

2021 - 2022

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Clayton Worsdell: Photographer  
Mary Kemnitz  
Rich Lueck  
Barbara Reifschneider  
Bill Selb

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Joan D'Onofrio: Secretary  
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Ken Nishimori: RI Foundation  
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Tommy Wolf: Membership  
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Barbara Reifschneider: Club Services

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Larry Hutchings: Chair  
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Vicki Sexton: Treasurer  
Steve Weir: Secretary  
Bob Hooy  
Bob Sundberg  
John Wenzel  
Hugh Toloui

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Miles Bell: Program Chair  
John Wenzel: Webmaster  
Bill Selb: Pancake Breakfast Chair

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## IMPORTANT MEETINGS 2020

12/14/21 Board Meeting 7 AM  
Zoom  
12/15/21 Charitable Fund 5:30 PM  
Zoom



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

In



1921, an unknown World War I American soldier was buried in Arlington National Cemetery on a hillside overlooking the Potomac River that became the focal point of reverence for America's veterans. Similar ceremonies occurred earlier in England and France, where an unknown soldier was buried in each nation's highest place of honor.

These memorial gestures all took place on November 11, giving universal recognition to the celebrated ending of World War I, on November 11, 1918—the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month—and became known as "Armistice Day." In 1947, the name was changed to "Veterans Day" and occurred in Birmingham, Alabama, and it was President Eisenhower who proclaimed November 11 as Veterans Day.

A law passed in 1968 changed the national commemoration of Veterans Day to the fourth Monday in October; however, it became apparent that November 11 was a date of historic significance to millions of Americans, so in 1978 Congress returned the observance to its traditional date.

## A SPECIAL THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: *Larry Hutchings*



My thought for the day is an appreciation on the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my becoming a Rotarian— and a member of CVSR—which will be Friday, November 12<sup>th</sup>. It's a thank-you to so many for giving me an opportunity that far too few people get—the privilege of being a member of Rotary.



To **Art Kroeger** (Carrie's dad) and **Chuck Jordan** for insisting that I join this club.

To PRIP **Cliff Dochterman** for inspiring me to really become a Rotarian. Cliff always announced: What a great day to be a Rotarian! And it's become my motto too.



To **Steve Weir** when in 1997 I had been asked to be president, I said I wanted to make sure Dennis and I would be accepted as a couple, and that I would be accepted as the first out gay club president to my knowledge in our district, and he urged me to just bring him to everything, and things would take care of themselves. And I thank you all for never making it an issue then or ever.

Thanks Rotary for bringing me the gift of my 30 year friendship with **Fred Nelson**.



Thanks Rotary for introducing me to **Deborah Luyiima** and to **Herbert Muyinga**—at the New Orleans convention. If anyone wants to know what the ideal Rotarian looks like, look no further than Deb.



Finally, thank you to my husband, **Dennis**, who, when we were only a year into our relationship, agreed to enthusiastically support what I was doing in Rotary, and he has always found his own ways to support the club and the ideals of Rotary.

# TODAY'S SPEAKER

## LAND OF MISSIONS

**Program Chair Miles Bell** introduced us to today's speaker, **David Keir**, who spoke to us about the missions of Baja California which is the northern half of the western peninsula of Mexico. It runs from the U.S. border and Tijuana to the north, to midway down the peninsula to Guerrero Negro as its southern border (the region below that is Baja California Sur). The western side is on the Pacific Ocean, and the eastern side is on the Gulf of California/Sea of Cortez. In 1952 Baja California became the 29<sup>th</sup> State of Mexico.



One of history's greatest endeavors was the establishment of the mission system in Baja California. When it began in 1697, California was believed by many to be an island and as remote from Spain as Mars is today from Earth. The goal was to occupy the land for the king and convert the native population to Christianity and the European style of living. The Jesuit Order was given the task to establish these missions as they had been successful on the mainland of Mexico.

Then David took us on a visual tour of many missions that you can visit yourselves, or you can read all about them in his books. All of his Baja Missions' books are for sale and linked on his website: [www.vivabaja.com](http://www.vivabaja.com). So are his monthly Baja Travel Adventure articles written for Baja Bound Insurance. His TV show and film appearances are also linked there. This is the direct link to his 80+ list of articles: <https://www.bajabound.com/bajaadventures/bajatravel/>

## ABOUT THE SPEAKER

**DAVID KIER** told us that fascination with the peninsula of Baja California began during his first childhood trip there during 1960s. Starting as a child, in the family Jeep, camping and four wheeling in Baja California has been his passion. In 1973, at the age of 15, David published his first Baja guidebook, and a second one was published the following year. In 2012, he teamed up with historian Max Kurillo to write *The Old Missions of Baja & Alta California, 1697-1834*. In 2016, David wrote a more detailed history book with his *Baja California Land of Missions*, now in its 10th printing. Following the book's initial success, David has had TV, YouTube, and film appearances where he has shared his passion for the history of Baja and enjoys helping travelers. He continues to research Baja's rich history and writes monthly travel articles for an online bulletin.

David graduated from Orange Glen High in Escondido and attended Palomar College in San Marcos, CA. His main career was in irrigation systems and had his own business for over half of his 40 years in that industry. He is 64, married to Elizabeth, and together they have three children, six grandchildren ages six months to 11 years.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ROTARIANS FACED A CHALLENGE

What do you do when you arrive at Centre Concord for the 7 am weekly meeting and a sign on the door says:

**"CLOSED FOR VETERANS DAY"**

Simple, you put up another sign that says:

**"MEETING HAS MOVED TO BARBARA REIFSCHNEIDER'S HOUSE."**

No kidding, that is what happened at today's meeting, and our Rotary Club instantaneously problem-solved the situation. Rather than cancel the meeting, it was decided to hold it at **Club Services Director Barbara Reifschneider's** house. Barb contacted the caterers and told them where to deliver the food, **SAA Bob Sundberg** got the equipment up and running, and our unflappable **Madame President, Monica** presided over a rather raucous meeting that included our zoom members. What fun.

## MEAL FEE

**Treasurer Vicki Sexton** will be out of town and unable to run credit card transactions for next week's meeting. "PLEASE PAY NEXT WEEK'S BREAKFAST FEE IN CASH OR CHECK ONLY." **Susie Lim** will be collecting.



## FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE: December 3

**Club Service Chair Barbara Reifschneider** announced that the next Friday Night Live will be held at her house on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and what a great way to celebrate the upcoming Xmas holiday. Attendees must be vaccinated and there will be no smoking and no kids. Here's a chance to wear those ugly sweaters and don't forget to bring something yummy and drinks.



## TODAY'S ZOOM ATTENDEES



**ROB KAUER**



**RICH**



**DAVID KIER**



**TOMMY**



**CLAYTON**



**Julia**



# MONUMENT CRISIS CENTER

## THANKSGIVING PROJECT: Turkey Drive

# THANKSGIVING TURKEY DRIVE

## 2021

Join **Monument Crisis Center** in our annual *"Thanksgiving with all the Trimmings"* distribution serving at-risk and low income families in our communities.

**Your** contribution can help set the table and serve a family on Thanksgiving Day.



### THANKSGIVING TURKEY DROP OFF INFORMATION

#### Dates & Times

|   |  |              |
|---|--|--------------|
| <b>FROZEN TURKEYS ONLY</b>              |  Monday, November 15      | 9AM - 12Noon |
| <b>BRING DONATIONS TO THE SIDE GATE</b> |  Tuesday, November 16    | 9AM - 12Noon |
|   |  Wednesday, November 17 | 9AM - 12Noon |

 **DELIVER TO: 1990 MARKET ST, CONCORD, CA, 94520**

## XMAS PROJECT: Holiday Food Box

[illegible]

The Holiday Food Box project is being organized by **Monica Fraga** and **Mary Kemnitz**. Monica will purchase the gift cards and items requested by the MCC that will be put into boxes and given to needy families., Mary is donating the boxes, and everyone is invited to help stuff them at a gathering to be held at **Joan D'Onofrio's** house—date to be announced. Monetary donations are encouraged unless you want to create your own box. It is estimated that each completely filled box will cost \$75 to fill.

**Torsten Jacobsen, Rich Lueck, and Irene Davids-Blare** have donated \$100 each while **John Hemm** and **Steve Weir** donated \$500 to the project. **THIS JUST IN:** Yesterday Monica secured a \$1,000.00 donation for the MCC boxes and today another \$550.00 and Monica said: *"I'm so excited. I am donating all the coffee for as many boxes as we can fill. This is really something."* We are truly making this a year to **"Serve to Change Lives."**

# WE'RE ALWAYS READY TO HELP



## THE FOOD BANK

Our club has always eagerly helped the needy with food. Remember when our members used to pack food at the Food Bank every Tuesday morning? **Clayton Worsdell** and **Hugh Toloui** sure do.

## C2C

Through the C2C our club and Lamorinda Rotary has raised thousands of dollars for the Food Bank and donated over 50 cars to citizens of Paradise who lost theirs in the horrendous fires.

## ROTARY POWERED SCHOLARSHIPS

**President Elect Mary Kemnitz** submitted a proposal to the Contra Costa College to get an automotive scholarship started. She met with the head of the automotive program, **Lucille Beatty** and will work with her toward creating a mentorship aspect to the scholarship program. The goal is to establish a scholarship committee within our Rotary club and will present this proposal at the next board meeting.



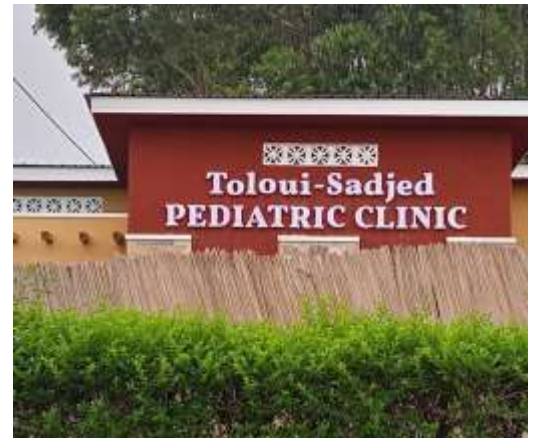
## NEW COMMUNITY SERVICE DIRECTORS

**Rich Lueck** and **Clayton Worsdell** will assume the position of new directors and will be the new Chairs. It's time to get back in gear with the senior home services and the Adopt-A-Street program.



# UGANDA REPORT

**Herbert Muyinga** and **Deb Luyiima** could not be with us today, but here are some stunning photos they sent of the signage that is now officially affixed to the building.



Our members are all very proud of this fantastic accomplishment that was created with the guidance of Deb and Herbert and the many strenuous non-stop construction hours members of their club and community provided. The signs affixed to the building highlight our club's participation as well as Flor and Hugh Toloui's significant donation. Hugh and Flor dedicated their contribution to their parents and told us that the last name, Toloui, means Dawn Breakers, and the last name, Sadjed, means the one who prostrates to show humility, respect, and devotion to God.



Here is a close up of the signs:





# MILESTONES

## *Length of Service*

**Larry Hutchings** celebrates 30 years of Rotary service and will donate \$30 to the club. Be sure to read his "Thought of the Day" on page 2. Here is what a few of his fellow Rotarians have to say:

**SAA Bob Sundberg** wrote: "Larry took the "Thought of the Day" opportunity at Thursday's meeting to express how appreciative and happy he has been to be a part of our club and Rotary in general. Thanks Larry. I think that I can speak for our club members to say that we are also happy that you have been, are, and continue to be a part of our club." **President Elect Mary Kemnitz** wrote: "Larry truly is an integral part of our club."

**Eric Rehn** is donating \$10 to the club for reaching the 9<sup>th</sup> year of his Rotary service.

**Bob Hooy** has been a long time member and hit the 23<sup>rd</sup> mark this year.

## *Happy Birthday*



**Hugh Toloui** celebrated his birthday last Tuesday, November 2 while **Frank Westphall** celebrated his on Sunday, November 7. **Jeff Wilson** will be celebrating his on Monday, November 15.

## *Happy Anniversary*



**Bob** and **Alea Huck** will be celebrating 51 years of wedded bliss on Saturday, November 13. Remember they are the Rotary couple whose wedding day actually fell on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> and, for them, it turned out to be their lucky day. They are donating \$51 to the club fund.

# HAPPY BUCKS

Barbara Reifschneider, Editor



**MARY KEMNITZ** gave a happy 50 bucks today. Mary said she is so happy and grateful for the \$500 donation Steve Weir and John Hemm made to the Food Box program.

**HUGH TOLOUI** gave a happy 10 bucks for the work that he's been doing in the All in One organization in Baypoint. They are also putting together food baskets for needy families.



**KEN NISHIMORI** gave a happy two bucks as he was happy for me. I don't think anyone has ever given me a compliment like that ever.



**CLAYTON WORSDELL** gave a happy five bucks, as he and Carol are on the road trip of a lifetime. Here he is at the Four Corners Monument created where the Utah, Colorado, Arizona, and New Mexico borders meet. Clayton said: *"Here I am sitting in four states at the same time. Bigfoot doesn't have anything on me. I can put my butt or my feet and hands in all four states at the same time."*

# THE GALLERY



This photo was posted on  
DG Elect Suzanne Bragdonn's  
FaceBook page. She wanted us to  
meet her Thanksgiving guests.



# ALWAYS LEAVE 'EM LAUGHING

Bill Selb, Editor



"Maybe your account's overdrawn!"



## OBITUARY

A woman goes into the local newspaper office to see that the obituary for her recently deceased husband is published.

After the editor informs her that the fee for the obituary is 50 cents a word, she pauses, reflects and then says, "Well, then, let it read Fred Brown died."

Confounded at the woman's thrift, the editor stammers that there is a 7-word minimum for all obituaries.

The woman pauses again, counts on her fingers and replies, "In that case, make it read 'Fred Brown died: 1983 Pick-up for sale.'"



## MEMORABLE SHOT

James and his friend Tom were playing a round of golf with their wives early on a Sunday. It was a four ball, better ball format with a little bit of cash on the line.

James stood on the 10th tee having hooked his previous three tee shots, and to no one's surprise he hooked his drive again. When he found his ball, it was right up against one of the greens keeper's buildings. His wife advised him to hit the shot through a narrow gap between the side of the building and some branches.

"I can't do that," James said. "Look how narrow that gap is!" But his wife was persistent in urging him on, and she persuaded James to attempt the risky shot.

So James took a mighty swing and struck the ball ... and the ball caromed off a tree branch, ricocheted off the building and hit his wife in the head, knocking her stone cold dead.

A week after the funeral, James and another friend, Ashley, were having a round. James teed up the ball on No. 10 and hit the exact shot he had hit a week before.

He found his ball in the same spot, and once again his partner advised him to hit through the gap.

"No way," James said. "I can't hit that shot."

"Why not," Ashley asked him.

"Well," James replied, "you know what happened the last time."

"No, I don't," said Ashley. "What happened?"

"Well, last time I tried that shot," James said, "I made a double bogey!"

*...That's all, folks.*

