

THE WALNUT LEAF



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
DISTRICT 5160 CLUB 465

2013 2014 Theme:

"Engage Rotary; Change Lives"

RI President: Ron Burton
Dist Governor Steve Lack
Club President Bob Romero
Pres-Elect Milt Smith
Imm. Past Pres. Jerry Benoit
Membership Dess Benedetto
and Bob Morgan

The Rotary Club of Walnut Creek

Directors 2012-2014: Ken Anderson,
Karen Lile, Mike Lommel
Sgt at Arms Carl Manna
Attendance Secretary Quentin Alexander
Bulletin Editor John McClintic

Directors 2013-2015: Mary Azevedo,
John Fenoglio, Bob Morgan
Secretary Doug Switzer
Treasurer Raj Singh
New Member Coordinator Jack Fischer

Tuesday February 25, 2014

Volume 82

Number 31

Thought for the Day: Clint Collier

Introductions: Lu Hughes

Today: David Gilbert, "What'sNew in Genomes?"

Next Week: No Meeting Tuesday. Attend the Joint Meeting March 5 at Concord-Diablo

Interviews are underway for this Summer's Student Exchange Program with the Rotary Club of Tokyo-Kohoku Japan. This program sends a student from each Club to the other Club to spend a few weeks hosted by the Members. If you know a college age student who would be a good candidate to be our representative, please contact **Lance Mendes** so that they can be interviewed and considered.

Rotary Poker Tournament—Brentwood, this Friday night Feb 28th. \$60 per person, includes dinner at 6pm. Cards at 7pm. See **Carl Manna**.

Next Week Wednesday March 5th is a Joint Meeting with Concord Diablo Rotary at the Crowne Plaza Hotel 45 John Glenn Drive, Concord,. **We will NOT be meeting at Heather Farms on March 4, so you need to attend the Joint Meeting or make-up at another Club.** The speaker is Mark DeSaulnier, a well known bay area politician and currently a State senator. **Sign up today and submit your checks for \$19** payable to Concord Diablo Rotary Club. You may bring guests.

March 7th 38th annual Tahoe City Rotary Ski Challenge. Come up and have a great day of skiing at Northstar and Rotary comradeship. Information is at TahoeCityRotary.org.

Dinner with Rotary International President Ron D. Burton: Sunday March 30, 2014, at the Double Tree Hotel 2001 Point West Way Sacramento, (Arden Way & Business 80), 5:00 PM Doors Open, 6:00PM Start, \$55 per person

(table of 10-\$550), Choice for dinner: Tri-Tip and Shrimp or Vegetarian Soufflé (roasted vegetables in puff pastry).

Recognitions: Thank you to Trudy Cumming, Trudy Triner, Clint Collier, Margaret Lowell, and Bridgett Waller for volunteering at the first "Senior Moment" event at Monument Crisis Center on Valentine's Day morning. **Carl Manna** went to Mexico and played golf. **Rem Barnard** went to Klamath Falls for skiing and his grandson's hockey tournament.

Today's E-Edition features photos of last week's speaker, Michael Barrington.



Aqua Nicaragua Project: The following background information is provided by President Bob Romero:

To summarize the great discussion during Tuesday's meeting about this year's Mount Diablo Rotary Clubs|California project:

1. We are a participating club in the group of Rotary clubs previously known as the Diablo Valley 8 (or "DV8") . We are now calling ourselves the Mount Diablo Rotary Clubs|California (or MDRC|C). This change in branding is motivated by a desire to welcome more clubs into the group from outside of the geographic limits of the Diablo Valley. The Rotary Club of Walnut Creek is still a participating club in this group.

2. More to the last point, our club is the Lead Club of the MDRC|C 2014 project, Agua Nicaragua. You'll recall that I've been referring everyone at meetings this past month to the website of our partner NGO in that project, Water For Waslala www.waterforwaslala.org to learn more about this great non-profit organization and the life-saving work they do in Nicaragua. They are well-organized, accomplished and committed, but inadequately resourced. That's where we Rotarians can help.

3. In lieu of a raffle this year, fundraising for Agua Nicaragua involves two efforts:

- a. contributions pledged from participating clubs; and
- b. a Speaker Certificate Program, similar to the one employed last year to fund our work in Burkina Faso, extending out to other districts across the US and Canada, which is commencing shortly.

The fundraising goal this year is \$20,000. As lead club on the project, the Rotary Club of Walnut Creek is writing an application for a Rotary International Global Grant to multiply those funds. The Global Grant takes the \$20,000 we raise and matches it by the District with another \$20,000. The Rotary Foundation (TRF) will match the District's contribution (another \$20,000) with an additional match of 50% of the initial funds we raise (another \$10,000) to bring

our total fundraising to \$70,000. This grant application is due March 1.

This will empower the MDRC|C, working with our partners, Managua Tiscapa Rotary Club and Water For Waslala, to provide clean water to two villages in Nicaragua.

Being the Lead Club in this year's MDRC|C project is a great opportunity for the Rotary Club of Walnut Creek to demonstrate real leadership in the mission to Engage Rotary to Change Lives. Members of our club have dedicated many hours working alongside other Rotarians in our area and in our hemisphere to make this project a reality. Others still have volunteered to raise funds through the Speaker Certificate Program. Doug Switzer, our club Secretary, is currently adding a project page to our club's website for our own information and so that others might learn about this important work our club is doing. Our club should be proud of the work we're doing here at home and around the world.

If you are interested in participating in this project, please contact Pres. Bob or Trudy Cumming.

2013/2014 Club Projects and Contacts (New Table Format In Progress)				
Project:	Dates	Contact Rotarian	Phone Email	News and Notes
New Projects:				
Rotary Learning Center and Monument Crisis Center		Bob Romero		
The Creek Youth Center (6 computers)				
Walnut Creek Fire Station No. 7 (alarm system)		Jerry Benoit		
Boy Scouts of America Hispanic Initiative		Bob Romero		
Continuing Annual Projects:				
Fishing in the City		John Gardner		
Meals on Wheels		Bob Romero		
Camp Royal and Camp Venture		Carl Manna and Joe Doherty		
Creek Cleanup		Quent Alexander		
Challenge Day @ Northgate H.S.		Jerry Benoit		
Crab Feed Fundraiser	Feb 1, 2013	Milt Smith		
Crab Feed Fundraiser 2014		Dess Benedetto		
Scholarships at Las Lomas H.S. and Northgate H.S.		Ken Anderson and Rem Barnard		
DVC Career Connections		Karen Lile		
Family BBQ		Mike Lommel		
Poker Tournament Fundraiser		Carl Manna		
UC Berkeley International House Agriculture Tour		Sabine Webb and Darren Kelly		
Rotary Club of Tokyo Kohoku Youth Exchange		Bay Shahmardaan and Lance Mendes		
DV8 International Projects		Ken Anderson		
The Garden at Heather Farms				
Assistance League of Diablo Valley				
Rotocare Mobile Clinic-Concord		Lu Hughes		
Toys for Tots		Clint Collier		
Borges Ranch Heritage Day		Jack Fischer		
Annual Lunch at John Muir Medical Center	Sept 16, 2014	Marv Epstein		

Upcoming Club Meetings/Events: Plan to attend these Club meetings and invite a guest!

March 4: No Meeting at Heather Farms. Attend the Joint Meeting March 5 or makeup at another Club.

March 5 Special Joint Meeting with Concord Diablo Rotary at the Crowne Plaza Hotel 45 John Glenn Drive, Concord, 12:15pm, \$19. The speaker is Mark DeSaulnier. Bring guests.