

Rotary



Club of Concord

Birthdays

Leslie Chapman
May 23rd
Michael S.
Thomas
May 28th
Richard Andrus
June 6th
Harry F. Bowers
June 11th
Scott L. Singly
June 12th

5/15/24 Concord Rotary Newsletter



Meeting Notes: **Tony Akins**

Newsletter Editor: **Ron Leone**

Read below to learn what's going on at your club! Do you know how to add to this newsletter, our Concord Rotary Website or Facebook? Send articles and photos to **Guy Bjerke** <guybjerke@gmail.com>.

Rotary Meeting Notes for 5/10/24

WELCOME TO CONCORD ROTARY



President **Wanda Waltman** opened the meeting and led us in the pledge. **Ron Melvin** shouted the 4 way test with gusto and vigor.

Introductions:

Jim Kohl introduced **Sue Greenfield**, a fellow Rotarian, who is moving to the area and will soon be joining our club. **Celia Velencia** introduced her mother, **Gloria Velencia**, along with her grandmother, **Amanda Amaderas**. **Pres. Wanda** introduced her daughter **Shelby** and Wanda's sister **Lorie**. Thank you all for joining us.



Happy Bucks:

Scott Singly led the list with a happy trip to Palisades near Lake Tahoe for skiing with his son, and of course a side trip to golf.

Tina Akins enjoyed seeing **Bryan Keding's** flooring shop last week, and also even happier that **Luis Alcon** and crew came out and did a fantastic job cleaning all of her windows.

Sil Garaventa is happy about an upcoming trip. He will be flying to Germany for the world's largest Recycling and Composting Convention.

Marcus Pierre just got back from a relaxing trip to Mexico and also is excited about his wife's new wellness business kicking off in Walnut Creek.

Gwyn Jones went home to England to attend a family funeral, but had a highlight of seeing his small town's futbol team move up a division.

Al Kappadahl went to Scotts Valley to see his best friend from college, and that made him happy. However, the traffic did not make him happy.

Jim Kohl was happy as he took his 93-year-old father on a trip to the **Little River Inn** in Mendocino county. And he was very happy that **Beth Willer** showed up early and helped him with some set-up issues for today's lunch meeting.

Celeste Graham was happy to be back from her recent trip to Turkey and Greece, although she did complain to **Chris Moulis** about all the hills she had to climb in Greece.

Michael Barrington is excited to be heading to The Gambia next week, but he is really happy about the Gambia government, who lost his passport for ten days, then miraculously found it.

Memory Woodard is excited to be once again interviewing students for our club scholarships, and is really happy that the amount the club is donating has increased to \$8K.

Pres Wanda is a proud mom because her daughter, Shelby, just got her Master's.



Birthdays:

Dale Adams

Josephine Leiva

Nick Virgallito

Bryan Keding's birthday is listed, but it is his wife's birthday,

Club Anniversaries:

Sean Duffy

Minica Holland

Ron Melvin

Alan Hermens

George Calhoun

Al Kappadahl

Wedding Anniversaries:

Jorge and Diane Cordova

and

Greg and Lois Grassi will be celebrating their 50th anniversary this year.

Congratulations to all!!

President Wanda led us through another round of "Name that tune/year and record label".

Career talks



Career talk:

Monica Bullet gave her career talk that has to be the all-time best career talk. She shared a PowerPoint with only a few slides, and talked with real insight and intelligence, sharing some of her career and life highlights. Monica has a BS in Civil Engineering and has worked for the Boston Globe, Harvard, N.Y.U and finally Kaiser, with a 30-year career in the area of managing and designing construction. She hopes to have more fun, travel, get certified in scuba diving and share her skills with young people. I think she would be a very interesting and fun dinner guest!

Program:

Today's program was led by Michael Barrington, and recapped our busy week with our visitors from Turkmenistan.

Friday: Arrive and had late lunch at La Piñata.

Saturday: Luis and others took them to S.F. to show them around and have a leisurely day as tourists. Of course, a walk down Lombard Street was one of the highlights.

Sunday: An early morning travel trip to Sacramento to attend the last day of the District Conference, where they were introduced to conference attendees. The Turkmenistans were confused but impressed by all the volunteerism espoused by Rotary, evidently a foreign concept back home.

After the Sacramento trip, it was back to Walnut Creek for some shopping at Target.

Monday: The journalists' first "official" visit to a company in their trade was a trip to "Mother Jones" who told them how M.J. does investigative journalism and is a watchdog on the government. Not sure if this is going to translate back in Turkmenistan. The second half of the day was a trip to S.F.S.U School of Journalism. They toured the department and met with staff and students while watching a 25' screen showing live news, which happened to be happening right at the campus - the protests about the Israeli/Hamas war in Gaza. Both the size of the screen and the protests were eye-opening for them.

Tuesday: The day began with a trip to the D.V.C. School of Journalism, where they were impressed with the school newspaper's 20,000 circulation, and with the prevalence of and freedom for women.

Wednesday: A visit to the State Capitol, Sacramento, was the order of the day. They met with Steve Glazer and watched him introduce a bill on the floor. In the evening, there was a rush back to Channel 7 news where Dan Ashley met with them, and Dan even started off his evening broadcast with a live on-air mention of Dan's meeting with the group.

Thursday: The day included a trip to Los Medanos where they met with the President of the campus, then off to the Benicia Public Library for a Town Hall in celebration of *World Free Press Day*. Here they met with experienced journalists from the SF Chronicle and Oakland Tribune while discussing the meaning of a free press. Thursday evening was held at Bryan Keding's showroom, where they showed a few videos and shared information about themselves and their country. There was also a question and answer period enjoyed by the members of the Rotary Club of Concord (Hey that's us!) and a few others.

Friday: The group enjoyed a trip to the Marin Independent Journal for a tour and to see how a midsize prize-winning newspaper is run. In the afternoon, they went to the Clayton Pioneer to see a one-woman-operation newspaper. Friday evening was a goodbye dinner at Chuck and Wanda Waltman's house, where the Turkmenistans and the club members shared a wonderful meal, drinks and a good time.

Saturday: Back to reality as we say goodbye to our guests on the way back home.

Editor's Note - I am exhausted from writing this much, less being on the whirlwind trip that the Club, led by Michael, provided for this group. What a great experience for them, and for us. A big thanks to the club members who hosted them at their houses, drove them around, **Carolyn Anderson** who loans a Suburban every year for this project, **Susan Wood** from the Pleasant Hill club for following everyone around and taking photographs and so many more.





Raffle that is not a raffle:

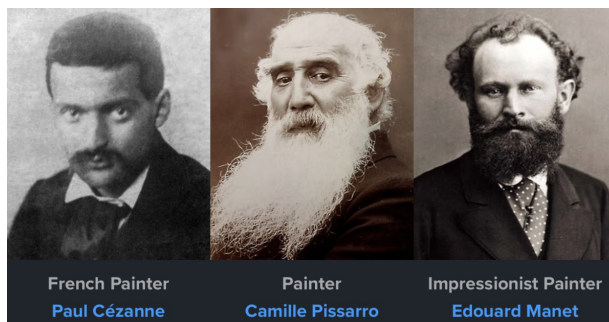
Dave Litty had his ticket drawn but drew the white marble, so the pot continued to grow.

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"On This Day" May 15



- 1841 First emigrant wagon train to make it to California leaves Independence, Missouri on a 1,730-mile journey over the Sierra Nevada

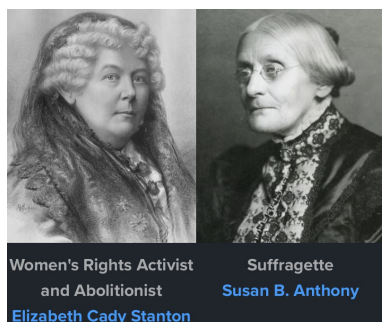


French Painter
Paul Cézanne

Painter
Camille Pissarro

Impressionist Painter
Edouard Manet

- 1863 Salon des Refusés opens in Paris, exhibition of works rejected by official Salon, features Paul Cézanne, Camille Pissarro, Henri Fantin-Latour, James Whistler, and Édouard Manet



Women's Rights Activist
and Abolitionist
Elizabeth Cady Stanton

Suffragette
Susan B. Anthony

- 1869, the National Woman Suffrage Association formed in New York, founded by Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton





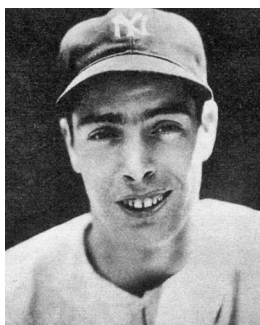
- *1897, The Scientific-Humanitarian Committee was founded in Berlin by Magnus Hirschfeld, the first-ever LGBT rights organization.*



- *1912 Ty Cobb rushes a heckler at a NY Highlander game & is suspended*



- *1921 Italian General Election: National Bloc, including Mussolini's fascists 35 seats, win most seats but not a majority*

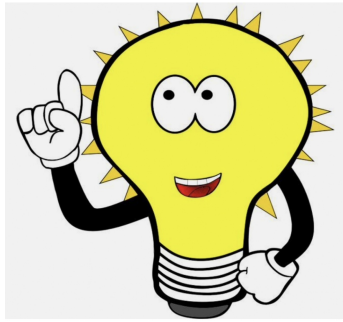


- *1941 New York Yankees Joe DiMaggio starts a 56-game hitting streak, with the only RBI, in a 13-1 loss to the visiting Chicago White Sox*



Joke of the Day

*What should you wear to a tea party?
A t-shirt!*



Thought of the Day

“When you give joy to other people, you get more joy in return. You should give a good thought to the happiness that you can give out.”

“Eleanor Roosevelt

Cartoon of the Day



Club Leaders



[Wanda D. Waltman](#)
President



[Jim Kohl](#)
President-Elect



[Sandra J. Newman](#)
Secretary



[Nickolas Peterson](#)
Treasurer Club



[Gregory M. Grassi](#)
Treasurer
Endowment (T)



[Anthony A. Akins](#)
Rotary Foundation



[Sean Duffey](#)
Membership Chair



[Rick Ernst](#)
Membership
Service



[Bryan E. Keding](#)
Community
Service



[Michael Joseph
Barrington](#)
International
Service



[Dave Litty](#)
Vocational
Service



[Leslie Chapman](#)
Youth Service -
Interact



[Memory A.
Woodard](#)
iPast President