

THE VALLEY SUNRISE



WINNER OF BEST NEWSLETTER OF THE YEAR

6/24/2021

2020 - 2021

NEWSLETTER STAFF

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

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Milt Smith: Assistant DG

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Monica Fraga: President-elect
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Joan D'Onofrio: Secretary
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Monica Fraga: New Generations
Ken Nishimori: RI Foundation
Ben Wentling: Community Services
Tommy Wolf: Membership
Larry Hutchings: International
Barbara Reifschneider: Club Services

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Vicki Sexton: Treasurer
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John Wenzel
Hugh Toloui

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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

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IMPORTANT MEETINGS 2020

7/13/21 Board Meeting 7 AM
Zoom
8/12/21 Charitable Fund 5:30 PM
Zoom



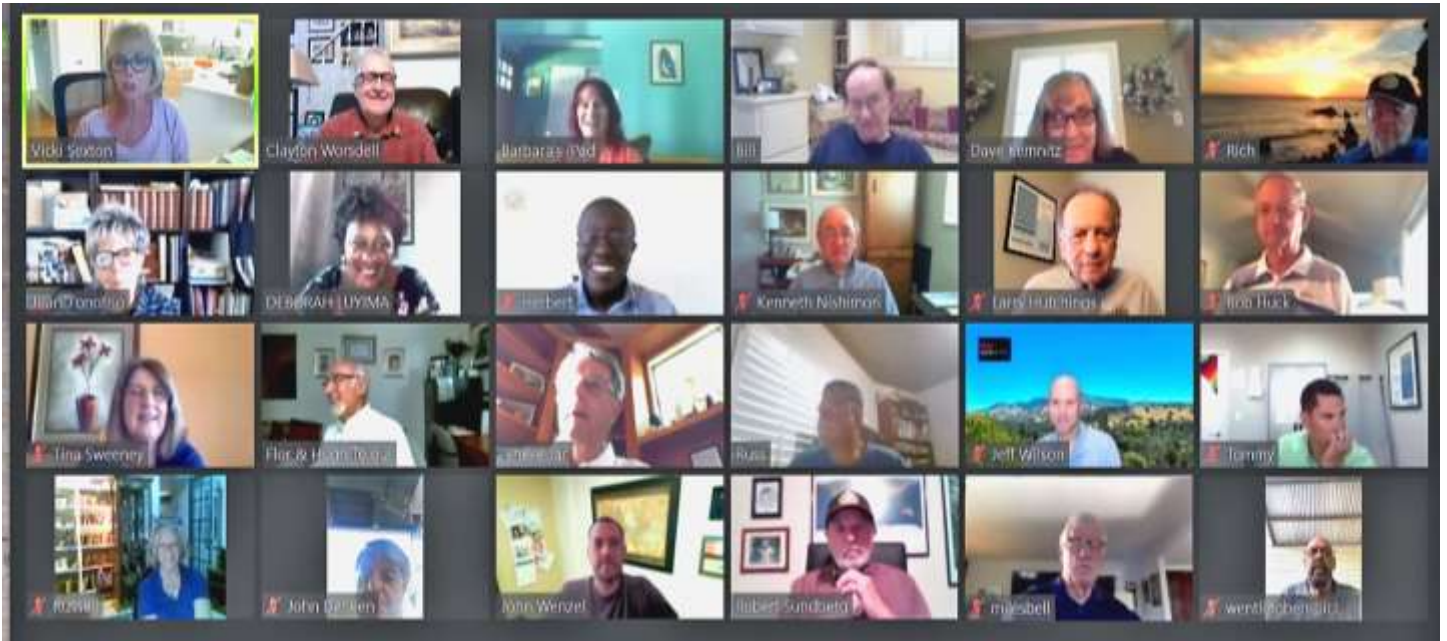
IT WAS A BANNER YEAR IN SO MANY WAYS



THANK YOU, VICKI

Read Vicki's farewell address on page 4.

“Vicki’s last meeting will now come to order.”



THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY

“Life is like a camera. Focus on what's important. Capture the good times, and if things don't work out, just take another shot.”

--Mary Kemnitz, today

“It’s okay to be mediocre, just be sure you’re good at it.”

--Rich Lueck, today

“Do the right thing because it is the right thing to do, not because you want something in return.”

--Monica Fraga, June 17 meeting

TODAY'S SPEAKER

JOURNEY OF HEALING



Program Director Miles Bell introduced **Bill Hopkins** the new recently appointed Assistant Program Lead for Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing (PHWFF), for the Martinez, CA program, supporting the Martinez VA Outpatient Clinic. David Lipscomb, previous program lead, founded the PHW program in 2011 with the backing of its sponsor Diablo Valley Fly Fishing Club. DVFF Club's steadfast assistance in all areas – financial, instructional, and spirit has been the driving force behind the success of the program. The dedicated volunteers who support PHW Martinez are among the best in the country – in all the areas that PHW is about – fly tying, rod building, fly casting, general fly fishing knowledge, and outings.

David Lipscomb, the previous Program Lead for the PHWFF, has had 30-years of combined active and reserve service in the US Navy as a submarine officer. He served on five submarines while on active duty and had five commands while in the reserves. His business career took a varied route starting with the power industry and transitioning into the high tech world in CA in the early 80's. His last positions were project director for EDS and managing partner for IBM Singapore. His two boys were both in the Navy through NROTC – Brad, on a submariner and Mark, on a cruiser. One son recently graduated from college and the other will be attending USF in the fall. Both his Father and Brother were Marines making the military a strong family tradition.



LAST WEEK'S SPEAKER

Kevin Cabral

At the June 17 Meeting, **Miles Bell** introduced **Kevin Cabral**, President/CEO of the Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce. Kevin has decades of leadership experience locally, and most recently as the General Manager of the Renaissance ClubSport in Walnut Creek as today's speaker. He has also been involved with several local boards, having served on the board of the Walnut Creek Chamber and the Walnut Creek Convention and Visitor Bureau. A Concord native, Kevin is passionate about giving back to the community where he has lived all of his life. His daughter, Samantha, works at Carondelet High School and his son, James, is off to USF in the fall. He has also been involved with several local boards, having served on the board of the Walnut Creek Chamber and the Walnut Creek Convention and Visitor Bureau.



FAREWELL MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Well, my fellow Rotarians, it has been a year! And what a year it was. It was a year consumed with the Corona Virus, and our struggles with quarantines has been extremely challenging. But seriously, I have had a wonderful Rotary Year. Over the years I have had numerous Past Rotary Presidents tell me that the year they were President was their best year. You all heard Bill Selb's "When I became a Rotarian" presentation. He really captured that feeling. I have to say that, to date, it has been my best year too.



That is not to say that everything went smoothly, or that I was able to accomplish all I wanted to. By only meeting via Zoom, we missed many of our members for an entire year. We were not able to have Friday Night Lives and for two-years we were not able to sell pancakes at the Clayton 4th of July Parade.

The positive part of Zoom meetings, however, is that it allowed Rotary members from all over the world to join us regularly. Deborah and Herbert, from the Uganda Rotary Club joined us every week, giving us news about all that was going on in their part of the world and the many projects we worked on together. We started the meetings at 7:00 AM every Thursday and never went past 8:30 and frequently ended the meeting at 8:00. We did have fun at our meetings, with lots of Happy Times, and great stories from our members on when they knew they had truly become a Rotarian, not just in name.

Speaking about "all over the world," Joan's art contests reached not only students in Uganda, but also San Felipe and the Philippines. Rotary International was well represented at our club meetings. Clayton's "History of Rotary in 40 Minutes" was enjoyable and educational. We reinstituted the raffle, but with a new flare. You didn't have to buy a ticket, you merely had to show up at a zoom meeting and your name went into the hat. If you won, you got to pick your prize within a \$15 price range. Most members picked good wine, so you know they were having fun.

This year we introduced two new fundraisers, led by Bill Selb. Jeff Wilson introduced a virtual "Walk or Run, Choose Your Fun," and with little effort, we made around \$1,200. Those of us who participated had a really good time. We're hoping that next year we can have a bigger event, but in person. We also had a Wine Barrel Raffle. This too was very successful. With the club members participating by contributing quality wine and selling tickets, we raised \$6,250. The fundraisers helped us get the name of Rotary, and our club in particular, in front of the local public. This had been one of my major goals. We only got started, but I'm sure we will do more of this next year. So my Primary goal of raising awareness of the Clayton Valley/Concord Sunrise Rotary Club was accomplished—if only in a small way. But we are on the right road.

The Cars 2nd Chance program raises most of the money that we give to many charitable recipients and has taken our club to a new level. We become partners with the Lamorinda Sunrise Club, and, through that partnership, we raised around \$65,000 for the Food Bank. The amount of cars received and sold increased tremendously, which, of course, makes more money for both clubs and enables us to foster many ventures inside our communities as well as around the world.

We are hoping to become partners with the City of Clayton by replacing the play structures at the Clayton Community Park. Bob Sundberg and I worked on a grant proposal that has been submitted to our 5160 District for approval. The money we raised from the Wine Barrel Raffle will go towards this effort as well. I could not have done anything without the help of all of you. Joan and Larry were my sounding boards, Rich was the keeper of all that is Rotary, Clayton and John took care of our technical needs. Monica and I had a good year too. We worked together well, and shared a lot of ideas and methods. The Fundraising committee comprised of Bill Selb, Monica, Larry and Jeff was a great group. Everyone pitched in when it came to the two fundraising events.

You have become my friends and partners in all that is Rotary, and I appreciate you all more than you know.

With much love,

Vicki

ANNOUNCEMENTS

IN-PERSON MEETINGS: President Vicki and Johnny Morgan met with the new manager of the Oakhurst Country Club—our old stomping grounds—to see if we can fix whatever needs to be fixed so we can have hybrid meets there when we get back to in-person meetings. That way our friends in Uganda and San Felipe can participate and zoom into the meetings. Johnny will report the progress,



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: President Vicki attended the ribbon cutting at the Mazda dealership sponsored by the Chamber and was very impressed with the staging. Remember, because we are dues-paying members, all of us are invited to attend all festivities sponsored by the Chamber at no cost. When we get back to in-person meetings, we may have a ribbon cutting too.

PAUL HARRIS: Rotary Foundation Chair Ken Nishimori was pleased to present Webmaster John Wenzel his Paul Harris + 3 pin. Congratulations.

COMMUNITY SERVICES: Chair Ben Wentling announced that the next Adopt-A-Street clean-up will take place this coming October. Let's encourage each other to participate.

HOUSTON 2022 RI CONVENTION: Registration is now open for the 2022 Rotary International Convention in Houston, TX. Join us next year to explore what's possible in Rotary, in Houston, and in you. Whether you're new to Rotary or a longtime member, it will be an unforgettable experience. Learn more at www.convention.rotary.org/Houston and don't miss your chance to Discover New Horizons at the Convention.

CARS 2nd CHANCE MEETING: Joan D'Onofrio attended the Cars 2nd Chance zoom meeting last week and met three members from the Lamorinda Rotary: Patrick Flaharty, Paul Bettelheim, and David Wahl. Mary and Larry were also in attendance and it was interesting to learn that several projects and marketing ideas were discussed. They have a three-pronged system plan to give to new partners and consists of a Welcome Kit, proposal for an email newsletter, and holding quarterly marketing meetings. The creation of an all-encompassing, much needed data base was proposed and discussed. Meetings may change from Monday's to Wednesday's.

CARS 2ND CHANCE

Larry Hutchings and Mary Kemnitz report that a 2007 Ducati Monster S2R 1000 was donated and should sell for around \$6,500. Mary said, *"This bike is a one-owner California bike with only 14, 500 miles on it. It was just serviced with Shell Advanced Ultra 4 10-40 and has a new filter and a brand new Yuasa battery. Everything works as it should, fires right up. Tires are in excellent shape with over 3/16ths tread depth. Does not look as if it's ever been dropped, very clean. Two keys and a complete shop manual come with the bike. The purchaser of this bike will ride proudly knowing that their purchase will go to help those in need with no overhead costs."*

Please call 925-326-5868 or see the bike at 2689 Monument Blvd in Concord Ca. Asking \$6,500

Here's the beauty...



And here is John Wenzel (above) and Ken Nishimori (right) taking the monster for a test drive. There could be a bidding war.

MILESTONES

Length of Service

Russ Anderson joined June 21, 2012 and reached his 9th year of service. Russ is the Sales Manager for Lehmers Concord GMC Buick.

Bill Kinsey, our Public Relations Chair, became a four-year member when he joined June 29, 2017. Bill is the Content Operations Coordinator for LexisNexis.



Happy Anniversary

Blast from the Past

Don and **Bea Ouimet** celebrated 56-years of wedded bliss. Don was Rotarian of the Year in 1991.



John and **Kristen Wenzel** celebrated 12-years but they have been a couple since their sophomore year at college. John became Rotarian of the Year in 2019.

UGANDA: Unbelievable

The Uganda Pediatric Clinic

Wow. The progress of the clinic construction is beyond unbelievable. Deb and Herbert sent these new photos and said that the roof is on and they placed an order for the windows and doors.

As of June 9:



As of June 23: **OMG!**

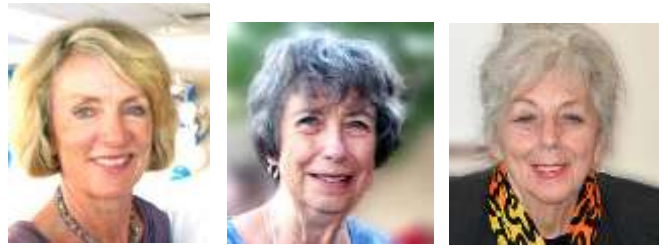




CONNECTING CONTINENTS THROUGH ART

MEET THE TEAM

Our team is thrilled to welcome **Lois Nelson** to the art program that is reaching out to students all over the globe and encouraging them to participate in art competitions. Talk about connecting the world, our goal is to reach at least one school (through rotary) on all 7 continents. So far we completed contests in North America, Africa, Asia, and **Tineke Jacobsen** is pursuing South America, Lois is researching Europe and Australia, and **Joan D'Onofrio** has leads to a few schools in Antarctica—yes Antarctica. Stay Tuned



Winners from the Philippines proudly displaying their medals



Top row: D.G.P. Santos, G.N.R. Papa, R.L.B. Ebuenga, J.A.S. Journales, H.L. Pitoy, R.J.R. Ricafrente

Bottom row: J.J.V. Moran, J.A.S. Journales, J.R.B. Santos, F.N.H. Astorga, and G.D.H. Lozada.

Students ranged from first grade to eleventh.

Francis Abner supervised this contest and sent us these photos from the “My Hero” competition. None of this would have happened without Francis Abner's involvement. He said the students go back to school next month, so he will be in touch soon. Francis is hoping to join one of our zoom meetings.

HAPPY BUCKS

COMPILED BY BARBARA REIFSCHNEIDER



Vicki Sexton gave a happy 10 bucks even though, she was sad that her year as president has come to an end. Vicki actually started choking up and it brought a tear to her Eye.

Hugh Toloui gave five happy bucks because he was happy and thankful for the year of service that Vicki has given to Rotary. He is also happy that he will travel to Austria to see family and may even pay a visit to our friends in Uganda.



Rich Lueck gave 100 happy bucks with just a little grumpy thrown in. Richard was happy for the outcome of his wife's cataract surgery; only thing is now she can see how old he really is.



Bill Selb was donated 54 for the club, but was sad and really upset about missing last week's Rotary meeting. His happiness comes from the fact that he and Emily were celebrating 54 years of marital bliss. They were in Monterey—that's why he missed the meeting—and they were upgraded to a very expensive room when they told the manager they were celebrating their anniversary.



Clayton Worsdell gave two happy bucks because he is happy about the creativity that Torsten has brought to the club. He appreciates Torsten's input on the many things we do, and some of the things we should do that we don't do.



Larry Hutchings gave a happy five bucks thanking Vicki for her year as President of our club.



Mary Kemnitz is happy about Vicki and her strong driving force, she is a positive person. Also, she and Dave are also celebrating their 48th wedding anniversary. Instead of donating 48 Dollars she is adding a zero making it for 480 dollars to the charitable fund



Joan D'Onofrio, our newspaper editor, is donating 10 happy bucks. She is thankful and happy about her friendship with Vicki and how it has blossomed over the past year.



John Wenzel, our computer guru, is happy about the website just being back up again, so he was able to donate his 12 happy bucks instantly—including the one from last week.

Torsten Jacobsen went surfing with his family in Bend Oregon and said it was worth 20 happy bucks.

From the June 17 Meeting

Torsten Jacobsen gave 25 happy bucks for the following:

1. Happy bucks go to Vicki's beautiful purple blouse. 2. My fitness club has opened up, so now work-outs can be mixed with Swimming, biking, and pickle ball. 3. He got a happy buck bill from Ken (well over \$200) but is a lot less than Oakhurst which is \$900 a year. That's a win-win for our club. Oh, the hand gesture with two fingers up and 3 "down" was to depict a Carpenter ordering five beers.



Monica Fraga had 22 happy bucks for all of the members that replied to her email concerning our upcoming board meeting at her house in Pittsburgh. Monica also had three happy bucks because she is going to her cabin to celebrate Father's Day with her family

Vicki Sexton had a happy buck for watching the cactus that Steve and John gave her, give birth to baby flowers last night. She thinks it's called a pipe organ.



John Wenzel had 20 happy bucks. Five dollars went to President Vicki for being so upbeat every week and running our meeting. A dollar was for going to the family cabin in Pine crest and finding bats flying around in the cabin. John also had a dollar grumpy buck because he should've gone to the cabin last week as the weather was so much nicer than this week. He had a grumpy buck because he went online to our website and it wouldn't work. John also had 12 happy bucks he is celebrating his 12-year wedding anniversary.

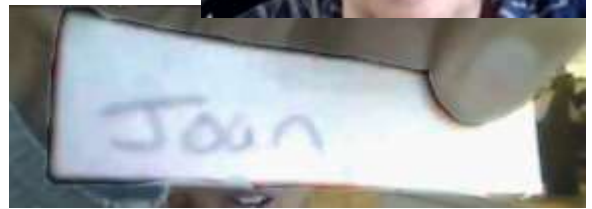


Bob Sundberg was 10 bucks happy because his family is really expanding; in December, he is going to have his eighth grandchild. Bob is also happy about all of the bats he can watch in his own backyard. Bob says he is happy sitting and watching these bats flying around and eating bugs.

THE RAFFLE



Vicki Sexton did the honors today and picked **Joan D'Onofrio** who can now rebuild her wine cellar. She chose red wine. (Last week's winner was Torsten Jacobsen.)



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



THE GALLERY



Hugh Toloui sent us this beautiful photo of his cactus blossoms. They only last one day.

...and let's not forget that John Hemm and Steve Weir started all of this. They gave cactus plants to many club members. Here is their blossom.



“ALWAYS LEAVE ‘EM LAUGHING”

Compiled & Edited by Bill Selb

Why don't I have
any tattoos?
For the same reason
you don't put a
bumper sticker on a
Ferrarri.





WHAT'S IN A NAME?

A man was sitting reading his paper when his wife hit him around the head with a frying pan.

“What was that for?” the man asked.

The wife replied, “That was for the piece of paper with the name Jenny on it that I found in your pants pocket.”

The man then said, “When I was at the races last week Jenny was the name of the horse I bet on.” The wife apologized and went on with the housework.

Three days later the man is watching TV when his wife bashes him on the head with an even bigger frying pan, knocking him unconscious, upon re-gaining consciousness the man asked why she had hit him again.

“Your horse phoned,” replied his wife.

DEER HUNTING

It was Saturday morning as Jake, an avid hunter, woke up ready to go bag the first deer of the season. He walked down to the kitchen to get a cup of coffee, and to his surprise he found his wife, Alice, sitting there, fully dressed in camouflage.

Jake asked her, "What are you up to?"

Alice smiled. "I'm going hunting with you!" Jake, though he had many reservations about this, reluctantly decided to take her along. Later they arrived at the hunting site. Jake set his wife safely up in the tree stand and told her, "If you see a deer, take careful aim and I'll come running back as soon as I hear the shot."

Jake walked away with a smile on his face knowing that Alice couldn't bag an elephant, much less a deer. Not 10 minutes passed when he was startled as he heard an array of gunshots. Quickly, Jake ran back. As he got closer to her stand, he heard Alice screaming: "Get away from my deer!"

Confused, Jake raced faster towards his screaming wife. And again he heard her yell: "Get away from my deer!" followed by another volley of gunfire!

Now within sight of where he had left his wife, Jake was surprised to see a guy standing there with his hands high in the air.

The guy, obviously distraught, said, "Okay, lady, okay!!!! You can have your deer!!! Just let me get my saddle off of it!"

THE END IS NEAR

A local priest and deacon stood by the side of the road holding up a sign that read, "The End is Near. Turn yourself around now before it's too late!" They held up the sign to each passing car.

"Leave us alone you religious nuts!" yelled the first driver as he sped by. From around the curve they heard a big splash.

"Do you think" said one clergy to the other, "maybe we should just put up a sign that says 'bridge is out' instead?"

SOUND FAMILIAR?



"HELLO? HELLO? GOD, I THINK YOU'RE ON MUTE."

Your
Dumaflache
is all
Cattywampus
by the
Thingamajig

. . . That's all folks.