

# Rotary Club of Livermore



## Spur Report July 26, 2023

Spur Publisher: Theodore C. Michels

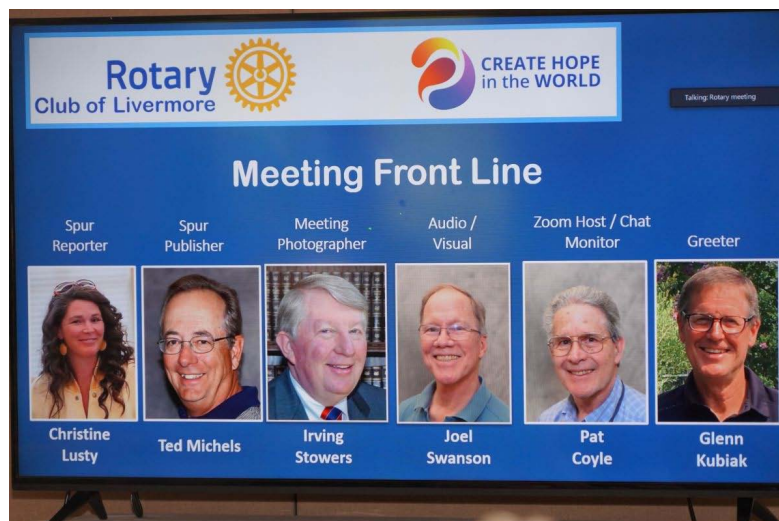
Spur Reporter: **Christine Lusty**



**President Sheila Fagliano** opened the meeting at 12:31pm.

The **pledge of Allegiance** was led by Chris Ising

**Front Line** was thanked for their help by Sheila



**Songsters:** Michael Ferrucci, Tim Berry, Stu Frazier & Sheila Fagliano sang "Summertime Blues"



**Thought for the Day:** Carol Gerich cited the “battle of the block busters” between Barbie & Oppenheimer then went on to discuss the connection to our own LLNL referencing the book she worked on with former director Bruce Tarter and sharing anecdotes about how Ernest Lawrence and the inception of LLNL influenced the way Livermore neighborhoods grew, specifically the “Jensen Track” which was thankfully saved from having painfully technical scientific street names.

**Visiting Rotarians:** Bob Tucknott, Beth McCormick, & Andrew Evans



**Visitors:** Kathy Young, Mary Davis & Rob, Ron Koopman’s caregiver

**Announcements:**

**Marylin Ave school BBQ** is scheduled for 8/18. A sign-up sheet was passed around for volunteers.

**A sign-up sheet** for Thought for the Day was passed around.

**Sheila announced** that Club Board meetings have been moved to the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month, 11:30-12:30 at the Common Point Non-Profit room on North L.

**JR announced** that the Stagecoach band will be playing this Friday at Las Positas winery.

**Girls Soccer Worldwide** (next week's speaker) is running a \$1/Mile fundraiser. Flyers were on the tables.



**Andrew Evans** from the Rotary Club of Pleasanton made a plea for additional support for the Scouts Council.

**Mike Thompson's condo** in Carmel was raffled off by Marc Roberts to Michael Ferrucci for a \$1900 donation.



**Mike Thompson's Annual Golf Event** at Dublin Ranch will be October 12<sup>th</sup>, cash prizes, \$45pp to play.

**Rotary Club WINE social** will be August 30 at 5pm at Wood Family Vineyards. Don't miss out!

**Goud Memula** announced that Jay and Mary Davis were honored for reaching Major Donor Tier 2 receiving the Paul Harris Society certificate, a crystal award, a 2-diamond pin, and a pendant.



**Confessions, brags & fines:**

**Sheila confessed** that while she did turn her phone off, she forgot to silence her smart watch.



**Jim Schmidt** was outed for having his phone ring at last week's meeting and was fined a \$10 donation.

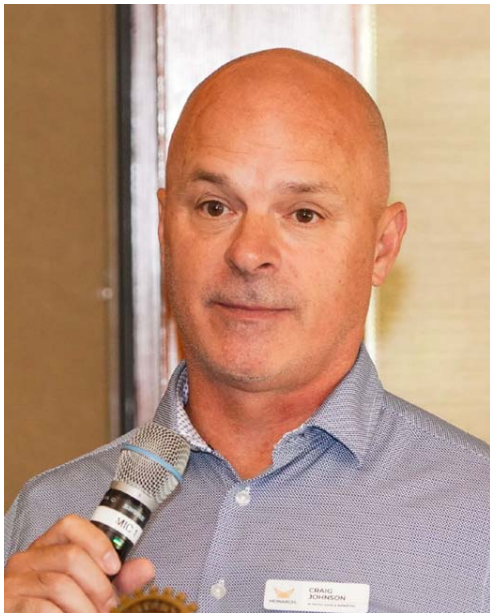
**Dennis O'Brien** also confessed to having his phone go off during the meeting and committed to joining the President's Club as penance.



**Sheila recognized Sblend** for his year as president by giving him some golf clubs, an archery set, and a water pistol (all toys!) for him to enjoy now that he has time on his hands. She also gave him the Rotary banner from his year as president. Sblend donated \$500 to the club mini-grants and also funded a mini-grant that from last year.

**Next week's presenter:** Pamela Jacobson of Girls Soccer Worldwide

**Presentation:**



## Jay Davis introduced Craig Johnson, VP of Marketing for Monarch Tractors

Monarch Tractors is a revolutionary company invested in marrying technology with agriculture. Their autonomous solar tractors are revolutionizing the efficiency, profitability and sustainability of our food chain. Designed for enterprise, these tractors are already being employed by vineyards, berry farms and dairies. With their staff exploding from just 80 people to well over 300 employees internationally. They have opened offices in Singapore and India already with plans to open in Europe in 2024.

Craig outlined the three pillars that drive Monarch's mission: climate change, labor shortages, and food traceability & safety. The goal is stated as "driving farm profitability and

planet sustainability." He also touched briefly on the logistical components of the tractors, their sensors, roughly how they operate autonomously, stating that "the roof is the brain" on these machines. He also pointed out that while they are designed to be autonomous, they are also still functional as occupied vehicles, maintaining the functionality and utility of contemporary tractors, increasing their utility to the farmer and with backwards compatibility to many of the attachments and implements currently being used alongside contemporary tractors, reducing the expense for farmers when they convert over to the Monarch system.

---

## Youtube channel

### 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 at different locations  
Robert Livermore Community Center 4444 East Avenue  
Livermore, CA 94551  
Time: Wednesday at 12:00 PM

## Club Leaders



[Sheila M. Fagliano](#)  
President



[Marc Roberts](#)  
President-Elect



[Joel C. Swanson](#)  
Secretary



[Norman Bregman](#)  
Treasurer



[Bob Bishop](#)  
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Alan K Burnham](#)  
Membership  
Coordinator  
Club Director -  
Second Year



[Trex Donovan](#)  
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Lingagoud Memula](#)  
Rotary Foundation  
Chair



[Fernando Romero  
Jr.](#)  
Club Director Major  
Events



[Sblend A.  
Sblendorio](#)  
iPast President



[Loretta Kaskey](#)  
Club Director -  
Second Year  
Community Service  
Chair



[Irving F. Stowers](#)  
International  
Service Chair



[S. Jeffrey  
Youngsma](#)  
Vocational Service  
Chair



[Matthew L. Fuzie](#)  
Youth Services Co-  
Chair



[Trish K Munro](#)  
Youth Services  
Chair