisers throughout the year.

Tina ended her presentation with these words: *"This program would not be possible without the generous donations of people like you."*

### ABOUT TINA:



**Tina Sweeney** was originally from California but became a full-time resident of San Felipe in March 2012. She joined The San Felipe Rotary January 2013 and became the Scholarship Coordinator the following month. Interesting to note that Tina's background was not in education. In fact, she was a Schedule Coordinator and Dispatcher for the utility company of the Northern CA Power Agency. She and her husband, Mike, have three adult children.

## IT STARTS WITH ORIENTATION



## THEY PICK UP THEIR SHOES AND GET THEIR UNIFORMS



## AND IT ALL ENDS WITH GRADUATION



# ART EXPO WINNERS SELECTED



**Newsletter Editor Joan D'Onofrio** reports that the students at the Clayton Valley High School have been selected. **Art Department Chair, Katie Nolan**, and all the teachers in the CVCHS art department, photographed over 400 pieces of artwork and create a website on which to display the art and show the winners. The awards will be sent to the winners via mail and consist of cash, medals, and certificates.

**Jerome Faustino** is the recipient of the \$500 scholarship and will attend the University of San Francisco to pursue a career in art and architecture this fall.

This happens to be one of the most eagerly awaited art awards program throughout the district and is held every April at the CVCHS where over 200 people attend and watch as close to 30 students receive awards in the form of cash and medals. Our **Rotary Club of Clayton Valley/Concord Sunrise** co-sponsors the event along with the **Michelangelo D'Onofrio Arts Foundation** and has been doing so for the past five years.

Winners and their art will be featured in next week's newsletter along with the winning art of the San Felipe art contest. It has been a very productive year for student artists.

## DONATE!



**Do your kids need a more creative outlet?**

The **Michelangelo D'Onofrio Arts Foundation** is requesting donations in order to build and donate art-supply-kits for kids who are **staying-safe** by **staying-home**.

You can help provide  
**ART SUPPLY KITS**  
for the kids  
**STAYING-SAFE** by  
**STAYING-HOME**



Children will be encouraged to create and submit their **works-of-art**, too. Their projects will be published here—in *the newsletter*—and on the foundation's website.

When you help the foundation reach its goal, instructions on how parents can acquire the kits will be published here and on the foundation's website, so...  
...**WATCH THIS SPACE!**

To donate go to:  
[www.MDArtsFoundation.org](http://www.MDArtsFoundation.org)  
or visit **Go-Fund-Me** and search **Art Supplies for Kids** and look for the MDAF logo!





# THE POWER OF ART

**Photography . Mixed Media . Sculpture**

## **MASTERING THE ART OF WATERCOLORS**

**President Julia Dawson** sent us these watercolor paintings created by her late mother **Maryellen Reinthaller** (A.K.A. Maryellen Mullaly). Julia's mom studied with Jade Fon Aws and taught Watercolor for many years. She also taught piano, cultural enrichment, and crafts to the frail and elderly at the Mt. Diablo Adult Education Center. Julia's mom would be very proud to see how our Rotary club supports the arts and the students who create it.



**ARTIST: MARYELLEN**



# LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE

## RELIGIOUS OBJECTS

A teacher asks her students what religious objects they have in their homes.

One boy answers, “We have a picture of a woman with a halo holding a baby and every day my mother kneels in front of it.”

The next little boy says, “We have a brass statue of a man seated with crossed legs and a Chinese face, and every day my parents burn an incense stick before it.”

Then a third boy pipes up, “In the bathroom we have a flat, square box with numbers on it. Every day my mother stands on it first thing in the morning and screams: ‘OH MY GOD!!!’”

## PONDER THIS

- 1) I was so bored I called Jake from State Farm just to talk to someone. He asked me what I was wearing.
- 2) You think it's bad now? In 20 years our country will be run by people home schooled by day drinkers.
- 3) This virus has done what no woman has been able to do...cancel all sports, shut down all bars, and keep men at home!!!
- 4) Does anyone know if we can take showers yet or should we just keep washing our hands??
- 5) ME:       Alexa what's the weather this weekend?  
ALEXA: It doesn't matter – you're not going anywhere.
- 6) I swear my fridge just said “What the hell do you want now?”
- 7) When this is over, what meeting do I attend first: Weight Watchers or AA?



## **Do Las Vegas Churches accept gambling chips?**

THIS MAY COME AS A SURPRISE TO THOSE OF YOU NOT LIVING IN LAS VEGAS, BUT THERE ARE MORE CATHOLIC CHURCHES THAN CASINOS.

NOT SURPRISINGLY, SOME WORSHIPERS AT SUNDAY SERVICES WILL GIVE CASINO CHIPS.

THEY PUT THEIR CHIPS IN THE BASKET RATHER THAN CASH WHEN THE BASKET IS PASSED.

SINCE THEY GET CHIPS FROM MANY DIFFERENT CASINOS, THE CHURCHES HAVE DEVISED A METHOD TO COLLECT THE OFFERINGS.

THE CHURCHES SEND ALL THEIR COLLECTED CHIPS TO A NEARBY FRANCISCAN MONASTERY FOR SORTING AND THEN THE CHIPS ARE TAKEN TO THE CASINOS OF ORIGIN AND CASHED IN.

THIS IS DONE BY THE CHIP MONKS.

## **BASKETBALL COACH**

The basketball coach stormed into the university president's office and demanded a raise right then and there.

"Please," protested the college president, "you already make more than the entire History Department."

"Yeah, maybe so, but you don't know what I have to put up with," the coach blustered. "Look."

He went out into the hall and grabbed a jock who was jogging down the hallway. "Run over to my office and see if I'm there," he ordered.

Twenty minutes later the jock returned, sweaty and out of breath. "You're not there, sir," he reported.

"Oh, I see what you mean," conceded the president, scratching his head. "I would have phoned."

# ONE LAST THING

John Wenzel put this together so you can make a cash donation online.

The screenshot shows the homepage of the 'CARS 2 CHANCE' website. The header includes the logo, a phone number (925-328-5868), and social media icons. A navigation menu lists: How It Works, Why Us, Partners, FAQs, Contact, About, and Blog. The main banner features a white van and the text 'Donate and Help Feed the Bay Area'. Below this, it states: 'Your vehicle or cash donations go to support the Contra Costa & Solano Food Bank, who is caring for those in need of food.' There are two buttons: 'Vehicle Donation' (yellow) and 'Cash Donation' (blue). A vertical progress bar on the right shows a scale from \$0 to \$100,000, with a blue circle indicating the current donation level. Below the banner, a white box titled 'YOUR DONATION HELPS' contains text about Rotarians turning vehicle donations into Food Bank dollars and a note about providing food to Food Banks throughout Northern California. It also includes the 'FOOD BANK of Contra Costa & Solano' logo and the same two donation buttons.

**CARS 2 CHANCE**

Call Now : 925-328-5868

How It Works | Why Us | Partners | FAQs | Contact | About | Blog

## Donate and Help Feed the Bay Area

Your vehicle or cash donations go to support the Contra Costa & Solano Food Bank, who is caring for those in need of food.

[Vehicle Donation](#)

[Cash Donation](#)

\$100,000

\$0

### YOUR DONATION HELPS

Rotarians are turning your vehicle donations into Food Bank dollars!

Donate your vehicle and the proceeds will be used to provide food to Food Banks throughout Northern California.

[Vehicle Donation](#)

[Cash Donation](#)

**FOOD BANK**  
of Contra Costa & Solano

*. . . that's all folks.*