

Rotary Club of the Valley of the Moon

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

Volume XXII Issue No. 41 Art Fichtenberg, President June 8, 2023

Visit our website: VOMRotary.org



President **Art Fichtenberg** rang the opening bell at 8 a.m. and led the flag salute.

VISITORS:

Sgt-at-Arms **Fred Merrill** announced the presence of visitors our speaker Rebecca Rogoway, and guest Valerie Oliver (**Fred Merrill**).

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

Val Hulse thought about this:

The following is the philosophy of the creator of the "Peanuts" Comic strip, Charles Schultz. You don't have to actually answer the questions. Just think about them as I read them and you'll get the point.

1. Name the five wealthiest people in the world.
2. Name the last five Heisman trophy winners.
3. Name five people who have won a Nobel Prize.
4. Name the last five World Series winners.



How did you do?

The point is, none of us remember the headliners of yesterday. These are no second-rate achievers. They are the best in their fields. But the applause dies. Awards tarnish. Achievements are forgotten. Accolades and certificates are buried with their owners.

Here's another quiz. See how you do on this one:

1. Name a few teachers who aided your journey through school.
2. Name three friends who have helped you through a difficult time.
3. Think of a few people who have made you feel appreciated and special.
4. Think of five people you enjoy spending time with.

Easier?

The lesson: The people who make a difference in your life are not the ones with the most credentials, the most money, or the most awards. They are the ones that care.

**"Don't worry about the world coming to an end today. It's already tomorrow in Australia."
(Charles Schultz)**

NEW MEMBER INSTALLED:

Val Hulsey called **Valerie Oliver** to the podium along with his sponsor **Fred Merrill** and talked about inducting new members as one of the most satisfying things about Rotary. The Rotary motto is “Service Above Self” and, through the 5 Avenues of Service, she will be asked to help us achieve our goal of World Peace through Understanding. Also, as a Rotarian, she will be expected to apply the Four Way Test to all aspects of her personal and professional life, support our club and the Rotary Foundation, and participate in community and humanitarian projects. She will change lives. She will make a difference.



Fred told us **Valerie Oliver**. is a Pickleball nut and runs the events for them. He presented **Valerie Oliver**. with her Rotary pin and she circled the room to shake hands and be welcomed by our members. Welcome, **Valerie “O”!**

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES:

Daymon Doss’ wife, Sally, had a birthday. He **joked** that he had a hard time remembering back that far (June 2nd), but he was sure they had a joyful time.

Karen King & Judith Kesot celebrated a 7th Anniversary! We got to hear Karen via Zoom as she’s up in Montana for the summer.



John Derby’s wife, Lyn, had a birthday and his is coming up soon, so their whole gang honored them both.

HAPPY & SAD DOLLARS:



Chris Severson & Catharina celebrated their 5th Anniversary at a Giants game and night in the City. They also went to the Sebastopol Rotary’s fundraiser, Blues, Brews & BBQ, last Saturday and had a great time.

Craig Clissold’s brother works the NASCAR event at Sonoma Raceway, so he gets special privileges. Craig was also proud that his daughter, who was principal at Santa Rosa High School, has been recruited to be the new principal at Mt. Tamalpias High.

Dawn Longoria just got back from an awesome trip to Barcelona. People wonder if we belong to a “friendly Universe” and the answer is “yes”. She recited a story of unexpected help received from a stranger while abroad.

Jackie Ryan dealt with a bout of forgetfulness and lost her Rotary pin. Val, to the rescue as always, gave her a new one.

Art Fichtenberg was happy that his grandson graduated high school. Also happy to brag that he shot a 74!

Arnie Lamb just got back from a trip to Las Vegas. He didn’t lose even a dime (he doesn’t gamble)! He advised us to not go there over Memorial Day!

PRESIDENT’S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

President Art let us know that our long-time member, **Ken Young**, has left our club due to health reasons. (Take care, **Ken**, your stories will be missed.)

MISCELLANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS:



Mike Isola presented **Kevin Johnson** with his Paul Harris +3 Award. Art reminded us that when we donate to the Fund, it goes to Rotary International. They keep those monies for 3 years, then distribute them to the Rotary clubs through Matching Grants.

Mike also chided us about our club being behind in our District goal of Sustaining Members and Every Rotarian Every Year (EREY).

Jim Allen is looking for members in his committee Rotary’s new 7th Area of Focus The Environment. Anyone interested in joining his committee should please contact him.



Karen Sites needs your checks for the Debunking dinner which is at the Saddle Club on June 22nd. The dinner is family-style. No-host cocktails will be served from 5 p.m. and dinner at 6. The cost is \$60pp. Please get your checks made Payable to VOM Rotary to Karen at McBride Realty or mail them to her home, 7294 Oak Leaf by **June 15th**.

Daymon Doss is looking for a volunteer to replace **David Beach** (our upcoming new president) and take over breakfast pickup at the Oakmont Market at 7 a.m. on the 4th Thursday of the month.

RAFFLE:

Chris & Craig drew **Jim Reed’s** number (AGAIN) for the \$167 raffle, but he didn’t draw the joker.

INSPIRATIONAL NOTE

Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory.
(Dr. Seuss)

GUEST SPEAKER:

Marcel Coder introduced our speaker Rebecca Rogoway, the Donor Relations Officer of The Living Room.

The mission of The Living Room is to ease adversity, promote stability, and support self-reliance for SoCo women & children who are experiencing, or at risk of experiencing homelessness. Their vision is to strengthen the resiliency of women as they persevere in the face of adversity.



The Living Room, in partnership with multiple organizations, provides transitional housing for approximately 19 women and children. Multiple teams collaborate to support each woman in improving her mental and physical health with the goal of enhancing life skills and increasing long-term stability. Our housing is spread throughout local neighborhoods, and each site has a garden and a sense of community.

The Living Room

TLR began back in 1993 at the Church of Reincarnation on Mendocino Ave., then moved to several other locations throughout the years. They now have The Living Room Life Center on North Dutton Avenue, where they provide a “place of community, dignity and hope. They also have 2 houses for women in distress where no men are allowed and they can feel safe.

Rebecca told us how they managed to survive during COVID and how things are coming together to provide more services at the Life Center, which is a one-stop-shopping. Of course, funding is needed to expand these services. The Life Center is the only ‘day center’ for women in northern CA up to the Oregon border.



Services provided at the Life Center are:

- Resources for housing, food, medical care, employment and transportation
- Peer support and mentoring (women with similar life experiences)
- Computer classes and free computer lab with phone charging
- CalFresh, Medical, WIC, EBT (Nutrition supplementary programs)
- SSDI, SSI, SDI assistance
- Legal Aid
- Art and Journaling Therapy
- Continental breakfast and heat-to-order lunch
- Classes and support groups
- Translating Services (Spanish/English)
- Respite Room
- Voter Registration
- and much more!

TLR is always in need of gently-worn clothing, appliances & furniture, but their storage space is limited. Their food services feed about 120 people a day, including folks at the Salvation Army Bethlehem Towers here in SR.

If you want to donate funds or items, you can contact Rebecca at rogoway@thelivingroomsc.org or Google The Living Room to learn more about this very-needed service our club has supported for many years.

You can also have a tour of the facility – just contact Rebecca,

Marcel presented Rebecca with our check for \$1000 for The Living Room.

Art presented Rebecca with a Certificate of Appreciation along with a Valley of the Moon pen and thanked her for the great work they do and for being here so early in the morning.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

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?



UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

- 6/15/23 – China Global Expansion, Mr. Nan Su
- 6/22/23 – DARK Debunking at Saddle Club
- 6/29/23 – Club Assembly
- 7/6/23 – Sturgeon Mill – Bill Hanson

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?

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.

Guests and potential Rotarians are invited twice at the Club's expense.

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

ERRORS & OMISSIONS

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