



THE MILL WHEEL



Rotary Club of Mill Valley
Founded June 7, 1926 • "Service Above Self"
May 16, 2023 • Volume 96, Issue #41
<http://millvalleyrotary.org>
District Website: www.rotary5150.org



GREETER

❖ **Stephanie Ricardo** gave us something to ponder with her Thought for the Day: *Overcoming poverty is not a gesture of charity. It is an act of justice. It is the protection of a fundamental human right, the right to dignity and a decent life—Nelson Mandela.*

PRESIDER

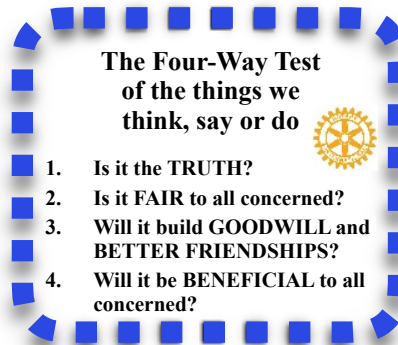
❖ President **John Christman** at the podium, urging club members to sing along as usual. Today's ballad by **Marvin Gaye** got us singing "Ain't no mountain high enough..."

GUESTS

❖ Two bigwigs from District 5150 found their way to Mill Valley Rotary today: 2022-23 ADG **Anne Sands** of West Marin Rotary and the fellow who will assume the role in 2023-24, **Robert (Bob) Chatham**, a member at San Rafael Rotary. Thanks, Anne, for your outstanding support of Mill Valley Rotary during your tenure. Welcome, Bob!

CELEBRATIONS

❖ *Birthdays*—No May babies in attendance today.



❖ Club Anniversaries—**Burnett Tregoning** (5/5/98); **Lee Kirkpatrick** (5/19/09) and **Stephanie Ricardo** (5/24/11) were on hand to share their favorite Mill Valley Rotary moments. Burnett thanked the club and Rotary for a wonderful, stimulating 25 years during which he had the opportunity to serve as club president twice and



► ADG Elect Robert Chatham poses with Greeter Stephanie Ricardo. (Photo by Tom McKlveen)

continues to serve as editor of what some say is the "best darn club newsletter" in District 5150. Both Lee and Stephanie recalled retirement dates as favorite moments, Lee retiring as president in 2020, and Stephanie as Treasurer after many years on the job. All three are assets to Rotary and we thank them for their service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

❖ The Mountain Play debuts this coming Sunday. A signup sheet for workers in the Rotary booth still circulates. PP **Lisán Campbell** noted that she will be sending instructions to the captains. Still time for you to volunteer, so give PP **Kim Jessup** or PP Lisán a call to join a crew. It's a lot of fun!

❖ The May *Rotary Night Out* will be special this month. One of our newest members and her husband, **Annette and Paul Venables**, will host the meeting at their home, 227 Laverne Ave. in the Homestead Valley area of Mill Valley. Special guest will be **Maria Joseph**, SJ, of St. Xavier's School, Gurap, West Bengal, India. The school is the first project of Tribe Rising India, a Mill Valley-based nonprofit dedicated to building schools and educating children. Wine/beer and appetizers will be served. RSVP to Annette at tribe_rising.info@gmail.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (Cont'd)

❖ ADG **Anne Sands** reminded the club that the deadline for donations to The Rotary Annual Fund Share for the 2022-23 fiscal year was fast approaching. June 30 is the deadline for clubs to make 100% participation, with at least \$25 donated by each member. Also, please remember the challenge made by PP **Greg Dyer** who promised to add \$1,000 to the pot if the club hit the 100% mark. Go for it MV Rotarians!

GOOD TIMES

❖ Mill Valley Rotarian **John Carmichael** participated in the Rotary Day of Service, May 13, choosing the event held in San Francisco where Bay Area Rotarians gathered to work in the Bison paddock in Golden Gate

► **Top: John and his bison buddy.** The bison were first brought to the Golden Gate Park in 1891. The SF Rotary Day of Service crew works away while John takes a "selfie." **Bottom left: John looking cool on his bike.**



**SIGNED UP
YET?**

**Annual Mill
Valley Rotary
Installation
Dinner:**

June 27, 2023



GOOD TIMES (Cont'd)

Park. John noted that the goal of the S.F. event was to dig up thorny thistles and poisonous hemlock in the paddock since the Bison to not eat these plants and they take up space. Ultimately, he explains, the park is hoping to reseed the Bison paddock.

"There were about 100 volunteers primarily from San Francisco Rotary Clubs, but there were at least three Marin County clubs represented. I was the only person from Mill Valley Rotary. There was also an electric vehicle exhibition. "I had fun testing an electric bike for the first time, he notes. "I chose the fastest bike they had although I only got up to 20 mph."

❖PP **Bob Canepa** recently relived his days as a Marine while on a three week trip of the Far East. The first leg of the trip was a WWII military history tour of the Philippines. The highlights of that tour were Corregidor and the crumbling fortifications and big guns. Second leg was a WWII military history tour of Okinawa, which is where Bob was stationed 50 years ago. Bob noted that the



► **Left: Bob hams it up during his visit to Corregidor. At right he inspects historical marker on Bataan.**

highlight of that tour was a tribute to PFC **Desmond Doss**, a conscientious objector who saved 75 lives on Hacksaw Ridge and was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. Bob was literally astounded by all the changes on Okinawa. He also spent a few days in Taipei at the tail end of the trip.

Even though then trip ended with a visit to a hospital emergency room, Bob returned to

Mill Valley safely with a bell-ringer for Mill Valley Rotary.

Editor's Note: The photos and videos that were taken by Bob's tour leader are not copyrighted and can be downloaded. Here is the link to photos and videos that were taken by his military history tour leader in Okinawa: <https://connoisseursofexperiences.home.blog/category/okinawa-2023/>

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

Einar Asbo 5/1/12
Gregory C. Dyer 5/2/72
Burnett Tregoning 5/5/98
Lee Kirkpatrick 5/19/09
Stephanie Ricardo 5/24/11
Peter O'Keefe 5/29/18



MAY BIRTHDAYS

Jane Hall 5/2
Sharon Segal 5/3
Bill Lambrecht 5/13
Jean Batman 5/20
Keith Papulias 5/28
Gregory C. Dyer 5/29



GOOD TIMES (Cont'd)



► Dick details trip to France.

❖ PP **Dick Spotswood**'s bell-ringer was a pilgrimage to Lourdes, France. He accompanied a friend he has known ever since college days who is suffering from Stage 4 Pancreatic Cancer on the Lourdes Pilgrimage as his 24/7 personal caregiver. Dick's friend can't walk so he assisted him in his wheelchair and walker.

A group Dick belongs to, the Order of Malta, <https://www.orderofmalta.int/> has an annual pilgrimage where they take those with life threatening illness – at Order of Malta's cost including airfare – to Lourdes.

Dick explains that the "miracle thing" is not promised and the term is discouraged. "It is a place of spirituality, love, and hope," he noted.

A team of four assists each sick person (*malade* in French) and their caregiver. The group charted a jumbo jet from Los Angeles for a group of 300 or so and there were likely 10,000 attending from around the world, explained Dick.

❖ This certainly was a "Good Time" for Mill Valley Rotary's fine box! The box, which has weathered decades of use at luncheon meetings, was getting

pretty ratty looking. Until, that is, PP **Lee Kirkpatrick** and his wood-working skills took over. Lee gave a brief account of its repair, and now the traditional fine box is back in action. Beware!

❖ The final presenter during "Good Times" today was PP **Kent Campbell** who read a letter just received from PP **Bob Roberts**, who has announced that he and **Betty** would be moving to Southern California to be near family. Addressed to "My Esteemed Rotary Colleagues," here are excerpts:

"I had hoped to make one more lunch meeting with you. Alas, I greatly underestimated the chores involved in culling and packaging the detritus of 48 years. Halfway through this



► Lee shows how he did it.

horrific process disaster struck. I made an errant step on a staircase. Gravity took over and I landed in Marin General's

All Dressed Up for Spring to Rotary Event



► PP **Sue Royce** (2013-14) sent us this photo taken at the recent Spring to Rotary event at the Marin Art & Garden Center, where she posed with three current and one ex-Mill Valley Rotarians. From left: PP & President Elect **Ed Marshall**; PP & President Elect **Kim Jessup**, current President **John Christman**; and former President **Jim Simkalo** (2011-12). Jim currently serves as president of the Rotary Club of Sausalito and at the recent Monterey District 5150 Conference was presented with the **Cliff Dochtermann Award** for his dedicated service to Scouting.

GOOD TIMES (Cont'd)

emergency room with a broken wrist and six cracked ribs.”

Bob's family pitched in, but soon had to return to jobs and family, leaving Betty and an incapacitated Bob staring at a “colossal mound” of clothes and goods to be boxed.

Enter Mr. Fix-It, fellow Rotarian and long-time friend **Lee Kirkpatrick**.

Bob's letter continues: “Like a whirling dervish, he attacked the piles and filled umpteen boxes. Within four days, working long hours with Betty, over 100 labeled and organized boxes stood ready for the moving van...



► **Kent at mike.**

for his colossal effort on our behalf of my family he well deserves a bell-ringer...P.S. Because of our club's wonderful camaraderie, I will be keeping up my membership.”

Mill Valley Rotary thanks you, Bob, for your contributions, and we look forward to seeing you and Betty again real soon. Bon Voyage!

RAFFLE

❖Two “winners” today—PP **Elizabeth Suzuki** and **John Carmichael**, both “winning” consolation prizes.

PROGRAM

❖ Today's speaker **Jonathan Knight**, discovers that he is a descendant of Kentucky slave holder **Richard Bibb**. In a presentation titled “*We Can't*



► **Speaker Jonathan Knight poses with Dennis Klein and President John Christman.**

Hide From History,” he told about meeting black descendants of the people enslaved by his ancestor. Confronting his family's past culminates in a powerful family reunion in Kentucky at the site that represents both bondage and freedom.



2022-2023 PolioPlus Society MV Membership Roster

Lisán Campbell
Greg Dyer
Phil Richardson
Dick Spotswood
Elizabeth Suzuki
Burnett Tregoning

2022-2023 TRF HONOR ROLL

◆ Foundation Chair Phil Richardson salutes the following members who have donated during the 2022-2023 EREY Rotary Foundation Drive. Wouldn't you like to join them?

STEVE BAJOR
JEAN BATMAN
RUSS BURBANK
BOB CANEPA
JOHN CARMICHAEL
JOHN CHRISTMAN
LARRY DAVIS
GREG DYER
JANE HALL
HOWARD HARKER
DON HERZOG
VINCE HOWES
KIM JESSUP
LEW KATCHER
ROBERTA KELLER
LEE KIRKPATRICK
DENNIS KLEIN
BILL LAMBRECHT

BILL LAMPL
CARL LIPPENBERGER
ED MARSHALL
PETER MASON
TOM MCKLVEEN
STEVE MILLER
RAY PALMARINI
STEPHANIE RICARDO
PHIL RICHARDSON
BOB ROBERTS
DOUG SCHERF
LEE SMITH
DICK SPOTSWOOD
ELIZABETH SUZUKI
MARGARETH TANNER
BURNETT TREGONING
ANNETTE VENABLES



Rotary



NEXT MEETING: *Luck is a State of Mind*

June 6: Pulitzer Prize Winner and Nikon Ambassador photographer **Deanne Fitzmaurice** will present: *Luck is a State of Mind*. In this wild ride through decades of bearing witness to sweeping change, she will share the personal philosophy that helps her capture jaw-dropping images. Using the pivotal stories she covered as a staff photographer for the *San Francisco*

Chronicle for 20 years, including culture, music, sports and a wide range of personal and freelance projects, Deanne drills down into what makes a memorable photograph and shares tips on using the art of storytelling for maximum impact.



★ To Sign Up for the Annual Installation Dinner via Email: esuzuki54@gmail.com ★

**POLIO JAR
2022-2023
GOAL:
\$1,000**

**TOTAL
\$717.00**

**SERVICE FUND
(GEO. HOYLE)
2022-2023
GOAL:
\$10,000**

**TOTAL
\$3,427.50**

**ROTARY
FOUNDATION
2022-2023
GOAL:
\$7,000**

**TOTAL
\$6,000.00**

ROTARY CLUB OF MILL VALLEY—OFFICERS & DIRECTORS 2022-2023

President: John Christman
President Elect: Kimberly Jessup
Past President: Lisán Campbell
Secretary: Margareth Tanner
Treasurer: John Carmichael
Service Fund (Ex Officio): Lee Kirkpatrick
International Service: Rita Sedano-Garcia
Community Service: John Poulson
Fellowship: Elizabeth Suzuki
Foundation Chair: Phil Richardson
Membership: Peter O'Keefe
Public Relations: Dick Spotswood
Youth Service: Emily Uhlhorn
Nurturing Chair: Roberta Keller

Committees
FireWise: Richard Rider

Website Staff
Peter O'Keefe, Webmaster
Kent Campbell

The Mill Wheel Staff
Managing Editor: Burnett Tregoning
Reporters: Margareth Tanner; Tom McKlveen;
Ed Marshall; Doug Scherf; Burnett Tregoning
Today's Photographer: Tom McKlveen
Reporting Today: Burnett Tregoning

Program Committee: Bob Canepa & Elizabeth Suzuki

