

2022 - 2023

NEWSLETTER STAFF

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

ROTARY DISTRICT 5160

Suzanne Bragdon: District Governor
Dess Beneditto: Assistant DG

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mary Kemnitz: President
Bob Sundberg: President-elect
Vicki Sexton: Treasurer
Monica Fraga: Secretary
Russ Anderson: Sergeant-at-Arms
Unfilled: Vocational
Molly Avilez: New Generations
Susie Lim: RI Foundation
Jeff Wilson: Membership
International: Larry Hutchings
Barbara Reifschneider: Club Services
Rich Lueck & Clayton Worsdell: Community 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

Unfilled: Program Chair
John Wenzel: Webmaster
Bill Selb: Pancake Breakfast Chair

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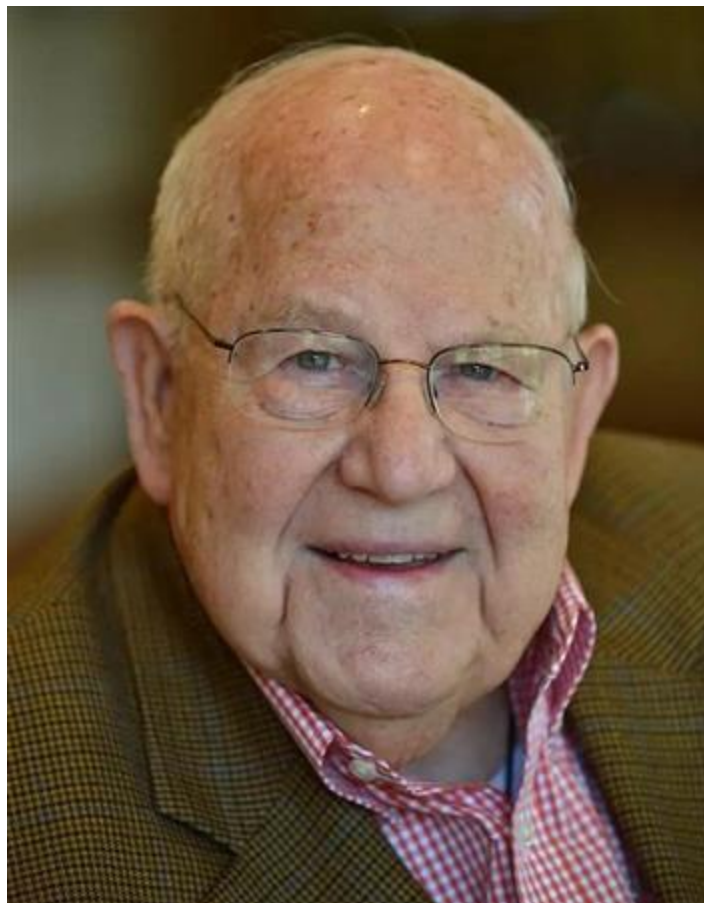
Thought of the Day
Announcements / News
Milestones
International News
Happy Bucks
The Gallery

MEETINGS 2022

8/9/22 Board Meeting 7 AM
Zoom
8/10/22 Charitable Fund 5:30 PM
Zoom



A CELEBRATION OF CLIFF DOCHTERMAN'S LIFE



Larry Hutchings reported that the Cliff Dochterman Celebration of Life ceremony will be held on August 13th at the Serbian Cultural Center in Moraga. Larry will be attending as Cliff turned out to be the most important Rotarian in his life. Cliff was, indeed, a one-of-a-kind man who brought joy to the world and positively impacted many lives with his inspiration and imagination. We are all being invited to join in the celebration of his remarkable life. The ceremony begins at 1:00 p.m. Please let us know by August 9th if you will attend at 209 931-4085 or cmennuti@comcast.net.

GETTING**STARTED**



TODAY'S**THOUGHT**: *Richard Lueck*

If you're searching for that one person who will change your life, take a look in the mirror.

THE**PLEDGE**: *Bob Huck*

THE FOUR WAY**TEST**: *Molly Avilez*

MYSTERY**GREETER**: *Don Ouimet*

MESSAGE FROM THE**PRESIDENT**

"I am honored be elected President of our Rotary Club and with the help of our amazing Board of Directors and fellow members, I hope to keep the energy and excitement flowing as we continue to make Community Service one of our main priorities. I feel very fortunate to have a membership that is fully committed to the Rotary ideal of "Service above Self." There is much to do.

Just "**imagine**" what we **can** accomplish. We must continue to shine the light on Rotary and bring our "story" to others outside of our circle. It's going to be a great year, we have our first female Rotary International President, Jennifer Jones, and she has great plans to spotlight projects that put Rotary service on display to the world. Our District Governor, Suzanne Bragdon, is probably one of the most energetic and innovative leaders I have ever had the pleasure to meet. These are some of my goals for our club: membership development and retention, grow community service projects, grow our public image, develop youth programs, create a scholarship committee, and, most important, have fun. I look forward to serving."



TODAY'S **SPEAKER**

PROTECTING THE PUBLIC FOR 95 YEARS

Today's speaker, **Andrew Pierce**, Public Information and Technology Officer with the Contra



Costa Mosquito & Vector Control District, gave us valuable information about what the public health agency does to protect county residents from mosquitoes, rats and mice, skunks, ground-nesting yellowjackets, and ticks. He told us what we can do to protect ourselves, the services the District provides at no additional charges, and how we can partner with the District to protect public health.

Andrew proceeded to tell us that the District is dedicated to the health and welfare of the county's more than 1 million residents covering 736 square miles. In fact, we've been protecting public health since 1927 when residents formed the District. Funded

through tax dollars, the District offers free services for mosquitoes, rats and mice, ground-nesting yellow jackets, ticks, and skunks. Our trained and certified employees work daily to reduce the risk of diseases spread by insects and animals by controlling them in a responsible, environmentally conscious manner. It's all part of our Integrated Vector Management program where we use the most efficient and effective state-of-the-art protocols and products. All products are registered with the Environmental Protection Agency. In answer to a member's question, Andrew said: "No, they don't do Racoons."

Website: <https://www.contracostamosquito.com>

ABOUT OUR SPEAKER

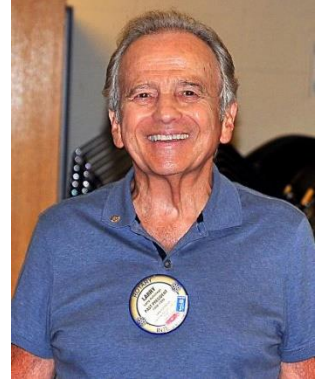
Mr. Pierce attended Chico State University and received a BA in Communications and has worked at vector control for over 15 years. He resides in Pleasant Hill with his wife and their three sons.



CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHARITABLE FUND

President **Larry Hutchings** reported that the Charitable Fund reviewed the report submitted by **Herb Muyinga** concerning the Uganda Clinic's operational costs. They agreed to provide \$2,500: **Steve Weir** donated \$500, **Torsten Jacobsen** donated \$600, **Hugh Toloui** \$1,000, and the Fund contribute \$1,000.



COMMUNITY SERVICES: *Backpacks & Supplies*

Community Services Codirector Richard Lueck reported that it's still time to get a free breakfast. Just donate a backpack and school supplies. President Mary said that Smile.Amazon has school supplies by age group but know this is the last week to contribute. So far 60 backpacks have been donated. If you don't have time to purchase supplies, cash is always helpful.

VOCATIONAL SERVICES: *Correction*

Sorry **Jeff Wilson** we didn't mean to load you down with another task. It's **Eric Rehn** who will assume the position of Vocational Director.

MEET AND GREET: *Lisa Dubbels*

Torsten Jacobsen brought **Lisa Dubbels** to this morning's meeting. Lisa works in public relations and specializes in humanitarian causes. With the Art in a Box project, we hope Lisa will lend her expertise in our quest to get much needed exposure.



CONVENTION: *Lights, Camera, Action*

District Governor Suzanne Bragdon said: "in case you don't already know, **"The World Premiere Event: The Power of Rotary,"** scheduled for the end of October, seems like a long way off - but it's not! Case in Point: Christmas shopping sales in July are already taking place." So, if you plan on attending, now is the time to act. The event will be held on October 28-30, 2022, in Monterey. Normal room rates at the Marriott Monterey during this time: \$450 per night and the Conference rate is: \$225. Not sure or never been to a District Conference and not sure what it's all about? Contact Colleen Knight, Brentwood Rotary - She's been to more District events than most.

WELL-DESERVING **AWARDS**

ABOVE & BEYOND WINNER: *Bill Selb*

Above & Beyond was started in 1901 by **Emma Kunkle Divine**, a 17-year-old Salvation Army volunteer, who discovered that the busy people in the streets of New York were painfully slow in responding to the needy. What could one teenage girl do to reach so many? Emma bought a small bell and started ringing it to attract donors. The donations rolled in and soon the entire Salvation Army was ringing little bells across the nation.

This year we are ringing the bell as long and loud as we can for **Bill Selb** who has served above and beyond the call of service. He is a volunteer extraordinaire. Bill told us that after his first role as Chair 20 years ago, Emily, said to him: "I hope you're not planning to do this again. Bill replied:" are you kidding, I'm having a ball." (Bill's final report appears at the end of this newsletter)



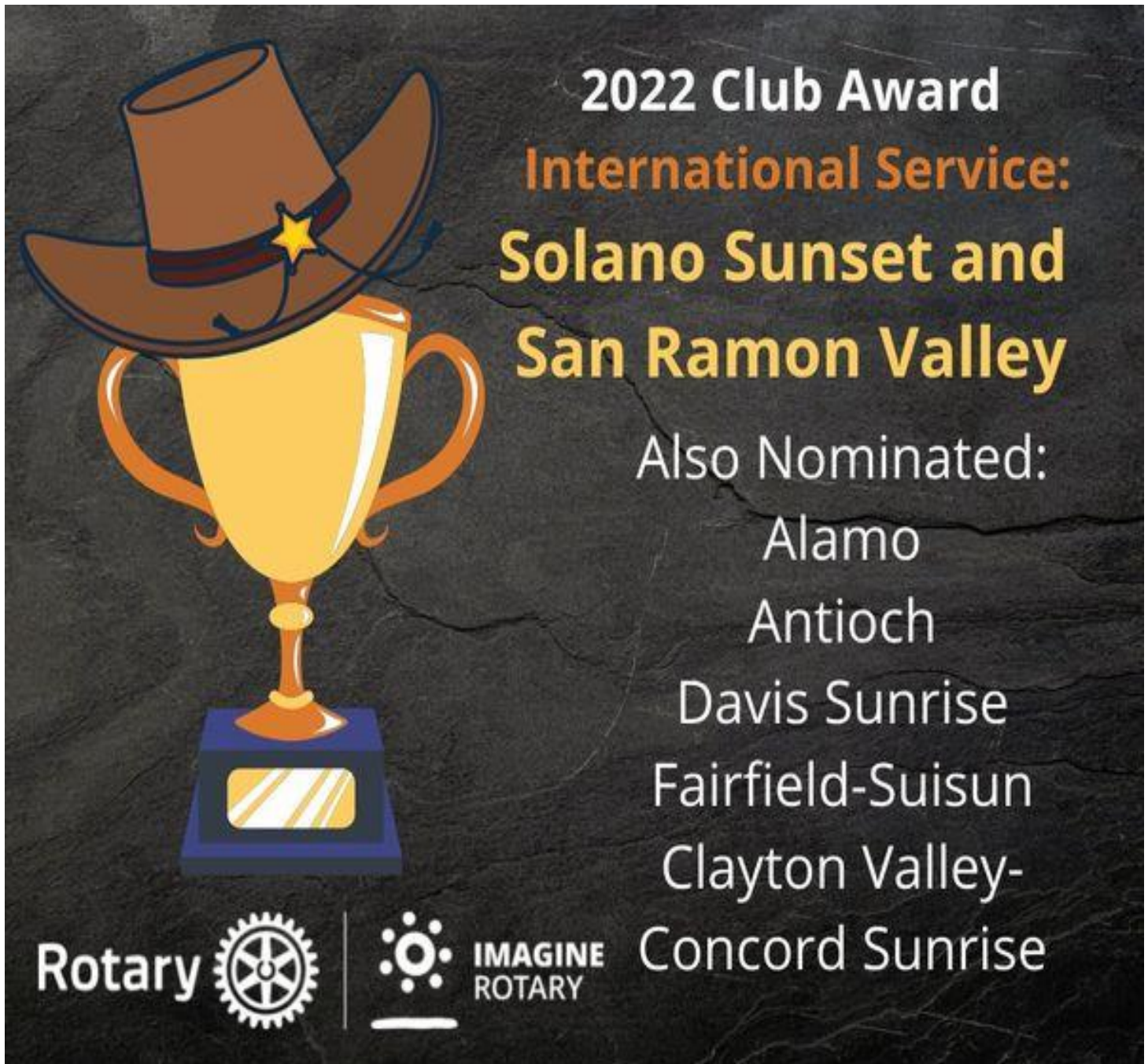
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL: *Susie Lim*

Our new Rotary Foundation Director told us that the District reported there is approximately \$175,000 to expend on district grants. So far, they received applications for 20 and the deadline is the middle of August. She then awarded a sapphire encrusted Paul Harris pin to Sustaining Member and **Sergeant at Arms Director Russ Anderson**. Russ is now a Paul Harris +10 Rotarian.



2022 DISTRICT **AWARDS:** *We were nominated*

The 2022 Club Award for International Services was presented at the recent awards ceremony in Corning on Saturday, July 16th.



THE **RAFFLE:** *The winner is Vicki Sexton*

HAPPYBUCKS



DON OUMET had a happy 50 bucks today as he celebrates 50 years in the mortuary business. He was given a wonderful dinner at Il Fornaio in Walnut Creek with all his family and friends. He was also given a cruise to Alaska for 10 days. Of course, he is going to bring his lively wife Bea along.

MOLLY AVILEZ had 20 bucks this morning. Two were happy as she passed her real estate class. However, 18 were sad because she just found out her best friend was diagnosed with cancer.



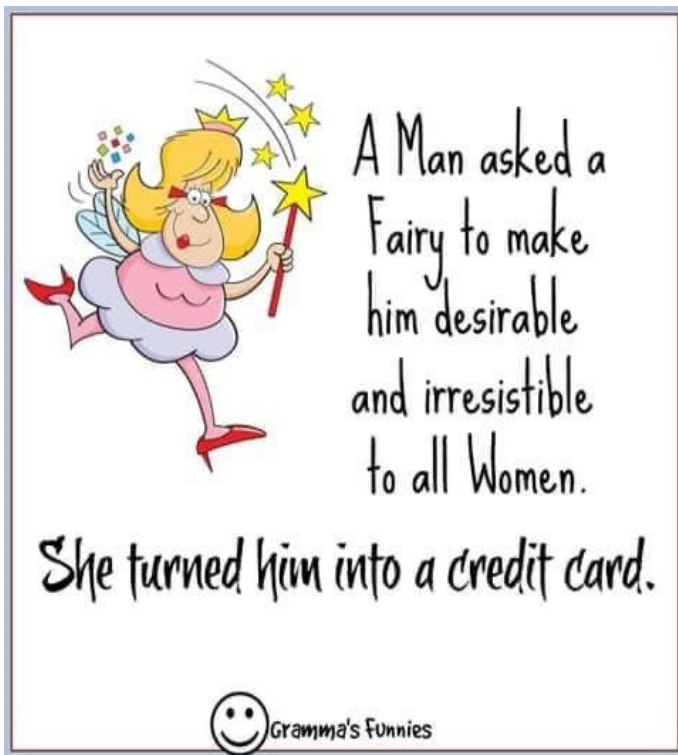
VICKI SEXTON had a happy buck. She went camping with her family last weekend. The excitement of the trip was a bit much for her, and she is happy to be back home.

JEFF WILSON had a happy buck for going to his brother's wedding in Washington. He also mentioned that his daughters are in their final swim meet as it is the end of the season. He also listed a new home that has multiple offers in play.

TORSTEN JACOBSEN had a happy and grumpy buck and said, "A good friend for our major anniversary celebration had offered us pre-covid her home in the most beautiful Loire region of France. The home turned out to be a 500-year-old beautiful 4 story mansion complete with dungeon (great for modern recalcitrant children?) and history of ancestors having been killed in sword duels and by the guillotine). All our kids with spouses and grandkids showed up plus Tineke's siblings and college friends from Holland. We went out to the Normandy invasion site of June 6, 1944 to view the incredible memorial sites, museums and fortification and learned more detailed history of the most massive military campaign in history which involved the construction of a massive floating harbor in a week, truly many thousands of ships and aircraft and no less than 150,000 allied troops, many thousands of whom lost their lives in a single day-drowned, bombed and machine gunned. Worth seeing and learning. Imagine if the same ingenuity, effort and expense and cooperation and urgency could be put into something constructive and not destructive like urgently combating climate change. (and population explosion). If you want info on urgency read Henry Pollack's book "A world Without Ice." Tineke proceeded on to Holland with one of the grandkids to bicycle around the country so as to learn more about the family, country, and culture. The grumpy buck is for no sooner had we arrived home than we were notified that Tineke's mother had just died. So back on the plane she went to Holland. Talk about Jet Lag!"



FUNSTUFF



FINDING JESUS

A stumbling drunk is walking down the street when he stumbles upon a baptismal ceremony by a local stream.

The priest notices the drunk and says, "My son, do you want to find Jesus?"

The drunk says sure and gets in the water.

The priest dunks his head in and asks, "Have you found Jesus?"

The drunk says no and the priest dunks him again.

The priest repeats this a couple more times, "Have you found Jesus?" he asks each time, but the drunk replies "No" every time.

Finally, the drunk gets tired of the process and exclaims: "I don't see Jesus anywhere. Are you sure this is where he fell in?!?"

YOU'VE GOT MAIL

A man was in his front yard mowing grass when his red-headed neighbor came out of the house and went straight to the mailbox.

She opened it, looked inside, slammed it shut, and stormed back into her house.

A little later she came out of her house again, went to the mailbox, again opened it, and slammed it shut again. Angrily, back into the house she went.

As the man was getting ready to edge the lawn, here she came again. She marched to the mailbox, opened it and then slammed it closed harder than ever.

Puzzled by her actions, the man asked her, "Is something wrong?"

To which she replied, "There certainly is! My stupid computer keeps telling me I've got mail!"

...that's all folks.

BILL SELB

And the History of the Pancake Breakfast

IN THE YEAR 2000 OUR CLUB WAS ASKED TO TAKE OVER CLAYTON'S ANNUAL 4TH OF JULY PANCAKE BREAKFAST. THE CITY INDICATED THAT THE FIRE DEPARTMENT DIDN'T WANT TO DO IT ANYMORE. I REMEMBER ONE OF OUR MEMBERS, ROGER RITTS, ADVISED AGAINST IT. TOO MUCH WORK HE SAID. BUT THE CLUB PRESIDENT (THAT WOULD BE ME) ...SAID LET'S GIVE IT A TRY.

TWO OF OUR MEMBERS, MURLEEN BENTON AND RICH BAILEY TOOK IT ON. THE CITY TURNED OVER DIABLO STREET TO US, THERE BY THE OLD POST OFFICE. WE LOADED TABLES AND CHAIRS ON PICKUPS AND BROUGHT THEM IN FROM THE ELECTIONS WAREHOUSE IN MARTINEZ. WE BORROWED OUR COOKING SUPPLIES FROM THE MARSH CREEK DETENTION FACILITY. TO GET OUR WATER WE HOOKED UP HOSES ACROSS THE STREET TO SKIPOLINNI'S PIZZA. (I DON'T KNOW IF ANYONE EVER GOT PERMISSION FROM SKIP). AND FOR SECURITY OVERNIGHT, RICH LUECK STAYED THERE IN HIS MOTOR HOME.

AFTER DOING THIS FOR A COUPLE OF YEARS, MURLEEN AND RICH WERE READY TO GIVE IT UP. AFTER NUMEROUS BEGGING PLEAS FROM THEN PRESIDENT, AL MARTIN, I AGREED IN 2002 TO GIVE IT A TRY.

I REMEMBER AFTER MY FIRST SETUP ON JULY 3RD EMILY AND I WENT FOR DINNER OVER AT LA VERANDA. AT THE DINNER TABLE EMILY LOOKED AT ME AND SAID, "I HOPE THAT YOU'RE NOT PLANNING TO DO THIS AGAIN." TO WHICH I REPLIED, "ARE YOU KIDDING? I'M HAVING A BALL."

SO AFTER A TWO YEAR COVID BREAK, HERE WE ARE AGAIN. HOW DO I RATE THE PERFORMANCE OF THIS YEARS' EVENT? WELL, I GIVE IT AN OUTSTANDING PLUS. I BELIEVE IT'S ALL SAID IN CLAYTON'S PICTURES. OVER THE YEARS I'VE BEEN GIVEN THE TITLE MR. PANCAKE. BUT I DON'T FEEL THAT I RUN THE EVENT. I FEEL THAT I'M JUST THE REPORTER. YOU PEOPLE RUN THE EVENT. I GIVE SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO JEFF WILSON AND RICHARD LUECK.

BUT REALLY, IT'S YOU FOLKS ALONG WITH THE CLAYTON VALLEY VILLAGE, THE BOY SCOUT TROOP, 4-H LADIES, AND FRIENDS AND FAMILY WHO HAVE GIVEN US ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR. AND AS THEY SAY ... "WAIT TIL NEXT YEAR"

