# THE DUBLIN SHAMROCK

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The Rotary Club of Dublin, California 2017-2018 "The Home of Rotarians in Action"



#### ROTARY: MAKING A DIFFERENCE

# We Will Miss Don Biddle

"We have lost a great leader and a dear friend. Don was the epitome of a dedicated public servant. He was a part of our family, a fixture around City Hall and he had a profound and positive impact on our daily lives. We will miss him beyond words." Fellow Rotarian and City Council Member Melissa Hernandez expressed these sentiments following Don's passing on February 21. Don attended a Rotary social event on January 16, as shown in the top photo. He exhibited his ever-present broad smile and although thin, had apparently not yet been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, from which he succumbed five weeks later.



Don is pictured being welcomed into Dublin Rotary membership by President Jeff Leu-

chi on December 6, 2005. Don was an active Rotarian and never missed a Rotary event. In fact, Don was everywhere in the City and seemingly never missed any kind of event, big or small, not because he wanted to be seen but because he wanted to support and honor those who were sponsoring the event.



Dublin Rotarians were invited to three events celebrating his life – his Interment, his Celebration of Life at his home church, John Knox Presbyterian Church, and his Community Reception at Shannon Center. At the church service the three eulogists were Tim Sbranti, Abe Gupta and Melissa Hernandez. Speakers at the Community Service included Dave Haubert, Eric Swallwell, Catharine Baker, Nancy O'Malley and Scott Haggerty. All had strong ties with Don and praised him for always conducting himself with honesty and integrity and always doing what he felt was best for the Dublin. Even those who had differences with Don's positions knew the basis for his opinion and were certain their relationship would not suffer.

Not only did he not hold a grudge, he never seemed to even generate a grudge in the first place.

We knew him after retirement from his civil engineering position with Bechtel after a 30 year career as a field engineer and project manager. His family first moved to Dublin in 1974. He served on school boards, the Planning Commission and City Council and dozens of community organizations, before and after his retirement. Mayor Dave's official comment was "We are grieving the loss of our friend and colleague. Don is in a class by himself; he was an incredibly kind and giving person and served this community with distinction and integrity, not only as a member of the City Council but in so many ways that it is difficult to enumerate.



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See additional Rotary photos of Don in this issue.

# What is PETS?

By Chris Kinzel



It's the President Elect Training Seminar, where they send Rotarians who have been elected to serve as Club Presidents for the next Rotary year, beginning on July I. That's where I spent 50 hours last weekend, essentially locked in the San

Jose Airport Doubletree along with about 500 Presidents-Elect and Assistant Governors (Including Lee Denlinger) from nine Rotary districts (including ours, District 5170) stretching from Fresno north to British Columbia.

The purpose of the PETS weekend is to train and inspire Presidents. In a positive sense, it was overwhelming. Most Presidents-Elect were selected in July, I was elected in February and so my planning needs to be crammed in less time. By July I I will select a brand new set of Directors, officers,



**BE THE INSPIRATION** 

committee chairs, and other club leaders. We need to develop a plan for the year, a budget, identify fund raisers, community service events, and other key events. And we need to work with other Area 4 clubs in Livermore and Pleasanton to establish and plan joint projects.

Here's a listing of the sessions I attended: "Great Presidents Lead," The President and Membership, Building and Sustaining Your Club", "The President and the Rotary Foundation", Building a Strong Brand for Your Club", and "Strategies for Success". Nearly one-half of our members have served as a President of our Club or a different one, so you guys know the drill.

The 2018-19 Rotary International President, Barry Rassin, has selected a wonderful theme: Be the Inspiration. The Presidents-Elect were privileged to hear Barry Rassin in person; he and several other Rotary Leaders were truly inspirational. I have attached some photos to prove I was indeed there!



I will be talking with most of you in the coming weeks as we plan for another great Rotary year. I have truly appreciated the positive response you have given me in the past month!

### Welcome Scott Minton and Colleen Tribby







Dublin Rotary gained two new strong members recently. Scott Minton is the Director of Operations at Camp Parks. He has been here for about two and one-half years. He has three children and six grandchildren. He has a strong military background including his previous position serving five years as the Chief of Training at the US Military Academy. He has

just enrolled in a Doctorate program. On LinkedIn he notes likes for his Santa Cruz surfing and Tahoe skiing.

Colleen Tribby is the Director of Finance and Administrative Services at the City of Dublin, where she has served for five years. She previously was the Budget and Finance Manager for South San Francisco. She is a graduate of Claremont College and the European School of Economics. She's a happy person,



she says, with three daughters, a strong sports background (now interested in youth sports). She does a lot of singing and promises to serenade us with a classic someday. She speaks fondly of her time in Italy.

Congratulations to Scott and Colleen; welcome to Dublin Rotary!



#### Maker Space/Empowerment Program



Dublin Rotary experienced a double education treat recently; we were enlightened by two-school based projects, Dublin's Maker Space program and Antioch's Empowerment Program. In the top photo Brett Nelson the first Principal of the new

Cottonwood Creek Elementary School in far east Dublin is receiving a Rotary check to help fund the Makerspace program.



Makerspace is a classroom with tools. Makerspaces combine manufacturing equipment, students, and education for the purposes of enabling students to design, prototype and

create manufactured works that wouldn't be possible to create with the resources available to individuals working alone. In the illustration shown here Nelson shows the various components of the new space. The \$5,000 check will enable more tools and equipment to be developed in this new classroom.



For the last several years, the Antioch Rotary Club, in conjunction with the Antioch Unified School District, has brought the Empowerment Project to young women within the City of Antioch. The Empowerment Project is the journey of a crew of female filmmakers driving across America to encourage, empower, and inspire

the next generation of strong women to go after their career ambitions. Driving over 7,000 miles from Los Angeles to New York over the course of 30 days, the documentary spotlights eight positive and powerful women leaders across a variety of lifestyles and industries. In celebration of the all-female focus in front of and behind the camera, the filmmakers turned the cameras on themselves, capturing their transformational journey. The film challenges the audience to ask themselves, "What would you do if you knew you would succeed?"

Sal Sbranti of Antioch Rotary has spearheaded programs and assemblies reaching all young ladies in the district. Panels of successful women visit schools to delivery messages of empowerment, encouraging students to look to the future. It is working -- students are more focused, disciplinary issues have been



reduced, and many are looking to the future with hope for the first time in their lives because of seeing and hearing from successful women.

#### Enterprise Leadership Conference

Mark Linsky from the Pleasanton North Rotary Club spoke on this subject on Tuesday. ELC is an annual conference of high school juniors aimed to provide enhanced understanding of business terminology and communication as well as provide teamwork and leadership



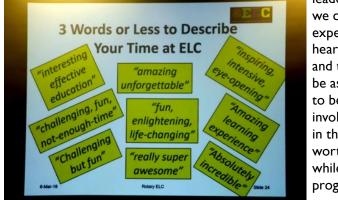
skills through the process of establishing a business in the free enterprise system. Mark is very enthusiastic about this project, which he hopes to bring to Tri-valley students in June of 2020. He's been working with local Rotary Clubs, including Kamal and Patty, to plan such an event.

Mark has been involved ELC with Rotary clubs in the San Jose and Los Gatos for many years and recently has expanded to clubs in Saratoga, Campbell, Santa Clara and Sunnyvale, even though he moved to the Tri- Valley some time ago. The working goal is to attract about 48 students from 10 or so high schools in our area. They go to nice venues and retreat grounds where the students can become fully enmeshed in the program.

The key program business concepts include team building, communication, executive roles, entrepreneurship, mission and cultural values, business planning, and marketing. They consider finance, talent management and ethics while making individual and team presentations and competition.

It's a three day event: during day one the students develop ideas for a business providing a product or service, determine the talents and roles of each of the six team members and plan on their business concepts. During day two they make a decision on what company they will have, what everyone's roles are, and conduct their research, prepare a plan and develop a presentation for day three. On day three they practice their presentation in the morning and make the team presentations in the afternoon, are judged, and winners receive awards and recognition.

Graduates of the program are highly enthusiastic and complementary when describing the program; they understand executive roles, financial terms, and business terms. They are well prepared to better understand businesses, business terms, team work and communication. Mark appears to be a great



leader; we can expect to hear more and to be asked to be involved in this worthwhile program.

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#### PAGE 5

# DUBLIN ROTARY MEMBERSHIP

\*Ackley, Dennis '97• \*Bennett, Rich '95• Benton, Bryan '13• Boschetti, Rich '12• Brown, Alan '13 \*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• Herrera, Beverly '15 Hodsdon, Daniel '16 Ichiuji, John '83• Jenkins, Stephany 'II Johnson, Pamela '07• \*Kinzel, Chris D. '87• Kulick, MC '09• \*Kyle Michael E. '75•

Sheet Metal Pension Consulting Restaurant **Barrel-busting Business & Security** Sports Dentist Insurance Financial **Real Estate Investments** Educator Travel Education City Council Member **Telephone Wizard** Realtor Family Law Dentistry Real Estate Retired **Traffic Engineer** Traffic Engineer

Attorney

\*Leuchi, Jeff '96• Lewis, Luctrica '16 Manuchehri, Parvin 'I I• \*Miller, Dennis J. '79• Minton, Scott '18 \*Moy, William '89• \*Price, Don '09• Pringle, Patty '13 Prilutsky, Michael '18 Raney, Ed '96• Rouse, Megan '14 Smith, Linda '12 Strah, Melissa '13 Tandon, Gautam 'I7 \*Thalblum, Janine '09• Tribby, Coleen '18 \*Tucknott. Bob '73• Watanabe, Jerry '72•

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