

2020 - 2021

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## CONTENTS

Thought of the Day  
Announcements / News  
Milestones  
International News  
Happy Bucks  
The Gallery

## IMPORTANT MEETINGS 2020

5/11/21 Board Meeting 7 AM  
Zoom  
6/14/21 Charitable Fund 5:30 PM  
Zoom



# “ALL ABOARD”

## Destination: District Conference



**District Governor Conductor Mark Roberts** welcomes everyone aboard the Rotary Express as it takes us to

### **District 5160 Virtual Conference April 30 – May 2.**

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 Rotoractors of Chico. The topic is bridging the gap between generations and their approach is both fresh and highly engaging. You won't want to miss this program, so hurry and sign up.

Registration is still open and “tickets” are only \$40 for three days of learning, fellowship, and fun.

**“The meeting will now come to order.”**



## **THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: Miles Bell**

*“Be Careful with your words.  
Once they are said, they can only be forgiven,  
but not forgotten.”*

## **GUESTS**



**DEB AND HERBERT**  
Rotary Club of Muyenga, Uganda



**MELISSA ALLEN**  
RotaCare Volunteer

# A ROTARY MINUTE

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

## Rotarian Action Groups

Rotarians, I think you'll agree, are all about **Action**. And when groups of Rotarians with similar **service-oriented** interests get together they may form what we call **Rotarian Action Groups**. For example, you can join the "Water and Sanitation Rotarian Action Group."



There are many, many Rotarian Action Groups that you can engage in and share your thoughts and ideas, your passion, and your voice for whatever touches your heart.

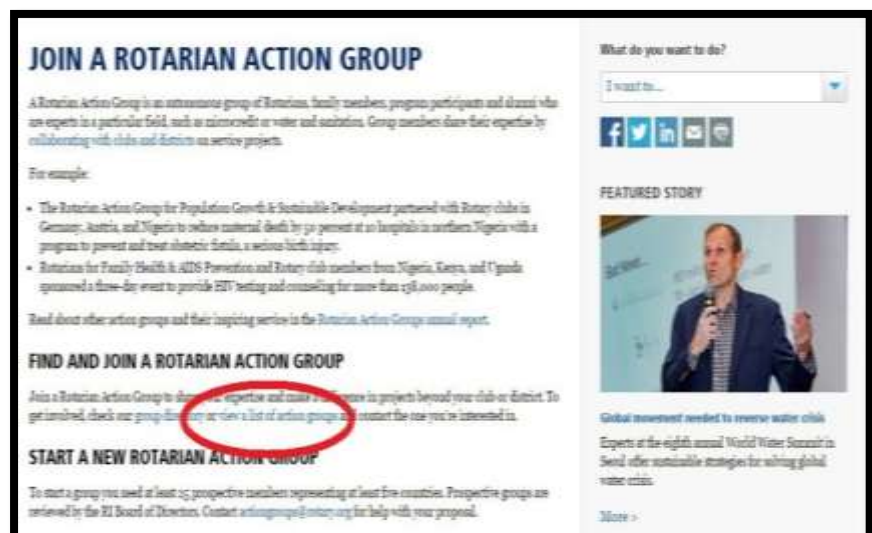
How does one get involved? Simply start at Rotary.org, Rotarian Action Groups.

Let's join the Rotarian Action

Group  
against Child  
Slavery.  
Or, how  
about joining



the Rotarian Action Group for Microfinance & Community Development, or perhaps you can join the Literacy Rotarian Action Group. Your call to action is simple, become a member of a RAG and start networking GLOBALLY.



This has been the 35rd minute of the History of Rotary in (about) 40 Minutes.



# TODAY'S SPEAKER: Melissa Allen

## Service above Self



**Program Chair Miles Bell** introduced us to this morning's speaker, **Melissa Allen**, the Chair of the Advisory Council for RotaCare Concord a free medical clinic to those without medical insurance. Melissa told us that RotaCare Free Medical Clinics was founded in 1989 by Dr. Steven Wolfe and is run with a 95% volunteer staff. The Clinics would not be in existence without the extraordinary dedication of those volunteers, whether it is showing up on a clinic night to help the patients, or as a member of the clinic advisory councils. There are presently over 500 volunteers who provide continuous support in the clinics. The Clinic currently provides consistent, caring service and support for each of our ten free clinics in Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Monterey, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Santa Cruz counties with 95% volunteer staff. To provide the best patient care possible RotaCare, adheres to the following three major goals:

- To support and sustain quality patient care in keeping with our mission to provide free medical care for those who have the greatest need and the least access.
- To support our volunteers at our clinics.
- To continually improve and expand capacity and services at our clinics.

The new mobile clinic features two examination rooms between a fully equipped nurses station/staging area and has wall sections that can expand out another two feet for more space. It is located near John Muir hospital.

RotaCare volunteers offer free, urgent care at Cambridge Elementary School in Concord one night a week and at a women's clinic at the Salvation Army Church on Clayton Road once a month. *"It is in line with the Rotary International motto of 'Service above Self.'"*

The Clinic is entirely a volunteer effort. The clinics are at night, because most of our patients cannot afford to take two hours out during the day to go to a clinic. Now those services can be offered at more locations so that more people can have access. It takes about 20 professionals, including physicians, nurse practitioners, data entry and clerical personnel, a social worker and others to fully staff a RotaCare clinic. Even with volunteer help and Rotary support, grants and businesses community donations are needed to cover the costs of operation, including items such as X-rays, medications and supplies, which are approximately \$150,000 annually. Donations are gratefully accepted: 925 202-9292.

## ABOUT THE SPEAKER

**Melissa Allen** is a nurse practitioner who has been volunteering with the clinic since it opened in 2009. She has volunteered as educator for NP students and community groups as well as hosting Rotary exchange students. Her day job is providing medical care to the underserved who are home bound or in nursing homes. For fun, she enjoys cooking - and the community that is built around food. She also thoroughly enjoys hiking with her dog, Sagittarius. Melissa strongly believes in volunteering and building the community.

## **“BECOMING A ROTARIAN” Bill Selb**

The year 1987 was a memorable one for me. Emily and I celebrated our 20th wedding anniversary. After many years in corporate accounting and management, I began a new career in real estate. **And I became a Rotarian.**

My path into Rotary was different from most Rotarians. I was not invited to attend a meeting by a Rotarian. I had no sponsor. I prefer to think that I slipped in by the back door.

In the spring of that year, I was in the barber chair. As I was trying to look over the 'articles' in the latest issue of Playboy Magazine, Dick Pugh, my barber, and good friend, kept interrupting my concentration by talking about a new Rotary Club that was being formed in the Clayton Valley area. He said they were having difficulty putting together the 25 MEN needed to form a new chapter.

So I joined a gathering at the Clayton Valley Bowling Alley. I knew many of the MEN from the Concord and Concord Diablo clubs who were in charge. And many of the prospective Rotarians were friends I knew from Church. I was interested in what they presented, and they seemed delighted to sign me up as a prospective member.

I enjoyed Rotary from the beginning. I was put in charge of the Annual Valentine's Sweetheart event. I was the first editor of the weekly newsletter. And, in 1990, I was named Rotarian of the Year. In 1998 I was chosen as President-Elect. I felt that I knew Rotary pretty well by then.

Then I went to PETS and discovered that I knew nothing. During the meetings they distributed sheets showing how clubs could earn points by achieving success in various areas: Community Service, International Service, Vocational Service, and Social Activities. So I had a vision. Why couldn't we be the Number 1 Middle-Sized Club in the District? As far as being named Best Club in the District, I could forget that. That had always gone to the San Ramon noon club for many years. I was told they operated as a "well-oiled machine" in achieving first place.

I began the year with a fantastic Board of Directors. Lueck, Hutchings, Hooy, Benton, Weir, Brown. Membership grew to 48 and our average meeting attendance percentage was over 96%. Our events were numerous. We had Christmas in April, held the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament, participated in the Salvation Army Bell Ringing, and held the first Annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Pancake Breakfast. On the International level Larry Hutchings and Jim Brown went to Peru to participate in a project to install workshops at a shelter for destitute children. We hosted an exchange student from Columbia and sponsored a Clayton Valley student to Ecuador, and hosted a group of visiting Russian bakers. On a social level, we enjoyed the annual Reno Train Trip and a day at the horse races among so many other things.

The District Conference was held aboard the USS Hornet in early May. Larry Hutchings provided assistance to me in sorting through our year for our submission. On May 7<sup>th</sup> we gathered on the Hornet for awards. The Best Small Club was San Ramon Sunrise. Best Large Club was San Ramon Noon. Best Medium Club was Clayton Valley Concord/Sunrise. Our Club had achieved my goal. But there was more to come. Finally, the best Club overall was not San Ramon. It was the Clayton Valley/Concord Sunrise.

**We did it. We REALLY did it.**

Epilogue: I learned later that San Ramon wanted to see the basis of the decision. Especially since one of the judges was a member our Club. The accomplishments of our Rotary year were shown to them, and I heard their comment was "Boy, they really did beat us."

Subsequently their club president and president-elect appeared unexpectedly at our morning meeting. They had driven up from San Ramon to personally present the banner and congratulate us on a job well-done.

**And that's how I became—and why I stay—a Rotarian.**



# MILESTONES



**Length of Service:** Bob Huck reached his 10<sup>th</sup> year as a Rotarian, Johnny Morgan and Miles Bell both reached 11 years. Miles said it feels longer.

**Happy Birthday:** Julia Dawson celebrated her birthday on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Happy Anniversary:** Hugh and Flor Toloui celebrated 29 years of wedded bliss on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## WINE BARREL

The event was outstanding. All 250 tickets were sold. Here are the winners:

THE SUCCESSFUL WINNERS WERE:  
REBECCA CHASE ... TICKET SOLD BY TOMMY WOLFE  
CRAIG OLSEN ... TICKET SOLD BY LARRY HUTCHINGS



All profits—approximately \$6,100—will be used to update and upgrade the equipment in the children's playground in the Clayton Community Park. It was a great event. Next year can't come soon enough.

## CLUB ASSEMBLY: By-Laws Approval & Project Updates

Next week's meeting will be a Club Assembly. We will hear reports from the service directors and take a final vote on the acceptance of the By-Laws.

## PANCAKE BREAKFAST & 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY PARADE

It's official. There will be no parade and no breakfast this year. We will be back next year, bigger and better than ever.

## CARS 2<sup>ND</sup> CHANCE

Larry Hutchings reported that we have yet another new Partner. The Healing Well signed on. They are in the Tenderloin district which makes us quite thrilled to see how far-reaching our C2C program is.



# SAN FELIPE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

**Rich Lueck** reminds us that it is that time again. The 2021-2024 Scholarship matching needs your participation. You can get a copy of the form you need to fill out from Rich Lueck who will email it to you. We're hoping members can do their part by April 30th so the matching money check can be there before the deadline. Last year 16 Rotarians stepped up so we, as a club, sponsored 32 San Felipe students. Students who 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. Here are the *Rotarians who have stepped up so far*:



**Ken Nishimori**  
**Lois Nelson**  
**Bob Huck & Aleta**  
**Mary Kemnitz**  
**Irene Davids-Blair & Max**  
**Richard Lueck & Pam**  
**Hugh Toloui & Flor**  
**Vicki Sexton**  
**Frank Westphall & Barbara**  
**Steve Weir & John Hemm**  
**Torsten & Tineke Jacobsen**  
**Jorg & Linda Puhr-Westerheide**

There is still time for more of you to sign up and experience the power of Rotary. Get your check in by April 30. Make check payable to: San Felipe Rotary Scholarship Fund. Here is the mailing address:

SAN FELIPE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND  
PO Box 9011 PMB 370  
Calexico CA 92232

Questions: Tina Sweeney [bajatinas@gmail.com](mailto:bajatinas@gmail.com)  
Rich Lueck [rich.lueck@gmail.com](mailto:rich.lueck@gmail.com)



## UGANDA: Clinic and Family Planning Projects Updates



**Deb Luyiima** and **Herb Muyinga** are happy to report that the ground breaking for construction of the pediatric ward, sponsored by **Hugh** and **Flor Toloui**, at Nsawo Clinic took place last week. The members of the community, through the Rotary community corps, are excited and engaged in the preliminary tasks that include brick making and excavation of the grounds. They said they will share pictures of the work in progress at the site in the next meeting.



The family planning project, sponsored by **Torsten** and **Tineke Jacobsen**, is also underway; Nsawo clinic has a partnership with reproductive health Uganda a local NGO that deals with family planning, prevention and treatment of HIV, AIDS, and diagnosis of sexually transmitted infections.

## SAN FELIPE SEEING TODAY'S REALTY

by **Jorg Puhr-Westerheide**  
Rotary Club of Novato

I joined the CVCS Rotary Club 2005 and soon started hearing about "San Felipe": their needs, the potential, the projects; some trips, cancer walk, the mammogram machine; but participating in person did not work out for me. I did lend support and sometimes a helpful hand when another trip of members with material and help for San Felipe was about to take place.



Thanks to Torsten and Tineke Jacobsen's generous invitation, my wife Linda and I, most recently, stayed for a week in their beautiful home south of San Felipe where our visit began with the visit of San Felipe's Carminati Contra el Cancer Center. What an incredible accomplishment and blessing for the community – a very special example for Rotary at its best!

Only to be topped by the Jacobsen's hospitality and amazing beauty of their house and environment, tucked at the coast between ocean and desert, between fauna, pelicans, seagulls, rattle snakes, road runners, flora of most precious and beautiful flowers in the desert sand, millions of years old petrified shells, highest giant cordon cacti on the planet, hot seawater tubs, just to name a few.

We are grateful to have been able to learn about all of this and have only one piece of advice: You better get going yourself and experience it yourself! Thank you, Torsten.





# BACKPACK PROJECT

**Rich Lueck** reported that every August, **Cynthia Altamirano**, of the Community Fellow at the Family Justice Center in Concord, coordinates a Back to School Drive where the Concord Community Fellows give away hundreds of backpacks filled with school supplies, thanks to the generous donations of the Cornerstone Fellowship, community residents, and organizations such as Rotary. This project was intended to address the disparity in the school supplies carried by rich and poor kids in the community.

She filled up backpacks with school supplies for kids and teenagers at the start of the school year. The next backpacking event will take place August 1st and 2nd at the Cornerstone Fellowship Walnut Creek at 535 Walnut Ave, WC. Due to the Covid-19 lockdown, she said they are going to add Chrome Books to their donation list.

**IMPORTANT:** No red or blue backpacks, binders, and folders. They are gang affiliated colors and even non-affiliated children can be harmed.

Besides backpacks, backpacks, and backpacks, and all sorts of supplies, they also need every size and shape WiFi Extenders, Masks, Hand sanitizer, Headphones/earbuds, and Jump/thumb drive. For a complete list, contact Rich.



**REMEMBER, NO RED OR BLUE**

# HAPPY / GRUMPY BUCKS

Compiled by Director Barbara Reifschneider



**Rich Lueck** had a happy 20 bucks this morning. Rich is proud of his daughter and his granddaughter, because RP Hope is very successful and has gone worldwide.

**Bob Sundberg** had a happy 20 bucks this morning. He was happy that he went to Bend, OR to see his nephew's new house that he is building and happy that Barbara was able to feed Mr. fluffy which is his cat while he was on his well-deserved road trip. Then he had a wonderful time visiting with his daughter and saw her home in Milwaukee and learned that they are all going to be celebrating Christmas in Rome this year.

**John Wenzel** gave 10 happy bucks to the club and 50 Paul Harris points. Apparently he overdid it in the garden. When he woke up the next day, he was unable to move his neck. So he took a short drive over to Tommy's office and Dr. Tommy was able to adjust his neck. Now he can move it again.

**Tommy Wolf** had a happy buck because his whole office was celebrating National Banana Day (April 21<sup>st</sup>—no kidding there really is such a holiday). Notice the colorful get up that Tommy is wearing in honor of the banana. Guess I'll celebrate and eat one today.

**Hugh Toloui** is 10 bucks happy as he found out that funding for the Clinic was received.

**Torsten Jacobsen** is 10 bucks happy at the news of Deb and Herb and that he had lunch with Tina and Mike Sweeney down there in San Felipe.

# RAFFLE

**President Vicki** did the honors today and, lo and behold, she picked **Ken Nishimori** as the winner. Finally, a new member was picked. So he has a chance now to pick his prize. He turned down left-over T-shirts and oil. That left red wine, or white wine. He chose red wine.



Remember,  
you have to be  
in it to win it—  
the meeting  
that is.



# “ALWAYS LEAVE ‘EM LAUGHING”

Compiled & Edited by Bill Selb



“I see you’ve fixed the drip!”

Some days I amaze myself.

Other days,  
I look for my  
phone while I'm  
holding it.

*MIDDLE AGE: That Time In  
Your Life When You Finally*



*Get Your Head  
Together And  
Then Your  
Body Starts  
To Fall Apart.*

# A SWIMMING COMPETITION

There was a competition to cross the English channel doing only the breaststroke, and the three women who entered the race were a brunette, a redhead and a blonde.

After approximately 14 hours, the brunette staggered up on the shore and was declared the fastest.

About 40 minutes later, the redhead crawled up on the shore and was declared the second place finisher.

Nearly 4 hours after that, the blonde finally came ashore and promptly collapsed in front of the worried onlookers.

When the reporters asked why it took her so long to complete the race, she replied, "I don't want to sound like I'm a sore loser, but I think those two other girls were using their arms..."

*. . . That's all folks.*