



# Rotary Club of Los Gatos

## Cat Tale

District 5170 Club #487 Chartered 1924 Volume #28 Issue #49 November 29, 2016

### SILICON VALLEY PET PROJECT

Tina Orsi-Hartigan introduced Mary Rubin of the *Silicon Valley Pet Project (SVPP) Organization*. She has worked in architecture and real estate development, and was associated with the San Jose Art and Technology program. Mary was a cofounder of *The Dancing Cat*, which provides a loving environment for cat lovers. It is a really cool place.

Mary introduced Melissa Lisbon, who is an advocate of the SVPP and has rescued thousands of animals. It has been discovered that the lives of cancer patients can be significantly improved using pets, however there can be challenges in managing animal rescue groups.

At Melissa's table were some of her volunteers. They were here to talk about pets, and they can set you up with pets from the shelter. People tend to be grateful this time of year, which helps in finding quality homes for rescued pets. The mission is to save at-risk pets and find permanent homes.

In the SVPP there are 150 active volunteers, and in 2015 they rescued 400 dogs and cats. The SVPP works closely with the *San Jose Animal Care Center* (or shelter), which has 15,000 pets come through its doors each year. The reason that pets come to the shelter include pets that are lost, injured, sick, or the

owner just wants to give them up.

Melissa showed the "Dudley Dog" video. This is the story that shows what can happen at the San Jose Shelter. Dudley was a young spaniel mix that needed medical attention. This is typical of a pet that would qualify as a rescue candidate arriving at the San Jose shelter.



Melissa Lisbon

Dudley originally weighed 10 pounds, but should normally weigh 20. Upon examination it was discovered that Dudley's pancreas was not working, so he received a supplement that will be needed all his life. He now weighs his normal weight at 20 pounds.

The next task was to find Dudley a new permanent home. Pets like Dudley can be rescued with the help of people like you. Dudley has now found a new home with two boys, which became possible when Jake (one of the boys) wrote a letter to the shelter looking for a dog that would be compatible with the two cats that were already part of their family. Now just as a coincidence, it turns out that Jake also had a malfunctioning pancreas due to his diabetes. Jake especially had a deep desire to help Dudley because they both shared a similar problem. Jake was a little shy when he first visited Dudley, but he discovered Dudley did well with cats and Dudley was adopted two weeks after Jake's initial visit

when he was introduced to Dudley. Now they both experience a good time together.

Melissa went over tips to help you keep your pets out of the shelter. A lost pet will end up at the San Jose shelter. If the pet is microchipped you must keep the data related to the microchip updated so the pet can be re-connected with you. Lastly, consider what would happen to your pet if anything happened to you. This possibility should be considered and arrangements made so that your pet is transferred to a caring home of your choice. The Shelter receives pets that have no place to go.

It was now Mary's turn to speak and she pitched bringing back the *cat adoption lounge*.



Mary Rubin

This is the purpose of the ***Dancing Cat***. Mary pulls at-risk cats from the shelter and displays them at the Dancing Cat. There the public (whether the visitor is a potential cat owner or not) can interface

with the cats in a friendly environment. The original plan was to place fifty cats in five months. Some 2000 people came through the door. The facility supports the cat community since there is no "cat park" that is analogous to existing dog parks. In 2015 the initial Dancing Cat was founded and it was intended to last four weeks. It actually lasted six months and found homes for fifty cats.

People visit the Dancing Cat just to be able to interface with cats. Their motive in some cases is that they may not be able to own a cat for various reasons.



Tina Orsi-Hartian introduced today's speakers

All funding comes from held events. The core mission is about adopting cats which would be euthanized otherwise. It has occurred where pairs of cats will sometimes be adopted together.

The successful adoption total today stands at 102. The Dancing Cat is currently seeking a permanent location, and any help is appreciated. They are always in need of foster homes for adult cats and dogs. Also there are continuing opportunities for involvement. Mary encourages the public to visit and experience the Dancing Cat, and of course donations are always appreciated. They take walk-ins, but reservations are preferred as they must limit the total number of people in the shelter at any time. Reservations will guarantee that you get in. Some organizations that support cats are part of a franchise, but the Dancing Cats is independent. Tina talked about her great experience at the shelter.



President Tony presented certificates for the donation of two wheelchairs in the name of the speakers

See electronic page 5 for photos of the **December Happy Hour**, courtesy of Maddie Smith

Tuesday, November 29, 2016

*Meeting*

*Presiding*

*President Tony James*

*Pledge*

*John Pencer*

*Invocation*

*Suzanne Boxer-Gassman*

*Editor Ron Smith*

*Photos Don d'Arms*



## WE CARE

**Andrea Lee** told us that **Larry Jinks** is doing well and is present at today's meeting. New member **Hal Rosen** received a surprise when upon visiting the doctor. He got scheduled for open heart surgery the following day. We all wish him well. **Ed Stahl** reported that **Tom Dodge's** brother died last Friday.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Tony James** explained the Club's philanthropic process. The fiscal year goes from July 1 to June 30 of the following year. One of the major functions of Rotary is raising funds and then distributing those funds. Last year the Club dispersed about \$199K to local and international charities. The time of disbursement is the issue. It is done relatively late in our fiscal year, because the Great Race — is the major fundraiser — occurs in April. This is close to June, the last month of the fiscal year. Because of the timing of this process any club member who is considering proposing a particular charity be funded by Los Gatos Rotary should get involved immediately as the funding cycle starts now.

It is a bottom up process. The key is the "Champion's Form". The club member proposing a funding recipient becomes the champion of that charity and fills out the form including a suggested funding level. Tony has an example of a filled out form to educate the proposing

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- Dec 6 Lodge dark for Presidents Brunch
- Dec 13 LGHS Choir Holiday Program
- Dec 20 "Humanity's Last Stand" — Nan Su
- Dec 27 "Silicon Valley Clean Energy Organization"  
Vice Mayor Bob Rennie

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Jan 28 Annual CrabFest and Auction  
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church  
Saratoga
- Mar 3 Annual Rotary Ski Competition  
Lake Tahoe
- Mar 4 Annual Tahoe Ski Competition Dinner  
at John Colwell's

club member. The message is "Get a form and become a champion". The forms are due by the end of February. Late submissions are not accepted. Start the process now

**Marty Fishman** provided pictures and an explanation of the **Rotary Eye Care Project** in Guatemala. Marty was shown in pictures with six others who participated in the visit to Guatemala last October. They visited a small town of about 10,000 residents. The town has an eye clinic that operates all year, but for two weeks Rotary takes it over and

Rotary Club of Los Gatos  
P. O. Box 1018  
Los Gatos, CA 95031  
Return Requested

generally they see about 200 patients. Since 1996 this group has treated approximately 10,000 patients including about 1,500 cataract surgeries. Marty showed how patients can be totally blind when entering the clinic, but after treatment they can leave the clinic with their sight restored.



New member Marty Fishman

**Julian Rodriguez** reminded us of the *Giving Tree*, which addresses children in need. Six families were designated this year by Santa Clara County. In 1998 the project was started, however we had an issue with privacy law. That issue has now been resolved. Julian expressed his thanks for Los Gatos' participation in this project. Gifts are scheduled for delivery December 10th to recipients. Take your gifts to Julian's office.

#### **\$20 for 20 Seconds**

**Canan Sonuk** was unfortunately home by herself for Thanksgiving while her son's Oregon High School won the state football championship.

Tina: The Miami Dolphins have a player who is a close friend of her son. We often get an update if something good happens. Miami beat the Niners, WOW! Now there is news!

# The December Happy Hour

Patti Van der Burg was the "Hostess with the Mostest"



Photos courtesy of Maddie Smith

## Rotary Club of Los Gatos Cat Tale

Bulletin Committee Chair: Don d'Arms

Editors: Grady Jeter, Sari ta Johnson, Julian Rodriguez, Ron Smith,  
Wes Sadumiano and Patti Van der Burg.

Photography: Art Beddeson, Ron Cassel, Don d'Arms, Kamyar Negari.

*Published by Wordgraphics of Los Gatos*

*Publication Deadline: Wednesdays at 5*

Don d'Arms Phone/Fax 831-704-2944 dondarms@gmail.com

Web site addresses:

**Los Gatos**

<http://www.losgatosrotary.org>  
<http://www.clubrunner.ca/losgatos>

**District**

<http://www.rotary5170.org>

**International**

<https://rotary.org>

## SISTER ROTARY CLUB MEETING TIMES AND PLACES

### MONDAY

#### **PALO ALTO**

Ming's Restaurant  
1700 Embarcadero Road  
**MILPITAS**

Embassy Suites Hotel  
901 E. Calaveras  
**SCOTTS VALLEY**  
Hilton Hotel

*All meeting times 12:15 pm  
Unless noted otherwise*

**Los Gatos Lodge**  
**50 Los Gatos-Saratoga Rd**

### TUESDAY

#### **MOUNTAIN VIEW**

Historic Adobe Bldg.  
Moffett Field  
**SANTA CRUZ Sunrise**  
7:15 am De La Viera Golf  
**CAMPBELL / S.J. West**  
Eastfield Ming Quong Ctr  
251 Llewellyn Ave

**SUNNYVALE**  
Lookout Rest. Muni Golf  
**GILROY Elks Lodge**  
2765 Hecker Pass Rd  
**FREMONT**  
Massimo's Restaurant

### WEDNESDAY

#### **SUNNYVALE Sunrise**

7:00 am Le Boulanger  
**LOS GATOS Morning**  
7:15 am Los Gatos Lodge  
50 Los Gatos-Saratoga Rd  
**SAN JOSE Summit Ctr**  
4th & San Fernando  
**CUPERTINO**  
Quinlan Comm. Center  
**WATSONVILLE**  
Elk's Lodge  
**MORGAN HILL**  
Morgan Hill Comm. Center  
**FELTON / San Lorenzo**  
Mt. Hermon Ctr. / 7 am

### THURSDAY

#### **SAN JOSE Sunrise**

Club no longer meets  
**ALMADEN VALLEY**  
Boulder Ridge Golf  
1000 Old Quarry  
**SANTA CLARA**  
Hilton Santa Clara  
4949 Great America Pwy  
**SAN JOSE EAST**  
Ranch Golf Club  
4601 Hill Top View

### FRIDAY

#### **SAN JOSE North**

HP Pavilion Arena  
**SARATOGA**  
Community Center / 12 n  
**SANTA CRUZ**  
Elk's Lodge / 12:10 pm

**Los Gatos Lodge**  
**50 Los Gatos-Saratoga Rd**

## MEMBER INFORMATION

As the Cat Tale will again be published on our web site, we will cease posting new member info and member address corrections in the Cat Tale, for privacy reasons. For this information, use the **Clubrunner Members Area**, which is NOT available to the public.

## MEMBERS INDUCTED IN FY 2015-2016



Michelle Behr



Jack Chevlen



Michael Bisbee



James Park



Leola Edmond



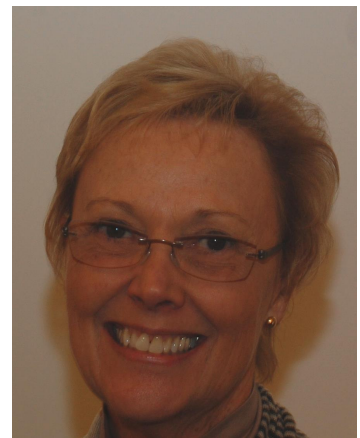
Neal Mudgett



Margaret Smith



Canan Sonuk



Madeline Smith

## MEMBERS INDUCTED IN FY 2015-2016



Angelique Pimentel

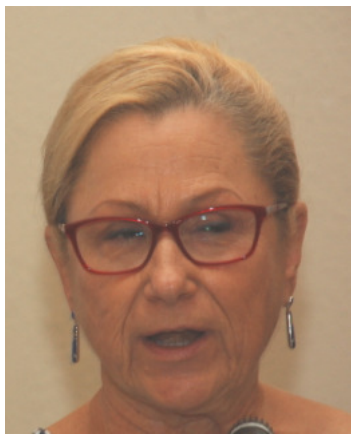


Henry Vitkovich



David Karwowski

## MEMBERS INDUCTED IN FY 2016-2017



Joyce Cordi



Ketan Shah



Geraldine Arce



Marty Fishman



Dick Konrad

## MEMBERS INDUCTED



Greg Butterfield



Amy Potts



Cathy Schumacher



Chad Clemings



Janice Gali



Shane Rogers



AnnMarie Valle

## IN FY 2014-2015



Patti Van der Burg



Gordon Levin



Kathy Murtfeldt



## **ROTARY CLUB OF LOS GATOS 2016-2017 OFFICERS**

<b>President</b>	<b>Tony James</b>
<b>President-Elect</b>	<b>Suzanne Boxer-Gassman</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Grady Jeter</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Andrew Stearns</b>
<b>Assistant Secretary</b>	<b>Paul Mudgett</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Dan Snyder</b>
<b>Assistant Treasurer</b>	<b>Ed Bowen</b>
<b>Immediate Past President</b>	<b>Rodg Griffin</b>

## **ROTARY CLUB OF LOS GATOS 2016-2017 DIRECTORS**

<b>Club Meetings Director</b>	<b>Andrew Howard</b>
<b>Membership &amp; Communications Director</b>	<b>Charles Erekson</b>
<b>Club Events Director</b>	<b>Dan Doore</b>
<b>Community Relations Director</b>	<b>Amy Potts</b>
<b>Youth Services Director</b>	<b>Wes Sadumiano</b>
<b>International Service Director</b>	<b>Grady Jeter</b>
<b>Rotary International Foundation Co-Chair</b>	<b>Avis La Grone</b>
<b>Rotary International Foundation Co-Chair</b>	<b>Dan Snyder</b>
<b>Sergeant-at-Arms</b>	<b>Russ Klein</b>
<b>Rotary International President</b>	<b>John F. Germ</b>
<b>Rotary District 5170 Governor</b>	<b>Jeff Orth</b>
<b>Assistant District Governor for Area 8</b>	<b>Hung Wei</b>