

Rotary Club of the Valley of the Moon

6520 Oakmont Drive, Suite A, Santa Rosa, CA 95409

Visit our website: VOMRotary.org

Volume XXIII Issue No. 27 David Beach, President February 15, 2024



**CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD**

The **Four-Way Test** of things we think, say or do:

Is it the **Truth**?

Is it **Fair** to all concerned?

Will it build **Goodwill** and better **Friendships**?

Will it be **Beneficial** to all concerned?

President **David Beach** rang the opening bell at 8 a.m. and new member, **Karen Ritter** led the flag salute.

VISITORS:

Sgt-at-Arms **Fred Merrill** announced our illustrious guests, speaker John Carnaglies (SRPD), **Jeff Gospe** (SR Rotary & RVUSD), our Student of the Month Emma Bedelia, who introduced her Mom Anna, Lisa Christopherson Austin Creek Principal and Morgan Brady, Emma's teacher.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH:



Lydia Harris introduced us to the principal of Austin Creek Elementary School, who told us that when the school was asked to choose a student who exemplified the Rotary motto of "Service Above Self", they immediately thought of Emma. Emma is always the first to help others, especially on Junior Yard Duty, and is big on fashion design. Her "word" for 2024 is "GROW" and to do the right thing just because it's the right thing to do.



Lydia presented Emma with a Certificate of Honor and an envelope with \$25 cash to use for herself along with \$25 to Pay It Forward. Also, she was given a postage paid addressed to write and tell us what she used the Pay It Forward toward. She asked Emma if she'd like to say a few words and our shy girl declined (Don't blame her, we're a scary-looking bunch!).



PRESIDENT AND MISCELLANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS:



Jeff Gospe of the Rotary Club of Santa Rosa announced that our Karen Sites won \$400 on their Super Bowl pool. She won the half time score and 3rd quarter! Karen wasn't there to collect her loot, but we'll guard it for her. Their club raised \$21,000 for generators for Ukraine!

Art Fichtenberg held a Meet&Greet at his home Thursday for 1st District Supervisor Rebecca Hermosillo.

CRAB FEED UPDATE:



Daymon Doss reminded us that the Crab Feed is just a week away, Saturday, February 24th. The programs have gone to the printers and the final touches are being made. Berger Center will open at 9 a.m. that morning so we can get started setting up. Oakmont Market is making the salad and pasta, and the CHOPS teens are

ready to serve us.

Karen King (The Cookie Monster) reminded us to sign up to bring cookies to Berger Center on the morning of the CF.

John Brodey happily reported that the Wine Wall is FULL!

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:



Valerie Oliver had a birthday at work and it was great.

Chris Severson has a birthday coming up next Thursday, but we are DARK, so we're catching him now. Chris said he has a twin brother and their families are gathering in Sonoma then heading to Thunder Valley Casino to continue the celebration.



HAPPY/CRAPPY DOLLARS:

John Brodey said **Daymon Doss** brought in the last bottle of wine for the Wine Wall, but **Lydia** had kept bringing in bottles & bottles like she was putting out a fire. Thanks, **Lydia!**

Art Fichtenberg is heading to Cabo for some golf.

RAFFLE:

Craig Clissold drew **Arnie Lamb's** ticket number for the \$190.50 jackpot, but he didn't draw the Joker.

GUEST SPEAKER:



Fred Merrill introduced our speaker, John Carnaglies (sp) a volunteer with SRPD, to talk to us about frauds and scams.

John laughed that we had donuts on our breakfast table and wondered if they were just for him! LOL! John wears many hats as a volunteer with the SRPD, including auto abatement, data processing, presentations, etc. Volunteers are needed, so if you're interested, see him after the meeting and he'll talk to you about it.

He started out his talk by telling us there's been an uptick in "Pick Pockets". A whole new meaning is attached to that phrase now. Shoppers in our local stores, i.e. Trader Joe's, Safeway, Olivers, etc., are getting ripped off. Ladies tend to leave their purses, wallets, keys or cellphones unattended in their cart, while they turn to get something from the shelf. The thieves work in pairs – one will distract that shopper while the other snags the goods.



The other big one in Oakmont is mail theft. The thieves know that if your flag is up on your mailbox that you've probably written a check to pay a debt and they swipe it and change the info on the check. It's important that you write your checks with indelible ink (ink that cannot be erased). Also, probably smart to deposit you outgoing mail in the USPO mailboxes around Oakmont. Be sure your outgoing mail is being picked up that very day and not left overnight. The thieves know how to dredge things out of those boxes. They're very clever.

There are multitudes of scams out there and we all need to be so careful about who we give our personal information to, i.e. your name, address, SS#, PIN #, Mother's Maiden Name. One measure of advice is, if you get a call that sounds suspicious, tell the caller you'll call them right back. That usually stuns them into hanging up immediately. **Mike Isola** suggested you say, "You're breaking up, let me call you back!" They've gotten so sophisticated.

His best advice was: "BE AWARE!"

A lot of discussion ensued, as we're all familiar with some of the latest. John pointed out that "We are the trusting generation". I think, and so did our members, that we're more skeptical now and not so trusting!

ADJOURNMENT:

President Beach adjourned our meeting at 9 a.m. and we recited the Four-Way Test.

UPCOMING PROGRAM

2-22-24 – **DARK**

2-24-24 - **CRAB FEED**

2-29-24 – **Inflamed shocking Abandonment of Seniors in 2017 Fire Sorm
Paul Gullixson & Anne Belden**

MEMBERSHIP:

Share Rotary with your friends. We should invite business friends and neighbors to a meeting. Who do we do business with, what neighbors do we know, and what former Rotarians could be asked to join us? Guests and potential Rotarians are invited twice at the Club's expense.

When introducing your guest at a meeting please do not introduce them as a prospective member. No one can be a prospective member until the Board votes on their application. Just introduce them as my friend or neighbor or whatever is appropriate.

MANY PEOPLE SAID THEY WOULD HAVE JOINED ROTARY HAD SOMEONE ASKED THEM!

ERRORS & OMISSIONS

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