

2021 - 2022

## NEWSLETTER STAFF

Joan D'Onofrio: Editor  
Clayton Worsdell: Photographer  
Rich Lueck  
Barbara Reifschneider  
Bill Selb  
Lois Nelson

## ROTARY DISTRICT 5160

Kathy Suvia: District Governor  
Dess Beneditto: Assistant DG

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Monica Fraga: President  
Mary Kemnitz: President-elect  
Vicki Sexton: Treasurer  
Joan D'Onofrio: Secretary  
Sergeant-at-Arms: Bob Sundberg  
Vocational: Miles Bell  
New Generations:  
RI Foundation: Ken Nishimori  
Membership:  
International: Larry Hutchings  
Club Services: Barbara Reifschneider  
Community Services: Rich Lueck & Clayton Worsdell

## 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 Selb: Pancake Breakfast Chair

## CONTENTS

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

## MEETINGS 2022

4/19/22 Board Meeting 7 AM  
Zoom  
4/13/22 Charitable Fund 5:30 PM  
Zoom



# "BE CLUB STRONG"

## Attend the Spring Assembly



**INCREASE YOUR  
ROTARY  
POWER**

**SPRING ASSEMBLIES &  
BOARD ELECT TRAINING**

**APRIL 23 - REDDING**  
**MAY 7 - FAIRFIELD**  
**DETAILS? GO TO DACDB.COM**

*Among the topics:*  
Be Club Strong  
Engage all members  
Who's missing? DEI  
It's all about service  
Build strong teams  
Working thru conflict  
International is the "I" in RI  
What's a Paul Harris?  
Member benefits are vast  
Social media/digital marketing  
Story telling for work & Rotary  
Nuts & bolts of DACdb  
**Plus**  
Project Faire  
Update: RIPE Jennifer Jones  
Time to mingle, share ideas and catch-up

Have you registered yet? Have you thought of carpooling? The event for our location is three weeks away, May 7 from 8:30am to 2pm, and will be held at Angelo Rodriguez High School in Fairfield, We all want our clubs to be strong.

When we're strong, our impact in our communities is strong. We become more energized and engaged which makes us stronger and spirals us out of the stratosphere! It's The Power of Rotary. Register now.

**BE CLUB STRONG**

## TODAY'S **THOUGHT:** *Molly Avilez*



"Travel isn't always pretty. It isn't always comfortable. Sometimes it hurts; it even breaks your heart. But that's okay. The journey changes you; it should change you. It leaves marks on your memory, on your consciousness, on your heart, and on your body. You take something with you. Hopefully, you leave something good behind."

— Anthony Bourdain

## FOUR-WAY **TEST:** *Russ Anderson*



Of all the things we think, say and do:  
Is it the TRUTH?  
Is it FAIR to all concerned?  
Will it build GOODWILL and better FRIENDSHIP?  
Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

## MYSTERY **GREETER:** *Barbara Reifschneider*

Nobody knew it, but Barbara was the Mystery Greeter again and happily reported that everyone said hello—sort of.



## TODAY'S IN-PERSON **GUEST S**



**RONNI COLLMER**  
Broker, Collmer & Wilson



**MATHEW YORK**  
Executive Director  
illuminAid



**ANDREW NOERR**  
Development Officer  
illuminAid

# TODAY'S **SPEAKERS**

## **VIDEOS ARE TRANSFORMING THE WORLD VIA illuminAid**

**Program Chair Miles Bell** introduced us to **Matt York** and **Andrew Noerr** who both spoke to us about **illuminAid** which is a media and capacity-building non-profit that works to reduce global poverty through solar-powered and battery-operated video technology. Based in Chico, they train non-governmental organizations (NGOs) on how to utilize the technology to create videos that spread vital knowledge to rural, impoverished communities that primarily don't have access to electricity. This approach has served as a catalyst for knowledge dissemination and positive behavior change strategies that have helped impoverished communities worldwide gain access to key information to help their communities sustain themselves and thrive.



Matt told us that they have worked with major organizations such as the WHO, State Department, CDC, UNICEF, and many more amazing groups. Andrew said they have worked in many countries in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, and Central and South America. They presented a thorough overview of the global humanitarian work they conduct, along with photos that were windows of the world. Matt said he thought the needs throughout the areas they investigated would be education, but it turned out to be water and hygiene.

For more information: [www.illuminaid.org](http://www.illuminaid.org)

## **ABOUT THE SPEAKERS**

**Matt York**, Founder and Executive Director of illuminAid, established illuminAid in 2008 because of his genuine passion to make a difference in the developing world by bringing change through video. He is also the founder of Videomaker Inc., a leading publisher of video production. Matt's expertise in video electronics led him to spearhead the implementation of small but powerful solar-powered and battery-operated equipment suitable for use in remote areas in the world's 70 poorest countries. illuminAid is based in Chico but also now has roots in the Bay Area.

**Andrew Noerr**, Development Officer of illuminAid, is a media and non-profit professional based in the Bay Area. His responsibilities center on overseeing all donor development and management, writing all grant submissions, and exploring potential avenues to develop illuminAid for the years to come. He received his BA in Media Studies from the University of San Francisco and pursues his own philanthropic endeavors through a non-profit platform called Grapevine with a giving circle that he started to disseminate donations from his personal network to many non-profit organizations.





# TODAY'S NEWS

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**President Monica Fraga** is back and called the 14<sup>th</sup> hybrid and 96<sup>th</sup> zoom meeting to order. She reported that the goal for the Ukraine Fund has far exceeded the \$50,000 Rotary International set for it. So far, \$75,000 has been collected and we have until April 30<sup>th</sup> to continue receiving donations. Way to go Rotary.

**SPRING ASSEMBLY:** It will be held on May 7 in Fairfield. Start getting car pools set up everyone as you won't want to miss it this year. Doors open at 8:30 a.m. for registration. The event ends at 2 p.m.

**BOCCE CHALLENGE:** **Bob Sundberg** reminded us that the Bocce Challenge is on Saturday, May 14, at Martinez Waterfront Park. The entry fee is \$220 for 1 or 2 teams, \$250 for 3 teams, \$280 for 4 teams. All proceeds over costs will go to The Rotary Foundation. Let Bob know if you plan to participate.



## SAN FELIPE YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRAM

Come on, everyone. Let's get with the program. Only five more members are needed to complete this program. **Rich Lueck** said: *"Thirteen Rotarians are sponsoring nineteen students as of today. Five matching spots are left on our decade long International club project. Those Rotarians sponsoring students received their students' midterm grades this week. Just a reminder: this International club project is a \$200 per year three-year commitment to support your students. The matching part lets you double your monetary service."*

Here is a current report card for four of the students:

Ambar Krystel Romo Alvarez 9.6  
Moises Alejandro Cordero Arciniega 9.3  
Beatriz Alicia Ramos Montoya 9.7  
Jahaziel Melgoza Espinoza 7.0

Tina Sweeney, of the San Felipe club, is already working on next year's students' scholarship list, so if you signed up last year and cannot afford to continue please let Rich know so adjustments can be made. Tina keeps us up to date on the status of the students you support.

**Susie Lim** will be sitting in for Treasurer **Vicki Sexton**, who is traveling the globe this week, so credit cards will not be accepted Please have cash or a check on hand to pay for breakfast.

## MILESTONES:

### *Length of Service*

**Johnny Morgan** celebrates 19 years of service and **Bob Huck** will celebrate his 11<sup>th</sup> year. Unfortunately both Johnny and Bob are hospital bound and recovering from operations. Good wishes to them for their years of service in our club and we look forward to seeing them at a meeting soon.

### *Happy 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*



**Hugh and Flor Toloui** are celebrating 30 years of marriage. Hugh has been a member for 17 years and is currently serving on the Charitable Fund Board. He has been a steadfast volunteer at the Food Bank for countless years and, as we all know, he was the member responsible for funding the Uganda Pediatric Clinic that we all recently honored.



## DONORS SAVE LIVES

**Don Ouimet** sends us this message from his daughter who will be speaking at one of our weekly meetings soon:

*"Ok, y'all I have some incredible news! As you know, our oldest child Carswell (Molly) received a kidney transplant yesterday and is recovering at UCSF. Well, last night the surgeon came in to see us before Kelly went home. He said go home but bring Matthew in to be admitted. We have an offer of a kidney, but there is a catch. He is a backup. Other patients are in front of him but might need to pass on the kidney. If they do, it will go to Matthew.*

*Well last night Matthew got admitted and we waited. We didn't want to say anything publicly until we knew for sure. He is a couple of doors down from Carswell. Suddenly, there is a knock on the door and they said it's 'go time.' Matthew is getting a kidney! We hurriedly got him ready, and, as we coasted by Carswell's room, they were able to say 'I love you' to each other and wave. The same surgeon who performed Carswell's transplant yesterday is performing Matthew's transplant right now. He will be keeping his transplanted kidney from Brandon and they will squeeze this one next to Brandon's. Matthew knows Brandon is with him and will protect him and welcome the new kidney.*

*You all know we live our lives filled with purpose and gratitude. We are dedicated to advocating for others and we KNOW that God is with us, and this wild incredible journey we are on is going to move others to become organ donors and get involved in helping save lives.*

*The only information we have on Matthew's new donor is that he was a 33-year-old man who was declared brain dead yesterday. He was able to save many lives with his selfless act of being a registered organ donor. May he Rest in Peace and his family find peace in knowing he saved so many lives. Please keep everyone in your prayers. If this story moves you, feel free to share it. If you find a way to help others, do it. Everyone has the ability to do something to give back and help others. God Bless you all."*

# WE ARE HEROS

Our club received the 2021-2022 ShelterBox HERO recognition award.

**Bill Tobin**, Rotary Relations Manager of ShelterBox USA, thanked us for being a ShelterBox HERO. Our support is very much appreciated. At the end of the Rotary Year our club will be listed on their HERO page [www.shelterboxusa.org/hero](http://www.shelterboxusa.org/hero).

ShelterBox has provided aid to over 2.2 million people since 2000 and they said they could not have reached them without clubs like ours.

We are now part of District 5160 class of 2021-22 ShelterBox HERO Clubs. They include:

Antioch  
Clayton Valley/Concord Sunrise  
Chico  
Davis Sunrise  
Lamorinda Sunrise  
Vacaville



# HAPPY **BUCKS**



BY BARBARA REIFSCHNEIDER

**DON OUMET** had a happy 25 bucks this morning. Two of Don's grandkids needed kidney transplants. They were brother and sister and they had their transplants a day apart. Don was very happy and very grateful for his family. His daughter—mother of the grandkids—will be speaking at our club soon. (Note: Read their story on page 4 of this newsletter.)



**LARRY JACOBSON** had one happy buck today. The happy buck was for Rotary's international service blog. The Service blog is for the new pediatric wing in Africa. The new wing will service maternal and pediatric health.



**SUSIE LIM** had a happy five bucks this morning. Susie went to a wedding and it was down in Solvang. At the reception she met Rotarians who told her about their trip to the San Felipe club. While she was in Solvang, she did some wine tasting.



**MONICA FRAGA** had a \$20 bill for being so happy to be back from her trip to Tahiti. Monica saw 10 different islands on her trip. She told us that three weeks of too much sitting around is not her thing these days. It sounds like she's glad to be home!



# TODAY'S **RAFFLE**

## **AND THE WINNER IS...Mary Ann Kemnitz**

**President Elect Mary Kemnitz** gave us raffle tickets upon our arrival, and guess what? She won and knew the answer because she created it. Ya hadda be there.



**Wow. I won.**

## **NEW RULE**

Sometimes, if your name is picked, you must have to answer a question to claim the prize. Study hard, everyone.





# THE GALLERY



We will continue to:  
"Pray for Peace"

illustration by Monica Shafer Edwards

# LAST **LAUGH**



*“Your Easter bonuses are hidden throughout corporate headquarters”*

## **NEED A PUSH**

A man and his wife are awakened at 3:00 am by a loud pounding on the door. The man gets up and goes to the door where a drunken stranger, standing in the pouring rain, is asking for a push.

“Not a chance,” says the husband, “it is 3:00 in the morning!” He slams the door and returns to bed.

“Who was that?” asked his wife. “Just some drunken guy asking for a push,” he answers.

“Did you help him?” she asks. “No, I did not, it’s 3 am in the morning and it’s pouring out there!”

“Well, you have a short memory,” says his wife. “Can’t you remember about three months ago when we broke down, and those two guys helped us? I think you should help him.”

The man does as he is told, gets dressed, and goes out into the pouring rain. He calls out into the dark, “Hello, are you still there?”

“Yes,” comes back the answer. “Do you still need a push?” calls out the husband. “Yes, please!” comes the reply.

“Where are you?” asks the husband.

“Over here on the swing,” replies the drunk.

## HUNTING

A group of friends went deer hunting and paired off in twos for the day.

That night, one of the hunters returned alone, staggering under the weight of an eight-point buck.

“Where’s Henry?” the others asked.

“Henry had a stroke of some kind. He’s a couple of miles back up the trail,” the successful hunter replied.

“You left Henry laying out there and carried the deer back?” they inquired, shocked.

“A tough call,” nodded the hunter. “But I figured no one is going to steal Henry!”

## THANKS BRO

When I was a boy, I had a disease that required me to eat dirt three times a day in order to survive... It’s a good thing my older brother told me about it.

*...That’s all, folks.*