

2020 - 2021

## NEWSLETTER STAFF

Joan D'Onofrio: Editor  
Clayton Worsdell: Photographer  
Mary Kemnitz  
Rich Lueck  
Barbara Reifschneider  
Bill Selb

## ROTARY DISTRICT 5160

Mark Roberts: District Governor  
Milt Smith: Assistant DG

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Vicki Sexton: President  
Monica Fraga: President-elect  
Ken Nishimori: Treasurer  
Joan D'Onofrio: Secretary  
Bob Sundberg: Sergeant-at-Arms  
Irene Davids-Blair: Vocational  
Monica Fraga: New Generations  
Ken Nishimori: RI Foundation  
Ben Wentling: Community Services  
Tommy Wolf: Membership  
Larry Hutchings: International  
Barbara Reifschneider: Club Services

## CHARITABLE BOARD

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

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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

## 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



*“Education is our passport to the future because tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today.”*

# JOIN THE DISTRICT LEARNING SESSIONS MAY 15

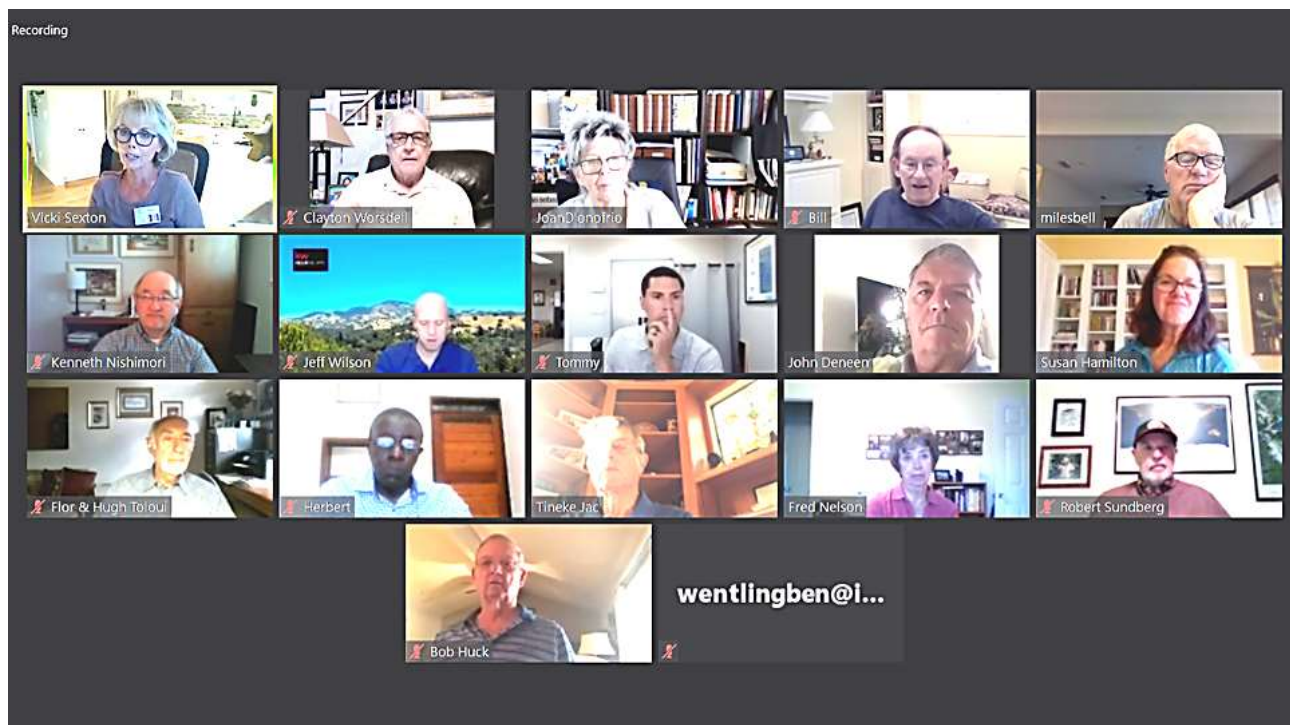


## District Governor-Elect Kathy Subia and Education Chair Candy Pierce

invite you to attend the second part of the spring training sessions. This part is titled **District 5160 Rotary Learning Sessions** and is on May 15th. They will be smaller training sessions designed to provide you with the tools you need to help your club in many different areas, and you may attend as many sessions that interests you. They will be held via Zoom and will be less formal allowing you to ask questions and have a dialog with the moderators. Register now and you will be sent the zoom link before the event. Pick and choose from the sessions that might spark your interest.

Register NOW for Rotary Learning Sessions via Zoom, Saturday, May 15, 2021 at 8:30 am to 12 noon.

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



**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: Joan D'Onofrio**

*“Learning is a treasure  
that will follow you everywhere.”*

--Chinese Proverb

In celebration of this week's National Teachers' Appreciation Day May 2 – 8, 2021

## **GUESTS**



**HERBERT MUYINGA**  
Rotary Club of Muyenga  
Uganda



**JOHN DENEEN**



**SUSAN HAMILTON**  
Today's Speaker



**LOIS NELSON**

# A ROTARY MINUTE

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

## ROTARY PEACE FELLOWSHIPS

Paul Harris is quoted as having said, “The road to war is well paved. The road to peace is a wilderness.” That is why promoting peace is one of Rotary’s six areas of focus – because today over 70 million people around the world are displaced by armed conflict or persecution. Half of them are children.



And that is why in 1999

RI Trustees approved the plan to partner with universities to establish the Rotary Centers for International Studies in Peace and Conflict Resolution. More than 100 universities were considered and seven were selected based on criteria such as geographic diversity, superior faculty and an established two year master’s degree program with a core curriculum in international relations, peace, and conflict resolution.

Then, in 2006 a 3-month peace studies certificate program was launched at Chulalongkorn University in Thailand to attract middle to upper-level professionals who can

arrange to be away from their employment for just a few months.

**Maria Tuttle**, former Los Medanos College English professor, Maria Tuttle, was named a 2016 Rotary Peace Fellow. Maria was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Brentwood and the 3 other Delta Force clubs.



**Emily Andre** has been selected by the Trustees of the Rotary Foundation to receive a 2020 Rotary Peace Fellowship for studies in Peace and Conflict Resolution at the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia. Emily is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Antioch. Emily's involvement in Rotary first began as a high school student when she helped found the Rotary Interact Club of District 117 as a co-president representing Antioch Community High School. She graduated from Antioch H.S. as Outstanding Senior Girl in 2012 and received an Antioch Rotary Club academic scholarship to study International Studies at American University in Washington, D.C. More information is available on Antioch’s RC website.



**Susan Grossman** is the District 5160 Peace Fellows Committee Chair which started in July 2004, 16 years 11 months. Susan is a member of the Concord Rotary Club, International Services Chair

**This has been the 37th minute of the History of Rotary in (about) 40 Minutes.**



# TODAY'S SPEAKER

## SUSAN HAMILTON

**Program Chair Miles Bell** introduced us to **Susan Hamilton** a dynamic founder, fundraiser, and strategist with 20 plus years of successful achievement. Her expertise is in identifying organizational needs, assessing opportunities, and building teams. She is the former Founder of Care Better, a social platform connecting those who care for loved ones with Dementia to each other and the non-medical experts needed to help them do their best. She lives with the belief in "creating the thing you wish existed," the power of intimacy, and with each other we will Care Better.



After not finding the support she needed when her mother was ill with Dementia, Susan created Care Better. With startup, corporate and nonprofit management experience, exceeding sales goals while building passionate teams, Care Better was born. Understanding how many people live in non-traditional families and further away from loved ones, as well as recognizing the miracle of technology in our hands daily, she believes no one should be alone caring for a loved one. Connecting the 16 million people, who care for Dementia patients to education and support, is her lasting mission.

Today Susan talked to us about **Lamorinda Village** which is a community-based network of people over age 55 living in Lafayette, Moraga, and Orinda. Their purpose is to provide the support and connections that will help citizens remain in their own homes as they age.

She told us that they are excited to have formed a partnership with CARS 2ND CHANCE and learned—in the middle of her presentation—that the Lexus, the very first car they donated, has sold. That means their organization will be \$8,000 richer. Among just a few of the services they provide are:

- Handyman services
- Transportation to doctors
- Grocery shopping
- Arranging covid vaccine shots
- Supplying Emergency Go-bags
- Arranging zoom meetings

If you would like to make a donation or become a volunteer participant, contact: [info@lamorindavillage.org](mailto:info@lamorindavillage.org) or call 925 283-3500.

## ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Susan Hamilton is a consultant and holds a BA from Providence College. She lives in Orinda with her husband, has three adult daughters, and is an author, reader, hiker, and lover of nature. She has been featured in Women of Wearables, Arise Media and A Place For Mom, [hamiltonsb@comcast.net](mailto:hamiltonsb@comcast.net), LinkedIn, and can be reached at 925-890-5606.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## MILESTONES: Happy Birthday

**Irene Davids-Blair** celebrated her birthday on Cinco de Mayo day, while **Ken Nishimori** celebrated his on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. When asked how old he is, Ken said: "Old enough to retire." He will make a sizeable donation to the Rotary Foundation.



## MEMBERSHIP

**Director Tommy Wolf** reported that a membership committee is being set up to investigate and support ideas as to how to increase membership. President Vicki prepared an outline of myriad ideas and suggestions. You will all be notified when the committee meets for the first time, and it is hoped you will participate. Just a few of the ideas under consideration are:

- Renew Concord Chamber of Commerce membership
- Set up booths at community functions expos, and Farmers' Markets
- View RI membership video that features suggestions
- Schedule Jorg Westerheide to speak about his ideas
- Find out why our members don't attend and what they are looking for
- Set up a membership fees scholarship fund
- Advertise on buses and the media in general
- Develop a marketing plan and hire a marketing firm



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



**President Vicki** reported that the very special Lexus, recently donated by our newest partner, Lamorinda Village, just sold for \$16,000. The profit will be split up and our club will receive \$4,000, Lamorinda Rotary will receive \$4,000 and the balance of \$8,000 will go to the Lamorinda Village.

# SAN FELIPE SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

**Rich Lueck** is still working on the 2021-2024 Scholarship matching program and club participation. Last year 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. 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.



# UGANDA NSAWO CLINIC



**Herb Muyinga** reported today that Deb was unable to attend this morning's meeting because she is out of town making preparations for a Health Seminar to be held at the end of May. He also assured us that the bricks are still being made as you will see in the photos that Deb sent to us.





## BACKPACK PROJECT

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, they are going to add Chrome Books to their donation list. Besides backpacks, they also need every size and shape WiFi Extenders, Masks, Hand sanitizer, headphones, earbuds, and Jump/thumb drive. For a complete list, contact Rich. **IMPORTANT:** No red or blue backpacks, binders, and folders. They are gang affiliated colors and even non-affiliated children can be harmed.



## STEVE WEIR SHARES THE PIPE ORGAN CACTUS HE GROWS



A few days ago, **Steve Weir** and **John Hemm** delivered these plants to **Vicki Sexton** and **Joan D'Onofrio**, and thank god they don't require much watering. It is called the **Night-blooming cereus** referring to a large number of flowering ceroid cacti that bloom only at night. The flowers are short lived, and some bloom only once a year, for a single night. Other names for one or more cacti with this habit are Princess of the Night, Honolulu Queen, Christ in the Manger, Dama de Noche, and Queen of the Night, but Steve calls his the **Pipe Organ Cactus**.



Regardless of the species or the name, night-blooming cereus flowers are almost always white, often large, and frequently fragrant. Most of the flowers open after nightfall, and by dawn, most are in the process of wilting. Plants in the same geographical area tend to

bloom on the same night. The plants that bear such flowers can be tall, columnar, and sometimes extremely large and tree-like, but more frequently they are thin-stemmed climbers like the ones Steve gave Joan and Vicki.

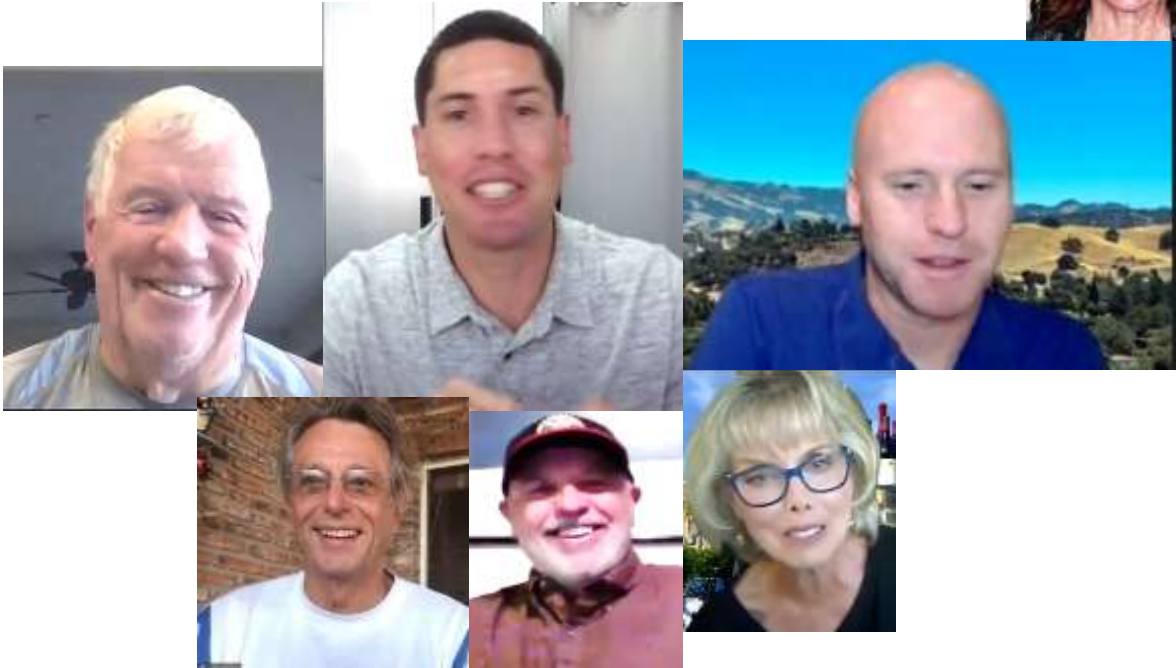


**Thanks, Steve**

So here's a thought, when the cactus is ready to bloom, why not have a late-night plant party and celebrate—just for the fun of it. RSVP required.

# HAPPY/GRUMPY BUCKS

Compiled by Barbara Reifschneider



**Jeff Wilson** had five happy bucks in honor of Mother's Day, not only for his mom, but also for his wife. On top of that it is also his wife and daughter's birthday and their anniversary. It's a busy weekend.

**Tommy Wolf** and **Stryker** had a happy buck because they are going to go to the zoo and the Academy of Sciences. On Sunday they will celebrate mommy Vanessa's Second Mother's Day with his family and he even prepares an agenda for the occasion.

**Miles Bell** had five happy bucks because he was finally able to go out fishing on the Bay. He caught four halibut, but had to throw two back in and lost one. Then it took him an hour and a half to clean and filet the fourth one.

**Bob Sundberg** had a happy buck, even though he was really sorry to hear about miles sad fish story. Said he was very familiar with fileting halibut. Ben there, done that.

**Vicki Sexton** had two happy bucks. One was because she is looking forward to hanging out on Mother's Day in her backyard by the pool with her daughter and the family. The second happy buck was for how much she missed her family when they were on their 10-Day road trip and is happy they are back home.

**Torsten Jacobsen** is happy to be celebrating Mother's Day on Bodega Bay with his kids and grandkids.



# THE GALLERY



THIS BEAUTIFUL YELLOW ROSE IS FROM THE  
LATE FRED NELSON'S FLOWER GARDEN

# RAFFLE

**President Vicki** did the honors again today and, lo and behold, she picked **Torsten Jacobsen** as the winner. He picked red wine for Tineke. Vicki will deliver it and pick up the six bottles Torsten was donating to the Wine Raffle. It will be stored at Vicki's house for next year's raffle.



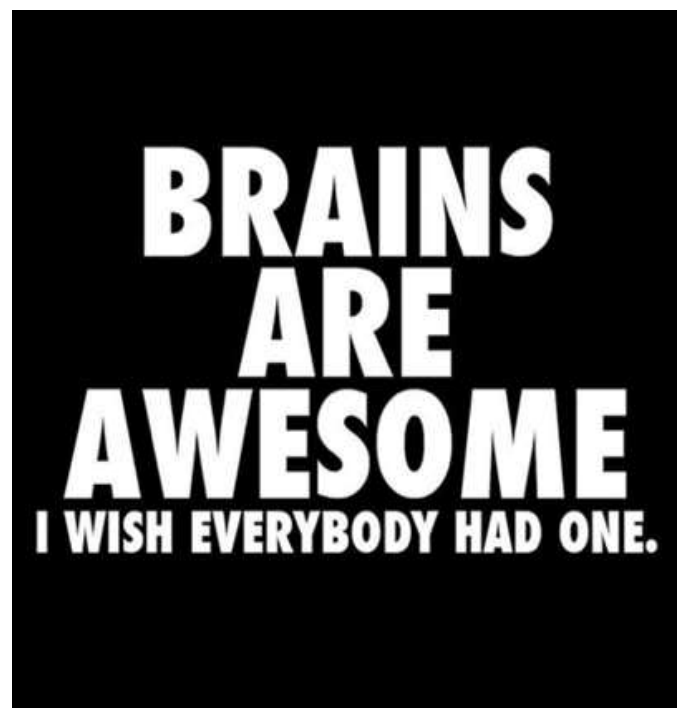
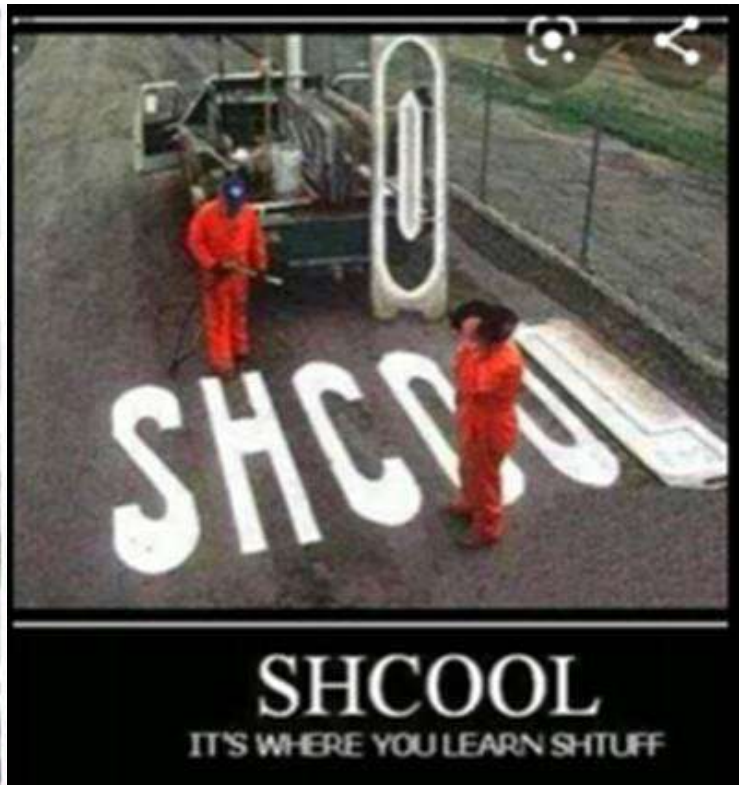
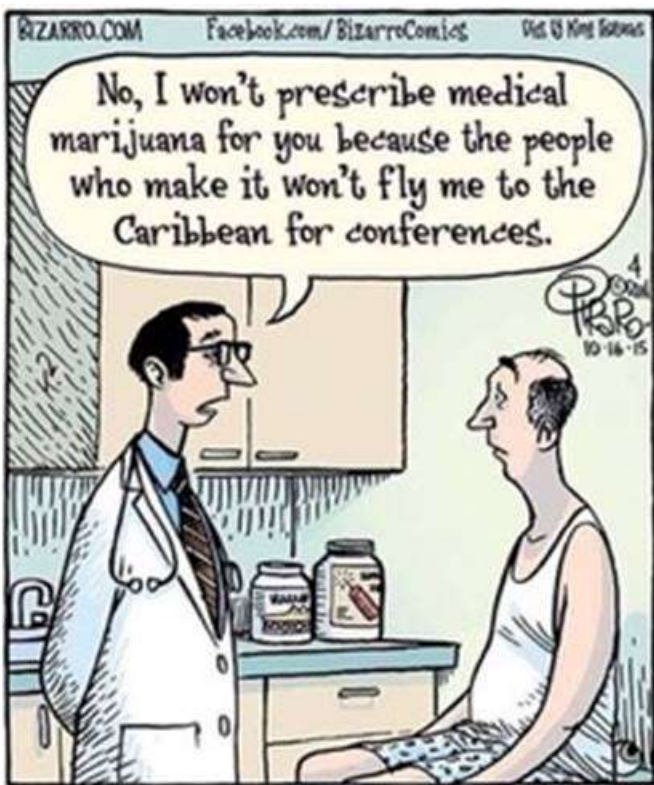
Remember,  
you have to be  
in it to win it—  
the meeting that is.





# “ALWAYS LEAVE ‘EM LAUGHING”

Compiled & Edited by Bill Selb





## DIGGING HOLES

Ole and Lars were working for the city public works department in Wisconsin. Ole would dig a hole and Lars would follow behind and fill the hole in. They worked up one side of the street, then down the other, then moved on to the next street, working furiously all day without rest, one digging a hole, the other filling it in again.

An onlooker was amazed at their hard work, but couldn't understand what they were doing. So he asked Ole, 'I'm impressed by the effort you two are putting in to your work, but I don't get it -- why do you dig a hole, only to have your partner follow behind and fill it up again?'

Ole, the hole digger, wiped his brow and sighed, "Vell, I suppose it probably looks odd 'cause ve're normally a three-person team. But today Sven, the guy who plants da trees, called in sick."

*. . . That's all folks.*