

# Rotary Club of Hayward

# HIGH GEAR



EDITORS: DAN GOLDSTEIN and SID HAMADEH • PHOTOGRAPHER: ED AVELAR

October 24, 2016



## BILL'S BILLS

Assembly Member **Bill Quirk** (D-20), a Hayward Rotary Club member since 2005, provided an engaging review of the bills he authored and shepherded into state law this year, including legislation on motorcycle lane-splitting, hands-free mobile devices while driving, Muslim American Appreciation Day, and new safety standards to help protect storefronts from vehicle accidents.

### Call To Order

President **Sean Reinhart** called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. **Joel Thornley** led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the singing of a Patriotic Song led by **Chuck Horner** and **Douglas Den Hartog**. The thought for the day was delivered by **Sid Hamadeh**: "Don't make excuses, make improvements"

The Club welcomed several guests, starting with Visiting Rotarians who were introduced by new Red Badge member **JP Sahi**:

- Bob Tucknott, Electrical Contractor, Dublin Rotary Club
- Pat Gacoscos, Union City Council Member, Fremont-Union City-Newark (FUN) Sunset Rotary Club
- Bob Goetsch, Mentoring Services, Fremont Rotary Club.

Also in attendance were the following Guests:

- Clark Smith, CrossLinks, guest of **Past President Andy Krake**
- Darren Vanderpan, Web Networking, former Hayward Rotarian, guest of **Anna May**
- Tera Maroney, Hayward Senior Center, guest of **Rita Shue**
- Phillis Moroney, Nursing (retired), former Rotarian, guest of **President Sean Reinhart**

Visitors were then welcomed Hayward Rotary style, with a rousing rendition of our favorite song: "HELLO!"

### Announcements

- **President Sean Reinhart** called on guest Tera Maroney to announce that volunteers are sought to help with the annual Thanksgiving luncheon for senior citizens at the Hayward Senior Center on November 17. Hayward Rotary Club is a proud supporter of this long standing Thanksgiving tradition. Contact Ms. Maroney to sign up.

### GREETERS



**Sid  
Hamadeh**



**JP  
Sahi**

- **Robin Wilma** brought See's candies for all, and apologized for Lady Kix's behavior during the Club Photo shoot last week. **President Sean** quickly chimed in that he was delighted to have Lady Kix, our beloved and only canine member in the photo, and noted that she was better behaved than some other Rotarians!
- Dictionary Project. **Linda Granger** reported on the progress of the Dictionary Project: The distribution in 3rd grade classrooms begins this week. All Rotarians are encouraged to participate in at least one classroom distribution – you'll be glad you did. Team leads have contacted Rotarians to schedule.
- Martini Mixer. **Anna May** reminded Rotarians that the next Martini Mixer, "Camelot & Mad Men" is this Thursday 10/27, 5:30pm-7:30pm at the Historical Society museum. This is a signature Hayward Rotary social event, perfect for introducing friends, colleagues, and prospective members to Rotary in a relaxed and fun environment. \$5 per person.
- Hayward Rotary Foundation Gift. **President Sean** expressed gratitude for the Hayward Rotary Club Foundation's \$100,000 donation to Friends of Hayward Library toward the new library. The funds will be used to purchase 10,000 new books for the children's room, and will be recognized by naming the new Children's Storytime Room in honor of Hayward Rotary Club Foundation.
- Library "topping out" ceremony. **President Sean** invited Hayward Rotary members to two special events to recognize the Hayward Rotary Foundation gift: a construction "topping out" ceremony at the library construction site on Thursday, November 10, 2016 at 3:30 p.m., and a City Council presentation at City Hall on Tuesday, November 15, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.



*Lady Kix reclines at the feet of (L to R) Freddie Davis, Barbara Halliday, Robin Wilma and Bill Quirk during the Club Photo shoot on October 17, 2016.*

## Fines and Foolishness

- Red Badge fine collectors **Lucy Lopez** and **Sam Falk** assisted with the proceedings:
- Club Secretary **Mona Diamantine** was recognized for her birthday. When asked if her birthday wish came true, she replied "I always get my wishes!" Birthday fine issued!
- **Paul Wallace** celebrated a birthday recently. "Gee, I forgot," replied **Paul**. Memory fine issued!
- **Ed Mullins** also had a birthday, which he celebrated by having a nice dinner with his wife Wilma. Happy returns fine issued!
- **Lucy Lopez** celebrated 14 years of marriage to husband Dennis. Their secret to marital bliss? "You just laugh as much as you can." Good advice fine issued!
- **Garrett Contreras** was recognized for four years of membership in Hayward Rotary Club. **Charley Plummer** asked, "Who sponsored him?" – Why, it was **Charley**, of course! **Francisco Zermeno** noted that Garrett is serving as Acting City Manager for a few days while City Manager Kelly McAdoo is out of the country on business. President Sean quipped to **Garrett**, "Hey boss, let's talk about my raise soon – in fact, I've got time today." Olympiad fine issued



*Garrett Contreras, Public Safety – Fire Services, Hayward Rotary Club member since 2012*



*Nels Nelson, Education Administration (retired), Hayward Rotary Club member since 1962.*

- **Nels Nelson** also celebrated a Club Anniversary. **Nels** joined Hayward Rotary Club in 1962! A round of applause for this impressive achievement ensued, and **President Sean** personally paid **Nels'** fine. Solid gold plus four!

- **Paul Martin** celebrated twenty years of membership in Hayward Rotary Club this month. **President Sean** lauded **Paul** for being the "Godfather" and the "heart and soul" of our Club. **Paul's** response, "Come to my house and tell my family that – I tell them the same thing, but they don't believe it!" Platinum anniversary fine issued!



*Paul Martin, Land Development, Hayward Rotary Club member since 1996*



## Special Recognition



*Chuck Horner, Francisco Zermeno, Douglas Den Hartog, and President Sean Reinhart*

**Chuck Horner** is known for his stalwart dedication to our monthly dinner service at the Salvation Army, and was brought to the podium to receive applause and recognition for his good work. Ever the team player, **Chuck** called up **Francisco Zermeno** and **Douglas den Hartog** to stand with him, to share the recognition for their consistent aid and assistance with this long-standing Hayward Rotary service.

## Keynote Presentation

**Stan Smith** introduced our keynote speaker, fellow Hayward Rotarian and Assembly Member **Bill Quirk**.

Assembly Member **Bill Quirk** (D-Hayward) represents the 20th District of California, and is a Hayward Rotary Club member since 2005. **Bill** delivered his entertaining keynote presentation, "Bipartisan Successes and Failures in the 2015-16 California Legislative Session."

As the oldest of seven children growing up near Boston, **Bill** excelled in school and became an Eagle Scout. He earned his Ph.D. in Astrophysics from Columbia at the age of 24, then joined NASA as a research scientist and supervised one of the first studies of climate change.

After a stint in the computer industry in Silicon Valley, **Bill** settled into a career at the Lawrence Livermore National Lab. He studied nuclear programs in numerous foreign countries, and played a key role in the negotiations for the Nuclear Test Ban Treaty. He also taught physics at Columbia, Caltech and UC Davis.

Shortly after he put down roots in Hayward in 1978, **Bill** served as PTA president while his children attended Hayward public schools. He then served as President of Friends of Hayward Library and then as Chair of the Hayward Library Commission. In 2004, he was elected to Hayward City Council and in 2008 he was re-elected. While on the city council, **Bill** was dedicated to revitalizing Hayward through promoting jobs and safe and clean neighborhoods.

**Bill** was elected to the California State Assembly in 2012. In the assembly, he has stressed simplifying regulations and streamlining regulatory processes while still protecting workers, consumers, and the environment; achieving California's



*Assembly Member Bill Quirk, Hayward Rotary Club member since 2005.*

greenhouse reduction goals through affordable and reliable energy; and reducing the crime rate, reducing the recidivism rate and improving methods of policing.

**Bill** and his wife Laurel have lived in the Hayward area since 1978 and have been married for over 45 years. Bill and Laurel raised two children who attended Hayward public schools and the University of California.

**Bill** is often get asked, "Why is a Master of Physics in politics?" His response invariably is, "We are all in politics." He elaborated: "In the Capitol, I have to convince a majority of people, meaning at least twenty-one Senators, forty-one Assembly Members, and seven committee members, to work with me if I want to get anything done. That principle is true outside the Capitol too. If you have any idea or proposal that's trying to push new ground, you have to talk to people and bring them around, one by one. In that regard, we're all politicians. When he was school superintendent, **Joel Thornley** led over two thousand employees, as did Nels Nelson when he was superintendent.

When **Paul Martin** goes to the City Council to speak on development proposals, he has to convince and bring people around him. And so on with each of us here in this room. Each of us is moved to serve, and also to be political, in our respective spheres." **Bill** paused to ask **Charley Plummer**, "What made you run for Sheriff?" Ever quick with a great joke, **Charley** quipped, "I wanted to put people in jail!"

After the good-natured laughter subsided, **Bill** turned to a review of his legislative accomplishments of the year. He authored and shepherded several bills into state law this year, including legislation on motorcycle lane-splitting, hands-free mobile devices while driving, Muslim American Appreciation Day, and new safety standards to help protect storefronts from vehicle accidents.

**Larry Ratto** asked a question about the High Speed Rail and Twin Tunnels projects. **Bill** stated that for High Speed Rail to work, it would need billions in private money, and "I don't see that happening right now." On the Twin Tunnel project.... a tunnel already goes from Hetch Hetchy around the delta, and the new tunnel would be used when we get a lot of rainfall, to capture that water and divert it around the delta. This reduces the need to later pump water from the delta, which can cause reverse water flow and harm the delta smelt fish.

Additional Q-and-A ensued, with lively discussion of several key issues. Space does not allow for additional reporting here, but suffice to say that the audience was treated to a wealth of good information straight from the halls of the Capitol, courtesy of our friend in Sacramento, **Bill Quirk**.

[Editor's note: Don't miss the boat! Get the full Rotary experience, right from the source. Attend the Club meetings every week, and bring a friend. Mark your calendars for Hayward Rotary Club, every Monday at noon.]

## Adjournment

After **Bill's** keynote, **President Sean** presented him with a book to be donated to the Hayward Children's Library in **Bill's** honor: Splat the Cat for President.

### MEMBERSHIP NOTICE:

The following person has been proposed for membership in Hayward Rotary Club: **Leah Cerri**, classification Housing, sponsored by **Sara Lamnin**



# Rotary Club of Hayward

# HIGH GEAR



EDITORS: APRIL CHAN and SEAN REINHART • PHOTOGRAPHER: ED AVELAR

OCTOBER 31, 2016



## OUT OF THIS WORLD

*Hayward's historic (haunted?) Meek Mansion has been the site of several paranormal investigations.*

### Call To Order

The macabre meeting opened with a spectral presence at the podium – a spooky ghost! **President Sean Reinhart's** disembodied voice called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Honorable **Bill Quirk** followed by a haunting rendition of the song, "My Country Tis of Thee" led by the esteemed duo, **Douglas Den Hartog** and **Chuck Horner**. A chilling and thrilling Thought for the Day was provided by **María Ochoa**.

### GREETERS



**María  
Ochoa**



**Francisco  
Zermeno**

### Introductions

After enjoying an otherworldly lunch prepared by our supernatural caterers, Robert and Marie Pimental, **President Sean** reappeared. He took off his ghoulish garb and somberly remarked that it is "good to rejoin the living."

**Francisco Zermeno** introduced our hair-raising visiting Rotarians: the mysterious Bob Tucknott, Electrical Contractor for the Dublin Club, and the eerie Heidi Hausauer, Dentist from the Castro Valley Club

- **Sara Lamnin** introduced her guest and intern, Briana Martinez from Impact High School
- **Matthew Spielberg** introduced his guest, Michael Emerson, creator of the Hayward 9/11 memorial
- **Rita Shue** kindly introduced visitor Marianne Halls, tutor from Berkeley.
- **Janiene Langford** introduced her guests, Raj Chandran and Vrushali Chandran, both of whom are fellow volunteers at the Hayward Animal Shelter.

**President Sean** passed around a charming thank you card from 3rd graders at Stonebrae Elementary. This handmade card was in recognition of the recent Hayward Rotary dictionaries given to Stonebrae students, and was filled with notes from all the children. He commented that the dictionary project has a tremendous impact on these children, as evidenced by the heartfelt thank you messages in the card.



## Special Recognition

President **Sean** reported that the Martini Mixer event was a success, with over 60 attendees and plenty of fun and fellowship. He called up the Martini Mixer “Dream Team” for this week’s special recognition: **Anna May, April Chan, Rick Hansen, Janiene Langford, Sid Hamadeh, Norman Garcia, Grace Kao, Lucy Lopez, AT Stephens.**

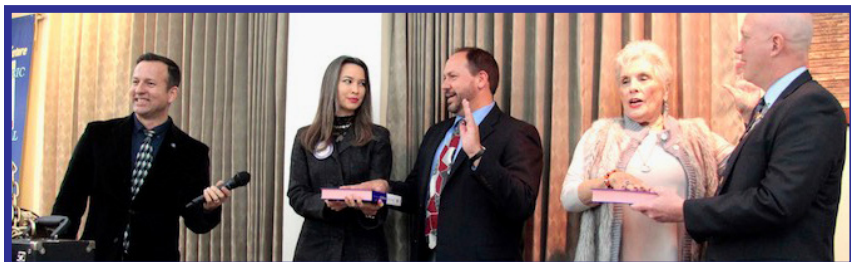


*The Hayward Rotary Club Martini Mixer “Dream Team”: Anna May, Rick Hansen, President Sean Reinhart, April Chan, Janiene Langford, Norman Garcia, Lucy Lopez, and Grace Kao.*

## Announcements

- Dictionary Project Testimonial. **Janiene Langford** reported her experience distributing dictionaries at Treeview Elementary. She shared a moving story of Fire Chief **Garrett Contreras’** expert soothing of a student who was struggling with behavior issues when the group arrived. **Janiene** also described the delight on the childrens’ faces when **María Ochoa** addressed them in Spanish.
- Rotary Holiday Dinner. **Larry Ratto** announced the date and details of this highlight Rotary Club function. All members should attend, and bring spouses, partners, friends. The event takes place at Redwood Canyon Country Club (formerly Willow Park) on Friday evening, December 2, 2016. Look for an email with registration information coming soon. Please RSVP on Clubrunner as soon as possible. This event is also a toy drive; guests are asked to bring one new toy for children in need.
- SantaCon (Fundraiser for Hayward Animal Shelter). **Anna May** announced the 5th annual SantaCon pub crawl and fundraiser, 5:30 p.m. on December 3, 2016. The funds raised help families to adopt dogs that are abandoned and living in the Hayward Shelter.
- Red Kettle Campaign. **Chuck Horner** announced that the Salvation Army “Red Kettle” bell-ringer campaign will begin on Wednesday, November 9th at noon. It is a special event and all are encouraged all to attend.

## New Member Swearing-In



*President Sean Reinhart “swears in” new/re-turning members Darrin Vanderpan and Phyllis Moroney, with assistance from Anna May and Douglas Den Hartog*

## Rotary Avenues of Service

**Anna May** and **Douglas Den Hartog** recently attended the annual Rotary District 5170 conference, Avenues of Service. **Anna** reported back about her presentation about the value of social events for changing perceptions about Rotary and building Club membership. By first changing the way we view our modern Rotary Club today, we then can begin to update and change others’ perceptions Rotary. **Douglas** spoke about attending a session on the Rotary International Foundation. He stated that there is a lot of support for international projects at Avenues of Service, and Rotarians who have ideas for international projects are encouraged to pursue them through Rotary.

## Fines and Foolishness

- **Bill Quirk**, sporting a cast on his left hand, offered up an explanation of the reason for the cast (medical procedure, non-life-threatening). Get well soon, Bill! Southpaw fine issued!
- **Ed Hoffman** was recognized for a “big birthday” coming up next month, and for a new car purchase from fellow Rotarian **Dave Elkins**. Nonagenarian fine issued!
- **Barbara Halliday** also celebrated a birthday, on October 5th. The entire Club heartily sang the Rotary Birthday Song, which ends: “Happy Birthday to You... That’ll Be Ten Bucks!” Many-happy-returns fine issued!

## Keynote Presentation

**Connie Willis** introduced our Halloween keynote speaker, Heather Farquhar. Ms. Farquhar is Collections and Historic Properties Manager at Hayward Area Historical Society. Her keynote speech was entitled, *Hayward's Historic (Haunted) Houses: Paranormal Investigations at Meek Mansion and Mc Conaghy House*.

A few years ago, the Historical Society was approached by representatives from the American Paranormal Research Association (APRA) who were interested in conducting "paranormal investigations" of Hayward's historic mansions. While Ms. Farquhar, like most people, is a skeptic of such things, she also is aware of the reputation these houses have as being "haunted," and saw a way to create fundraising opportunities and draw additional crowds to the properties. The findings of the investigations are presented in a manner which allows people to draw their own conclusions about what they see and hear.

The APRA investigations began with a thorough research of all available records of the house and previous occupants. They then employ various methods to "discover and communicate with earth bound spirits," including flashlights, lasers, video, photographs and audio equipment, all calibrated to detect the presence of "paranormal impressions". Ms. Farquhar noted that the investigators were careful not to draw conclusions in their findings. If they saw or heard something unusual, then they first seek out rational explanations, sometimes involving consultations with other professionals. Sometimes, rational explanations are found; other times, they are not.

For example, some people report experiencing "cold spots" and nausea when walking or standing in certain "haunted" areas of the old house. When further investigated, they discovered a large amount of uninsulated knob-and-tube electrical wiring underneath the floors – commonplace in the late 19th century era when the house was built. A rational explanation is that the bare metal wires are emitting electromagnetic energy which could cause the symptoms some people experience when they are near the wires.

Of course, there were some things that cannot be easily explained with rational means. Ms. Farquhar shared several outright spooky audio recordings of whispered conversations between the spirits and the investigators. Some of those "spirit voices" talked chillingly about where they died in the house; others did not like being disturbed and ordered people to "get out." At one investigation (which was carried out in the dead of night, naturally) a local reporter from the Tri-City Voice who was exploring the cellar, heard an ethereal command to "Go away!" from the impenetrable darkness behind him. He left the house post haste, and patently refused to enter again!



*Keynote speaker Heather Farquhar*



*Brian Schott in traditional costumery.*

Ms. Farquhar was quick to state that these specters, though spooky, are harmless, and she hopes that they stay. She showed legendary photos of the female apparition who reportedly stands by the window of the Meek Mansion wistfully looking out. In her concluding remarks, Heather circulated literature inviting the public to participate in the 2017 fundraiser to learn more about detecting paranormal activity.

In the Q and A session, **Brian Schott** stated that he is very familiar with the Meek Estate. He plays Santa Claus there every Christmas and uses the basement to change into his costume. While down there, Brian has heard strange popping sounds and detected strange smells, leading him to believe that there is something unexplainable in that basement. (Editor's note: Probably just bacon.)

## Adjournment

Per Hayward Rotary tradition, **President Sean** presented Ms. Farquhar with a book that will be donated to the Hayward Children's Library in her honor, *Silly Haunted House: A Pop-Up Book*.

Hayward Rotary Club  
P.O. Box 629  
Hayward, CA 94543

**SPECIAL DOUBLE ISSUE**

## First Class Mail

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### HAYWARD ROTARY CLUB CALENDAR



Rotary Keynote - Nov. 7  
**GREG AHERN**  
Alameda County Sheriff

**Nov 7** Alameda County Sheriff Greg Ahern – Public Safety Trends

**Nov14** Linda Granger – Eden Area ROP

**Nov 21** NO MEETING – THANKSGIVING WEEK

**Nov 28** Jennie Comstock – Hayward Animal Shelter

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CLUB NO. 482

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President - Elect.....Stan Dobbs  
Immediate Past President.....Andy Krake  
Secretary.....Mona Diamantine  
Asst. Secretary.....Dick Bowman  
Treasurer.....Gay McDaniel  
Sergeant at Arms.....Janiene Langford

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