



THE ACORN

A Weekly Publication by the Rotary Club of Thousand Oaks
<http://thousandoaksrotary.org>



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NOVEMBER

Rotary Foundation Month



Program: November 29th

Jackie Irwin

State Assemblywoman

A SPECIAL MEETING IN RESPONSE TO SPECIAL TIMES

Our Club President wrote to invite us to a different meeting after the Thousand Oaks shooting and the fires.

To my wonderful fellow club members....

First, my grateful thank you to all of the Rotary Club of Thousand Oaks members who have begun or joined a grass roots effort to provide much needed supplies or lodging to the fire victims, and to those of you that are contributing to the support of families affected by the tragic Borderline shooting. Rotarians are always among those "first responders", in terms of taking care of people in need.

Secondly, we will be meeting as usual tomorrow. Since our meeting was cancelled last week, tomorrow will mark two weeks since we have all been together. For that reason, the meeting will be altered (there will be no fine session) and Happy/sad \$\$ will be limited to any content other than the two tragedies (see the reason below). Announcements will be kept to a minimum or shared via a group email.

Instead, our Program will be an open microphone forum as we travel around the room, encouraging you to relay your own personal story, sad or uplifting, so that we can all be a part of your world for the past few days. Before we conclude, we will spend ten minutes having a discussion with your fellow members at the table. The content is yours to decide, but we encourage you to share your feelings, concerns, and positive opinions on how we as individuals, as a community and as a Rotarian move forward. I'll ask that a notetaker at each table capture the thoughts, to be compiled and shared at a later date.

Our hearts have been heavy for days, but our family of friends and Rotarians will be a large part of how we recover and look forward, once again, to happy times.

Yours in Rotary service and love,
Karen





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Thousand Oaks Rotary Meeting

November 15, 2018

President Karen Furnari opened the meeting. She was understandably emotional as she said how proud she was to be President of such a wonderful group of people, who reached out to so many during the week's tragedies.



Inspirational Moment and Pledge— Joani Pappas said it took hours to find something that she felt would be appropriate at such a somber time in our community. She told the story about what a miracle it was for the earth's rotation where every day the sun rose and set, and that there were miracles in each day, even in normal, everyday things.

Song Leader - President Karen led us in singing "Let There Be Peace on Earth".



Introduction of Guests and Visiting Rotarians – Greg Kusnierek introduced **Carol Schreiber** and **Carol Robinson's** guests, K.C. Schamp and Natalie Yanez, and **Tim Weaver's** guest Perry Martin, Jr.

BIRTHDAYS

Nov 02 Burns, Dave
Nov 03 Furnari, Karen
Nov 04 Kusnierek, Greg
Nov 07 Pederson, Steve
Nov 09 Cornwall, Barb
Nov 09 Tyloch, Trevor
Nov 12 Morrison, Matt
Nov 17 Masci, Felix
Nov 18 Bianchi, Robert
Nov 18 Runnells, Cary
Nov 20 Lopez, Meghan
Nov 23 Gooch, Herb
Nov 23 Parks, Keith
Nov 24 Biery, Bob
Nov 26 Connor, K. T.
Nov 28 Hayek, Victor
Nov 28 Scioscia, Mike
Nov 28 Wohl, Nancy

ANNIVERSARIES

Nov 01 Corey, Jason & Joni
Nov 04 Moors, Don & Nanette
Nov 07 Steele, Chris & Bill
Nov 09 Wender, Dave & Diane Marie
Nov 11 Richardson, Niki & Jason
Nov 11 Scribner, Neal & Tricia
Nov 19 Kossoff, Ken & Donna Klugman
Nov 20 Freeman, Carol & David
Nov 22 Baker, Larry & Skogi
Nov 22 McClellan, Andrea & David
Nov 25 Jones, Patricia & George

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Karen thanked **Matt Lallo, Trevor Tyloch, Chantal Margottin** and **Michael Magasinn** for their successful trip to Tijuana, where 24 children were fitted with hearing aids and as a result, some were able to hear for the first time.



Tim Weaver announced the candidates for President Elect **Herb Gooch's** Board. There are 4 seats and 7 candidates. **Tim** read the bios on the following candidates; **Adam Antoniskis, Marissa Buss, Jason Corey, Richard Folsom, Eric Harrison, Bob Lewis, and Andrea McClellan.** Their bios will be in the Bulletin as well.



DID YOU KNOW.....?

There have been **eight** cases of polio in Pakistan in 2018. To put this in perspective, twenty years ago the entire country was affected by polio, and every year there were **35,000** children paralyzed for life by the disease.

**END
POLIO
NOW**



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HAPPY \$\$\$\$\$

Jonathan Handler carried the cup.

Martin Anderson offered a sad dollar in that we are only able to vote for 4 out of 7 candidates. He also announced that **Joani Pappas** bowled 315 which is the leading score for a female bowler with a handicap.

Patricia Jones announced that there is a more affordable option available to have the opportunity to ride on the Rotary International Rose Parade Float. She has 120 tickets for sale for a drawing for \$100.00 each. The money will go towards the \$10,000 fee required to ride on the float.

Judy St. John just came back from spending two weeks in Israel with a couple of friends. She said it was a wonderful, fascinating trip so rich in history in Christianity and Judaism.

Nate Harimoto was in Hawaii during most of the last week, and wanted to thank **Vicki Arndt** (as did the rest of the club) for keeping us informed as to everyone's status during the fires and Borderline shootings. She kept us connected at a time where everyone was going in every which direction, trying to stay safe and offer help where needed.

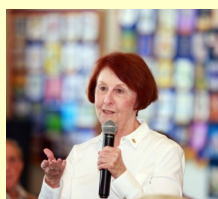
David Wender is celebrating his 33rd Anniversary. He was happy to say there was still fire in their marriage!

David Masci wished his dad, **Felix Masci**, a very Happy Birthday.

Jason Corey announced CLU's polo team was #4 in their division.

Chantal Margottin announced the birth of her great nephew.

Tammie Helmuth announced that she is officially CEO of Girl Scouts of the Central Coast.





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SHARING PERSONAL EXPERIENCES IN THE AFTERMATH OF TRAGEDIES

The microphone was passed around the room for anyone wishing to share their experiences.



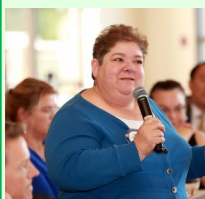
Karen Furnari and Steve had been evacuated, however the shelters were full. They slept in their car in the parking lot of Taft High School, and witnessed first-hand the number of homeless people as day broke and people came out from doorways of businesses, from behind bushes, etc. They experienced what it must be like not to have a home to go home to. She said it was very humbling.

Lee Ladd has been a member of RCTO for 30 years. He said everyone reached out so fantastically when word broke of the fire destroying his home. He said the smoke hadn't even died down when he received a text from Dave Friedl who was on route to Scotland. He said the key is under the mat, fresh sheets were available. Make yourself comfortable. Lee said State Farm Insurance was taking great care of them, and although it would be a long process, they will rebuild. He was very thankful that they were all well, and already ordered a new set of golf clubs. Lee said that he had a 25 x 25 ft. wine cellar with 3,500 bottles of wine in his house that was now under water. He offered to provide a very long straw to anyone who might be willing to find anything that might have survived.



Jonathan Handler said he was pleased to report that Gary Podrat was able to save his ranch in Malibu, Purple Hill Ranch, and got all the livestock out.

Tammie Helmuth spoke about Summer's experience at the Borderline. Summer had just spent 4 hours in active shooter training that morning for her job. Little did she know that the same evening she would be faced with just that. When **Tammie** heard of the incident taking place at the Borderline, she immediately placed a call to Chief Tim Hagel since she knew Summer was at Borderline as she was nearly every Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, her second home. Summer saw the shooter enter Borderline, and if not for his pausing for just an instant to post his actions on social media, she herself would have been killed. She ran at that moment to hide, but witnessed her friends being killed. **Tammie** described Summer's call to her as things were still going on, and the aftermath. Summer and her friend Kayla were interviewed after the shootings, in shock from what they had experienced, and sadly the press and social media have exploited them as poster children for this horrific event and have used their photo on the covers of magazines, newspapers, some even going so far as falsely stating they were actors and it was a conspiracy. **Tammie** and others have been trying to get assistance finding therapists who can help Summer, who have dealt with such traumatic issues on all fronts, but it has been very difficult. Amgen has been very helpful, as has been Sports Academy, and Chief Hagel.



Nancy Wohl was extremely proud of the team at Conejo Valley Equine as our veterinarians and technicians worked around the clock for 48 hours evacuating horses, pigs, etc. to safety. They worked tirelessly on pure adrenaline. They found a kitty who was burned in the fire two days after the fire claimed her home and brought her for the care she needs, visiting her everyday since as she slowly recovers from her wounds.

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SHARING PERSONAL EXPERIENCES (continued)



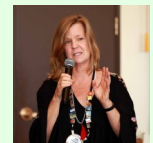
Jim Friedl talked about being inside the Teen Center as it was converted to the Emergency Operations Center and Reunification Center after the Borderline shootings. He said he received word at 2:00 am that they needed to open the Teen Center. The DA Victim's Assistance staff was amazing, as they tried to help families and friends as they awaited news on their loved ones. He said it was the most heart-wrenching experience of his life, and while he always had great respect for law enforcement, he couldn't believe that they do this work every day. He now has an even greater respect for what they do.

Sevak Khodabakhshian said we have an opportunity to look at the powerlessness of kids. Guns give them power. He's looking forward to RYLA, as they can help empower kids through means other than guns.



Patricia Jones said that their company cares for 50 elderly and employs 100 caregivers. 25% of their clients were evacuated. One woman refused to leave her home under mandatory evacuation orders. Her caregiver called the fire department who physically had to carry her out to assure her safety. Patricia has so much more respect for their caregivers, as they care for their clients in every capacity.

Vicki Arndt said she was in Montana when the shooting occurred and the fires broke out. She said she was so proud of our club, and was happy to be able to maintain vital communication with our members through email.



Felix Wang had sent an email out to members during the fires, offering the TO Inn as a place to congregate in the event of a catastrophe. He said while they may not be able to house everyone, they would do what they could to help with strategies, etc., in dealing with the urgent matters at hand.

Harry Selvin said that the Palm Garden Hotel fed, clothed, and housed at a discount, any first-responders. He said pets were welcome, and they spread out to ballrooms, etc.. When his own home became part of the mandatory evacuation, the hotel was full and he and Maureen sheltered in place.



Hugo Roche said as someone who volunteers at a couple of public agencies including the Getty, they are exploring what to do in the event of an active shooter. What he has learned is that there are three steps to survival, 1) Run, 2) Hide, 3) Fight.

Robert Bianchi said that he and Teri were leaving town shortly after the mass shootings, and as he was pumping gas, the attendant said that his girlfriend's friend was killed in the shootings. Everyone has been touched by the recent turn of events. What we need to remember is that we are a community, and that we need to work and stand together.



Carol Freeman said that she and other members have had long discussions on what we as a club can do to help. One way is to find a way of helping those with mental illness get the help they need so that such tragedies can be averted.



All in all, it was a very emotional meeting, and the love and support in the room was palpable.



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2019/2020 BOARD OF DIRECTOR SLATE

ADAM ANTONISKIS

I am a career commercial real estate professional who has spent my career working for developers including Westfield and Caruso. I have worked in the Conejo Valley for over a decade and moved to Thousand Oaks 5 years ago. When the opportunity presented itself a year ago to help transform The Oaks, to live, work and give back in one community, I jumped at that opportunity. Rick Lemmo invited me to join Rotary as a way to meet the members who truly get things done in our community. As a part of this group I've been blessed to work closely with Susan and Hospice of the Conejo, Larry and Andrea and the Boy Scouts and our members from Westcord where we helped find the California Museum of Art – TO a new home. I've also been fortunate to lead the Greeting Committee this year as well as serve on the Programs Committee being a part of booking all of the great speakers we've had this year. I would be honored to be a part of the board to help continue its outstanding track record of success but also build off that success and help move into the next era. We all can see and feel the changes in our community and its evolving needs and I know that I can help with this transformation while remaining true to the things that have always made this club great.

MARISSA BUSS

Marissa Buss is a Real Estate Agent with Re/Max Infinity in Westlake Village, and has lived in the Conejo Valley for 30 years. She has been married for 11 years and has 2 young daughters. She volunteers her time with the Oxnard Fire Foundation, the Madrona Elementary PTA, and Senior Concerns. Marissa is Chair for the Rotary Club's Annual Thousand Oaks Chili Cookoff for the past 3 years and has helped with sponsorship on the Street Fair and Mid-Summer Wine Festival. She is a 3 time Paul Harris Fellow, awarded Rookie of the Year in 2016, and Bob Morrison Awardee in 2017. She joined Rotary to give back to Thousand Oaks and ended up getting so much more in return.

JASON COREY

Jason Corey is a recent addition to our beloved Club, however he is already making an impact. He has directed traffic, delivered art and other auction items to highest bidders, called to get your blood and chalked streets in the name of Rotary. He is involved with keeping the books for District 5240, so he is familiar with some of the inner workings of the District, and is working his way to partner at the prestigious accounting firm of Jacobs and Jacobs. In addition, he has been invited and has accepted a role on our club's finance committee. For our benefit, Jason brings with him nearly 20 years of accounting and finance experience. Prior to joining our club, he was the treasurer for the Greater San Fernando Chamber of Commerce, a position he has resigned from to free up more time *(continued next page)*



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BOARD SLATE (continued)

and energy to serve Rotarian interests. Just some of his service above self endeavors include scooping fruit cocktail in Oxnard parks as he was feeding the homeless with his teenage children. He also has been seen dealing cards while teaching poker and blackjack to teenagers at 3am on prom nights ensuring a safe and sane evening for Rio Mesa and Pacifica high school Students. Jason's 21-year marriage and his two children in college are his greatest accomplishment, however, now he wants to give back to the community and the world in any way possible, and feels that Rotary is the greatest mechanism to achieve success in this endeavor.

RICHARD FOLSOM

Richard Folsom is a native of Ventura County, California. He began his career in the hospitality industry switching to manufacturing in 1993. Rich currently works at Semiconductor Equipment Corporation in Moorpark, California where he serves as General Manager Manufacturing and CFO. Rich holds a BA in Business Administration from California Lutheran University. Rich currently lives in Thousand Oaks with his wife, Diane, and has three grown children. In his spare time, he enjoys cooking and photography. Richard joined Rotary with the intent to give back to the Conejo Valley. He has enjoyed developing new friendships and rekindling previous ones as we collectively work to enhance our community. His biggest contribution to Rotary has been photographing our meetings and events. Rich is seeking a board position to learn more about the interworkings of Rotary.

ERIC HARRISON

Experienced Chief Executive Officer with a demonstrated history of working in the nonprofit sector. MBA graduate and recently completed the Harvard Kennedy School Executive Education Program. Been of service since working as a Peace Corps Education Volunteer in rural Madagascar shortly after college. I joined Rotary because I was invited by Past-President Doug Tapking, who was also a member of my church and choir at Ascension Lutheran Church. My affiliation with Rotary dates to my French college professor who had established an exchange program for French majoring graduates to teach in a sister city with a Rotary club in the French Normandy. I was selected and taught English in the elementary schools just prior to my service in Madagascar. I believe in Rotary's mission and I was particularly interested in what I could add with both my leadership position at the United Way of Ventura County and international experience as a teacher in Europe and Africa. My notable accomplishments are obtaining my blue badge within weeks of my acceptance, serving on the sponsorship committee for the Wine Festival and participating as a singer in the Rotary Tones choral group for the past few years. I've also participated as a volunteer at the Chili Cook-off and Street Fair every year of my service. I would like to serve as a board member of the Rotary of Thousand Oaks because I have been of service my entire career. I believe I could add my unique voice and perspective in its evolution.

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BOARD SLATE (continued)

BOB LEWIS

Bob would be honored to serve on the Rotary Board if selected. He joined Rotary on January 6, 1994 because Rotary is an outstanding way to serve our local and international communities. He served on the Rotary Board in 2002-2003 as Club Service Director and on the Rotary Board in 2016-2017 as Club Administrator. He was extremely proud when Robert Bianchi awarded him the Bob Morrison Award for service to our Club. For the past several years he has also organized Fireside Chats for our Club. Bob and his wife Kathy moved to Newbury Park in 1976 with their 2 sons. He served as an Army JAG attorney after graduating from UCLA, including tours in West Berlin before the Wall came down and at US Army Headquarters in Heidelberg. As a business attorney, he works in mergers and acquisitions, creditor's rights and real property matters. Bob believes strongly in community service. He served 12 years as a Thousand Oaks Planning Commissioner, Councilmember and Mayor. He is a past Chairman of The Alliance for the Arts and, prior to its merger, he was Chairman of the Board of California Oaks State Bank. Bob would be pleased to give his energy and effort to our Rotary Club.

ANDREA MCCLELLAN

I am who I am because of my family, which includes my husband of 30 years, 5 children and 4 grandchildren. My education is in Nursing except, after having 4 generations of Eagle Scouts and 3 of my own my husband told me that I'd be a great nurse but my passions would not be complete being a nurse. He was right! I have spent 4 years as a District Executive and nominated 2 of the 4 years as a Top Performer in the Nation. Which has given me a new opportunity starting in January 2019. As a little girl, I remember going with my dad to Activities at Rotary dressed in my hat and gloves at the Country Club. Joining Rotary was natural as I have always given service since a young age and Boy Scouts has been a household name in being of service to others. Chili Cook off Committee-VIP tent, arranging the food and taking care of the sponsors. Street Fair Committee- 2 years in Kids Zone and recently the Sponsors Liaison. My favorite committee is reading to the children at Conejo Elementary. I have never thought about being a Rotary Board Member. I truly believe that every single person makes Rotary what it is and many hands make light work. However, if being a Board Member in Rotary means Supporting Herb, more involvement, new ideas and wanting to make a difference? Then I want to be included.



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PAST PRESIDENTS — Rotary Club of Thousand Oaks

58-59 DONN ODELL	88-89 KENNETH ROBERTS
59-60 JOHN HEYWOOD	89-90 JEFF BORENSTEIN
60-61 MARV BURROW	90-91 DENNIS GILLETTE
61-62 ROSS DUSKIN	91-92 MERV KOPP
62-63 ROY McCOMBER	92-93 TOM GLANCY
63-64 PAUL PACE	93-94 HUGO ROCHE
64-65 JOHN CONLAN	94-95 BRIAN BACK
65-66 CARLOS SCURIA	95-96 TONY KOUROUNIS
66-67 MERRILL DARLING	96-97 JACK CAINE
67-68 PHIL OZAB	97-98 DICK WIELER
68-69 WILLIAM VANDERZWANN	98-99 JUDY ST. JOHN
69-70 ALVIN J. HOTZ, JR.	99-20 MIKE GONZALES
70-71 BEN CRANMER, JR.	20-01 NEAL SCRIBNER
71-72 GLENN GOODWIN	01-02 BOB BIERY
72-73 GEORGE VASLIEFF	02-03 HARRY SELVIN
73-74 HENRY STILL	03-04 RICK LEMMO
74-75 JOHN TUEL	04-05 DOUG TAPKING
75-76 KENNETH HANSON	05-06 KATHY HILL
76-77 DAVID HUANG	06-07 PETE TURPEL
77-78 WILLIAM HAAS	07-08 VICKI ARNDT
78-79 FELIX MASCI	08-09 MARTIN ANDERSON
79-80 HARLAND JONES	09-10 KEITH PARKS
80-81 DAVE WENDER	10-11 FRANK CORRIGAN
81-82 GEORGE GIBB	11-12 RICHARD WILLIAMS
82-83 NORMAN NAGEL	12-13 SUSAN MURATA
83-84 BILL PETERSON	13-14 CAROL FREEMAN
84-85 MIKE O'BEIRNE	14-15 NATE HARIMOTO
85-86 MARV SOSNA	15-16 MIKE MURPHY
86-87 FRED FERRARINI	16-17 ROBERT BIANCHI
87-88 DOC NEEDHAM	17-18 TIM WEAVER

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*Editor **K.T. Connor**, notes by **Nancy Wohl**, photos by **Rich Folsom***