

Rotary Club of Livermore



Spur Report 3/22/2023

Spur Publisher: Theodore C. Michels

Spur Reporter: Susan Mayall

A lively bunch of Rotarians were already seated, eating and chatting or gathering in small groups to discuss undoubtedly weighty matters when I arrived at 12. 05. Peripatetic President Sblend was wandering round the Palo Verde room, probably rounding people up for various tasks.



Sblend opened the meeting promptly at 12.30, and called on Michele Firestone at the back of the room, to recite the Pledge.

Songsters: Linda Tinney, Joel Swanson, Michael Ferrucci and Stu sang 'Going to the Zoo', by Peter, Paul and Mary. Happy memories of the musical 60's and 70s for those of us a little older than some! The Song reflected the subject of the program, which would focus on the Oakland Zoo.





In 'Thought of the Day' Jay Davis told a story reflecting the stupidity of national and racial stereotypes. It was short and humorous, describing a conversation between a glamorous young social researcher and an old man who meet on a journey. The researcher is off to the National Nymphomaniac's Conference. For more, ask Jay!

Sblend thanked the team who worked on this meeting, including Irv Stowers as meeting photographer, Joel Swanson as AV operator, Jeff Youngsma- Zoom Host, Lynn Monica-Greeter, and Ted Michels – SPUR Publisher.

Visiting Rotarians – Bob Tucknot, finally back to visit us. Great to see him again!



Guests of Rotarians – Jacky Poulsen, Peter's wife, and MaryAnne Rozsa's guest, Michele Firestone.

Announcements

District service project coming up this Saturday, March 25, 1 PM – 2.30 – see District Website, 'Kids Against Hunger' – 2 Shifts – contact Christian Chuckwuma or District Website. Volunteers are needed for both.

Jacquie Courtright Williams asked for bids on Roses offered in Interact Auction.



Carol Gerich reported on 'The Gift of Reading', in which our Club and the Morning Club acquire and distribute books to all 939 3rd grade students in the Livermore School District. Teachers and librarians choose three books which are of literary and informational value and fun to read. Each student chooses a book. Rotarians distribute them to each class, and talk to the students about books, reading, and Rotary as they help them stick named bookplates in their books. Local Bookseller Judy Wheeler allows the Club a 30% discount. Please support Judy!

Volunteers are still needed for next week. Please contact Carol Gerich for a fun job on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday.

International House Weekend, Saturday, March 25 and Sunday March 26. Evonne Hopkins reported that we are expecting 18 guests, from almost as many countries, and that at least some sunshine is expected over the weekend – especially important for the visit to the Banke Ranch!



Seems that more sign ups are needed for dishes at the Saturday potluck dinner. Contact Evonne, attendees. Food is important!

District 5170 Conference is April 29th from 8:30a-11:30a at the Computer History Museum.



Jim Schmid expressed his appreciation for the Rotarians who volunteered for parts in the very impressive performance of “Tosca” recently. Amazing to see such a wonderful show in our small city! Congratulations to Jim and all those volunteers who made it possible over all these years.

Sblend told us of the latest developments in the Lunch Saga. It seems we may meet at Las Positas Winery. Lunch may cost \$30, but as Sblend explained, in terms of today’s prices, we will be paying no more than we did in 2019! Costs will necessitate at least 30 eaters each week. Good news though!

Next Week’s Meeting will be in the Cresta Blanca Room, necessitated by the number of grants being awarded this year. The theme apart from that will be Baseball – bring your mits!

The Program

Nik Dehejia, CEO of the Oakland Zoo.



I imagine most of us have visited the Oakland Zoo at some time. It’s a true jewel and a great asset to the area. Nik gave us a fascinating description of almost all aspects of his job, from finding ways to manage the restrictions of the Pandemic, to surviving the devastation of the recent weather. He emphasized the role of the Zoo as a ‘rescue’ operation for previously ill-treated animals, and on making every effort to provide them with congenial spaces. He also described some of its educational activities.

Youtube Channel

Meetings are videoed and published on our Youtube Channel. [Click here](#) to explore the most recent as well as every meeting for the past three years!

Leave a Legacy

Leave a Legacy Gift to the Rotarian Foundation of Livermore (RFL)
Did you know you could leave a bequest in your Will or Estate that would continue your support for the RFL to infinity and beyond?
Please consider following in the footsteps of our dear friend
Marty Plone and make the RFL one of your "heirs"!
Contact any RFL Board member for more information.

Club Meeting

Livermore

Meets at Hybrid, Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Avenue, Livermore, CA

Robert Livermore Community Center 4444 East Avenue

Livermore, CA 94551

Time: Wednesday at 12:00 PM

Club Leaders



[Sblend A. Sblendorio](#)
President



[Sheila M. Fagliano](#)
President-Elect



[Joel C. Swanson](#)
Secretary



[Norman Bregman](#)
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[Alan K Burnham](#)
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Club Director - First Year



[Lance Cavalieri](#)
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Club Director - First Year
Rotary Foundation Chair
International Service Chair



[Gordon Francis Jones](#)
Club Director - First Year
Club Service Chair



[Loretta Kaskey](#)
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Community Service Chair



[Paul McCandless](#)
Club Director - Second Year
Vocational Service Chair
Youth Services Chair



[Linda Tinney](#)
Club Director - Second Year