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2022 - 2023

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Bill Selb: Pancake Breakfast Chair

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MEETINGS 2022

11/8/22 Board Meeting 7 AM
Zoom
11/9/22 Charitable Fund 5:30 PM
Zoom



THE CLAYTON LIBRARY RECEIVES \$1,000



PEOPLE OF ACTION

President Mary Kemnitz presents the Community Library Manager, Geneva Moss, a \$1,000 donation for the Clayton Library.

TODAY'S SPEAKER: GENEVA MOSS

Bringing People and Ideas Together

Today's speaker is **Geneva Moss** the Community Library Manager for the Clayton Library for the past 16 years. During that time our club has had a continuing supportive arrangement with the Library.



Geneva told us that the Clayton Community Library opened in March 1995 as a result of the combined effort with the Clayton Community Library Foundation and has been well used by the local community since it opened. The library has a well-rounded collection of books as well as DVDs, audiobooks, and music CDs. The Parent/Child Play and Learn Center contains materials on early childhood learning and other parenting issues. The library also offers a variety of programs for children, teens, and adults. In March 2023 they will be holding an art competition, and everyone is invited to participate.

ABOUT OUR SPEAKER

Geneva has been working for the Contra Costa County Library System since January of 2006. During her time with the County and before her time in management Geneva worked as a Library Assistant and Youth Services Librarian. She has worked in a number of Contra Costa library locations including Bay Point, Pittsburg, San Pablo, Juvenile Hall, Antioch, Moraga, and Clayton. Geneva obtained her BA in English Literature with a minor in Psychology from the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, WA and her Master's in Library and Information Science from San Jose State University.



MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

SALVATION ARMY: *Getting Ready for Christmas*



Major AnnMarguerite Jones reported that starting October 24th the Salvation Army will provide Christmas help to low-income families, with a focus on households with children and the elderly. The assistance programs are available for sign up at all locations and will include Adopt a Family and the Salvation Army Angel Tree program. But there will also be some type of food or free gifts given during the Christmas season to the less fortunate. Call Major Jones if you have questions or contributions 925 676-6180.

COMMUNITY SERVICES: *Butterfly Project*

Directors Rich Lueck and **Clayton Worsdell** want us to get prepared to volunteer our services on October 22 at 9:30 am and help spruce up the Newall Hall Butterfly Garden. You will need to bring hand tools for pruning, gloves, and a rake for spreading mulch. More info to come at the next meeting.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE: *Last Call*

District Governor Suzanne Bragdon reminds us that there is still time to join hundreds of Rotarians at the District Conference October 28 to 30, so get registered NOW. You will be **inspired** by the stories shared by old friends and the new friends you will make. After three days, you'll be energized, re-engaged, and armed with new ideas and connections that you can bring back to your clubs.

NEW GENERATIONS: *Help is on the Way*

New Generations Director Molly Avilez said that they will consider getting the Interactors to help with the food packaging for the Xmas food donations we make to the Monument Crisis Center.



WORLD POLIO DAY OCTOBER 24: *Let's Get Giving*



We are making great progress towards eradicating polio; however, recent news reminds us that **polio anywhere is a threat everywhere**. Polio is being detected around the world in places where it hasn't been found in decades. In the United States, an unvaccinated man was paralyzed by polio. In the UK, poliovirus has been detected in sewage samples. In Malawi, a child contracted polio. And Mozambique announced its first polio outbreak of wild poliovirus in 30 years. **The time for urgent action is now.** A new vaccine has been deployed to stop outbreaks. Malawi, Mozambique, and nearby countries are conducting immunization campaigns to stop the spread of the virus. Together with our partners and advocates like you, we continue to encourage communities worldwide to provide vaccinations. As we approach World Polio Day, 24 October, please **help us make an impact** and stop the spread. We are encouraged to make donations.

BLAST FROM THE PAST



Rotary Foundation Director Susie Lim told us how **Elvis Presley** played a significant role in the encouragement of getting teenagers to get vaccinated. Teenagers, especially, balked at getting inoculated, because of a mistaken belief that immunization for a disease known as Infantile paralysis was only for little kids and babies. So, on Oct. 28, 1956, backstage at "The Ed Sullivan Show," the 21-year-old Elvis Presley hero of American youth, extended his left arm. In went the needle. Off went the flashbulbs, and a polio star was born. Within six months of

Presley's stunt, however, teen immunization rose from 0.6 to 80 percent.

CELEBRATIONS: *Happy Birthday to Us*

This is more a happy belated birthday wish as our Rotary Club was chartered on May 14, 1987. That means we are now celebrating 35-years of existence and service. Back in 1987 there was a need for a Rotary club in the Clayton Valley Ygnacio Valley Road corridor. Concord's other Rotary clubs, Concord Diablo and Concord, recognized that need and decided to help Clayton with the establishment of a new club in that district. It began with a meeting for breakfast in the Concord Bowl, then moved to The Heritage Inn, and eventually to the Oakhurst Country Club. As you all know, Covid came along and Oakhurst came under new management, so our club had to move to several other venues. Eventually we ended up here in the Salvation Army building. Currently we have 31 members and remain very actively involved in service to our local community and Rotary clubs throughout the world. We also created the only Rotary Car Donation program in existence which allows us to fund many projects both local and international.

Just a few of the local community activities we participate in include producing a yearly 4th of July Pancake Breakfast, raising funds for the local food bank and Monument Crises Center, donating over 60 cars to citizens of the Paradise fire, cleaning our streets and doing chores for seniors, distributing backpacks to students, holding art competitions, and supplying art packages to unsheltered students. On the international level, we built a pediatric clinic in Uganda, supplied free eye care clinics and cataract surgery in Zambia, supported cancer detection clinics in San Felipe, provided surgical supplies to Ethiopia, and actually held art contests for students in Uganda, Mexico, and the Philippines.

We are the world's largest service organization. Our membership is composed of men and women who are bankers, accountants, morticians, insurance agents, realtors, opticians, artists, contractors, writers, photographers, plumbers, and lawyers while some of us are retired from various businesses but still feel the desire to serve. We live the Rotary motto— "Service Above Self"—every day and live up to the "IMAGINE" theme. Borrowing from the lyrics of John Lennon: "You may say we are dreamers but we're not the only ones. We hope someday you'll join us, and the world will live as one."

LENGTH OF SERVICE: *Amazing Dedication*

Next meeting **President Mary** will honor five members who have given Rotary Service Above Self and the length of years they served is staggering.

42 years



35 years



32 years



11 year.



4 years



Congratulations to Past-president **Ken Nishimori**, a 3-time Rotarian of the year; **Don Ouimet** a 1991 Rotarian of the Year; Uganda Rotarian **Herb Muyinga**; Past-president **Monica Fraga** the 2015 Rotarian of the Year; and Director **Jeff Wilson** who recently became Membership Director.

HAPPYBUCKS



RUSS ANDERSON was really happy this morning and gave 100 happy bucks if you buy a new car or truck from his dealership. He will give three happy bucks for anyone who helps the Sergeant at Arms with the morning set ups.



MONICA FRAGA is happy that her mother-in-law is feeling a little better because they went to a dispensary for some CBD.



MARY KEMNITZ gave a happy 10 bucks because she and Dave had a wonderful time in Cabo just sitting around and enjoying the sun. On the downside, when they were returning home, Dave became quite ill, so they rushed to the ER and discovered he had kidney stones. All is well now.

CLAYTON WORSDELL had a happy five bucks for a month-long vacation a few weeks ago. He and Carol had a wonderful time in a rent-a-truck. Apparently, the car he was supposed to have rented came back with a broken windshield, so he had to settle for either a smart car or a truck. Considering all their luggage, they chose the truck.



THE GALLERY

Barbara Reifschneider took these amazing photos when she and Mark were on vacation at Cabo San Lucas.





FUNSTUFF

A TRUE STORY

Rebuilding New Orleans after Katrina often caused residents to be challenged to prove land titles back hundreds of years because of community history stretching back over two centuries during which houses were passed along through generations of family.

A New Orleans lawyer sought an FHA rebuilding loan for a client. He was told the loan would be granted upon submission of satisfactory proof of ownership of the parcel of property as it was being offered as collateral. It took the lawyer 3 months, but he was able to prove title to the property dating back to 1803. After sending the information to the FHA, he received the following reply.

Here is the actual reply from FHA:

"Upon review of your letter adjoining your client's loan application, we note that the request is supported by an Abstract of Title. While we compliment the able manner in which you have prepared and presented the application, we must point out that you have only cleared title to the proposed collateral property back to 1803. Before final approval can be accorded, it will be necessary to clear the title back to its origin."

Here is the actual response from the lawyer:

"Your letter regarding title in Case No.189156 has been received. I note that you wish to have proof of title extended further than the 206 years already covered in the present application. I was unaware that any educated person in this country, particularly those working with real property, would not know that Louisiana was purchased by the United States from France in 1803, the year of origin of title identified in our application. For the edification of uninformed FHA bureaucrats, the title to the land prior to U.S. ownership was obtained from France, which had acquired it by Right of Conquest from Spain. The land came into the possession of Spain by Right of Discovery made in the year 1492 by a sea captain named Christopher Columbus, who had been granted the privilege of seeking a new route to India by the Spanish monarch, Queen Isabella. The good Queen Isabella, being a pious woman and almost as careful about titles as the FHA, took the precaution of securing the blessing of the Pope before she sold her jewels to finance Columbus's expedition. Now the Pope, as I'm sure you may know, is the emissary of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and God, it is commonly accepted, created this world. Therefore, I believe it is safe to presume that God also made that part of the world called Louisiana. God, therefore, would be the owner of origin and His origins date back to before the beginning of time, the world as we know it, and the FHA. I hope you find God's original claim to be satisfactory. Now, may we have our damn reconstruction loan?"

The loan was immediately approved and is a great history lesson.

...that's all folks

