



Rotary **ROSSMOOR ROTARY NEWS**



President: Carolyn H **Address:** PO Box 2177, Walnut Creek CA 94595 D5160 Club 461

Notes: Anne H. **Photos:** Paul W March, 12, 2025

Club Website: www.rossmoorrotary.org

District Website: www.rotary5160.org

MEETING NOTES: 03/12/2025

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by our President Carolyn H at 12:33 p.m. David B led the Pledge of Allegiance. The Star Spangled Banner was sung, and the Four Way Test recited.

Guests and Visiting Rotarians:

Thought for the Day: John K had many thoughts, such as if you laugh at yourself, you are never not amused; if you have both feet in your month, you don't have a leg to stand on; new parachute for sale, never opened, slight stain; and playing with sticks was once called witchcraft, now is called golf.

Happy Dollars: Ed, who is always happy; David B, happy his rental is now vacant and he can fix it and sell it; Peter, happy that he attended PET; Joy, happy he went to PET; Jim Olsen happy for the new mic; and Connie happy that it is Sharon's birthday. We all then sang Happy Birthday to Sharon.

Sunshine Report: Kathy S is still sick, we wish her well and want her back. Scott saw our happy birthday video to him and was very moved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Carolyn reminded us that the GRD Board is looking for nominees to their Board, and it would be good if there were a Rotarian on that Board.

Elliot Barenbaum was asked to report on his trip to Oaxaca, Mexico. Elliot has been there many times. At first he didn't like it, but now he is in tune with the experience with what he calls "we" people, not "me" people. They help each other and give back to the community. In agriculture-based southern states such as Oaxaca, one of the most impoverished states in Mexico, the costs of education are out of reach for many families. Rotary clubs there are helping. There are actually five different Rotaries in the state. Though he wasn't able to visit a Rotary Club, he did meet with an old friend who told him about Rotary clubs in Oaxaca and their efforts to gather donations to distribute school packs and school supplies to preschool and primary school children in need. The friend was a prominent Rotarian who got her start with a Rotary scholarship to medical school in the US.

The clubs in Oaxaca also are involved with the Oaxacan Learning Center where students receive academic tutoring in math, physics, chemistry, and English, mentoring and personal support within a holistic learning community. The Rotaries raise funds and secure support for the Center. The friend also mentioned that the

Rotary Club of Fresno and other Rotary clubs have partnered with local organizations in Oaxaca to promote solar cooking. Rotary also has reforestation and water projects there. Next year our Wheelchair project will be in Oaxaca.

Peter VS spoke to us about his PET (President Elect Training) time. He was impressed with the passion and commitment of the people attending. He gave several examples of small projects growing to something very important, such as the Salinas Rotary that took 30 young people from the fields and taught them to restore cars, and this turned into a training school; the Santa Cruz Rotary that turned a swing in a park for a disabled child into a beautiful ADA park. He told us about the grant we made to the Sisterhood for Sobriety for a washer-dryer, and how the Sisterhood changed the lives of these young women. These simple beginnings can have a ripple effect. His theme for his presidency is Unite for Good. He liked his surprise poster. And he promised to do the best job he can as our next president.

Freda A told us of her time as one of 20 volunteers at the annual STEM dinner given by the AAUW for 170 young girls in middle and high school. The speakers were women in engineering and math, and were inspiring to the young listeners.

Carolyn said she will begin training volunteers every Monday in April for work in the Trinity mail room. The operation will be named in our honor.

Joy invited everyone to join the March 22nd District Conference. All officers, board members, publicity people, all should come. There are many 50 minute break-out sessions that are very informative and helpful.

Remember we are having a **TGIF party this Friday, March 14, from 5 to 6:30.**

Raffle: Joy won a bottle of wine, and Dick Olson won a free lunch.

PROGRAM

Camp Royal Speaker. Patrice introduced our speaker, Maddox Zardkoohi. Maddox is 17 years old and a junior at Los Lomas High School. He is taking a basic STEM program, and hopes to go to a 4-year university. His school did not send him, he called Rotary himself to ask to be considered for the camp. He knew about Camp Royal because his sister had a great experience there, and he wanted to do the same. His main interest and main hobby is soccer. He was just elected team captain. He feels this leadership camp will make him a better leader and better person. He volunteers, mainly with the Special Olympics, teaching soccer. He is anxious about this camp experience, as he has never gone a week without his phone, family and friends. He thanks us, Rotary, for the opportunity for him to attend Camp Royal.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 19	10:30 RRF Trustee Meeting
March 19	Mark Forette – Multiple Sclerosis
March 26	Las Lomas High School – Speech Contest
April 2	Mike Crosby – End Polio Now

PHOTOS



