

2020 - 2021

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IMPORTANT MEETINGS 2020

4/13/21 Board Meeting 7 AM
Zoom
4/12/21 Charitable Fund 5:30 PM
Zoom



HONORING OUR FEMALE LEADERS



Just like the nominated President of the Rotary International for 2022-2023 **Jennifer Jones**, our Club is the lucky recipient of the talents and accomplishments of the women who honed their skills in the business, educational, and volunteer services world, and put them to use in our Rotary Club in particular and Rotary International in general. We also included members of other clubs that we engage and work with. **(Scroll to p. 5)**

“The meeting will now come to order.”



THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: Torsten Jacobsen

“In judging our progress as individuals, we tend to concentrate on external factors, such as social position, influence, popularity, wealth and standard of living -but internal factors may even be more crucial in assessing ones development as a human being-humility, generosity, purity, generosity, absence of vanity, readiness to serve your fellow man or woman-qualities in reach of every man or woman.”

— Nelson Mandela

TODAY'S GUESTS



DEB LUYIMA

Rotary Club of Muyenga Uganda



HERBERT MUYINGA



JIM WHITFIELD

Clayton Valley Village



FIONA HUGHES

A ROTARY MINUTE

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

ROTARACT

In our last episode we talked about how Rotary clubs focused on “Work among Boys” and soon included girls who led to founding of



Interact in 1962 for high school youth. But as early as 1922 young people attending colleges and universities were included when the first Twenty-Thirty club was sponsored by the Rotary Club of

Sacramento, California. The principles and goals were the same as those of sponsoring Rotary clubs and at one point there were 125 20-30 clubs in California alone. They are known today as Active 20-30 International and have over 50 local chapters. Over the



years that followed similar clubs were founded around the world with membership open to young professionals and university students sharing the mission and vision of each sponsoring Rotary club. Then in 1968, Rotary International opened the doors for the first Rotaract club, chartered by

Rotary Club of North Charlotte, North Carolina at the University of North Carolina. “Rotaract, short for

Rotary in Action, is an international student-led **service and leadership**



organization for men and women of ages 18 – 30”. Today, Rotaract continues to experience phenomenal growth. There are currently over 10,698 clubs in 180 countries, with an estimated membership of 203,298 Rotaractors Including the 8 Rotaract clubs in District 5160. University based: Cal Rotaract, Campus Rotaract Club of Davis, Los Medanos College Rotaract, Shasta College Rotaract, & Solano Community College. Community Based: Rotaract Club of Chico, Diablo Valley Rotaract Club, and the newest East Bay Community Rotaract Club which is an E-Club chartered in September 2020.

Thank you. This has been the 30th minute of the History of Rotary in (about) 40 Minutes.

LET'S GET THINGS STARTED

TODAY'S SPEAKERS: Jim Whittfield and Fiona Hughes,



Miles Bell introduced today's speakers who represent the **Clayton Valley Village**, a grassroots organization launched on May 1, 2017. It is one of about 400 Villages across the United States and is part of the national Village Movement Villages. It began about 15 years ago with the Beacon Hill Village in Boston. This movement is now on fire with baby boomers and seniors coming together to create a new kind of future for ourselves.



The concept of Villages offers an opportunity for seniors to stay in their own homes for as long as possible and offers communities a network of services to support their aging population. Sometimes it takes just a little support, an occasional changing of light bulbs, or ability to join close-to-home socials, exercise, or educational programs, to be able to stay in our homes as we get older. For others, daily check-ins is important to feel safe and for others occasional support with a pet, organization of our paperwork, or computer/cell phone coaching would make life easier.

Clayton Valley Village is a nonprofit organization run by a board of directors. It provides people with a supportive network as they age right here in our beautiful cities of Clayton and Concord. They also provide referrals to services that already exist but are often little known. In addition, they are continually developing and offering new programs and services using resources and talents that exist within the community. Jim said: *"We are always looking for talented and skilled people who can offer expertise in many areas including Fundraising, Programs, Events and Outreach. Come and check us out at one of our many online events."*

Membership in CVV is \$660 a year for couples (\$60 monthly) and \$480 per year for singles (or \$40 monthly). To join as a volunteer or a member, call 925 626-0411 or www.claytonvalleyvillage.org.



ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Jim Whittfield is a former past President and charter member of Clayton Valley Village. Jim moved to Clayton after marrying his high school sweetheart in 2011. Jim is a retired Army Lieutenant Colonel who enjoys serving his church and village community. He and wife Marilyn Wollenweber are both involved with helping seniors continue to live in their own homes through volunteering and providing stimulating activities. He recruits, trains and oversees the Volunteer Program for the Village, and co-chairs the Outreach Program with Fiona Hughes. He is always seeking new volunteers to assist our senior community.

Fiona M. Hughes is a PR and marketing consultant with 25+ years' experience in helping businesses build and raise their business profile, sales and public awareness. Fiona is also a professional voice-over artist with movie credits, video game, podcast and corporate experience - and a recording studio in her garden. As well as ex-Board member, she is an avid volunteer in her third year of service for Clayton Valley Village. Fiona produces articles, presentations, videos, graphic designs, and media relations activities as Outreach Chairperson, and assists with fund raising and events.

CELEBRATING OUR FEMALE LEADERS

Rotary International embraced March 8th as **International Women's Day** for clubs around the world. It is a day worth remembering if only to celebrate the admission of women into the Rotary organization in 1987. The actual celebration of **Women's History Month** grew out of a weeklong celebration of women's contributions to culture, history, and society organized by the school district of Sonoma, California, in 1978. Presentations were given at dozens of schools, hundreds of students participated. A few years later, the idea had caught on within communities, school districts, and organizations across the country.



VICKI SEXTON is our Club President who joined our club on August 5, 2017, after being a member of the Brentwood Rotary Club for eight years where she served as their Treasurer for four. Vicki is a Paul Harris Fellow, and when her term expires, she will serve as our Treasurer again. It is a role that she is well suited for as banking was her calling. As a member of the Brentwood club, she was **Rotarian of the Year** during Mike Crosby's term as President. In 2016, Vicki retired from banking after 46-years-of-service, eight of which were, with the First Bank in Brentwood. Currently she is a volunteer at the American Cancer Society's Discovery Store, Mobility Matters, and the Lesher Center of the Arts. Born and raised in Castro Valley, she has four children, nine

grandchildren, and resides in Clayton.

MONICA FRAGA became a member on October 20, 2011, is a Paul Harris Fellow and was the 2015 **Rotarian of the Year**. She has served on the Board as the Director for many years and is currently the President-elect for the 2021/2022 term. Monica has been the owner of Travel-To-Go for the past 12 years where she not only has the opportunity to indulge her passion for traveling and creating memories but makes that available for her clients, her friends, and her family. She enjoys raising her children with husband, Mat.



TINA SWEENEY joined the Rotary Club of San Felipe on January 14, 2013 and is a Paul Harris Fellow. She became the Youth Development Coordinator in March 2013 and has held that position to this date. Tina retired from Northern California Power Agency as a Dispatcher / Scheduler on the electric grid November 25, 2010. She is married to Mike and they have three adult children and two grandchildren. Tina was raised in Modesto, California.

MARY KEMNITZ joined our club on June 4, 2015. She became the 2018 **Rotarian of the Year**, has served on the Board of Directors and the Charitable Fund, and is a member of the Paul Harris Society and will be President for the 2022 – 2023 term. For 14 years she worked at Merritt Hospital in Oakland and East Bay Medical Imaging Billing Co and was President of the state-wide Automotive Service Councils of California. Mary and her husband, Dave, are the owners of D&H Enterprises, and, together, they established the Cars 2nd Chance fundraising program that not only adds copious funds to our treasury, but also donated over 60 motor vehicles, campers and vans to the victims of the Paradise fires. She and Dave are originally from Renville, Minnesota and now live in Concord.





IRENE DAVIDS-BLAIR joined our club on January 25, 2008, and, three years later, she became **Rotarian of the Year**. It wasn't long before she became president (2014/2015). Irene's presidential year also saw the club achieve the coveted title of "The Cliff Dochterman, Spirit of Rotary Award," which is an outstanding honor, considering that there were 71 clubs in our district at the time all vying for that award. She is a member of the Paul Harris Society, a major donor, and her husband, Max, is also a Paul Harris Fellow. Irene is the manager of US Bank in Concord where she has served for 23 years. She is originally from Durban, South Africa.

Sophie Deborah Luyilima Kulubya, known to us as Deb, is a member of the Rotary Club of Muyenga, Uganda. She is currently the International Services Director involved in various local and international projects since 2012 that include Adopt-A-Village, the Nsawo/SSAKU school computer lab, and the Nsawa RCC Medical Center. Deb was born and raised in Kampala and has been married to Hood for the past 20 years. Hood is the charter President of the Rotary Club of Wobulenzi District 9211. They have two sons and one daughter.



BARBARA REIFSCHNEIDER joined Rotary on February 1, 2001, and was instrumental in becoming our Club's first female President for the 2009/2010 term. Barbara was **Rotarian of the year** in 2007 and is a Paul Harris Fellow. As our Club Service Director, she is our consummate party planner and organizer of our race track and bocce ball events. She also edits the Happy/Grumpy Bucks column. After a lengthy career with Pacific Bell, she retired and joined Trader Joes's where she worked for the past 14 years. Barbara grew up in San Mateo. She and her husband, Mark, have lived in their Concord home for the past 30 years.

ANNA McCOURT has been a member of the San Felipe Rotary Club for two years. She currently serves as the club's Youth Development Coordinator. She was an Early Childhood Educator for her entire year spending most of her time as a First Grade Teacher and Teacher Educator at North Thurston School District in Lacey, Washington. Since moving to San Felipe and joining Rotary, she taught English to teens and helps with the local Cancer Walk. She and her husband first traveled to San Felipe on a vacation in 2004. They loved the area so much that they purchased land and built a home there in 2009. Anna has lived full time in San Felipe for three years and enjoys being part of such a diverse community.



RENEE RUSHWORTH, lives in Arizona now, joined our Rotary January 4, 2018 and in 2019 she was **Rotarian of the Year**. Renee is also the bookkeeper for Cars 2nd Chance—a program that has pretty much become a small business. She has a bookkeeping business called Rushworth Bookkeeping Services that services small businesses since 2004. She grew up locally and met her husband of 33 years in Concord. They later moved to Napa and raised four children before returning to the Concord area. Renee and her family moved to Arizona last summer and will rejoin a Rotary chapter there after she settles in.

JOAN D'ONOFRIO became a member in 2014, and one year later took on the Editorial duties of this award-winning newsletter: The Valley Sunrise. She is a Paul Harris Fellow, was **Rotarian of the Year** in 2020, serves on the Board as Secretary, is a Commissioner on the Arts and Culture Commission of Contra Costa County, and is the Founder of the Michelangelo D'Onofrio Arts Foundation that provides art awards and scholarships for students in our local public high schools as well as students throughout the world. She retired from a 35-year-career in legal and educational publishing, was owner of a Curves Exercise for Woman franchise, and is in her fourteenth year of service at H&R Block. Joan lived in New York and Minnesota before settling in Concord.



EWA SOBILO was member of our Club when she joined in 1993 and resigned in 2003 to raise her children. During her tenure at the Club, she became the Group Study Exchange team leader for Japan, a member of the Paul Harris Society, and member of the Concord Ambassadors Sister City Organization. As a child, Ewa lived in Gdansk, Poland, the home town of the Polish Solidarity movement. She and her husband are owners of the Moose Metal Company that specializes in metal sales and fabrication. Ewa returned to our Club on July 26, 2018 and lives in in Concord.

LISA TRUESDELL joined Rotary August 1, 2006. She served as Membership Director on the Board and was a member of the Charitable Fund. Lisa is the owner of the State Farm Insurance Company in Clayton where she also lives.



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY, MARCH 8TH, 2021

CONGRATS, JENNIFER JONES

JENNIFER E. JONES, A MEMBER OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF WINDSOR-ROSSAND, ONTARIO, CANADA, HAS BEEN NOMINATED TO BECOME ROTARY INTERNATIONAL'S PRESIDENT FOR 2022-23, A GROUNDBREAKING SELECTION THAT WILL MAKE HER THE FIRST WOMAN TO HOLD THAT OFFICE IN THE ORGANIZATION'S 115-YEAR HISTORY.

Rotary

 Irene David-Hall	 Joan D'Onofrio	 Monica Frazzetta
 Mary Karmatz	 Ewa Sobilo	 Barbara Reischneider
 Vicki Graham	 Lisa Truesdell	 Barbara Reischneider
 Tina Brown	 Deborah Myrnes	 Anna McCosker

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MILESTONE: Happy Birthday, Russ

Russ Anderson, member for nine years, turns 56 today. Russ is the Manager of automotive sales at Lehmers Concord GMC and one of the largest contributors of wine to the Wine Barrel Raffle ever. Thanks, Russ and Happy Birthday,



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 reported that Copart stopped in and dropped off a check for approximately \$6,000 that will be going into the Charitable Fund. **Larry Hutchings** told us that **Pat Flaharty** of Lamorinda is approaching auto repair shops looking for cars that can be donated. **Bill Arena** is also making the rounds at auto repair shops as well.



FUNDRAISER NEWS: Wine Barrel Raffle Update



Bill Selb reported that 61 bottles have been collected so far. **Vicki Sexton** has already given out 168 tickets, which if all are sold (and she's sure they will be) will raise \$4,200 toward the Children's Playground in Clayton. She has already collected \$540.00. Some of the buyers are finding that paying via our website is easy, so don't hesitate to do this. It was great that I received a proof of payment from some, but it isn't necessary. Ken, our trusty treasurer, will be able to identify who made the payments. Just remember that we need the ticket stub(s). Without those, we won't be able to draw the



winning ticket. **IF YOU DON'T HAVE TICKETS YET, LET VICKI KNOW. SHE WILL PERSONALLY DELIVER THEM TO YOU. Watch for a beautifully designed flyer by Rock Star Marketing in next week's Newsletter.**

"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.**



NO PARADES THIS YEAR



The pandemic in the United States, now more than a year old, is starting to hit a milestone for a second time, regarding the cancellations of St. Patrick's Day parades across the country. The sudden cancellation of the parades last year was one of the first big signs of how disruptive the pandemic would be to normal life in the U.S. St. Patrick's Day, also called Feast of St. Patrick and St. Patty's day, is observed on March 17 and marks the death date of Saint Patrick who is the patron saint of Ireland. St Patrick came from Wales or Scotland where he was abducted at the age of 16 and brought to Northern Ireland as a slave. So no he was not Irish. He was

then brought to County Antrim to herd sheep but escaped. He ended up staying in Ireland preaching, baptizing and building churches until his death in the year 461

GET YOUR COVID VACCINE SHOTS



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/>.

Torsten Jacobsen reported that a new variant called B.1.427/B.1.429 has appeared in California and has enhanced capabilities; these two virus strains i.e. also the "current" one could meet in a single person, swap mutations and create an even more potent one--the more time before mass immunization, the more time for mutations. The new California strain is now referred to as 20C/L452R and now accounts for over 50% of

coronavirus samples recently taken. It is much more transmissible and spread is 6 times higher than predecessors, 40% more readily to infect lung tissues, and is more resistant to neutralizing antibodies cutting effectiveness of antibodies by 50%. It is based on study of several hundred patients with this strain treated at UCSF ICU, were 11x times more likely to die. Replication is essential for mutation. So, bottom line is we still must keep our guard up with all preventative measures. The sooner we get this under control, the less mutations there will be. Keep smiling and make the most out of each very precious day. Don't stop living and connecting with friends and loved ones and not just "electronically" but very sensibly. Most people with corona are asymptomatic and the greatest age group of transmitters is those between 20 and 49. In other words, separate fear from phobia, but be smart and consistent.

HAPPY/GRUMPY BUCKS

Compiled by Director Barbara Reifschneider



TORSTEN JACOBSEN was \$40 happy and here are four of the reasons why: 1) Computers were donated by **Mary Kemnitz** and **Ken Nishimori** for the kids in San Felipe as well as clothes and toys for second hand stores that will support the Cancer Center and an animal shelter. 2) Life in Baja is environmentally pure and life is simple. The air is clean, bird life and fresh fish are abundant. There is total solar energy, silence, and reliance on others. 3) One million expats live South of the border and it is possible to subsist on \$1000 a month for all expenses. 4) There will be cute baby rattle snakes this spring that will play hide-and-seek with you, wag their tails and stick out their tongues when you get too close.



LARRY HUTCHINGS is happy and he gave one dollar because **Russ Anderson** donated a lot of fine wine for the wine barrel raffle.

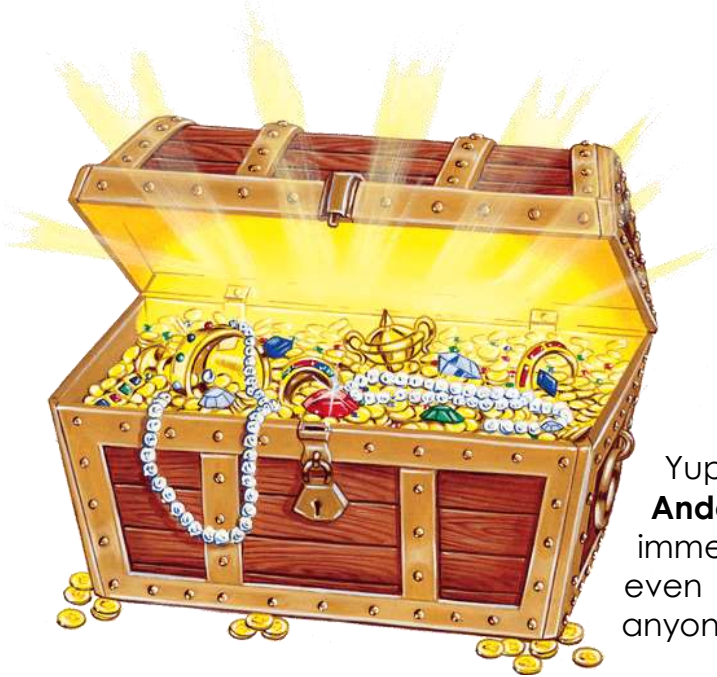
MONICA FRAGA gave a happy buck because she's glad that pets and post-pets is over. She loved her poster. There was only one problem, because she had to sit for so long through all of those meetings and breakout sections, she had to make a trip to **Tommy's** office so that he could get her back into being loosened up again!

RICH LUECK had a happy dollar. First of all it wasn't happy because his car was totaled by a speeding car. Rich's happy buck was because he was so surprised that he walked away with only a sore back and not something much worse.



TOMMY WOLF gave a happy buck because he was so happy that it was so easy to sell his 25 raffle tickets for the wine barrel fundraiser. Not to be outdone, **Mary Kemnitz** upped the ante and said she will sell 30.

THE RAFFLE



Yup, he won again. **Monica Fraga** pulled **Russ Anderson's** name. He chose a bottle of wine but immediately donated it to the Wine Barret raffle even after all the wine he contributed. Doesn't anyone want those pearls?



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

ALWAYS LEAVE 'EM LAUGHING ...

DETECTIVE WORK

Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson went on a camping trip. After a good meal, they lay down for the night and went to sleep. Some hours later, Holmes awoke and nudged his faithful friend. Holmes said: "Watson, look up and tell me what you see".

Watson said: "I see a fantastic panorama of countless stars."

Holmes: "And what does that tell you?"

Watson pondered for a moment: "Astronomically, it tells me that there are millions of galaxies and potentially billions of planets. Astrologically, I observe that Saturn is in Leo. Homologically, I deduce that the time is approximately a quarter past three. Theologically, I can see that God is all powerful and that we are small and insignificant. Meteorologically, I suspect that we will have a beautiful day tomorrow."

"Why? – What does it tell you, Holmes?"

Holmes was silent for a moment then spoke: "My good Watson... someone has stolen our tent."

THE BEST TIME TO PLANT

A prisoner in jail receives a letter from his wife: "Dear Husband, I have decided to plant some lettuce in the back garden. When is the best time to plant them?"

The prisoner, knowing that the prison guards read all mail, replied in a letter: "Dear Wife, whatever you do, do not touch the back garden. That is where I hid all the money."

A week or so later, he received another letter from his wife: "Dear Husband, you wouldn't believe what happened. Some men came with shovels to the house, and dug up all of the back garden."

The prisoner wrote another letter back: "Dear wife Now is the best time to plant the lettuce."

TWO PLUS TWO

A mathematician, an accountant and an economist apply for the same job.

The interviewer calls in the mathematician and asks “What do two plus two equal?”

The mathematician replies “Four.”

The interviewer asks “Four, exactly?”

The mathematician looks at the interviewer incredulously and says
“Yes, four, exactly.”

Then the interviewer calls in the accountant and asks the same question
“What do two plus two equal?”

The accountant says “On average, four – give or take ten percent, but on average, four.”

Then the interviewer calls in the economist and poses the same question
“What does two plus two equal?”

The economist gets up, locks the door, closes the shade, sits down next to the interviewer and says “What do you want it to equal?”

. . . That's all folks.

