

April 15, 2021

[www.montereyrotary.org](http://www.montereyrotary.org)

# La Rueda

S E R V I C E   A B O V E   S E L F  
THE ROTARY CLUB OF MONTEREY, RI DISTRICT 5230



## **Dianna O'Briant, Cooper Molera Adobe**

**Juan Bautista Rogers Cooper –  
Legacy Of An Early CA Pioneer!**

Dianna Shea O'Briant is a Conceptual Fine Artist and Museum Professional from Paris, Texas. She holds a Bachelors of Fine Art in Illustration and Art History from the Memphis College of Art in Memphis, TN and now resides in Marina, CA using a love of nature and history to lead her career of studio artwork and Museology.

She has 9 years of experience leading docent tours in museums, and galleries, as well as workshops for basic illustration and painting techniques, sketch-booking skills, and children's programming such as art camps, classes, and family activities working alongside education and programming departments at the Dixon Gallery and Gardens in Memphis, TN, the Monterey Museum of Art in Monterey,

CA, and now in the historic Cooper-Molera Adobe, a site of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Some notable examples of her work include:

- Participation in Memphis Tennessee's Dixon Gallery and Garden's Family Day event that regularly attracts 700+ local and out of town visitors. This is a free open museum day which focuses on bringing the Memphis community to museum and garden exhibits and features the education department's creative projects designed for all ages.
- Art workshops for Memphis, TN and Monterey, CA communities include illustration basics, sketch-booking 101, printmaking, landscape painting, camera obscuras and photography in a museum gallery setting, and silk painting.
- Programming in Art and History Museums for youth and adults such as a Mini Art Master's program for 2-4-year old's with a reading time and project with guardian. Adult programs have been most successful with a local favorite event; Christmas in the Adobes in Monterey, CA with over 2K local and tourist visitors to the Cooper Molera Adobe annually.

When she is not giving history tours and art workshops, you can find her drawing, gardening, practicing yoga, or doing personal archival work. Look for her on Instagram (@whitestagillustration) or at [whitestagtillustration.com](http://whitestagtillustration.com).

Caring For Membership  
**members**  
corner



Featuring Fellow Rotarian Member

# John Berlin



My involvement in the Rotary Club of Monterey began in the fall of 1986, after having arrived earlier that year from Los Angeles to join my father's estate planning insurance business. My father, Richard "Dick" Berlin, who had been Club President in 1984, introduced me to the club. Dr. Rex "Bud" Wilcox, a Past President, became my sponsor and off my Rotary Club of Monterey journey of service began. (I had 3 years perfect attendance in West Los Angeles Rotary.) Come on, the Truth, Fairness, Goodwill and Beneficial to All is a great standard to have!

Being the youngest in the club by about 15 years, I was asked to do many tasks, before being appointed Sergeant-at-Arms. In retrospect, it was much easier then, than all the duties Greg Wutke performs!

The next year the club decided to raffle a new Jaguar for the annual fund raiser and made me one of the four team captains. The club members, all men at this time, were expected to sell five tickets each at \$100 to raise enough to pay for the car and give the club the rest (about \$60,000-\$30,000 = \$30,000). Women first became Rotarians after 1987 and my father helped Nancy Dalton of MPUSD be our first woman member.



A memorable highlight of my Rotary experience was meeting Representative Leon Panetta. At the time he was upset about not getting his way with the Reagan Administration. After the meeting, my comment to him was, "Leon, you give me no hope at all." I have heard him speak many times since and love his comments on the news. These days he is the only one giving me hope. I wrote "The Leon Panetta Song" (which is a 2012 live recording on U-Tube from the Alternative Café) about catching Osama Bin Laden.

I continued my record of perfect attendance and it motivated me to visit other local clubs for makeups which helped in meeting new people in the community. One experience was during the "Paul Harris Open", a golf tournament put on by the local clubs for Rotarians from all over the world. Col. Carter from the Sunrise club and I would get out at 6 a.m. and place "Tee Signs" on all 18 golf tees at Poppy Hills (local Rotarians had paid \$100 to sponsor each tee). Member and neighbor, Hi Hughson, bought one in honor of my son, Michael.

The Cole Auto Auction became the club's primary fund-raiser in 1992 (Thanks to Carl Anderson). The most startling difference between now and then is the security. Back then they would give me a box of keys on Wednesday and say, "start bringing them up." It was easy to go through and find the key for every Ferrari to bring up to the plaza first for staging. Can you imagine that practice now!

Also, in 1992, with the help of radio engineer Carl Williford and local attorney Robert Ponce, we started WPB, Williford, Ponce and Berlin, to broadcast local High School

Football on the radio. We would buy airtime, sell sponsorships and give \$100 to each team's athletic department and \$100 to their league, \$300 a game in donations. We did this until 2012 raising over \$50,000 for schools in the Monterey County area. Member Pete Cutino was able to get us one of our first sponsorships, a trade at the new Monterey Sport Center.

From that time, interviews with numerous players and coaches stand out. One is interviewing Coach Herm Edwards for 8 years at his Camp here in the summer and using the recordings for the half-time shows on the radio later in the fall. Another memorable event was calling the Seaside vs. Pacific Grove game in the 2006 CCS Finals in San Jose, where Seaside Quarterback Mason Foster threw and ran the ball for scores on offense and intercepted the ball as linebacker on defense. He went on to star at the University of Washington and on the NFL's Washington Football Team. Our WPB group also broadcast the CSUMB Men's and Women's Basketball games.

Another great event was working at the AT&T Pebble Beach as Director of Ecology raising funds for San Carlos School. I was there to witness Tiger Wood's eagle pitch on 15 as he came from 7 strokes behind with 6 holes to play on a Monday in February and win the 2000 AT&T. Later that year Tiger would win the U. S. Open by 13 strokes at Pebble Beach and I was there on the green, wearing a U.S. Open tie and director's blue blazer as Tiger received his trophy. (I'm still waiting for the photo Pebble Beach Co. promised). In 2005, I was working media at the AT&T and as Phil Mickelson was walking down 18 to win the tournament, my attention was on helping Amy Mickelson keep their 3 young kids out of the flowers behind the 18th green bleachers.

I have deep gratitude in my heart for late Past President Roger Post, who really helped me get through the loss of my father (1999) and my second divorce (2002) with his weekly prayer meetings at the Pacheco Club.

The same feeling goes for the memory of member, Lois Marshall. We would promote ourselves as the "French Maid" and the "Swedish Chef". Our "Champagne Swedish Pancake Brunch" was a hot item at our annual Rotary Auction. I was involved in the "Group Study Exchange" for many years taking the foreign visitors to Big Sur and the Lighthouse. I also worked on a student project called "We Are One".

I attended the University of Oregon and finished college at Southern Oregon University. At Palisades High School we won the 1969 Los Angeles City Basketball Championship. Warrior head coach, Steve Kerr played at Palisades High 15 years later.

The work-out at the Monterey Sport Center has become a central focus of my life. (I have to make at least 10 free throws in a row before leaving). I cannot wait for life on the Central Coast to get back to normal.



My work continues as an independent life insurance agent along with being a “seasonal worker” due to open enrollment dates in the Medicare and the under 65 health insurance industry.

I have three children. My daughter, Kaley, 36, is a LCSW Therapist in the Bay Area. Sarah, 33, is in the wine business in Southern California and Michael, 29, works



Security in Salinas and has two children with wife, Sabrina. Currently my job is to watch over my two grandchildren, Jasmine, 7, and little Michael, 3, while their parents juggle work schedules. I have four dogs at home, all rescues my children could not keep: Apollo, a Lab/Akita mix; Marley, who looks like a dingo; Butch Cassidy, the Jack Russell and Pachacco, a schnauzer mix.

My covid19 hobby has been to finish my novel about surviving after high school in 1969.

## APRIL – MAY

**Thursday – 04/22** **Tim Flanagan, General Manager** – Zero Waste Facilities Of The Future

**Thursday – 04/29** **Chris Chase** – The Western Flyer Sails Again!

**Tuesday – 05/04** **COG Meeting** – 5:30 PM (Via Hybrid And Zoom)

**Thursday – 05/06** **COG Bios** – Christian Theissen And Phil Deppert

**Thursday – 05/13** **Board Meeting** – 8:00 AM (Via Zoom)

**Thursday – 05/13** **Recipients** – Scholarships And Teacher Awards

**Thursday – 05/20** **Grant Birindelli,USN** – Images From Mars Rover “Perseverance”

**Thursday – 05/27** **Dr. Stephen Palumbi, Hopkins Marine Station** – Can Adaptation To Warmer Water Help Corals And Kelp Slow The Damage Caused By Climate Change?

THANKS TO THESE ADVERTISERS, WE CAN PRODUCE OUR NEWSLETTER WITHOUT COST. THANK YOU!!



**CUSTOM  
HOUSE  
REALTY**  
• PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

**Terry L. Wecker**  
Realtor®/Manager  
457 Webster Street  
Monterey, CA 93940  
831-649-0102  
tweck@pacbell.net

BRE #00548546

[customhoureality.com](http://customhoureality.com)



**Robert Russell**  
robrtr@tpohr.com  
831.647.7292

60 Garden Court, Suite 100 • Monterey, CA 93940  
www.tpohr.com • Fax 831.658.0201  
PI-25638



**Daniel R. Baldwin**  
President/CEO

2354 Garden Road, Monterey, CA 93940  
831.375.9712 x115 | Direct 831.884.5715  
Cell 831.236.9815 | Fax 831.375.4731  
danb@cfmco.org

[www.cfmco.org](http://www.cfmco.org)  
[www.facebook.com/cfmco](http://www.facebook.com/cfmco)



**CLAY LARSON**  
DIRECTOR OF CLIENT RELATIONS  
DIRECT LINE: (831) 264-4077  
clay.larson@1stcapitalbank.com

**KENNEDY, ARCHER & GIFFEN**  
A Professional Corporation

**JON R. GIFFEN**  
Attorney at Law

24591 Silver Cloud Court Tel (831) 373-7500  
Suite 200 Fax (831) 373-7555  
Monterey, California 93940 E-mail: jgiffen@kaglaw.net

**GEISLER**  
PROMOTIONAL MARKETING

**FRANK & JONATHAN GEISLER** A Geiger Affiliate  
frank@geisler3.com  
jonathan@geisler3.com  
445 Reservation Road, Suite F  
Marina, CA 93933  
GEISLER3.com  
Office: 831.372.6789  
Fax: 831.372.6788  
307 Main Street, Suite 210  
Salinas, CA 93901



**CARMEL REALTY COMPANY**  
ESTABLISHED 1913

**Susan Freeland**  
Broker Associate

Dolores Street South of Seventh  
P.O. Drawer G, Carmel-by-the-Sea, California 93921  
Cell: 831.594.2327 Fax: 831.642.9626 Home: 831.642.9651  
susan@carmel-realty.com www.montereypeninsulaproperty.com  
www.carmel-realty.com DRE# 01318403



**Yutaka Uyeda, S.E.**  
principal

2600 Garden Rd., Suite 305  
Monterey, CA 93940

tel: 831-373-3181 cell: 831-241-8438  
e-mail: uyaase@gmail.com - yutaka@uyeda-se.com

**Support The Martin/Hurd  
Rotary Club of Monterey Fund**

at the CFMC that provides grants to local  
non-profit organizations supporting youth  
and scholarships for students.

**For More Information:**  
<http://www.cfmco.org/about-us/fund-list/rotary-club-monterey-martin-hurd-fund/>



Rotary   
DISTRICT 5230  
CONFERENCE  
SAVE THE DATE  
SATURDAY  
MAY 1, 2021  
A VIRTUAL  
EXPERIENCE

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Dan Albert – April 15  
Henry Ruhnke – April 19  
Sean Madden – April 19



The next book club features the life and death  
in Monterey Bay (to read by May 5 at 5:00 PM)  
[https://www.amazon.com/Death-Life-Monterey-Bay-Revival/dp/1610911903/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?dchild=1&keywords=the+death+and+life+of+monterey+bay&qid=1617843656&s=books&sr=1-1](https://www.amazon.com/Death-Life-Monterey-Bay-Revival/dp/1610911903/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=the+death+and+life+of+monterey+bay&qid=1617843656&s=books&sr=1-1)

Join us! We meet on the first Wednesday of each  
month at 5:00 PM. Zoom invitations will be sent  
out just prior to the event.

Questions? Ask Molly Bozzo 831-574-4600



**Rotary Opens Opportunities**