



ROSSMOOR ROTARY NEWS



President: Sue A **Address:** PO Box 2177, Walnut Creek CA 94595 D5160 Club 461

Notes: Joy A **Photos:** Bill B Oct 18, 2023

Club Website: www.rossmoorrotary.org

District Website: www.rotary5160.org

MEETING NOTES: 10/18/23

Call to Order: Meeting called to order by President Sue. Flag Salute was led by our new Sergeant at Arms David Brown. The Star-Spangled Banner was played and sung prior to a military colleges football game. There was a huge flag that covered a good part of the field held by the students in full dress uniform and was rippling throughout the performance.

Guests and Visiting Rotarians: Joy A. introduced her new neighbor Ellen R. Ellen and her husband have only been in Rossmoor a few weeks. Ellen is a retired teacher and is quite interested in Rotary. Tom O was also visiting. He lives in Antigua Guatemala. Tom is marrying a Rotarian friend of Joy's and will be spending time here and there. We hope to see more of him when he is here.

Happy Dollars: There were many Happy Dollars, but your note taker fell down on the job and didn't record them.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements were about thank yous to the entire club for their participation in the very successful C.A.P. Gala.

We made the most money ever, around \$66,000. This will all be spent for Cancer, Alzheimer's, and Parkinson's support. Only a couple of the Buy It Now certificates were left over. Caroly H was selling them at a discount.

Hogey H. was present with his girlfriend and caregiver. We were told that it would be his last meeting. We are so sad to be losing Hogey. Hogey, know you will be greatly missed. We have great appreciation for the many years of service he has given our club as our Sergeant at Arms for all of the years since he joined us. He joined us when the Kiwanians merged with our club.

Raffle- The raffle was held. No one won the money which is growing to a respectable amount. Be sure and buy lots of tickets next week.

PROGRAM

Our program was presented by Skip McCowen from the Lamorinda Rotary Club. Skip had attended a project Fair in Guatemala. He made a connection with a club there and wrote a District Grant to put concrete floors in 40 very basic houses that had dirt floors. The animals wander in and out and do their animal things in the houses. As a result, the health of the folks, especially children, is quite adversely impacted by various diarrheas and parasites. Lamorinda had received a District Grant

toward which a number of district clubs and the partner club in Guatemala contributed. We can be proud that Rossmoor was one of the contributors.

There were 13 of us from 6 District 5160 clubs on the service trip last April.

The pictures showed the conditions the people living in. The houses were very small one room shelters made of corrugated tin. They are very smokey as the women cook over open fires inside. It is equivalent to smoking 3 packs of cigarettes a day. So, the women and young children are suffering lung and eye damage. An additional part of the grant was to install cooking stoves that use way less wood and are vented.

The area we were working in was steep hills with footpaths. All the bags of concrete and sand were carried on the back of the local people. The concrete making was all done by hand on the ground and transported by wheelbarrows.

The women made a celebration, dressed in their traditional clothing, and served us lunch as a thank you. They killed some of their chicken, made a big cauldron of stew, and the lunch was wonderful. They gave us each a small basket containing a banana, and apple and 2 strawberries. Both the lunch and the fruit were significant gifts as these people are extremely poor and many suffer from malnutrition.

Joy A told us that going on a service trip does good, but it also touches our own hearts.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct 25	Mark Heptig – Golf Course and Rossmoor
Nov 1	Ann Mottola – Rossmoor Community Services
Nov 8	Pam McGrath and Barbara Proctor – Trinity Center
Nov 8	10:30 RRF Trustee Meeting

PHOTOS

