

# Rotary



# Club of Livermore

## Spur Report Feb 10, 2021

By Don Wentz on Saturday, February 13, 2021

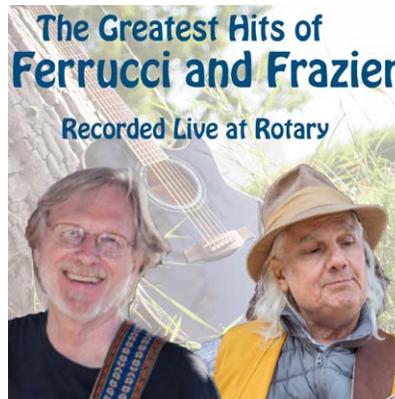


Today's Spur Reporter - Jim Schmidt

Today's Meeting, A Very Friendly Rotary Meeting that raised \$5,000 for Interact Projects!

The Rotary Club of Livermore meeting began with some happy chat before opening. President Carolyn warned us she was going to Turn the meeting upside down!

At precisely 12:30 Carolyn called the meeting to order and, as promised, it proceeded mostly Upside Down. First on the docket was the Pledge of allegiance, recited by Sonya.



Songsters Stu and Michael gave sang an oldie with a Valentine Day theme by the Turtles called Happy Together.

**Visiting Rotarians:** Sandy Sabile Visiting from the eClub of Silicon Valley, Frank Hanna, our auctioneer from Pleasanton North, Jill Duerig, Assistant Governor for Area 4 and member of Rotary Club of Livermore Valley. Tami Sousa from Niles Club thinking of transferring to Livermore.

**Guests of Rotarians:** Dale Chorney joined us again and Sarah Ansell, President of the Livermore HS Interact Club attended to watch the auction.

**The Livermore High School Interact Auction:** Carolyn announced we would be turning the meeting upside down. The major event the Annual Auction for the Livermore High School Interact Club would come first!

The auction was chaired by Jacquie Courtwright-Williams and the auctioneer was Frank Hanna.

Glen Kubiak, the Club Treasurer, explained two ways to get your bid or donation to the Interactor Club. Use Zell, if you wish or send a check to The Rotary Club of Livermore, PO Box 694, Livermore, CA, 94550. Please put Interact Auction in the memo line.



A lively, somewhat difficult, auction ensued since the auctioneer could not usually see his targets. Frank warned that everybody needed to be off of mute, and ANY noise would likely bring up their screen (and maybe place a bid??). The Interact supplied bid baskets were beautifully illustrated on the screen and explained by Jacquie. Nine fantastic baskets made by members of the Interact Club were auctioned off with lively bidding. Then followed four beautiful rose plants from Alden Lane. A couple of the Roses drew duplicate bids and Jacquie graciously proved the additional Roses. Then donations by Rotarians followed kicked off by TJ with \$100, the amount, which was doubled, and many followed. When the dust finally settled the total was \$5,000.

Sarah Ansell, President of the Interact Club, deeply thanked the Club and explained where the funds would go. The main project is a Bay Area goal of \$50,000 to help people in need in the humanitarian crisis in Yemen. There is also a local goal of \$5,000 and 30,000 hours to help local families in great need. Our thanks to all our Rotarians and visiting Rotarians for their great contributions to the Livermore High School Interact Club's local and international projects.

**Member Talk:** Brian Mayall then gave a most interesting Member talk. Brian was born at home in Manchester. His father was manager of a textile mill and the family was modestly well off. From the age of 10 to 18, Brian was sent to a boarding school, which was the English fashion in those times. At age 18, Brian crossed the Atlantic on the Queen Elizabeth, alone, and lived in New York, alone, for four months while he was an intern at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center Development Lab, which developed the first live polio vaccination. Before leaving the U.S. Brian rode a Greyhound bus from New York to San Francisco. While there, as I understand it, he borrowed a cousin's driver's license, and toured the SF North Beach nightclub scene. (Way to go Brian that explains a lot!)



Back in England, Brian attended Cambridge University, and obtained degrees in Natural Science and Economics. Even more importantly, he met and courted Susan. Then he fulfilled his two-year military obligation in the Royal Air Force. His last mission included flying troops to the Suez region in the English/French effort to capture/control the Suez Canal.

Upon his military completion, Brian and Susan, with 1+ children decided to head for the New World. Off to London, Ontario, where they spent six years completing his medical training. Then a move to Philadelphia to do studies in virology. But he found he could not become a virologist due to a strong allergy to mice! He crossed the street to the University of Pennsylvania. In 1972 he became associated with Mort Mendelson in a study of cancer and chromosomes. When Mort went to the Livermore Lab as Director of a biomedical department, Brian moved with him as a Group leader. Brian was involved some of the first measurements of the DNA content of chromosomes. Brian worked in machine analysis, and pre-natal analysis, and founded a journal still in publication. He became involved in a technology transfer program partnering with UCSF in San Francisco and the family moved there. Their objective was to move research findings into clinical applications. He retired as author of more than one hundred research papers.

Brian and Susan have been married for 65 years and are most happy that all four of their children live in the Bay Area. They have 9 grandchildren, and 4 great grandchildren. Susan opened Good Enough Books in Livermore. Brian helped out, and also became involved with Rotary. He has been particularly interested in health aspects such as Polio Plus, and the Health Care Van project. He also enjoys working with other Rotarians. Projects he worked on included remodeling classrooms, hosting international visitors, and playing golf with Rotarians. Rotary make him feel he is making a difference. This club also affords him fun times and good friends. He closes with Thank You Rotary. (And our club thanks Brian for his many medical and Rotary contributions)

**Thought for the Day:** Shelia provided the Thought for the Day. Shelia is humbled by our club. She is particularly proud of our support of young people like the Interactors. With thanks to them, she increased the pot by \$250 for a rose plant.



**Announcements:** Beth Wilson explained how to help the Monarch butterflies, whose population has been greatly diminished. She explained they feed almost exclusively on the milkweed plant, which in turn has been greatly reduced for a variety of reasons Beth has obtained wild milkweed seeds. Contact her if you wish to plant some single seeds or a 6 pack. She is urging people to plant them on their own property.



**Next Week's Speaker:** Rod Gilmore, Spots Announcer will speak on Multiple Myeloma.

Meeting concluded at 1:30. Thanks to all for a fine meeting.

## Links and Advertisers

Check out our Flickr site for all of today's photos and more!

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/62794352@N07/albums/with/72157709710922731>

Today's video will be available on our web site: <https://livermore-rotary.org/2020-21>


## Help Us With The Spur

Are you an aspiring reporter? If so, then please consider writing up our weekly newsletter from time to time. We are always looking for new writers, even though the regulars have a great time reporting them. Please contact Bob Jacobs @ [bob@attorney-mediator.law](mailto:bob@attorney-mediator.law)

## Club Leaders

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## Club Meeting

Livermore  
Meets at We are meeting via Zoom for the foreseeable future.  
Zoom  
Livermore, CA 94551  
Time: Wednesday at 12:00 PM