

A Letter from President-Elect Megan

Dear Dublin Rotarians,

When the editor of the world's greatest newsletter asked me to write a short piece about my experience at PETS, I was initially reluctant. I wondered how shall I approach this: just 4 weeks ago I attended a conference in San Jose with over 1,000 people from all over the Western Area, to study and learn and share meals, be inspired together, lean in to listen and connect, 6 inches from each other not 6 feet apart. To me it seems like an alternate universe, upside down from where we find ourselves today.



And then I realized, this article is an opportunity to talk to every member of the Dublin Rotary Club, and everyone who reads the newsletter. I get to share with you what is in my heart, and then later figure out how to square it up with my PETS experience.

Dublin Rotarians, I think about each of you every day. I hope that you are healthy and well – physically and emotionally – and that your loved ones are too. I hope that you are each able to adapt to the work at home & stay at home world. I hope that you are able to get outside...for a 5 minute or 5 mile walk... to take in the sunshine and some Vitamin D.



And in the midst of this change I can still see the strong spirit and the strength of our Club. You are showing concern for each other and for our community: organizing to deliver masks, giving blood, assisting with food pantries and deliveries, and more. I am blessed to be a part of this club and witness Service above Self.

The Rotary theme for 2020-2021 is *Rotary Opens Opportunities*. The new logo is a picture of 3 doors opening. While at the conference, I imagined the many doors that our Club could find and open together. During our sessions, we explored

Impact, Reach, Engagement, and Adaptability. We worked in Area 4 teams, with the idea that this work would translate back to our clubs and help us find the potential doors we can open and what we can achieve working together.

And while the ground may have shifted, the connection and commitment that we have in our club to each other and to our community will continue. I remain optimistic that we will continue to open doors of opportunity together. And probably some windows too. I am grateful to be a part of the Dublin Rotary Club and Rotary International. Sending you all my best and wishing for you strength and courage, creativity and peace.



Welcome back! It has been an interesting few weeks since our last issue. Although there have been no recent meetings of Dublin Rotary, we looked forward to zooming into Tuesday's meeting. In the meantime, be sure to wash your six feet, keep 20 seconds away from everyone, and mask your breath.



Record Sales at St. Patrick's Festival (Last Year)

Of course, last year's St. Patrick's Day Festival resulted in record beer and wine sales for Dublin Rotary. Just like the current sports stories, it is all about nostalgia – what happened in the past. We've done serious beer and wine sales in recent years, but before that we did fingerprinting at the St. Patrick's Day Festival. In earlier years, we dabbled in beer and ice cream sales. Here is your fix on Dublin Rotary events around March 17 over the years. Enjoy. See the pages that follow.

































Why We Thought We'd Win

It was the night of February 19, 2020. It was held at the Shannon Community Center. It was to announce the winners of the City of Dublin's awards for Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year, and Organization of the Year. President Mike and I showed up confidently, having ourselves modestly nominated the Rotary Club of Dublin for OotY. How could we not win? We consider ourselves the pre-eminent group around, we are strong with kids and schools, we provide a lot of tangible service to the community, we represent many fine businesses, we believe in and practice service above self, we've sold hundreds of glasses of wine and beer in support of the City's festivals (and our treasury) and we do great things around the world. That last one doesn't count in the judging because it's not in Dublin, but we slipped it in anyway.

It's a nice event with lots of great food tid-bits and networking. The first thing I did when I walked in was head over to the displays for all the contestants. One large poster for each applicant and organization. Ours was very nicely written and had a photo of five consecutive Dublin Rotary Presidents, all very solid citizens, most of whom are obviously wise and mature. But upon looking at the names and write-ups for the other candidates for OotY, my confidence diminished more than a little. There was the California Highway Patrol (which I didn't realize was a Dublin Organization), there was the Dublin/San Ramon Women's Club, someone called Creating New Hope and also the Tri-Valley Thanksgiving Outreach Dinner. Oh, yes the Dublin 4-H. Frankly after reading every group's story, and hearing their qualifications read by a City Council member, I began to hope to at least finish in the top six! So, we weren't too surprised when the deserving winner – Dublin 4-H – was announced. I am pretty sure we were second, but they didn't announce that so as not to disappoint the other organizations. Also announced were the Citizen of the Year - Liz Crocker, a volunteer leader for the Dublin High School Irish Guard Band and Color guard. Then Michael and I were happy to hear the winners of the Young Citizen(s) of the Year – Emily Que and Haley Tjon, for their



leadership in building the Dublin Hi Interact Club into a powerful and effective organization. They are frequent attenders and honorees at our club. We were immensely proud of the young ladies and particularly for Bryan Benton's work with them on our behalf. As we congratulated Emily and Haley after the event, I think we were happier than if we had aced the OotY!



Valley Humane Society Treats Animals with Compassion



When VHS Executive Director Melanie Sadek visited us recently, the story of her organization's work with pets was very compelling. VHS was founded 30 years ago by a group of passionate animal advocates during a time when public shelters deemed it was more humane to euthanize animals. Eventually, Valley Humane started to pull animals out of public shelters. Today their work includes cat and dog support and adoptions, humane educations and various community support programs.

On cat and dog support of animals from public shelters, they provide medical support including spay/neuter, medically necessary interventions and parasite protections. They put in

a microchip and then find a new forever home. They provide humane education with classroom presentations, kindness clubs, scout programs, service projects, birthday parties and junior volunteers.





AniMeals is a pet food pantry that provides regular free meals for the dogs and cats of seniors and low-income families. 120,000 meals are distributed each year by groups such as Open Heart Kitchen, Valley Bible Church and TriValley Haven. In their Home to Home programs, Melanie noted that 30,000 animals enter the Alameda/Contra Costa public shelters each year, 6,000 of which are surrendered by

their owner. 20,000 need a new home – Home-home.org provides animal owners a way to find new homes for their pets and reduce or eliminate the need to surrender to a

public or private shelter.

The relationship between pets and people has immeasurable value on our emotional and physical health. VHS leads the way in Canine Comfort Pet Therapy by partnering with Veterans Affairs in Livermore, TriValley School Districts, retirement communities, Kaiser/Valley Care, Exceptional Needs Network, TriValley Libraries, Hope Hospice homes, college campuses, and others.

Melanie has her roots in Dublin, is the daughter in law of former Giant Mike Sadek, and has an identical twin sister in Idaho with the same job. We were very impressed with Melanie and VHS!



Around the Room





A recent speaker Michelle McKay McCoy is a Superior Court Judge in Santa Clara County, having a background as a County Prosecutor, and a professor of law. She presented an overview of the development of the US Constitution covering such issues as the Federalist Papers, the Articles of Confederation, the derivation of our three-part system of federal government, federal and Supreme Court judges, the slavery compromise and many other topics. She obviously has a strong historic background on this topic and was very interesting.

Have you honored your Rotary Foundation pledge? It has been a mixed up year, but Don reminded us why we should give to the Foundation. Our goal for the year is \$12,000 with about \$10 K pledged. However, only about half of the pledges have been honored so far. Not to worry, we still have until the middle of June to get our money in. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is matching our giving. Every Rotarian Every Year (EREY) is an important concept in our District 5170, which is the largest per capita giver in North America.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Rich Boschetti's son in law.



Rotary Keeps Honoring Youth Efforts!

As usual, we honored superbly outstanding students of the month from DHS, on the left, and the student of the quarter from VHS. Larry was his usual entertaining self while overseeing the annual speech contest. The winner of the speech contest, freshman Shrey Raj on the left, advanced to the Area 4 contest held later in the month – he didn't win there. Thanks also to the judges and Bryan and Megan for their help. We also honored the Fallon Middle School high achievers.















Honors, and New Members



member returning, and Christy Li, from the Tri-Valley Club. Two great additions, Welcome to both! And, Rotarians of the Month: Michael Rosen for January and Janine Thalblum for January. This is a page full of dedicated Rotarians!



Around the Room continued from page 8



Excellent News: We are pleased to share the news that Stephanie Barker's company Barker Heating and Air Conditioning is the new Corporate Sponsor of our Club. Here Stephanie gives a check for \$5,000 to President Mike. Thanks very much to Stephanie.

The Dublin Integrity in Action annual Bowl A Rama was held on March 1, which Dublin Rotary co-sponsored. Our bowlers, reportedly Jeff, Ed, Jeff 2, Namrata, and Tim finished in the top 100 percentile of all entrants. It doesn't get any better than that.

Happy Event: Stewy Thalblum has made his high school baseball team!



Uniendo America What is it and why is it awesome?



That was the title of new Dublin Rotarian Mike Rosen's presentation to us in late February. It was a busy Tuesday, so Mike will finish his presentation at an upcoming meeting. Mike spoke of his history of attending Uniendo American gatherings recently. Here's a website summary of these events.

Uniendo America means "Uniting America," and that is just what Uniendo America Project Fairs aim to do. Since 1994, Uniendo America has held a Fair in a different Central American country each year where Central American Rotarians have presented World Community Service projects to North American Rotarians in hopes of forming international partnerships. Meeting face-to-face at the Fairs

in Central America has created lasting friendships, forged new working relationships and facilitated the implementation of hundreds of WCS projects, benefiting countless Central (and North) Americans. It is what Rotary International is all about: creating goodwill and understanding through international cooperation.

Throughout the past decade there have been more than two thousand projects proposed by Central American Rotarians. There have been attendees from well over 200 Clubs, representing over 55 Districts from outside of Central America. There have been as many as 250 North American attendees at a Project Fair. There has also been a representative from Rotary International Headquarters at each Fair.

Mike attended the most recent meeting in Antigua, Guatemala in January, but also spoke of his attendance at earlier conferences in El Salvador and Guatemala dating back to 2013. We'll look forward to the conclusion of Mike's presentation.



Dublin Rotary Membership

*Ackley, Dennis '97• Barker, Stephanie '19 *Bennett, Rich '95• Benton, Bryan '13• Berry, Namrata '19 Boschetti, Rich '12• *Carvacho, Bo '08• Ceizler, Harold '69• *Damaser, Larry '09• *Delaporte, Tim '09• Della, Kamal 'II• Denlinger, Lee '04• *Dunlop, Mona '94• Grier, Kevin '16 Haubert, David '13 Herbstman, Cliff '68• Hernandez, Melissa '13 Hoffman, Marilynn '19 Ichiuji, John '83• Johnson, Pamela '07• *Kinzel, Chris D. '87• Kumagai, Shawn '19 *Kyle Michael E. '75• *Leuchi, Jeff '96• Li, Christy '18 Manuchehri, Parvin 'II•

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Marken, Dave '19 Campbell, Matt '19 Manskey, Diane '19 Sorrera, Joe '19 *Miller, Dennis J. '79• *Moy, William '89• Piegaro, Dominick '19 *Price, Don '09• Pringle, Jennifer '18 *Pringle, Patty '13 Prilutsky, Michael '18 Raney, Ed '96• Rosen, Michael '12 Rouse, Megan '14 Smith, Linda '12 *Tanneberg, Ward '72• *Thalblum, Janine '09• Tribby, Coleen '18 *Tucknott, Bob '73• Watanabe, Jerry '72• Wedderburn, leff '20 Williams, Valerie '14

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