

THE VALLEY SUNRISE



1/2/2021

2021 - 2022

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IMPORTANT MEETINGS 2020

9/14/21 Board Meeting 7 AM
Zoom
9/13/21 Charitable Fund 5:30 PM
Zoom



FRIDAY NIGHT SOCIAL IS BACK

President Monica Fraga is really excited about getting us together for some fun. She, **Director Barbara Reifschneider**, and **Director Tommy Wolf** had a good time planning the first Friday Night Social since the pandemic. It will be a backyard shindig. The club will provide a tri tip and chicken BBQ, but it's up to you to bring your favorite side dish or dessert, beverage, and a chair.

But, hey, what's a Friday night social without a good ole' fashion Cornhole tournament? There will be three Cornhole sets and **Ben Wentling** has kindly agreed to set up the teams and tournament. We are assuming, and hoping, everyone will play. If you absolutely cannot participate, just let Monica know so she can exclude you from the group. There will be a "grand prize," and just a hint, it will not be a bottle of wine.

Let Monica, Barbara, or Tommy know if you will join us on September 10th at 5:30 at Tommy and Vanessa's new home located at 3691 Chestnut Drive in Concord. Send an email no later than this Tuesday so Ben can set up teams and Monica can go shopping on Thursday.

“The 10th zoom meeting will now come to order.”



THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: *Irene Davids-Blair*

“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.”

THE FOUR-WAY TEST: *Torsten Jacobsen*

Is it the TRUTH?
Is it FAIR to all concerned?
Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIP?
Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?



GUESTS



HERBERT MUYINGA
P.A.G
Rotary Club of Muyenga, Uganda



DEB LUYIIMA
Int’l Services



SANDRA SCHERER
Monument Crisis Center
Executive Director

TODAY'S SPEAKER

SANDRA SCHERER



Program Chair Miles Bell introduced **Sandra Scherer**, Executive Director of the Monument Crisis Center (MCC), who is responsible for overall management/direction, development, community relations, and outreach.

In 18 years under her direction, the Center has grown from 84 registered families to more than 24,000 families that are comprised of 4,500 active households. During the pandemic, the Center operated outside under tents for more than 16 months and operated for almost a year with just a staff of 10. Despite the challenges, visitors, volunteers, and even the staff continue to be amazed at the positive morale level. People often comment that MCC remains that happy place it always was, prior to Covid.

In 2003, MCC opened as an emergency food pantry in a 10x10 strip-mall space on Monument Blvd. Sandra led an enthusiastic, diverse mix of volunteers including high school teens, college students, local supporters, and clients as the first "staff." They started with a startup budget of \$23,000 a combination of private funding that included donations from the students. Today, MCC serves as a comprehensive family resource center, focused on nutritious food and essentials, and then progresses on to resources, case management and fundamental tools to move individuals and families towards stability. The Center offers 5 Core Programs:

- Food Distribution/Nutrition
- Resource & Referral/Health & Wellness
- Youth Programs
- Senior Services
- Community Engagement

MCC operates on a budget of \$3,393,000 in cash and in-kind donations, 12 full-time staff, college interns, and 3,000 volunteers. Sandra continues to promote and develop strong community ties, increase partner collaborations to offer services previously nonexistent or inaccessible, and ensure that resources are available to low-income and at-risk residents.

Sandra said, "Volunteers are the absolute heart of our organization. Over two decades, almost every single staff member started as a volunteer or a college intern. Additionally, there are a number of dedicated volunteers who effectively function as staff members or advisors, devoting significant time and energy to the Center."

The Community Engagement Program offers broad internship opportunities for high school/college students, post graduate internships, public health practicums, and researchers, to utilize their skills, passion, and intellect. Contact Sandra at 925 222-6868 or sscherer@monumentcrisiscenter.org. Food donations can be made to the Center on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays between 9 and 12.

FROM THEIR HUMBLE BEGINNINGS: The journey began...

From a small space, to a public storage facility, to Home Sweet Home



ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Sandra is a 5th generation Bay Area native. She received her B.A. from University of California, Santa Cruz. Her two adult children also work in the social welfare sector. Sandra loves the California coast, travel, history, reading, walks, politics, football, friends, family and especially treasures time with her 2-year-old granddaughter, Lily, and her brand-new grandson, Christopher.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FRIDAY NIGHT SOCIAL

Tommy, Vanessa, and Stryker Wolf are hosting the Friday Night Social at their brand new house at 3691 CHESTNUT AVE, CONCORD Friday, September 10, at 5:30 p.m. and everyone is encouraged to attend. Let Monica know by Tuesday if you will be attending and what you are bringing.



C2C



President-elect Mary Kemnitz reported that the Ducati, brought to us by Hays Englehart, has sold to a buyer in Texas.

Director Larry Hatchings reminded us that the **Orinda Car Show** will take place on September 11 from 10 am to 3 pm and we are to meet at 6:30 am at Orinda Motors, so we can set up the booth.

HOME TEAM: *Save the date*

Hays Englehart, founder of the **Home Team** program, reported that it will start up again on September 25. **Community Services Chair Ben Wentling** will fill us in on the details.



UGANDA: *Pediatric Clinic Weekly Update*



No, **Herb Muyinga** is not in California, but we sure wish he was. He and **Deb Luyiima** gave us a great update on the clinic. They told us that the work on the wet water treatment is still in progress, electrical sockets going in, as are the wood panel doors and window glass. Last will be the painting and, hopefully, the job will be completed by September 24. Next week Deb will tell us about the sanitary napkin program, that was part of a Rotary grant, and is going on right now.

MILESTONES

Birthdays

Miles Bell will be celebrating a birthday on the 11th and we wish him a very happy birthday. We all know Miles for his love of golf, but let's not forget he is the Vocational Services Chair and our Program Chair who has arranged many very interesting speakers. Miles is the owner of BPA Promotional Advertising.



No it's not MONICA FRAGA's birthday. But look closely and you will see **Matt Fraga** peaking in the window. Guess he wanted us to know that it is his 50th birthday today. Happy birthday Matt.

Length of Service



Clayton Worsdell marks his 12th year of service as our very talented staff photographer. He is a two time Rotarian of the Year—2013 and 2021—was the 2016-2017 President, a Paul Harris Society member, and very active and involved in all of our club's programs and activities.

Ben Wentling has been with us for 34 years. He moved out of state a few years ago, but returned to our club, and now serves as the Community Services Chair. He is a Paul Harris Fellow and was the 1990-1991 President.

Anniversary: 25 Years!

Clayton Worsdell and **Carol** met while they were living in Phoenix and married on September 6, 1996. That's right, they are celebrating their silver wedding anniversary on Monday. Carol brought her two children into the marriage and Clayton his two. Between them and their four children, they produced six grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. From Arizona they moved to Concord, and, little did they know, they would be bringing all of us into their lives as well.



HAPPY BUCKS

COMPILED BY BARBARA REIFSCHNEIDER

BARBARA REIFSCHNEIDER said, "I have a happy buck because I'm so freaking happy that we are having a Friday Night Social at Tommy's beautiful new house."



JEFF WILSON had 20 happy bucks because he has four houses that will be closing in the coming week, and one was a difficult sale. Yeah Jeff!

KEN NISHIMORI had four happy bucks. Ken attended a family wedding, it was held outside under the shade trees. Ken and Phyllis's 44-year-old son officiated at the wedding that was held in Winters, California. He had 1 grumpy buck for that because it was 100 degrees.



TOMMY WOLF had five happy bucks. Tommy is happy and looking forward to having his first Friday night social in his new house.

MONICA FRAGA had a happy buck. Monica was happy that her nephew, who had symptoms of Covid, tested negative. Apparently all the smoke in the air has really affected his lungs.



TORSTEN JACOBSON had 25 happy bucks for the two week trip he took to Northern Europe for the purpose of attending Tineke's mothers 100th birthday plus bringing ashes "back home" for his mother age 101 to Denmark, and another good friend's ashes to Holland and multiple other extended family celebrations. in Denmark daughter Sanne wished to see the Viking museum and shipping building site (possibly to gain insight into Torsten's wild teenage and 20ish year which resulted in him while sailing spending a night in jail in 4 countries supposedly for "stopping" fights-ha!). His mother was beautifully brought to rest in the field of her birth place on the Island of Fanoe. Alas, the ashes, of the other fine lady went initially amiss since the security folks in SF opened and, who knows, maybe snorted the "powder" that had been beautifully prepared by none other than the Ouimet brothers, before deciding to send them on so that they could be scattered in the river of her birth place in East Holland. The trip concluded with "back to the future" 180 mph green energy fueled train trip to Paris for a quick visit with his godson whose father Tineke and Torsten met while crossing the Sahara desert many years ago.

GOINGS ON

LET US ENTERTAIN YOU

The Opera



Irene Davids-Blair wants us to know that US Bank is one of the sponsors of the "Scalia/Ginsberg" opera. One of the most peculiar friendships in modern politics was between the late Supreme Court justices Antonin Scalia and Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who were on opposite sides of the ideological spectrum, were very good friends and shared a deep love of operas that they sometimes attended together. "Scalia/Ginsberg" the opera will be performed



on September 10 at 8pm and September 12 at 2 pm at the Leshar Center. For tickets: 925 943-7469.

Todos Santos Plaza



Todos Santos Plaza on Thursdays is the place to be. Music & Market is a Concord tradition enjoyed by thousands of people each summer who come from all over the East Bay to experience live music by local bands and pick up farm-fresh produce at the farmers' market.

The Music & Market series runs every Thursday until September 30 at Todos Santos Plaza. The market opens at 4 p.m., and concerts begin at 6:30. Local health officials recommend wearing a face-covering outdoors especially for those who are unvaccinated.

Concord Chamber of Commerce

Vicki Sexton said to be sure and check your emails and learn what the weekly events are in progress or up and coming by the Concord Chamber of Commerce.

VOTE: September 14

As the saying goes: "vote early and vote often."



THE RAFFLE



SPIN THE WHEEL. WHERE IT LANDS NOBODY KNOWS.

Spin the wheel and watch your name go by. After three spins, the winner this week is **Tommy Wolf**. He chose-- what else—red wine and will share it at the big party.

Remember, you gotta
be in it to win it—and
at the meeting.

THE GALLERY

This is what Barbara Reifschneider sees on her early morning walks in her neighborhood.



Photo by Barbara Reifschneider

"ALWAYS LEAVE 'EM LAUGHING"

POPE DRIVING

One day, the Pope is super early for his flight. He asks his driver on his way to the airport if he could drive around for a while because they have time to kill and he hasn't driven a car since becoming the Pope.

Naturally, he's a bit rusty, so he's driving poorly, when suddenly he sees police lights behind him. He pulls over and when the officer comes up to the window his eyes go wide. He says to the Pope "Hold on for a minute," and goes back to his car to radio the chief.

Cop: "Chief we have a situation. I've pulled over an important figure."

Chief: "How important? A governor or something."

Cop: "No sir. He's bigger."

Chief: "So, what? a celebrity or something?"

Cop: "More important, sir."

Chief: "A major politician?"

Cop: "No sir, he's much more important."

Chief: "WELL WHO IS IT!?"

Cop: "Well actually I'm not sure. But the Pope's his driver."

Hospitality is the art of making people feel like they are at home
when you wish they were.

GENEROUS BARBER

A barber gave a haircut to a priest one day. When the priest tried to pay for the haircut, the barber refused, saying, "You do God's work." The next day the barber found a dozen Bibles at the door to his shop.

A policeman came to the barber for a haircut, and again the barber refused to accept money. "You protect the public," he said. The next morning the barber found a dozen doughnuts at the door to his shop.

A lawyer came to the barber for a haircut, and again the barber refused payment, saying, "You serve justice." The next morning, the barber found 12 lawyers standing in line waiting for haircuts.

BLONDE'S CAR KEYS

For those of you who hate blonde jokes, get over it. They're really funny.

A blonde is driving down the road. She notices that she is low on gas, so she stoops at the next gas station. While she's pumping her gas, she notices that she had locked the keys in the car. So when she goes inside to pay, she asks the attendant for a coat hanger, so she can attempt to open the door herself.

She goes back outside and begins to jimmy the lock. Ten minutes later, the attendant goes outside to see how she is doing and notices that she is moving the hanger around, and around, and around and getting nowhere.

Meanwhile, the blonde inside of the car keeps saying, "A little more to the left. A little more to the right."

. . . That's all folks.

