

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

CONTENTS

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

MEETINGS 2022

9/13/22 Board Meeting 7 AM
Zoom

9/14/22 Charitable Fund 5:30 PM
Zoom



THE FATHER OF LABOR DAY



The idea of Labor Day was the brainchild of Peter J. McGuire, a vice president of the American Federation of Labor, who, after a visit to Toronto where he saw parades celebrating labor that May, had put forward the initial proposal in the spring of 1882. According to McGuire, on May 8, 1882, he made a proposition to the fledgling Central Labor Union in New York City that a day be set aside for a "general holiday for the laboring classes." According to McGuire, he further recommended that the event should begin with a street parade as a public demonstration of organized labor's solidarity and strength to which participating local unions could sell tickets as a fundraiser. He suggested the first Monday in September as an ideal date for such a public celebration. Congress passed a bill recognizing the first Monday of September as Labor Day and making it an official federal holiday. President Grover Cleveland signed the bill into law on June 28, 1894. The federal law, however, only made it a holiday for federal workers. As late as the 1930s, unions were encouraging workers to strike to make sure they got the day off. They did, and now all U.S. states, the District of Columbia, and the United States territories have subsequently made Labor Day a statutory holiday.

GETTING**STARTED**

TODAY'S**THOUGHT:** *Russ Anderson*



If you think you are too small to make a difference, try
sleeping with a mosquito – Dalai Lama

FOUR-WAY**TEST:** *Alison Bacigalupo*



Of all the things we think, say, and do
Is it the truth?
Is it fair to all concerned?
Will it build good will and better friendships?
Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

TODAY'S **SPEAKER**

DUAL AVENUES OF SERVICE

Brian Thiessen was a 5160 District Governor in 2005-06. He talked to us this morning about the International Fellowship of Scouting Rotarians. He told us that at the Rotary International Convention held in Mexico City in 1991, several Rotarians who were also Scouters met and discussed how to provide an outlet for both interests through a fellowship group within Rotary International. It was felt that because of these dual interests and involvement, there should be many opportunities for past and present Scouters to further the Scouting/Rotary ideals and relationships at local, regional, national, and international levels.

Thus, was born the International Fellowship of Scouting Rotarians. Numbering over 1,000 members worldwide at the present time, this group is aiding the on-going spirit of **Service Above Self**.



ABOUT OUR SPEAKER

Brian Thiessen has been an attorney and private judge in Contra Costa County since 1967. He is a graduate of Hastings College of the Law (1967) and past President of Hastings Alumni Association. He was Hastings Alumnus of the Year 2000 and past President of the Contra Costa County Bar Association. Brian served on the San Ramon Valley Area Planning Committee, was a Board member and Secretary of Diablo Valley Savings & Loan and chaired the development of the Mt Diablo Summit Museum for the Mt. Diablo Interpretive Association. Over the years he was very active in his community. He was Moderator of First Congregational Church of Berkeley; Co-organizer of the interdenominational San Ramon Valley Easter Sunrise Service; San Ramon Valley Steering Committee of Diablo Valley Foundation for the Aging; Served on the Mt. Diablo Regional YMCA Board of Directors. He was President of the Danville Lions Club, the Danville Area Jaycees, and the Rotary Club of Alamo.



Brian served as an officer in the United States Air Force as Base Education and Training officer, and two years in the Air Force Reserves. He is a sixth generation Californian, married to Carolyn Owen Thiessen who retired from teaching at DVC and San Ramon High School in Danville. They have three children.



CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

STATUS OF THE FUNDRAISING RUN: *Jeff Wilson Reporting*

Jeff Wilson reported that he had a great response from our members and all of their advice is under consideration. He and Vicki are weighing various options not only regarding if the race will occur in Clayton or Concord, but the date of the event will be sometime in April 2023. Jeff and Vicki will continue to need your input.



OKTOBERFEST: *Sign Up to Volunteer*



Julia Dawson reports that the Clayton business & Community Association invites you to experience Oktoberfest 'Munich Style' in picturesque downtown Clayton. Since 2002, the Clayton Oktoberfest has been the San Francisco Bay Area's premiere Oktoberfest featuring an authentic German Biergarten, food & beer, arts/craft vendors, live music plus a full-size traveling carnival. It is set under beautiful Mt. Diablo and evokes a feeling of Bavaria.

Authentic German Biergarten: 'EIN PROSIT.' Enjoy German beer and food plus dancing to live music by The internationals in our authentic Munich Biergarten.

"Super-Size Carnival: Kids of all ages will delight as downtown Clayton is transformed into a full-size carnival with amusements rides, game booths and street performers.

"Food plus Arts & Crafts Vendors: Take a stroll down Main Street as it's lined with arts and craft vendors selling everything from hot sauces to jewelry to Oktoberfest gear.

"FREE EVENT - No Tickets Needed!"

Oct. 1-2, 2022 Saturday: 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. and Sunday: 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

We will need 3 or 4 Volunteers for each shift to check IDs and install wristbands. Shifts are Saturday 10:30am-3:15pm and 3:15-8pm. Sunday 10:30 AM to 2:15 PM and 2:15 PM to 6 PM.

There are 2 booths - one at each main entrance. The volunteer check-in booth is in front of the Clayton Community Church office (near the carnival). The Wristband booths will be in front of the bocce court and at the entrance by LA Veranda. Please send me names and emails of our volunteers and I will turn that into the volunteer coordinator, So far **Vickie Sexton, Mary Kemnitz, Eric Rehn,** and **Susie Lim** have volunteered to work the two booths. Let Julia know if you want to help.

COMMUNITY SERVICE: *Update*

Rich Lueck reminded us that Adopt-A-Block is on October 1st at 8:30 a.m. and meets in Lisa Truesdell's parking lot.



Councilmember Karyn Obringer believes that our citizens need to feel pride in living in our great city, and Community cleanup and beautification events are excellent ways to build positive relationships and a sense of place. That's why she is thrilled to bring back her "September of Service" initiative, started when she served as Mayor in 2019! Join her for a morning of park clean up and beautification on 2 Saturdays in September, from 8 am to 11am, at Hillcrest and Willow Pass parks. Everyone is welcome! Volunteers should come dressed for "yard work."

A colorful poster for the "September of Service" initiative. At the top left is the logo for Carlyn Obringer, Concord City Council. To the right, the text "September of Service" is written in large, stylized letters, followed by "All are welcome!". Below this, it says "Join Concord City Councilmember Carlyn Obringer for a morning of park clean up and beautification. Events will be hosted on two Saturdays in September from 8 am to 11 am." The poster lists two dates: "September 17" at "Hillcrest Community Park" (Grant Street and Olivera Road) and "September 24" at "Willow Pass Community Park" (Willow Pass Rd at Olivera Rd and Salvio St). It also includes a note: "Interested volunteers should come dressed for 'yard and repair work.' Gloves, garbage bags, and gardening and repair tools will be provided. Please register by September 7th by contacting Councilmember Obringer directly at: carlyn4citycouncil@gmail.com". At the bottom is an illustration of three people (a woman, a child, and a man) participating in a cleanup, with a street lamp and a small text line at the very bottom: "Paid for by Carlyn Obringer for Concord City Council 2024, FPCC# 1324644."

But wait there's more....Here we have Rich Promoting Ham and GMRS/FRS radios that communicate to emergency services people doing power & cell service outages. Neighborhood CERT people using GMRS/FRS radios to local hams who then relay the Emergency message to the ham radio room next to police dispatch. CERT = Citizen Emergency Response Team.



LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION: *Getting to Know Us*



District Governor Suzanne Bragdon will be attending our September 15 meeting at 7:00 a.m. via zoom. Assistant DG Dess Benedetto will also be in attendance. Governor Suzanne will be meeting with us to learn how our club is doing, serve as a sounding board on issues we may be facing, and sharing ideas and resources that are available to us.

She will also meet with us on September 25th at noon along with members of DV 8. This will take place at the Sugarloaf Open Space at 2161 Youngs Valley Road in Walnut Creek.

CELEBRATIONS: *Anniversary & Length of Service*



On the road again.... **Clayton** and **Carol Worsdell** are celebrating their 26th anniversary in style. Seems they are on a road-trip vacation but took the time to get all gussied up and dine in style. Congrats.

Clayton is also a Past President, 2016/17, and two-time Rotarian of the year. He is celebrating his 13th year of service and is the senior staff photographer and editorial sounding board for this newsletter.

You're the best, Clayton...you too, Carol.

UGANDA SURPRISE: *A True Imagine Moment*

Larry Hutchings visited clients last Wednesday and told them about our Adopt-A-Village project. One of them said that it was fantastic, that she and her first husband had lived in Uganda during the Idi Amin terror--he was a professor at a Ugandan college--and after a year they were forced to leave once Amin started killing all the professors. She promptly wrote a check for \$1,000.00 to be donated to the clinic. Larry said: "I can't wait to have her, and her husband meet Deb and Herb." Larry conveyed this message and donation to Deb and Herb who responded with: "I admire the way you connect the dots between California and Uganda. We look forward to meeting the professor and his wife and thank them for their generosity." Herb said, "This is great News to wake up to this Wednesday. It's all warming up for our people and we thank you all for keeping this fire burning." They sent photos that will appear in next week's newsletter.



FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE: *A Double Whammy*

The next Friday Night Live will take place on Friday, September 30 around 6 p.m. at Joan D'Onofrio's house. We will be celebrating Joan and Don's 84th birthday. Bring whatever you like to eat as these events are always potluck. Please, no birthday present, but there will be cake.

HAPPYBUCKS

By Barbara Reifschneider.

NOTE: If your happy or sad bucks are lengthy, please email the contents, in your own words, to Barbara Reifschneider.



MONICA FRAGA gave a total of 20 bucks this morning. She was back from cruising the Baltic Sea but there was one problem. When she got back on shore, she tested positive for Covid. Monica also had five happy bucks for Joan who gave her a list of all the birthdays and dates that mattered. That was a happy 20 bucks in total.

SUSIE LIM gave a happy 10 bucks this morning. Everyone had a great time at the Friday Night Live get-together at her house. The weather was great, the food was great, and the camaraderie was special. There was only one little thing that she complained about and that was, she cleaned her whole house for the event, and everyone went outside and didn't even notice.



MARY KEMNITZ had a happy 20 bucks this morning because she and Dave were able to fix their boat in time to celebrate Dave's birthday. They celebrated with a late dinner at the Rusty Porthole.



MOLLY AVILEZ gave a grumpy buck this morning. Seems her friend, who has cancer, is going through rounds and rounds of chemotherapy.



ERIC REHN had a grumpy buck today regarding breakfast. He told us he used to like quiche, now he doesn't. I guess he had too much quiche at some point!

TORSTEN JACOBSEN noted that a few weeks ago while checking in, Vicki handed him a mini hour-glass thingy good for 5 minutes; he was shocked and insulted

recalling that Rodney Dangerfield had once said that his wife would only have sex for as long as it took to boil an egg. But he was happy when Vicki clarified that it was intended for the shower not the bedroom!



FUNNYSTUFF

By Bill Selb



BIRTHDAY PRESENTS

A man was sitting on the edge of the bed, watching his wife, who was looking at herself in the mirror. Since her birthday was not far off, he asked what she'd like to have for her birthday.

'I'd like to be eight again', she replied, still looking in the mirror.

On the morning of her Birthday, he arose early, made her a nice big bowl of Coco Pops, and then took her to Adventure World theme park. What a day! He put her on every ride in the park; the Death Slide, the Wall of Fear, the Screaming Roller Coaster, everything there was. Five hours later they staggered out of the theme park. Her head was reeling, and her stomach felt upside down. He then took her to a McDonald's where he ordered her a Happy Meal with extra fries and a chocolate shake.

Then it was off to a movie, popcorn, a soda pop, and her favorite candy, M&M's. What a fabulous adventure!

Finally she wobbled home with her husband and collapsed into bed exhausted. He leaned over his wife with a big smile and lovingly asked, 'Well Dear, what was it like being eight again'?

Her eyes slowly opened, and her expression suddenly changed.

'I meant my dress size, you silly goose!'

THE UGLY KID

There was a middle-aged couple who had two stunningly beautiful blonde teenage daughters. The parents decided to try one last time for the son they always wanted.

After months of trying, the wife became pregnant, and sure enough, nine months later she delivered a healthy baby boy. The joyful father rushed to the nursery to see his new son.

He took one look and was horrified to see the ugliest child he had ever seen. He went to his wife and said that there was no way he could be the father of that child.

"Look at the two beautiful daughters I fathered." Then he gave her a stern look and asked, "Have you been fooling around on me?!"

The wife just smiled sweetly and said, "Not this time."

MISSING WIFE

A husband went to the sheriff's department to report that his wife was missing.

Husband: My wife is missing. She went shopping yesterday and has not come home.

Sergeant: What is her height?

Husband: Gee, I'm not sure. A little over five-feet tall.

Sergeant: Weight?

Husband: Don't know. Not slim, not really fat.

Sergeant: Color of eyes?

Husband: Never noticed.

Sergeant: Color of hair?

Husband: Changes a couple times a year. Maybe dark brown.

Sergeant: What was she wearing?

Husband: Could have been a skirt or shorts. I don't remember exactly.

Sergeant: What kind of car did she go in?

Husband: She went in my truck.

Sergeant: What kind of truck was it?

Husband: Brand new 2015 Ford F150 King Ranch 4X4 with eco-boost 5.0L V8 engine special ordered with manual transmission. It has a custom matching white cover for the bed. Custom leather seats and "Bubba" floor mats. Trailering package with gold hitch. DVD with navigation, 21-channel CB radio. Added special alloy wheels and off-road Michelins. Wife put a small scratch on the driver's door.... At this point the husband started choking up.

Sergeant: Don't worry buddy. We'll find your truck.

...that's all folks