Tuesday July 25, 2017
Volume 86 Number 3

Thought for the Day: Adrian Mendes
Roving Mic: Hari Boukis

Today: Kathy Hart, Ed.D. “Gap Year Insights: Exploration and Transitioning Opportunity for the Young at Heart”

Today’s Program: The “Gap Year” is not just for the young. While it is becoming more commonplace for a college-bound student to take a “gap year” before entering college, the benefits of a “gap year” can apply to anyone. Have you ever considered taking a gap year for yourself? What would it take for you to be able to do this? How would you plan it out? What resources might be available to you? Our speaker, Kathy Hart, Ed.D., is in the process of planning for and coordinating a “gap year” abroad for her and her family, including their cat Miss Independent.

Monument Crisis Center 2017 Backpack Drive—We have only two weeks for our 2017 MMC Back Pack project! For several years now, we have provided a large number of backpacks filled with supplies for school children served by MMC. Deadline for donations is Tuesday’s meeting August 1st. Don Willoughby will be collecting checks payable to “Monument Crisis Center” for your cash donations, or your donations of backpacks/supplies. $60 funds a full backpack.

If you want to buy and outfit your own backpacks, be sure to review and following the shopping details for each age group distributed in Doug Switzer’s 7/20 email. Please remember, to avoid gang conflicts, NO SOLID RED OR SOLID BLUE backpacks, please.

LN-4 Artificial Hands Delivery Projects in Honduras and Ecuador. Our former Club member Bob Romero now with the Rotary Club of Houston, Texas, invites us to join with him on two upcoming trips to deliver LN-4 artificial hands to disabled persons in Honduras and Ecuador. The Honduras trip has been organized rapidly, and will be August 18-19 in Puerto Cortes. Volunteers should plan to arrive in San Pedro Sula, a big city near Puerto Cortes, on or before Aug 17th for training on the 18th and delivery of the artificial hands on the 19th. Bob encourages volunteers to stay a few extra days and visit the beautiful Caribbean side of Honduras. Bob also is planning a 3 city trip to deliver LN-4 artificial hands in Ecuador in early November. Details are being developed. If you are interested in volunteering for either of these projects, please contact Bob Romero directly at romero0425@aol.com 925-457-4291.

Volunteers are responsible for their own expenses and must make their own travel arrangements, but Bob can provide suggestions.

Summer of Love Retro Dance Party Sat August 5th. The Rotary club of Martinez has invited all DV-8 clubs to pull out those bell-bottoms and tie-dyed shirts to join them at the Martinez Veterans Memorial Hall, 930 Ward St. Martinez. Tickets are $40. Email marianneclarkrotary5160@gmail.com for tickets or info. Join President Trudy and other WC Rotarians for a fun evening of dancing and/or reminiscing.
Rotary e-Club of Silicon Valley “Laptops for Good” fundraising event, Sunday Aug 6th
Noon to 3:30pm Retzlaff Winery 1356 S Livermore Ave Livermore, CA 94550 $50 per person includes admission, wine, a delicious lunch, and more. Tickets and info are at https://rotaryclubofsiliconvalley.ticketspicke.com/a-taste-of-good-with-rotary The event features live jazz from Matt Finders, great food from Sweet and Savory as well as our very own Paella Master, Shags Shagrin! We'll also have a silent auction event with some really cool items! Laptops for Good is a project of the Rotary e-Club of Silicon Valley that provides laptops to low-income, college-bound, high school students who have a strong history of community service. As college gets more expensive and financial aid becomes more limited, buying a computer or relying on computer labs places a significant burden during the critical first year of college. Getting into college as a low-income student represents a triumph against great odds and doing so while still working to better their community demonstrates both resilience and compassion. We believe that by making the first year just a little easier through laptops and other valuable tools for college these students can then unleash a powerful and positive force of human potential.

Annual Rotary Club of Walnut Creek Poker Tournament with Loaves and Fishes—Friday November 10th, St. Isadore Church, Danville, 5:30pm. More details to follow. See Carl Manna.

Signup Now to Host our Exchange Student from Tokyo-Kohoku Japan, Ms Yuri Hitomi, from Aug 6 to 25. Yuri is 19, and a forest science and garden construction major at Nihon University. Contact Richard Hsu ric88899@yahoo.com 510-449-8675.

Funeral/Memorial Information for RI President-elect Sam Owori. Sam will be buried with state honors, as announced by the President of Uganda, Yoweri Museveni. On Wednesday, 26 July, there will be a eulogy service for all Rotarians to attend at Lugogo Indoor Stadium from 9:15 a.m. to 2 p.m. On Thursday, 27 July, the funeral service will begin at 9 a.m. at St. Paul Cathedral, Namirembre. RI Vice President Dean Rohrs will be attending as Rotary’s representative.

Condolences may be addressed to Mrs. Norah Agnes Owori, c/o Institute of Corporate Governance of Uganda (ICGU), Crusader House, Plot 3 Portal Avenue, Kampala, Uganda or via email to: sam.owori@rotary.org.

Upcoming Club Meetings and Events: