

2022 - 2023

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MEETINGS 2023

4/11/23 Board Meeting 7 AM
Zoom

4/12/23 Charitable Fund 5:30 PM
Zoom



...BREAK A LEG



A CLUB OF ACTION

"Break a leg" is a typical English idiom used in the context of theatre or other performing arts to wish a performer "good luck" and is commonly said to actors before they go on stage. One theory as to how it started in the theatre was the way understudies would sit in the back row politely hoping the various principals would break a leg. That way, they'd get to act the part instead. Little did any of us think that we were going to be performing at today's meeting. Thanks to our guest speaker, **Kenn Adams** the Artistic Director of Synergy Theater, that's precisely what happened. After a thorough history of improvisation, he got us all to take part on a totally entertaining series of improv skits.

FIELDTRIP: *Kenn Adams*

Today's speaker, **Kenn Adams**, is the Artistic Director of **Synergy Theater** and the author of the book "How to Improvise a Full-Length Play; The Art of Spontaneous Theater." He is the creator of the classic short form improv games Sit, Stand and Kneel and The Family Dinner (a.k.a. Ding/Buzz or Biography) as well as The Story Spine, a simple exercise for understanding story structure that has been embraced by improvisers, writers, and teachers the world over.

Kenn began his career in New York City with Freestyle Repertory Theater, the New York Home for TheatreSports, and has been performing, directing, and teaching improvisation for 30 years. In addition, Kenn uses the practice of applied improvisation to design and facilitate organizational development curriculum in the areas of leadership development, creativity, and innovation.



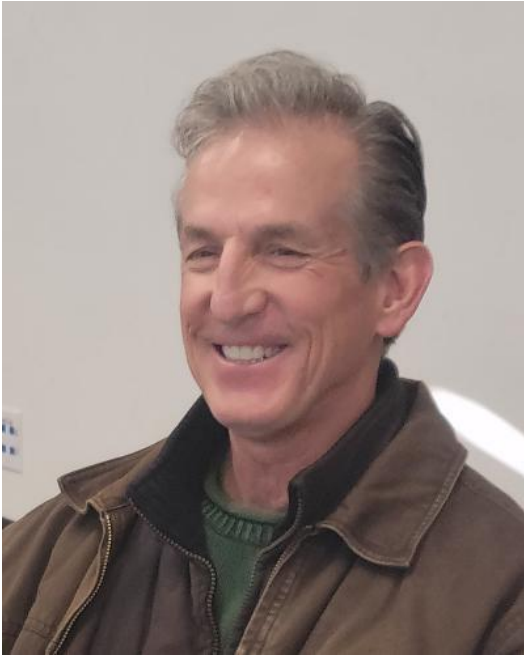
ABOUT SYNERGY THEATER

Synergy Theater performs full-length improvised plays in a variety of styles and formats. They strive to create theater with wonderful stories, compelling characters, and the vibrant spontaneity of the art of improvisation. In addition to their innovative performances, they share their passion for improvisation by teaching classes through their well-renowned training academy, bringing innovation to companies and organizations, hosting community improv jams, and providing ongoing theater enrichment programs in local schools to ensure the next generation of performer and audience.

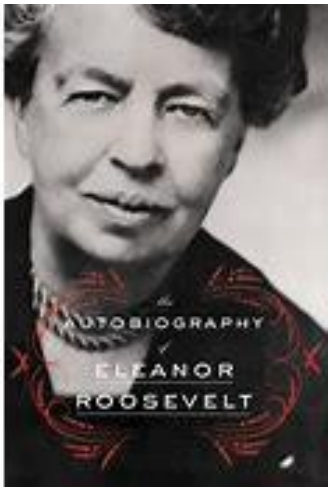


MORNINGRITUAL

Eric Rehn led us in the pledge while **Dave Kemnitz** recited the Four Way Test with a twist at the end. **Susie Lim** was the Mystery Greeter and brought in \$6. She also offered up the Thought for the Day.



Do what you believe to be right
for you'll be criticized anyway.



A woman is like a tea
bag.
Never know how
strong she is
until she gets into hot
water.

—Eleanor Roosevelt



UPCOMINGEVENTS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Adopt A Street

Rich Lueck and **Clayton Worsdell** remind you that Adopt A Street is April 8. Meet in the State Farm parking lot at 9:00 am. The next one will take place in October which will be here very quickly.

White Pony Event



Bob Huck announced that White Pony Express will hold a food packaging event in Pleasant Hill on May 3rd from 9 am to 11 am. Let Bob know if you plan to lend a hand.

Monument Crisis Center

Clayton Worsdell reported that he met with **Danny Scherr** who is running the facility while his mom is recuperating. He also asked Clayton if he would be willing to teach a computer class again as he has in past years and Clayton said yes. Here is a photo of Danny and Mary accepting a check for overpayment during the food drive.



Bocce

Barbara Reifschneider called attention to the upcoming Bocce season starting May 13. Let her know if you plan to participate and help win a trophy—or just have fun.



Spring Assembly

Reminder: The District 5160's Learning and Leadership Development Assembly is Saturday, April 15, 2023, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Rodriguez High School in Fairfield.

(FUN)DRAISERS

Wine Barrel Drawing



Wine Barrel Chair Vicki Sexton said there are still many raffle tickets that have not been sold. **Russ Anderson** keeps donating wine, but ticket sales are very slow. Remember that this fundraiser is for the student scholarship program.

Drive to Thrive



President Mary Kemnitz reminds us that we can bring clothing donations to our meeting next week and we will get them to the Youth Homes organization.

A promotional poster for Youth Homes Thrift Shop. At the top left is the Youth Homes Thrift Shop logo. To its right are social media icons for Instagram and Facebook with the handle @youthhomes. The center features a photo of a smiling young woman with curly hair. To her right, the text reads 'THE PROCEEDS FROM YOUR DONATION BENEFIT'. Below the photo, a yellow box contains the text: 'Youth Homes, a non-profit organization that supports and provides services for foster youth and youth impacted by trauma.' To the right of this text is a QR code. At the bottom left is the Youth Homes logo. At the bottom right, the text reads: 'Youth Homes Thrift Shop Open 10am-4pm daily (closed Sunday) 15b Vivian Drive Pleasant Hill, CA youthhomes.org/thrift'.

TWINCLUB: *San Felipe*

SAN FELIPE: *Steak in the park was a Great Event*

Torsten Jacobsen reported about a truly fun event. He also sent photos from our twin clubs biggest annual fund (and fun) raiser called Steak in the Park. There was wonderful music and singing, classical Mexican dancers; a huge auction and raffle, wonderful and tasty steak BBQ helped by the Rotoact kids (and the clubs 12 new members!) to cover the tremendous amount of work and organization; the net revenue was outstanding in part due to Tina and Mike preceding the event with a new Bazinga game to cover the cost of the meal etc.; weather serene and event relaxed and secure (with no mass daily school shootings!) Now it's on to the Cancer Center event in a couple of weeks. Thanks to Phil Chapman for setting up the pickleball site. Hasta Luego hopefully in San Felipe.





THE GALLERY

Rich Lueck sends us this beautiful sign of spring.



FROM AUSTRALIA “THE LAND DOWN UNDER” Queensland and the Northern Territory

Fellow Rotarian **Helene “Bo” Morse** from the Rotary Club of Paddington sent us these beautiful Sulfur Crested Cockatoos.



Thank you, Bo

FUNSTUFF

JEWISH MOTHER

The year is 2028 and the United States has elected the first woman as well as the first Jewish president, Susan Goldstein. She calls up her mother a few weeks after Election Day and says, "So, Mom, I assume you'll be coming to my inauguration?" "I don't think so. It's a ten-hour drive, your father isn't as young as he used to be, and my arthritis is acting up again."



"Don't worry about it, Mom, I'll send Air Force One to pick you up and take you home. And a limousine will pick you up at your door. "I don't know. Everybody will be so fancy-schmaltzy; what on earth would I wear?" Susan replies, "I'll make sure you have a wonderful gown, custom-made by the best designer in New York."

"Honey," Mom complains, "you know I can't eat those rich foods you and your friends like to eat." The President-Elect responds, "Don't worry Mom. The entire affair is going to be handled by the best caterer in New York; kosher all the way. Mom, I really want you to come."

So Mom reluctantly agrees and on January 20, 2028, Susan Goldstein is being sworn in as President of the United States. In the front row sits the new President's mother, who leans over to a Senator sitting next to her and says, "You see that woman over there with her hand on the Torah, becoming President of the United States?" The Senator whispers back, "Yes, I do."

Mom says proudly, "Her brother is a doctor."

ITALIAN MOTHER

Giuseppe excitedly tells his mother he's fallen in love and that he is going to get married. He says, "Just for fun, Mama, I'm going to bring over three women and you try and guess which one I'm going to marry." The mother agrees.

The next day, he brings three beautiful women into the house, sits them down on the couch and they chat for a while. He then says, "Okay, Mama, guess which one am I going to marry?"

Mama says immediately, "The one on the right." "That's amazing, Mama. You're right. How did you know?"

Mama replies: "I don't like her."



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AN IRISHMAN'S FIRST DRINK WITH HIS SON

I was reading an article last night about fathers and sons, and memories came flooding back to the time I took my son out for his first drink. Off we went to our local bar, which is only two blocks from the house.

I got him Guinness Stout. He didn't like it, so I drank it. Then I got him an Old Style. He didn't like it either, so I drank it. It was the same with the Coors and the Bud.

By the time we got down to the Irish whiskey, I could hardly push the stroller back home.



Everybody knows somebody that has a car they don't need. Tell your friends about how we administer this vehicle donation program with volunteers so that the charity they choose gets the highest value. Donate online at Cars2ndChance.org or call for more information: (925) 326-5868.

...That's all folks.

