

ROTARY CLUB
OF LIVERMORE



The

Noon Club News

Vol. 1, No. 7

“A very good club”

June 2023



Thank you Sblend!



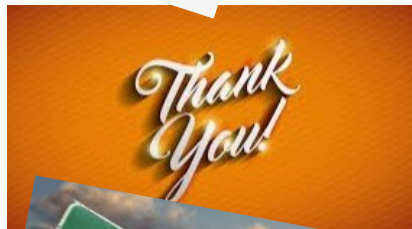
Inside this issue:

Thank You	1
Sblend's Thanks	2
Board Minutes	3
Treasurer	3
Calendar	3
Membership	4
Community Service	5
International Service	6
Vocational Service	7
Outstanding Student	7
Outstanding Teacher	8
Call for Hosts	9
RFoL	10
TRFoundation	11
Major Events	12
Rotarians Help	13



Thank you!

*The best 90 minutes
of my week!*



Molte Grazie



Thank you Rotarians — from president Sblend

As my year as president of the **finest Rotary Club imaginable** comes to an end, it's time to thank all of you. Without every Livermore Rotarian's dedication to the community, our impact would be negligible. With your dedication and devotion, we have accomplished the mighty. I hope that, next year, we take the lessons learned from this year, and strive to make a bigger impact upon the Livermore community.

I also hope that by injecting a visioning process, we have set goals that can carry the club forward. We had 4 club assemblies. We held a 'town hall.' We set goals. We cultured those goals. We took steps to move away from the Covid crisis to a 'normalcy'— not the same as before 2020, but to our new normal.

I appreciate everyone's patience and encouragement to add a bit more fun and levity into each meeting. From my catchphrase ("Best Damn 90 Minutes of Your Week") to the adventures of Gordon Gavel, to monthly themed meetings, to lively songs and thoughts, and to engaging programs, we sought to make each meeting a worthy investment in your time.

The best gauge of our efforts must be if others notice us. We currently have a net gain of 8 members this year.

We learned and taught our district governor a dance (that we made up.)

We awarded a record amount of grants (thanks to the mini-grant committee.)

We honored students! We honored educators! We honored students learning about government!

We raised a record for our crab feed—and had fun doing it.

We supported families in need.

We passed the hat for those doing good deeds.

And, we will put on the best rodeo parade, ever!

Please applaud those members who made magic:

Sheila Fagliano, Sonya Sheffield and Marc Roberts who foolishly bought into my hijinks.

Michael Ferrucci, Tim Barry and Stu Frazier who listened patiently when I asked, "when in doubt, let's sing a Beach Boys song."

The A/V team of Dennis O'Brien, Don Wentz, Joel Swanson, Paul McCandless and Glenn Kubiak whose monumental patience to endure those challenged by technology.

Our Zoom hosts: **Kathy Coyle, Jeff Youngsma and Pat Coyle.**

Everyone who volunteered to give a weekly thought, or wrote the Spur, or edited the Spur, or published the Spur.

Irv Stowers and Don Wentz and anyone else who memorialized our meetings and outings in photos.

Nile Runge for initiating and publishing a monthly newsletter.

Our board: **Joel, Norm, Sheila, Linda, Goud, Paul, Keith, Loretta, Gordon, Trish, Sonya, Alan and**

Kelly—who gleefully endured board meetings and managed to keep all of the Rotary balls in the air!

If I've forgotten anyone, I apologize. Please forgive me but, look in the mirror, and congratulate yourself for making Livermore a better place because you are a Rotarian.

Secretary Joel Swanson — May Board Highlights

This was a sparsely attended BoD meeting Thursday, May 18. Many of the Board members were traveling and couldn't Zoom in. We did not have a quorum. The next meeting is scheduled for June 15th.

The club service sign up list is a Google Doc at the following web address:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1dLgF9TP6c45v1aL3b-4lDvq-vogf0-3jD3UeFLczsas/>



Joel Swanson

Treasurer's Report — Norm Bregman



We are in very good shape financially. As of May 1, there is a balance of **\$53,881.76** in our UBB Account and **\$13,759.20** in our Chase Account.

The checks I have written and not accounted for in April are around \$4,000. Almost \$2,000 of that is for the Rodeo expenses that have been submitted so far.

The preliminary report I have regarding the Livermore Foundation is that the restricted account has

about **\$10,000**. Funds have been received in April, but I don't have specific information at this moment. There remains a little over **\$2,000** in the District Foundation.

I'm currently working with our next President Sheila Fagliano and President-elect Marc Roberts on the budget for 23-24 that will be presented to the incoming Board Members and the current Board Members at a joint meeting in June.



Norm Bregman

President-Elect Sheila Fagliano's calendar

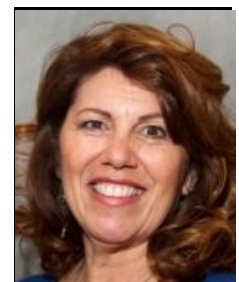
MEETING CALENDAR — June 2023

June 7th: **Off site meeting at Livermore Rodeo Grounds** — Paul Szmyd —
The Rodeo Parade

June 10th: **Rodeo Parade** — all Rotarians help — Breakfast 7 am at The Riata

June 14th: **Off site meeting at Darcy Kent Winery** — Speaker David Kent — Owner
Recognizing birthdays and anniversaries

June 21st: **At Robert Livermore Center** — President Sblend's last meeting. He has gratitudes to give out!
Sblend Sblendorio



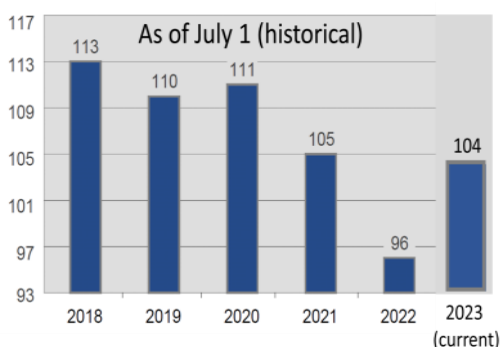
Membership — Alan Burnham

There are two major items this month.

First is the formation of a **membership committee** of 6-8 members to make our application process and new member integration more efficient and effective. We want to be sure all new Rotarians understand the membership expectations, and we'll be looking at potential changes to the Blue Badge requirements and mentorship program. We'll also look at new ways to recruit new members, including the possibility of a satellite club that operates a little differently in ways that are more convenient for some people. If you are interested in being a committee member, please contact me at akburnham@yahoo.com. We need members from different demographics, especially newer and older members that might have different experiences. The good news is that we are growing again, as shown in the following plot.



Alan Burnham



Second, we inducted four new members: **Catharina Johansson-Ritts**, a realtor at Re/Max Accord; **Rania Harfouche-Szabo**, a biomedical editor at General Dynamics; **Keileigh Bennett**, a field engineer at LLNL; and **Christine Lusty**, owner of Monarch Designs. Bios of two are given below.



Christine Lusty is a single mom, 18-year resident of Livermore, and entrepreneur. Her company is Monarch Designs. She grew up in a small logging town of Elgin, at the base of the Blue Mountains in Northeastern Oregon. She grew up spending summers at the lake or around a bonfire. She headed south at age 18 to chase the bright lights and bustle of the Bay. In the spring of 2010, she and her then husband welcomed their daughter, Stella. Smart as a whip, quick witted and strong, she participated this year in the Junction middle school color guard and plays percussion in the middle school band; her passion being the crash cymbals. In the fall of 2011 they welcomed their son, Gary a stout, kind and creative soul, Gary plays football with LJFL, volleyball and wrestling at Junction middle school and has taken up violin in the middle school orchestra. Having found a home in Livermore, and success in her business, thanks to the Livermore community, she is excited to be at a place in her life where she can start giving back and is proud to become a new Rotarian.

Catharina Ritts moved to California when she was 18 years old to explore something bigger than her home country, Sweden. She always liked a good adventure, and she loves to travel as well. Her love for animals and people have surrounded her with amazing friendships over the years. She and her husband have two wonderful boys, Quinn, 12, and Riley, 10 (almost 11). They also have a dog, bunny, lizards and horses. Catharina has been a Realtor for about 5 years. She wishes she had approached this industry sooner, as she considers it to be one of the best decisions of her life. She absolutely loves her job! It's difficult, challenging, but SO rewarding as well. One of the best parts is meeting great people and having their trust to help them either sell or buy a home. She has made many new and strong friendships in her career and is looking forward to many more. Helping people is a huge part of her life, so she views joining Rotary as a great opportunity to give back to the community.

Community Service — Loretta Kaskey

Rotarians turned out in numbers for the May 6 Community Service Day. Smiles all around and plenty of hot dogs for our hungry neighbors. We are pleased that our Noon Club Rotary had a role in making the day a success for our wonderful town. *Thank you!*



International Services Committee

International Services committee consists of Goud Memula (Chair), Pat Coyle, Paul Thompson, Evonne Hopkins, Keith Beck and Paul McCandless.

2023-24 International Projects using 2023-24 Global Grant DDF (Reported by Goud Memula)

Our club has \$13584 (1.25 x 10867 DDF) for District Grant projects for the local community and \$19562 (1.8 x 10868 DDF) for Global Grant for International Projects during 2023-24. We will identify worthwhile projects to participate to use these funds. Following are three of these:

International Projects in Nepal and Uganda (Paul Thompson)

The restricted account for Kampala is now being set up in the RFOL.

The Kampala medical clinic project is going well. The local Rotary club is working with the clinic manager to set up banking arrangements and helping in other ways. The Kololo Club of Kampala is really helping beyond my expectations.

I am still awaiting more information from Nepal and the water needs at the Navakiran Children's Home.

District Governor Project "Independence through Hygiene (#EmpoweringGirls)

Geeta Kadambi is schedule to make a presentation to our Club on May 31 to provide an update on this project. Girls who can't afford hygiene products skip school during their cycle. Unable to keep up, they drop out at age 12 or 13. An arranged marriage or sale into the sex trade is a common tragic outcome. As part of Rotary International's #EmpoweringGirls initiative, you can help Rotary District 5170 improve girls' lives. Three Rotary clubs, two in India and one in Africa, with District 5170's help, will provide a local NGO with sewing machines and capital to purchase leftover material from clothing manufacturers and provide training, workspace, and wages for local women. The employed women will sew washable, reusable sanitary pads. The local Rotary clubs will team with area schools to distribute the finished product to schoolgirls.

Other GG projects:

The **Belize Global Grant, solar water pumping**, is funded from prior year DDF purchased with cash from Coyle/Engineers Without Borders and DDF from San Juan Bautista Rotary club.

Vocational Services — Paul McCandless and Keith Beck

VOCATIONAL SERVICE: Paul Harris wrote: "Each Rotarian is a connecting link between the idealism of Rotary and their trade or profession."

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Paul McCandless (Director), Carol Howell, Carolyn Siegfried, Dennis O'Brian.



Vocational Services sponsored the April 19, Youth in Government day.

Reported last month. Completed with satisfactory results.



Vocational Services sponsored the May 3, Outstanding Educators awards.

We had 18 of the 19 outstanding educators at the luncheon. Livermore School District Superintendent Chris Van Schack thanked the Rotarians for the program and their overall support of education in our community. A good time was had by all! (Special thanks to Carol Howell)

Photos of outstanding educators on next page.

Ed Rundstrom Scholarship.

The recipient of the Ed Rundstrom Scholarship is Elias Worley. Elias is a student at Granada HS and plans to pursue a career in the fire service so plans to take firefighting, EMT, and paramedic training courses at Las Positas College. Elias received a 2-year, \$1,000/year, \$2,000 total scholarship.

Vineyard School Outstanding Student



Vineyard School vice-principal Christine Mrzwyka selected **Ronnie Marie Andrews**, a ninth grader, as student of the month. She has demonstrated skills in learning, advocating for others, and caring for the community. She became a peer educator, an advocate against tobacco use, and for walking, biking, and rolling to school, as well as helping to beautify the campus. Ronnie then spoke eloquently about her experiences at Vineyard.

Congratulations Ronnie!

The Rotary Club of Livermore celebrated the Livermore Valley School District 2023 annual **Outstanding Educators program** on Wednesday May 3. During the luncheon meeting, each of the 19 educators were introduced and each received a personalized plaque and other gifts from local merchants and the LARPD. A special thanks goes out to Superintendent Chris Van Schack for his ongoing support of the program and making it possible that all the honored teachers attend.



Hien Ngo



Casie Benjamin



Irene Lucero



Chris Van Schaack
Superintendent of Schools



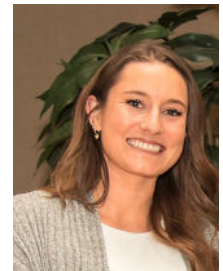
Bonnie Pastrnak



Monica Bridwedel



Kathleen McClane



Paige Zingraf



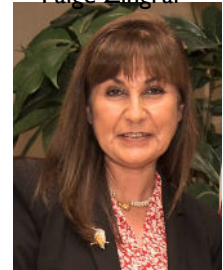
Heidi Pittman



Michael Bruan



Roxana Mohammed



Roya Hussein



Jessica Radzikowski



Stacey Carroll



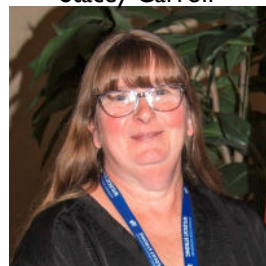
Laura Morgan



Tina Weetman



Eileen Weed



Heather Kitt

Call for Hosts! International Student Exchange

Our club is planning to host **an international** exchange student for the next school year and needs host families.

Hosting an exchange student is a rewarding way to meet interesting young people and get to know other cultures. The incoming students are 16 to 18 years old, bright, outgoing, and very interesting. They will be attending a Livermore high school. Host families gain fantastic experiences and form lifelong relations with their students.

We will need **3 families**, each to host a student for a three-month period (fall, winter, spring)

We also need at least **one “backup” family** who can take over hosting duties in emergencies.

All host families **will be trained** to Rotary standards and have constant support

from our club and the very active **district 5170 Youth Exchange program.**

All Livermore families are eligible to host, from those with young children to retired couples. Each family volunteering is unique and gives the student different perspectives of American life.

Talk to your family and friends! If you or someone you know might be interested in this great experience.

Contact Paul McCandless and he will provide more information and/or put you or them in touch with someone who has hosted before.

Testimonies from former hosts will be posted next month.

Paul McCandless

mccandless698@att.net

(925) 784-7196

The Rotary Foundation of Livermore (RFoL) — Mary Ann Rozsa

The Rotary Foundation is embarking on a project, **Vineyard 2.0** in conjunction with the City of Livermore and the Housing Consortium of the East Bay. The project includes developing **24 units of affordable housing** for the very low and extremely low-income households with history of homelessness. The development will be comprised of 18 studio units, five one-bedroom units, and one two-bedroom unit dedicated to an on-site resident manager.

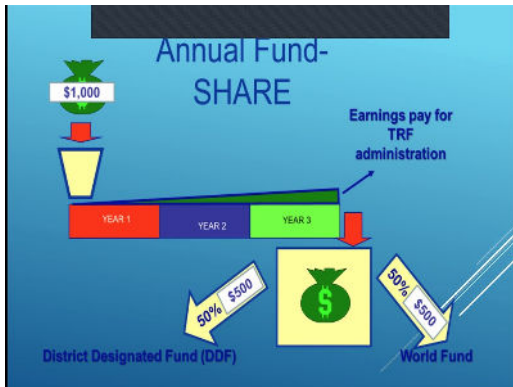
The Board of Directors of the Foundation was searching for a significant community project to honor **Martin Plone** for his generous endowment of **\$2.5 million** to the Foundation. The Board had budgeted \$50,000 to support a worthwhile community endeavor in Marty's honor. This project fit the profile! We stepped forward to support with funds to cover the costs of all the laundry appliances for the two laundry areas (one for the residents use and the other for low-income residents with no access to laundry facilities). Another need was to furnish both community rooms with appropriate furnishings (one for the live-in residents and the other for general use by residents seeking supportive services and enjoying a meal at Open Heart Kitchen). **The Foundation just released a payment of \$22,000 so the appliance order could be placed.** Other payments will be released as required to fund the remaining items for the Project.

The development will also include a 10,000 square foot commercial space consisting of a commercial kitchen, dining room and Homeless Resource Center. The kitchen and dining room will be operated by **Open Heart Kitchen**, serving hot meals 5-7 day/week for Livermore's homeless and low-income neighbors. The **Homeless Resource Center** will provide the following services: Showers, laundry facilities, health clinic, mailboxes, mental health services and case management. In addition, there will be a clothing closet providing free, gently used clothing, shower facilities, Monday morning breakfasts providing free meals to the neighborhood, **Hope Van** for wellness checks and **City Serve of the Tri-Valley** for outreach and crisis intervention. The Project is scheduled to be completed in September '23.

We are so proud to be able to make this Project a reality for our most needy and vulnerable residents in our Livermore Valley Community



The Rotary Foundation (TRF) Update



For donations to TRF the club gets back \$500 in DDF which equates to:

If used for District Grants locally, it is worth $\$500 \times 1.25 = \625 which is 62.5% of Annual Fund Contribution.

If used for Global Grants, it is worth $\$500 \times 1.8 = \900 which is 90% of Annual Fund Contribution.



Goud Memula

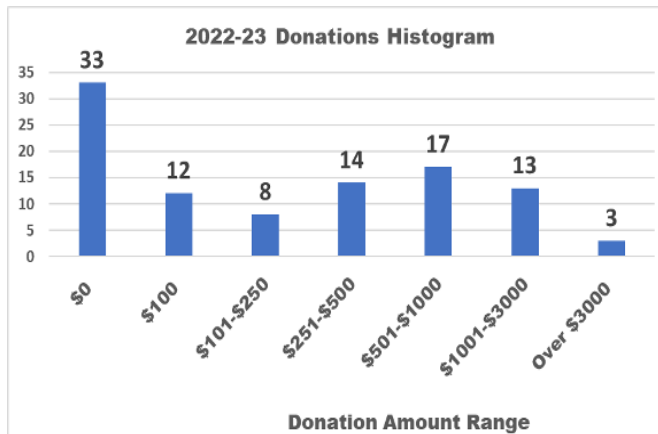
The update of our 2022-23 Goals for TRF as of 5/20/23 are as follows:

Annual Fund: Raised \$61,000 reaching 92.4% of the goal amount \$66,000. **\$7000 TO GO**

PolioPlus: Raised \$16,900 reaching 94% of the goal amount \$18,000. **\$1100 TO GO**

100% EREY Every Rotarian Every Year: As of 5/20/23, 67 Rotarians contributed and 10 Rotarians pledged to contribute this year 2022-23 which represents 67 out of 100 Rotarians, a 67% of the goal.

WE NEED EVERYONE TO SUPOORT TRF.



The ROTARY YEAR ends June 30,2023 and we need the support from all who did not donate this Rotary YEAR 2022-23 to reach all TRF goals. *Please donate generously.*

You may donate online using link: **“myrotary.org/en/donate”**.

Donations can be a onetime or recurring. OR

You may write a **check** payable to The Rotary Foundation and mail to our Club P. O.

Box 694, Livermore, Ca 94551

OR You may **hand it** to any TRF Committee

member or Treasurer.

A minimum of \$100 donation will earn matching Foundation Recognition Points to reach PHF recognition quicker. A \$500 donation will earn PHF recognition and a \$1000 donation or more will earn PHS member recognition.

Please contact Goud Memula to know your current recognition level.

Thank you.

Goud Memula

Major Events — Linda Tinney

Put on your cowboy hats, spurs, chaps and boots!! The **Livermore Rodeo Parade** will take place downtown on 2nd Street at 10 AM on Saturday, June 10. As we all know, it is one of our club's most popular events. The floats, marching bands, equestrians, local organizations and community members all get together to represent our larger community. It is a festive opener to the Rodeo itself on Saturday and Sunday. Our Rotary club is proud to sponsor this annual event for the community. This year we will have 23 grand marshals, honorees of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, who will be riding in a "Livermore Wine Country Trolley." ***If you wish to volunteer to help the committee or sponsor this great event, please contact Paul Szmyd, Rotary Parade Committee Chairperson, at 925-447-7892.***



Mark your calendars for **President Sblend's demotion party** on **June 28, 2023**, location TBD. Come and celebrate Sblend's auspicious year with good food and great fun!!!

We are looking forward to next year's **crab feed** on March 9, 2024. It will once again be held at the Livermore Community Center on East Avenue. However, it will be held on Saturday night instead of Friday night so that the hard-working volunteers can have all day to prepare. We will work hard to make it even more successful than 2023.

Linda Tinney

How we Rotarians can share our talents.

Instructions: ***If you are in need of the talent of another club Rotarian***, send an email of your need to the newsletter editor (nirunge@gmail.com) expressing your need and including your name and contact information. (If you don't want your contact information in the newsletter, members can find that under your name on our website in DACdb, Our Club.) Look for your query in the next newsletter. Then look for responses to your question.

Background: Recently I have two needs that I'm sure there's a member in our club that knows how to help with those needs.

- In one case I would like to add two factor authentication on my computer. I'm frustrated with how to do that.
- The other, I'm searching for someone good at graphics that could assist in adding color, decoration, and interest to the newsletter. These are just two needs of many others that someone in our Rotary club could help with.