

Rotary



Club of Concord

Club Meeting Report - September 6, 2019

By Al Kappadah

The Chronicle of the meeting of Friday Sept. 6th, 2019 of the ROTARY CLUB OF CONCORD, CA

AKA Our Friday Hour of Fun & Fellowship

Once again it began in the usual way with **Pete Baldacci's** discussion group in the imbibement zone and NTP **Rich Andrus** setting up the Audio-Visual complex and the many items needed to make the Pres look like he is in charge of an organized group of eager members. Our Sgt at Arms **Wanda Waltman** was taking names and welcoming our visitors, **Bill Guthreau** was collecting \$ for the Opportunity tickets and **Parmod Kumar** was collecting for the first of the season's Football Pool for Sunday's game.

Treasurer **Greg Grassi** again had camera in hand and **Gary Collins** was the designated Honey Pot Carrier. No Formal Greeter today but we had a lovely choice of Secret Greeters as both **Debra Powell** and **Marilyn McClaskey** rose when the Secret Greeter was asked to stand by Pres **Michael Barrington** and believe it or not there was not even one member who would confess to not having greeted one of them.

There it was again, set apart and prominently visible behind the podium: a discreet table for three Our Pres and his two Associate Presidents, the NTP helpers that are doing the heavy lifting No question about who is running this show

With our NEW format this year the greatly expanded role of the audiovisual aspect is really noticeable. I suspect that Pres. **Michael** has doubled the salary of our guru from Back Office Geeks, NTP **Rich Andrus**, as there was a video going while we got our food, but thankfully it was just a preview as the room's noise level drowned out all the audio

Again on time NTP **Rich** rang the bell, greeted us and handed off the mike to also NTP **Peter Baldacci**, who introduced guests (and almost members) Russ Anderson of Walnut Creek and Bill Eames of Lafayette, plus Concord RotaCare Director Jim Lessenger of the Benicia Club and **Debra Powell's** guest, Taylor Mitchell, before leading us all in a Welcome Back salute and tribute to **Sterling Albert**, who has finally recovered from serious facial injuries incurred from a fall several months ago.



NTP **Peter** then handed the mike off to Pres. **Michael**, who introduced his Sister Pat from the United Kingdom, who traveled here on the Thomas Cook airlines and was allowed to sit in the Captain's seat for a time and her Bro. then tried to fine her \$10 but somehow that was passed over quickly as he didn't even bother to designate if it was Pounds or \$...

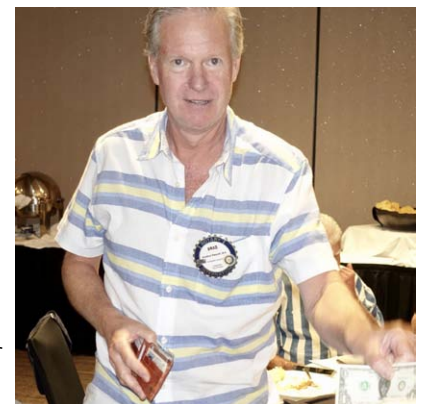
NTP **Peter** then took back the mike and voila on the screen appeared a list of all who have Birthday this month...and P.E. **Dr. Brad Prescott** was first, but he couldn't decide who to fine. His DAY was yesterday and I, your Scribe, agreed to gladly pay his fine IF he'd confess that Yesterday was his last day of work AND his last day of having to pay malpractice insurance which he

did graciously and donated \$100, to his Paul Harris.

Chris Moulis also acknowledged his B Day with a nice contribution and **Parmod Kumar** celebrated his 45th wedding day with that many \$ and **Gary Collins** put in \$50 to celebrate his 20 years with Sharil. **Kevin Matteri** also found some \$ to acknowledge 20 years with Reyna, and **Jerry Hoobler**, **Bill Guthreau** and **Greg Grassi**, all acknowledged membership anniversaries with \$...

NTP then called for the Joke of the Day (For which our Pres says we must all be prepared) and only one hand went up **Ron Leone** who gave us a 3 part story of a drowning man who thrice refused rescue in a flood, saying that he trusted God to save him. When he drowned and got to the Pearly Gate, he asked why God had not saved him and was told Sorry, I tried three times (Groan) but **Ron** got to spin the wheel and took home \$4.00.

Our Pres then started a video about Teamwork with a really good precision Drill Team and although unspoken, I think he wants us to be like them after which he started around a card of well wishes for our **Paul Meyerhofer** which each of us signed, as his recent major surgery will





take a long recovery time. He then passed the mike to our Membership Team Leaders, **Rick Ernst** and **Scott Singley**, who alerted us that now is recruiting time and also passed a clipboard asking each person to note the hours they had spent on Rotary business or Community help of any kind as the start of a weekly tab which is now requested by R.I. There were also One & More fliers at each seat.

Announcements: **Inge Yarborough** needs help with getting sponsors for our **MAJOR FUNDRAISER on Feb 14th, 2020**, our VALENTINES LOVE here at the Clarion. Please think of AND ASK any major business contacts you might have to be a Sponsor, as they are RIGHT NOW thinking about their next year's budgets. She also needs you for our Home Help Team on **Sat. the 28th** for light elder home repairs, 3 -4 hrs. **Parmod** reminded us about tomorrow's 8AM workday at Newall Park

Parmod Kumar and **Rick Ernst** then showed us Pics of the Friday Folders distribution we do each year for Cambridge Elementary where 80+% of the students are Hispanic and the folders are sent to parents each Friday to be returned on Monday with their sign-off of the work, as most have no other means of communication with the school. Helping them were **Memory Woodard** and our newest member **Bob Wilson**. **Michael** then asked us to calendar **Oct. 5th (Sat)** for a **District Mtg in Fairfield** and take it from an old-timer Folks it IS time well spent to learn more about Rotary and our District. Free Brkfst & Lunch. 8:30 to 1:30 DO IT!... Mandatory for Dept Heads [editor's note: aka committee chairs]

Pres **Michael** somehow caught some altercation in the back and sent the pot over to **Josh Young**, **Carolyn Anderson** and **Bill Bobetsky** for something unruly that I missed.

He also reminded us that IN TWO WEEKS ON **SEPT 20TH** we will have our annual WHITE ELEPHANT AUCTION. Plan on bringing your spouse and something worth at least \$25. to be auctioned or \$25 cash penalty, as this is our only Annual fundraiser strictly for our International Projects.

Next week (THIS WEEK AS YOU READ THIS) is **Hawaiian Shirt Day** So be glad you heard about it as the Pres has a quick fine ready for laggards he said something about double fines?

This Month, the 19th, will be Ygnacio Valley High's Open House where we will view the work and Multi Thousand Dollar investment WE made in the renovation of the Opportunity Lab. 5:00 to 7:00 PM with refreshments & perhaps an after that plan TBD. Come and support Chair **Memory Woodard's** Youth leadership efforts.

Upcoming in Oct: The 24th, sippy Thursday: some sort of joint meeting with Clayton Valley Club to celebrate World Polio Eradication Day. **Dave Litty** will chair it.

Also, to calendar: **Rotary Day at the Races: Nov 16th**. First six-person reservations get a race named in their honor So Go For It as it's a District event.

Happy \$... **Josh young** is the happy owner of a new upgrade home in Brentwood and gave \$100 to his Paul Harris and also thanked his Realtor **Chris Moulis**, who also gave \$100 to Paul Harris, but in **Josh's** name

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL PAUL HARRIS DONATIONS ARE BEING DOUBLED BY THE CLUB THIS MONTH!!! Great & rare Opportunity.

Guest **Bill Eames** donated to celebrate his G Son's graduation from Army Special Forces School and **Harry Bowers** contributed in honor of belonging to this Club, and **Rich Timmons** also gave a C note (a Bell Ringer!) in honor of his son's graduation from an advanced Naval School at Great Lakes.



Pres **Michael** then asked if anyone knew the origin of the UK pint glass he held up and no one did so he asked another Q On this day in 1620 an important event occurred in England: What was it? Several irreverent answers and fines later NTP **Rich Andrus** bailed him out by answering The Mayflower set sail and was rewarded by applause, and apparently not much more

And then it was Program Time:

For 25 minutes we watched Lois Eling dance and tell us everything there is to know about Appalachian Clog Dancing, a very enlightening time if you are a clogging fan. She took Questions from **Paul King** and **Dave Litty** and told us that there is a club of dancers in Danville if we are interested.

Thanks and applause and **Michael** had someone draw a



number, and **Wanda Waltman** picked out the wrong marble and again the Pres had only sympathy for her ♦loss♦ without any reward♦maybe he needs help or a reminder♦or a contribution of wine from someone♦Hmmm.

I thought NTP **Baldacci** would have a part in closing the meeting, but not today, apparently as Pres. **Michael** closed the meeting with the admonition that ♦War is God♦s way of teaching American♦s Geography♦ as all got up to leave.

And it was over♦

