

2020 - 2021

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John Wenzel: Webmaster
Bill Kinsey: Public Relations Chair
Bill Selb: Pancake Breakfast Chair

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IMPORTANT MEETINGS 2020

3/9/21 Board Meeting 7 AM
Zoom
4/12/21 Charitable Fund 5:30 PM
Zoom



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO US ROTARY CELEBRATES ITS 116TH BIRTHDAY



Rotary started with the vision of one man — Paul Harris. The Chicago attorney formed the Rotary Club of Chicago on **February 23, 1905**, so professionals with diverse backgrounds could exchange ideas and form meaningful, lifelong friendships. Over time, Rotary's reach and vision gradually extended to humanitarian service. Members have a long track record of addressing challenges in their communities and around the world. Whatever Rotary may mean to us, to the world it will be known by the results it achieves. That commitment endures today through an organization that remains truly international. Our members now span the globe, working to solve some of our world's most challenging problems.

“the meeting will now come to order.”



THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: Joan D'Onofrio

*“That, which does not kill us,
makes us stronger.”*

-- Friedrich Nietzsche

TODAY'S GUESTS



HERBERT MUYINGA
Director
Rotary Club of Muyenga
Uganda



SUZY LIM
American Cancer Society
Discovery Store
Volunteer



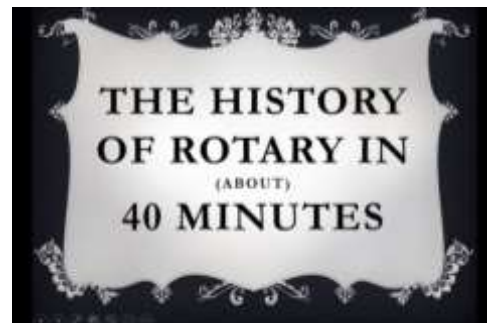
JULIE CLEMENS
Director of Development
SHELTER, Inc.

A ROTARY MINUTE

Clayton Worsdell Brings You The History of Rotary in 40 Minutes—One Minute at a Time

Making Evanston the Home for Headquarters

In January 1952 the Board decided to “immediately and “energetically” begin looking for land or a building in Chicago or the vicinity. That August, a lot was purchased in Evanston, IL. The *November 1952 issue of The Rotarian* previewed sketches and details of the new three-story building. Inside the building were

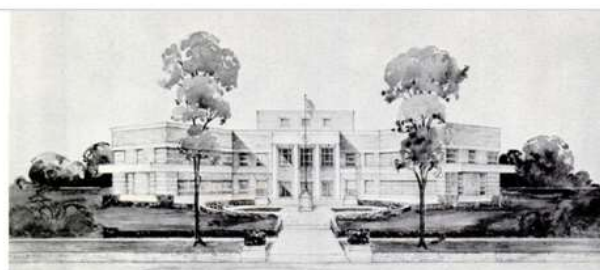


modern systems and features, including an acoustic ceiling treatment and air-conditioning.

Rotary leaders gathered at the new address: 1600 Ridge Ave for a groundbreaking ceremony. A.Z. Baker (center) who would serve as 1955-



56 RI Pres holds the shovel in 1953. In 1954, Guy Gundaker, 1923-24 RI President prepares to lay the Cornerstone.



Rotary Plans New Headquarters

A long dream begins to shape up—with realization in '54.

The world headquarters near the end of construction in 1954. The building opened in August 1955 which was the Golden Year for Rotary. The boardroom was located in the center of the building and what looked like windows were actually large scenic murals. In the first month, 250 Rotary members and friends visited to see.

Despite initial room to groom and a later addition, Rotary eventually outgrew that space. In 1987, Rotary purchased the building on Sherman Ave in Evanston and is known today as One Rotary Center. It welcomes more than 2,000 visitors a year. Some of the former locations are still commercial or office space, while others have been converted to private residences. **Thank you. This has been the 28th minute of the History of Rotary in (about) 40 Minutes.**



LET'S GET THINGS STARTED

TODAY'S SPEAKER: Julie Clemens

Miles Bell introduced **Julie Clemens**, Director of Development for SHELTER Inc., as today's speaker. Julie told us that SHELTER, Inc. strives to realize a vision by rebuilding lives, one family at a time by giving them a home, the skills, and the resources, to live the life they deserve. Their mission is to prevent and end homelessness for low-income, homeless, and disadvantaged families and individuals by providing housing, services, support, and resources that lead to self-sufficiency



SHELTER, Inc. is an independent, charitable, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization founded in 1986 to alleviate Contra Costa County's homeless crisis. SHELTER, Inc.'s work encompasses three main elements:

Prevent Homelessness. Prevent the onset of homelessness through rental assistance, case management, and housing counseling services.

End the Cycle of Homelessness. Provide 3 to 24 months of housing in combination with supportive services such as job training, educational services and counseling.

Provide Affordable Housing. Provide housing for nearly 250 low-income households, including such special needs groups as transition-age youth, people with HIV/AIDS and those with mental health disabilities.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Julie Clemens comes to SHELTER, Inc. with a lifetime of fundraising experience, and decades in the San Francisco Bay Area non-profit sector. She started fundraising with UNICEF, the Girls Scouts, and selling Krispy Kreme donuts in North Carolina as a child. It was only natural to fall into the field as a profession.

Julie spent a number of years in North Carolina, but she is actually a native of Chico. Her father's family was 4th generation from Paradise, where 13 members of her family lost their homes, and two businesses during the devastating 2018 Camp Fire. But interestingly, Julie actually studied to become an opera singer and received a Bachelor's degree in Vocal Pedagogy from East Carolina University and a Master's in Vocal Performance from Chico State. But, she felt that sopranos are a 'dime a dozen,' so becoming a professional fundraiser was a logical "back up" career and has been a development officer for nonprofits across the Bay Area for 30 years.

As a 15-year resident of West Oakland, Julie developed first-hand experience in her family and community and witnessed the impact of homelessness, which was her motivation for joining SHELTER, Inc. where she has now worked for almost two years. Julie has experience in every method of fundraising, marketing, communications, admissions, and strategic planning. Whether setting up endowed funds, executing unique special events, or running capital campaigns and executing projects, Julie capitalizes on the ethos of the organization to maximize the philanthropic investment made by donors.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Vicki called the meeting to order promptly at 7 AM. She announced John Wenzel's birthdays and Irene Davids-Blair and Max's anniversary:

MILESTONES

Anniversary



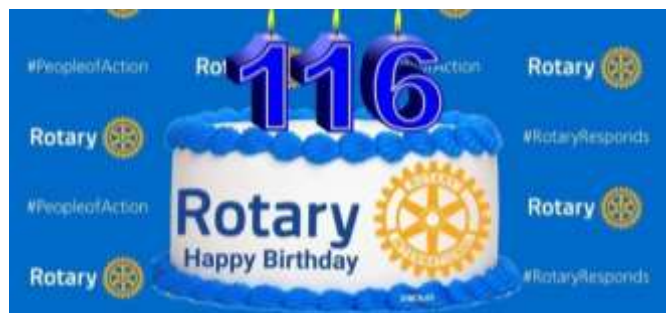
Irene and Max celebrated their **33rd** wedding anniversary on February 20th. Irene said they met in Oakland where she was working as an au pair for a couple of attorneys and Max's friend introduced them. He was looking for advice about his au pair who was having some issues with her paperwork. The au pair agency asked him to call Irene because they were from the same country.

While speaking with him, he told her about his very good friend from Chicago, who was very interested in the 'Free South Africa Movement' and would perhaps appreciate meeting another South African. When Max and Irene did meet, they discussed stuff and became friends. The au pair that was having issues arrived as well and took care of his friend's baby daughter.

Irene was scheduled to return home on January 24, 1987. They were married on January 20, 1987. Everything was legal, of course. They were married at Allen Temple Baptist Church and are members till this day. They did not take a honeymoon. In fact, it never crossed their minds at the time because they couldn't afford it. Irene was making \$600.00 per month (and did not complain). She had moved to Millbrae to take care of a disabled woman and loved her new job.

They have one child, a son named Jared Nelson Blair, born on January 15, 1990. Jared was born on Martin Luther King Jr's birthday. His middle name, Nelson, is named after Nelson Mandela, Irene's hero, who was freed from prison that year, after being incarcerated for 27 years on Robben Island Prison in Cape Town, South Africa. He became the first black president of South Africa and is a hero to many, many people around the globe.

Birthdays Our Webmaster, **John Wenzel** turns **36** on Sunday. He said they are headed to the coast for the day on Saturday. Then, since he bought a new smoker, on Sunday he plans to smoke a pork shoulder and make pulled pork sliders. And guess what? We are all invited. John will donate \$36 to the Club and \$500 to his Paul Harris.



CARS 2ND CHANCE: Service above Self



THE TREAM: Mary Kemnitz, Dave Kemnitz, David Wahl, Larry Hutchins, Vicki Sexton, Pat Flaharty, Rich Lueck, Bill Arena, Paul Bettelheim, Tom Guyette, Alex Arnold

Mary Kemnitz said Rossmoor is once again interested in the C2C program and will keep us posted.. **Larry Hutchings** was pleased that SHELTER Inc. has become our newest C2C program partner.



PAUL HARRIS CELEBRATION

Director Ken Nishimori reported that **Torsten Jacobsen** is now a Paul Harris +8 fellow and earned this beautiful pin with three sapphires. Torsten suggested that his pin be given to the first new person who signed up to become a member of our Rotary, but someone pointed out that Torsten's name is on the pin. So, it's back to the drawing boards.



CONNECTING THE WORLD THRU VIRTUAL ART: Let's Welcome the Philippines



Joan D'Onofrio and **Tineke Jacobsen** are happy to announce that the **Rotary Club of Metro San Pedro of the Philippines** joined our My Hero virtual art contest. Thirty-three students signed up and exhibited their drawings. Their Club instituted very strict rules and guidelines and photos will be forthcoming. Deb has become deeply involved in their contest and has attended several zoom meetings with them. We are all invited to join their meetings as well, and we will let you know when a time is set up.



FROM SAN FELIPE: High School Scholarship Program

Hola Sponsors,

On February 15th the second semester started online for our 140 High School scholarship students.

Twenty-nine University students started their second semester of online studies a few weeks ago. One of our University students graduated mid-term with an Engineering degree focusing on Renewable Energy.

Seven of our students moved and we have replaced them with new students who were waiting for scholarships.

The Rotary Club of San Felipe, with the help of many, set up a classroom at the DIF building in Los Arches (DIF is a public institution of social assistance that focuses on strengthening and developing the welfare of the Mexican families).

Students that do not have internet in their homes can go to DIF for their zoom classes or to do their homework. There is also a printer for their use. Students are to bring their own computer but the Rotary Club of San Felipe gave two computers to DIF for students that come with no computer. Those students will receive computers if needed.

Due to a generous donation from one sponsor and additional donations from individuals in San Felipe we've been able to give out 42 computers and 15 more are waiting to be distributed. We are lucky to have a local computer guru who installed the Spanish version of Office and made sure all computers were working correctly.

This has been a very usual year but we made it. A BIG thank you to all the sponsors for continuing to help the students in San Felipe. Please stay safe and if you have any questions please email me.

Tina Sweeney
Scholarship Coordinator
Rotary Club of San Felipe

Anna McCourt
Youth Development Coordinator
Rotary Club of San Felipe

SAN FELIPE: Hospice Center

Michele MacDonald, reporting from the San Felipe Cancer Foundation's hospice center, is ready to serve any cancer patient in need of final care. Michele said, *"We have been able to assist a post-surgical patient who did not have family to care for her. She will return when she is ready for hospice. Next week we have another patient with the same circumstances that will need post-surgical care and continue to support patients as best we can. As I am sure you have heard, due to Covid, the government is not scheduling many surgeries. Another problem is the lack of chemo being available from the government. The Foundation has been doing as much as we can to provide chemo purchased from the private market. Unfortunately the lack of being able to raise funds has all but put a stop to that."*

Thanks to all who have supported the Cancer Clinic and the Annual Walks. Due to Covid they will not be able to have the Cancer Walk this year, but shortly, they will have their 15th Annual Cancer Walk shirts available for sale. Gene DePlush and Connie Merrilat have offered to sell them at Sunrunner.

“ALL ABOARD”: District Conference Sign Up.

District Governor Mark Roberts wants us to know that: This year's event will be different. In the spirit of the theme **“All Aboard,”** the conference will kick off with a dynamic program led by the JARS (Junior Active Rotarians) and Rotaractors of Chico. The topic is bridging the gap between generations, and their approach is both fresh and highly engaging. It's been a hot topic and one you won't want to miss. Sign up now for the **Spring District Conference, to be held Friday, April 30 - Sunday May 2.**



PLEASANT HILL ROTARY: Virtual Celebration

Jeff Clark, President of the Pleasant Hill Rotary Club invites us to join their club's St. Patrick's Day Gala Celebration **March 20-25**. This event will be different. No catered dinner, no live auction, no costume contest, but a new way to have a fun and safe way to carry on their popular **St. Patrick's celebration** for the 21st year by sitting in the comfort of our homes and using our phone or computer to participate while still supporting our community.

Contact Jeff at 925 212-5637 for more information.

All proceeds will benefit Meals on Wheels Diablo Region, the Monument Crisis Center, and the Pleasant Hill Rotary Foundation's grants program. The virtual celebration will include Exciting Super Silent and Silent Auction prizes, Fund-a-Need, and Instant Wine Cellar and Booze Bazaar



COVID VACCINE SITES



You can sign up at [Myturn.ca.gov](https://myturn.ca.gov) to get notification of when you can schedule an appointment, and here's a volunteer-run site that posts places that have the vaccine: <https://www.vaccinateca.com/>. Thanks, Rich Lueck and Mitchell Gass.

HAPPY/GRUMPY BUCKS

Compiled by Director Barbara Reifschneider



Torsten Jacobsen had a happy buck because he is going to San Felipe and will take all the computers large or small with him and distribute them to the students who still don't have computers. Give him a call or send an email and he will pick up your donations.

Tommy Wolf had one happy back as he was happy for the last drop of coffee that gave him so much natural energy. He's also happy about all of the patients that he has had coming into the office during this pandemic



Jeff Wilson was very happy and gave \$20 happy bucks plus \$100 to the club because of the closing of two properties today. He's also been named one of the top three agents in his office.

Vicki Sexton also had a happy buck because she was going to get her second Covid shot after the meeting today.



Ken Nishimori gave five happy bucks because he was happy about the Rotarians who went to the three hour virtual training session on Saturday. Ken was also happy that John and Jeff donated to Rotary.

Bill Selb had a happy buck and was happy to tell us that, if you're into salmon, Rocco's Pizzeria in Walnut Creek is having a special where you get a huge salmon, Caesar salad, a bottle of wine, and all for only cost 30 bucks.



THE RAFFLE

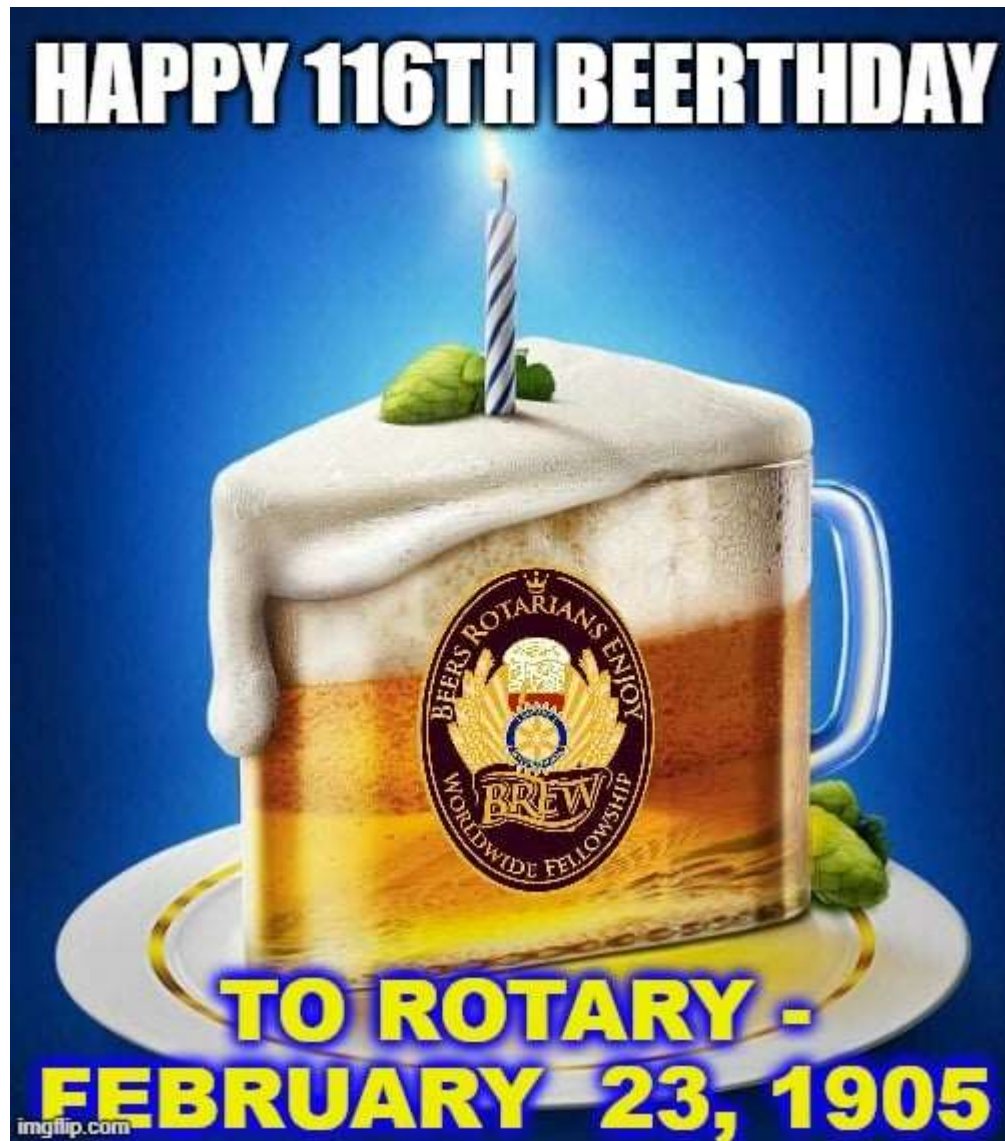


Yup, he won again. **Monica Fraga** pulled **Torsten Jacobsen's** name. He can choose a bottle of wine as his prize, a left over T-shirt, or all the jewels in this treasurer chest.



Don't forget, you have to attend a meeting to be eligible for the drawing.

THE GALLERY



Submitted by Rich Lueck

ALWAYS LEAVE 'EM LAUGHING ...

**I was so bored last night I called Jake from State Farm just to talk to somebody.
He asked me what I was wearing!!!**

SCARED OF THE DARK

A little boy was afraid of the dark. One night his mother told him to go out to the back porch and bring her the broom.

The little boy turned to his mother and said, "Mama, I don't want to go out there. It's dark."

The mother smiled reassuringly at her son. "You don't have to be afraid of the dark," she explained. "Jesus is out there. He'll look after you and protect you."

The little boy looked at his mother real hard and asked, "Are you sure he's out there?"

"Yes, I'm sure. He is everywhere, and he is always ready to help you when you need him," she said.

The little boy thought about that for a minute and then went to the back door and cracked it a little. Peering out into the darkness, he called, "Jesus? If you're out there, you please hand me the broom?"

THE LUMBERJACK'S FINGERS

Tom was working at the lumberyard, pushing a tree through the buzz saw, and accidentally sliced off all ten of his fingers.

He rushes to the emergency room. The doctor who examines him is really disturbed at such a tragedy. "Oh, yuck! Well, that's all right, Tom, give me the fingers and I'll see what I can do for you."

"I haven't got the fingers," Tom said, gasping through his pain.

The doctor said, "What do you mean, you haven't got the fingers? It's 2017. We've got microsurgery and all kinds of incredible techniques. I could have reattached the fingers. You'd be as good as new! Why didn't you bring the fingers?"

"Well, geez, Doc," Tom groaned, "I couldn't pick 'em up."



. . . That's all folks.

