

Rotary Club of Hayward

HIGH GEAR



EDITOR: A.T. STEPHENS • PHOTOGRAPHER: ED AVELAR

JUNE 6, 2016

LAST BELL STANDING

San Leandro Rotarian Ivan Cornelius (third from left) shows the San Leandro Rotary Bell to Hayward Rotarians Sid Hamadeh, Norman Garcia, and Douglas den Hartog. Our intrepid Hayward Rotary team made a pilgrimage to San Leandro Rotary Club so they could see a real, live Rotary Bell.



Call To Order

President **Andy Krake** called the 40th meeting of the 94th year of Hayward Rotary to order by pounding an old gavel that was found in the storage closet. **Stan Smith** recited the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the Patriotic Song, "My Country Tis of Thee," with **Douglas Den Hartog** leading the group.

Lucy Lopez read the Thought for the Day, attributed to Muhammed Ali who died on June 3, 2016: "Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth."

Introductions

The Introduction of Visiting Rotarians was conducted by **Larry Ratto**: real estate broker and Past President of the FUN Sunset Rotary Anna May, education consultant Robert Goetsch of the Fremont Rotary, and electrical contractor Bob Tucknott of the Dublin Rotary Club. Hello, Anna! Hello, Robert! Hello, Bob!

The afternoon's Guests included former Hayward City Councilman Olden Henson, guest of **Sean Reinhart**; retired teacher Janet Hicks, Chabot College administrator Connie Willis, and Todd Davis, guests of **Freddye Davis**; and **Robin Wilma** introduced her sister Cindy Wheeler. **Pam Russo** welcomed her guest, H.A.R.D. General Manager Paul McCreary.

President **Andy** called upon **Douglas Den Hartog** to lead a chorus of our favorite song, "Hello!"

GREETERS



**Lucy
Lopez**



**Larry
Ratto**

Vocational Talk

Longtime area resident **Lucy Lopez**, Director of Development at All Saints Catholic School, gave her Vocational Talk. Hayward Rotary Club members enjoyed learning more about our new member and friend.

Announcements

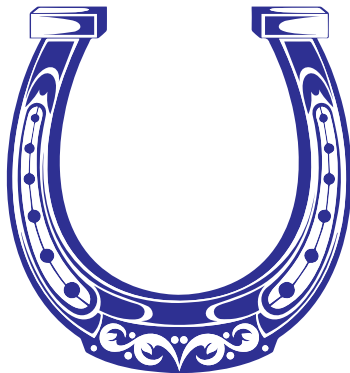


Hayward Rotary "All Stars" are honored for volunteering three or more days at the Rodeo fundraiser (L to R): Lucy Lopez, Sid Hamadeh, Ed Mullins, George Pacheco, Sean Reinhart, Norman Garcia, Andy Krake, Larry Ratto, and Ed Avelar.

- **RODEO "ALL-STARS"**. Incoming President and Rodeo Wrangler **Sean Reinhart** recognized the "All Stars" of this year's Rowell Ranch Rodeo, Rotarians who helped on days in advance and throughout the event. Brass Sheriff badges were awarded to several "Top Hands" who worked all four days of the event: **George Pacheco, Norman Garcia, Ed Mullins, and Andy Krake**. Marshal badges were awarded to "Golden Boots" who worked three days: **Lucy Lopez, Ed Avelar, Larry Ratto, and Sid Hamadeh**. Deputy badges were awarded to several "Silver Spurs" for extraordinary service, volunteerism and a "for being everywhere, helping everyone, all the time" during the event, including **Dave Elkins, Ken Meirovitz, and Kim Huggett**. Additional "All Star" awards will be bestowed next week....
- **HAYWARD ROTARY FOUNDATION PROJECT**. Past Presidents **Ken Meirovitz** and **Pam Russo** reported on a new Hayward Rotary Foundation-supported project, Mia's Dream Park, to be located at Tennyson Park in South Hayward. This park, which is still in the development stage, would feature a large Hayward landmark-themed play area that is fully accessible to children of all abilities. When built, Mia's Dream Park will be the first universally accessible public children's play area in the greater Hayward area. The project is currently funded through a gift of Hayward Rotary Foundation in conjunction with generous contributions from the HARD Foundation, the Make-A- Wish Foundation, and the office of Alameda County Supervisor Richard Valle. The universally accessible park is the dream of eight-year-old Mia, who has cerebral palsy and multiple other challenges due to a very premature birth. Her parents Daniel and Emelyn Lacayo submitted the project on behalf of their daughter. Mrs. Lacayo and Mia attended the meeting. Mrs. Lacayo presented a description of the park, its genesis, and the unique challenges faced by families in similar circumstances. This was her first time speaking publicly on the effort to build Mia's Dream Park, and she did a phenomenal job. After the presentation, **Maria Ochoa** offered copies of her book, *Russell City*, to be auctioned and sold in support of the Mia's Dream Park effort. Immediately, a dozen Hayward Rotary Club members offered to "purchase" copies for \$100 apiece, led by **Tom Gratny**, who gave his copy to the Lacayo Family.

Fines and Foolishness

Brian Schott and **Kim Huggett** were fined for too enthusiastically applauding the approaching end of the President's tenure. **Andy Krake** also collected on "business dinner" **Craig Judy** scheduled at Oracle Arena during the June 2nd Warriors v. Cavaliers NBA Finals game.

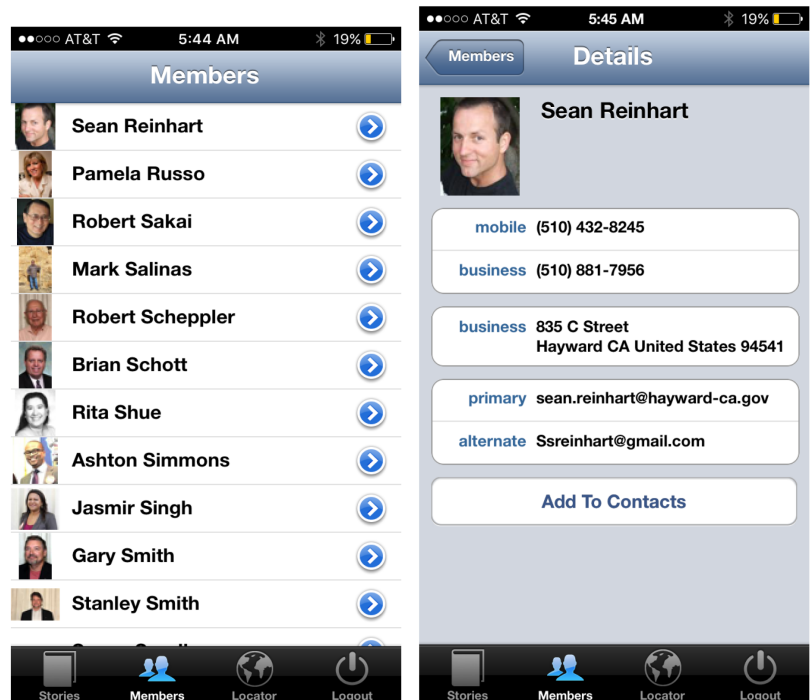


Keynote Speaker



ROTARY TIP OF THE WEEK

Need to look up a fellow Rotarian's number quickly? There's an app for that! The free ClubRunner app gives you instant access to the full Hayward Rotary Club membership directory on your mobile phone. Search for "ClubRunner" in the app store on your phone. Free. Available for iPhone or Android.



Hayward Chamber of Commerce President **Kim Huggett** introduced bluesman **Ronnie Stewart**.

Who delivered the lunchtime presentation on the latest edition of the Russell City Blues Festival. Stewart is the impresario of the 17th annual Hayward/Russell City festival scheduled this year in City Hall Plaza on July 9 and 10. The "real deal" of the Blues heard at the Russell City Country Club celebrates the hometown roots of African Americans who migrated from the Deep South to California during the post-war years of the 1940s. Rotary members were treated to a preview of a documentary produced by Past and Present Media on one of the proving grounds for blues musicians Big Mama Thornton, T Bone Walker, Big Joe Turner, Bobby Webb and many others through the 1960s. It is organized by The West Coast Blues Society, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to the perpetuation of the blues, jazz and gospel as indigenous forms of American music.

Russell City bluesman Ronnie Stewart

Adjournment

With compliments and a book signing by Ronnie Stewart for the Children's Section of the Hayward Library, **President Andy** thanked greeters **Lucy Lopez** and **Larry Ratto**, and High Gear scribe **AT Stephens**, then moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:30 pm. Unfortunately for **President Andy**, the gavel had gone missing again, so he was forced to knock on the lectern!

Hayward Rotary Club
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First Class Mail

www.haywardrotary.org



HAYWARD ROTARY CLUB CALENDAR



June 13 Wendy Winsted: Sulphur Creek Nature Center

June 20 Michael Barrington: Tales of service abroad

June 27 No lunch meeting – attend the Demotion Dinner instead!

June 27 *****President Andy Krake DEMOTION DINNER and Roast** at 6PM***

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JUNE 1, 1922 • CALIFORNIA
CLUB NO. 482

www.haywardrotary.org

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Asst. Secretary.....Dick Bowman
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