

Rotary

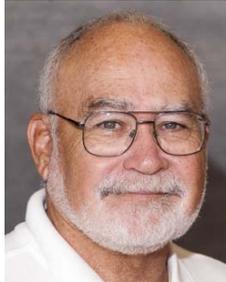


Club of Livermore

Spur Report Feb 24, 2021

By Don Wentz on Friday, February 26, 2021

THE SPUR FOR FEBRUARY 24, 2021



Our Spur Reporter ♦ Bill Nebo

???????Today ♦s Talk: Fichard Flynn ♦♦Midway, the Town, the Cemetery, the Railroad, and the People ♦



President Carolyn called the meeting to order at 12:30pm and following the saying of the pledge of allegiance lead by Ed Coats, Ferrucci and Frazier sang ♦*Home on the Range* ♦ in celebration of today ♦s concentration on local history.

Visiting Guests: Beth Splendorio and Karl Rosenkilde were introduced.

Thought for the Day:

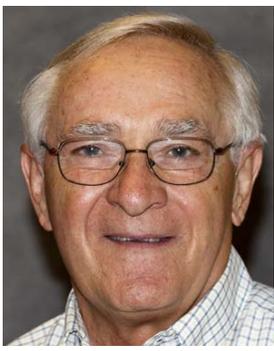
Cheri Sheets presented our thought for the day, a historical look at some of the landmarks to be celebrated during Black History Month. She pointed out that the celebration was born in 1926 when Dr. Carter Woodson called for the creation of a Negro History Week which became a federally adopted program during the Ford administration in 1976.

Cheri then listed a number of accomplishments of African Americans. Cathay Williams was the first and only female Buffalo soldier who in 1866 pulled off a ruse of dressing as a male soldier and served for 2 years before her deception was discovered. Both Condoleeza Rice and Martin Luther King began college at age 15 and Usain Bolt was the first to set 3 world records at one Olympic.

African American inventors are credited with the making of the refrigerator, air conditioning, cell phones, and the hairbrush. The Black Panther Party delivered free dental work and breakfasts to needful families during its existence in Oakland. Several other accomplishments were listed as well.



Member Talk: Randy Schlientz presented his Member talk. Randy was born in Kearney Nebraska and moved to California after World War 2. The thought of becoming an architect arose at the encouragement of his junior high school teacher and a high school teacher. He received his degree in architecture from UC Berkeley, served in the US Army, and after marrying Brenda in England stayed on to work there for few years. With one son born to them in England the



Schlientz family returned to the states in 1963. He went to work for Mason and Associates, receiving his California Architectural License in 1965. After his sons Ian and Mark were born, Randy and family moved to Livermore in 1968 where he became a full partner in the firm that was renamed Associated Profession INC (API)

Randy joined Rotary and served as President for the 1981-1982 year, then served as Area Representative for the District during the District Presidency of Rick King. It was during Randy's term that the club planned the lighting for the Rodeo Stadium. Randy partially retired in 1999 then fully retired in 2004. He reflected on the fact that the great satisfaction he gained in his architectural work was born in the encouragements of two teachers for whom he is grateful to this day.

Announcements:

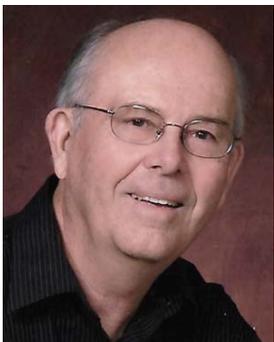
President Carolyn announced that this year's Rodeo and Parade will be held virtually so members are asked to consider nominations for a Grand Marshall. Going forward other events scheduled to occur virtually are the District Book Club on March 31, the District Training Assembly on April 24, and the Rotary International Convention on June 12-16. However, the District Conference will be held in person on July 17 at Gilroy Gardens, if the way is clear to do so.

Mary Ann Rozsa urged club members to seek out candidates for our Grant program. Grants must be presented by the deadline of March 3 and so far, the list is quite light.

Joel Swanson announced an online Great White House wine tasting event for March 12 at 6:30 pm. Wine packages will be available from the Great White House for \$35. A virtual tour of the operations will be featured. To reserve and pick up tasting kits online go to <https://bigwhitehouse.com/shop-ca-resident/>. Address questions to Joel.



Today's Program:



The program featured local Livermore historian Richard Finn, a retiree from Sandia, looking at the history of the now defunct town of Midway, once located on Patterson Pass Road at its intersection with Midway Road. His presentation was titled "Midway, the Town, the Cemetery, the Railroad, and the People". Dick did a fascinating job of covering all of those topics. The town is now completely gone, but careful examination of its site can find indications of its former life that began around the middle of the 19th Century.

In its heyday the town contained 35 residents, a cemetery, a granary, a hotel, two bars, a large corral, a train depot, a dance hall, a slaughterhouse, a store and post office, a dozen houses and a hotel, several warehouses a school. Ranchers raised cattle sheep and farmers grew wheat and Red Oat Hay, an especially nutritious feed exported to England and Australia for racehorses.



Altamont Pass and Patterson Pass were the two main routes to the Gold Country from the Bay Area during the Gold Rush. This may explain the 14 murders recorded in this wide-open town that only contained do it yourself law enforcement. At one time the railroad sought to exercise its claim to all of its right of way which included the town of Midway. But needing to maintain good public relations, the railroad gave in to county pressure to save Midway.

When prohibition came along the shrinking and remote populace provided a haven for noncompliant imbibing. The town continued to shrink as businesses moved away, the school closed, and the railroad no longer required its lodging.

Today some palm trees, the path of the railway right of way, and the remnants of foundations mark where the town of Midway once stood.

Next Week's Program: President Carolyn announced that next week's meeting will focus on a Club Assembly. The meeting was then adjourned.

Save the Date: The Inner Wheel Club of Livermore encourages you to save the date for their Spring fund raiser supporting the Myoelectric Children's Limb Project.

First Annual Livermore Inner Wheel Road Rally

Bring the family and join in on a search for Livermore History!

Sunday April 11, 2021

Meet at the Round Table Parking Lot on Stanley Blvd
1:00 pm for Registration and \$25 per vehicle cash or check
2:00 pm all cars are on the road
Prizes given for the 3 fastest times!

Benefitting Inner Wheel USA Charity: Children's Myoelectric Limb Project
Please pre-register at ebell4830@sbcglobal.net

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>



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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

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Youth Services Chair



[Jay Davis](#)
iPast President

Club Meeting

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