### DECEMBER 19 BULLETIN

the

# Rotary Club of Auburn

"Service Above Self"



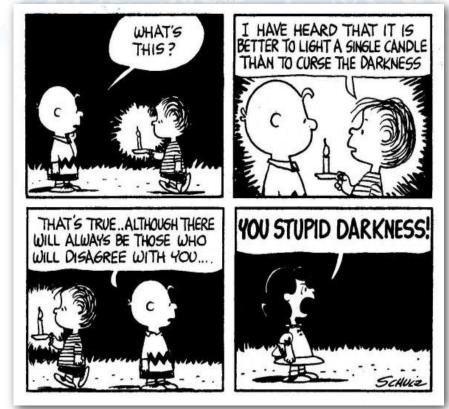
Front Table: Pledge: Song: Devotion: Sgt. At Arms: Greeter: Clean-up:





Upcoming ProgramsDec.26 and Jan.2:

• Dec.26 and Jan.2: Dark



Auburn Rotarians lit several "single candles" in 2017. See President Bob's message below.



## Cappuccinos and Waterfalls



"Thanks Bart. I have about five minutes left. This is Iceland. I hope you enjoyed my part of the presentation."



Over **30,000 castles** and castle ruins are dotted all over the Irish landscape.



There are around **10,000** plus waterfalls in Iceland, and they are as varied and beautiful as they are many. "We didn't see that many, but we did see a lot of churches." said Bob.



Icelandic version of the Rotary Wheel.



Bart O'Brien and Bob Dunstan recounted their travels to Ireland and Iceland in last week's program. With their wives, they enjoyed seeing the historical ruins and breathtaking landscapes of these diverse countries. One of the constants of their time was drinking cappuccinos and eating a lot of fish. After seeing their photos many of us left the Elk's Club singing "Danny Boy" and salivating for Hangikjöt.

Rotarians making a difference, wrapping Christmas gifts for six families from Kids First.



### **Auburn Rotary Board**

President: Bob Santin Treasurer: Steve Galyardt Secretary: Mark C. Smith Club Service: Lori Twardus Community Service: Tom Edmiston International Service: Peter Konrad New Generations: Scott Christensen Membership: Preston Marx Vocational Services: Mike Medlin Past President: Larry Rolufs

### **DECEMBER 19**









### Birthdays

Jeff Wood: 12/26, Bill Kirby 12/28 Jeff Ambrosia: 12/30 Gayle Garbolino-Mojica: 12/31

### **Anniversary Celebration**

Bobbi & Bob Allen New Year's Day: 38 Years Mike & Joanne Kutzman New Year's Day: 46 years



"Maybe we should think about going on the road. We sound good."



Jeff and Romi supporting the Rotary Club in Vienna.

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## A Word From President Bob

### A Busy Auburn Rotary 2017.5 - 2018

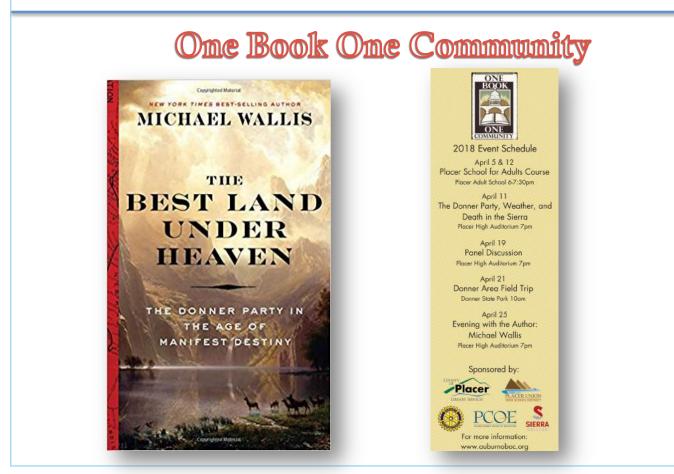
Dear Rotarians, what a year 2017 was for our Club, We finished Larry Roluf's distinguished and much accomplished year in June. In July, 'Like a Rolling Stone', you guys just kept it going. Together our 'Many Hands Make Light Work' and we are 'Rotary Making A Difference'. Listed below are just some of our accomplishments so far this 2017 year. The New Year 2018 is shaping up and again, together, we'll put 'Service Above Self' in our mission to do good and be a positive force in this troubled world.

Bill Jansen steps down as our Treasure of the decades but doesn't step away as an July 2017; involved Rotarian, Steve Galyardt jumps in as our new Treasure, Rotary Happy Campers join Tom Edmiston & Steve Galyardt in Graeagle – Jeff and Brandee hos at wine social at their beautiful 'cabin', Rotary Rafters for Polio trip fellowship & fundraiser brings in over \$2000 to Polio Plus, Cindy Eklund (one of Bob's Rotary Mom's) Ron Martinez and the Foundation committee meet and select our exciting PHF nominees for the upcoming year, Steve Snyder's busy with R.I. and addressed as 'Lug Nuts" by President Bob at a meeting and doesn't spin the wheel. Forgotten Soldier BBQ Team cook event, Larry Dorety's already busy with the 'Sunshine' duties, Leonard James is our reliable talented Club photographer again, Carolyn Metzger's & Norm Morrice's fun Golf Tournament & social at Black Oak, Peter Konrad reveals the "Trees for Kili" project and shares it with the District and International, Lisa Risdel's Acres of Hope tour and orientation - Security System's requested, Linda Maeding PHF nomination and presentation a Club tradition, Linda Maeding's bringing in many great program speakers, Our 'New Members' have their 'End of the Year' meeting late but did a great job, Membership recommends to BOD to drop 'scooter' fines and guilt, Herb Ground's was Santini's first Rotarian of the Month for July, Mike Holmes announces our Boy's & Girl's State recipients, Bobbi Allen receives her 'Blue Badge', Bart Ruud's writing incredible bulletins each week, Gary Ransom introduces our RYLA students and their thanks to the club, our REGL grant was approved for \$750, some members attended the 'Avenues of Service' seminar. Scott Christensen, Kristen Goodwin Alexander & Jill Benz save the Placer High Interact club, Past Presidents nominate Steve Grundmeier our President nominee for the 2019-20 term also Forest Eklund Rod Borges & Bill Johnson as incoming BOD members 2018/19, Mark Smith as Secretary and again Steve Galyardt as Treasure - all nominations elected in November, BOD moves \$5000 to Community Fund D upon Scott Christensen's suggestion, BOD funds \$140 to Costa Rican Library project matched by Jeff Ambrosia, Mike Holmes officially becomes 'Club Historian', Betty Bennett introduces Aina Busquets our current RYE inbound student from Barcelona Spain - (The Ambrosia's volunteer as Aina's 3<sup>rd</sup> home this spring), BOD donates \$1000 to the Ethan Roth families operation expenses, Gary Ransom's announced the Rotarian of the Month for August, Hurricanes & Wildfires burden the nation's safety, Our BBQ team plans and executes another successful year with the leadership of Peter Konrad, committee's by Betty Bennett sponsors, Mary Jo Payne's silent auction, Randy Tooker's new lead of the BBQ team, and Bart Ruud's continues with much appreciated advice and expertise in food purchases, our first year with 'Feed My Starving Children' & our BOD's \$500 contribution, A \$500 donation to the Salvation Army, Monti Reynolds Paul Harris nomination and presentation, Betty Bennett & Mary Jo Payne are Rotarians of the month of September, Placer High Hillman beat Colfax in a great game on their way to the State CIF Championship game, Steve Grundmeier takes the baton from Bart Ruud and

the book "The Best Land Under Heaven" about the Donner Party as our One Book One Community theme this year, multi club volunteers decorate The Acres of Hope with festive holiday lights and decorations, Nancy Nittler announces the Amazon Rewards rebate program to help fund our club, Bruce Lundberg receives his PHF + 4 pin, our busy 'Finance Committee' does preliminary work on Community Fund D formation, many members volunteer for the Festival of Lights Parade, The Interact float on new member Christopher Balaban's flatbed trailer built by volunteers led by Scott & Kristen, Don Yamasaki again leads our Salvation Army bell ringers to \$2009.30 in donations, Katherine MacGregor, our Auburn 'Women in Rotary', and a bunch of volunteers to host an incredible Holiday Celebration evening for the women & children of Stand Up Placer - Santa & Mrs. Claus Bob & Suzi Litchfield survive 50 eager children at the tree, Bridget Powers become the first ever 3<sup>rd</sup> term woman Mayor of Auburn, ADG Stacy Graham presents Auburn & Gold Country Rotaries a \$3690 District 5190 Grant check for the Acres of Hope Security System, Laura Strasser and Kristen Goodwin Alexander host a classy Holiday's Party at the Gomez Center – Cathy Bianchi creates incredible desserts and auctions her artistic Chocolate House to Peter Konrad dressed in a 'Elf Suit' for \$200 with Betty chipping in \$25 to help out, Christopher Balaban's our newest new Member Inducted, Mitch Hannah and Sutter Auburn faith sponsor and host the Children's Christmas fair where Auburn Rotary members volunteer Santa (Brad Weston) and complementary portrait pictures of Santa, Rod Borges and Nancy Nittler lead the Christmas Basket program again, Larry Rolufs Nancy Nittler and Tara Cavericas update and format our Websites, the Colfax Choir Holiday program is the busiest and favorite program of the year again and Jodie Hale's Raffle is still growing and ready for a 2018 winner.

So Happy Holliday's Auburn Rotarians. Together our 'Many Hands Make Light Work' and together, this year, we truly are 'Rotary Making a Difference'. I wish you and your family a safe, happy, and healthy New Year ahead.

President Bob



### DECEMBER 19



Tahoe City Rotary



42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Ski Challenge

WHEN: March 2, 2018

### WHERE: Northstar at California

The day includes a continental breakfast during registration, dual giant slalom tandem courses with individual and team awards. It is a fun day of skiing with fellow Rotarians, après ski food (chili, salad & sandwiches), 2 drink tickets and awards.

We have had some difficulty contacting districts other than our own, so please pass this information on to any Rotarian you know who might like to attend our event. It is a great day for all involved.

We will have all of the necessary information on our website by December 1, 2017.

### www.tahoecityrotary.org

### For more information email: mdc.gary@gmail.com

Please pass this information on to your Bulletin Editor to insert in your newsletter. Editor: reference our website (http://www.tahoecityrotary.org) for members to look up information under "Annual Dick Linkey Rotary Ski Challenge".



## From the Editor's Desk

### From "It's A Wonderful Life":

**Clarence:** [to George] Strange, isn't it? Each man's life touches so many other lives. When he isn't around he leaves an awful hole, doesn't he?

I watch *It's a Wonderful Life* every Christmas Eve. It is undoubtedly my favorite Christmas movie (*Elf* is second)—its message realistically timeless. As I read President Bob's review of this year's Auburn Rotarian projects/events, Clarence's line that "each man's life touches so many other lives" came to mind. Rotarians touch so many lives. I am mindful of the mothers and children at Acres of Hope who have Christmas lights hanging from their porch eaves because a few Rotarians gave of their time one Tuesday afternoon. I think of the college students around the U.S. who received Rotarian scholarships that helped to defray some of their first-year expenditures. Then there are the hundreds of Auburn residents who read *The Underground Railroad* and were challenged by its unsettling timely message. In 2017 Auburn Rotarians continued their "drive to eradicate polio over the cliff to extinction" (Time Magazine Dec. 2017). Rotarians truly understand Pa Bailey's axiom that "all you can take with you is that which you've given away."

All of you have touched my life. You are wonderful gifts. George Bailey learned that *no man is a failure who has friends*. In this topsy-turvy, polarizing environment, friendship, like no other gift, encourages us to make a difference. *It's a Wonderful Life.* Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Steve

### Is 2018 the Year for Polio's Extinction?



Lallan, a 16-year-old Indian boy, contracted polio when he was 7. In the rural area where he lives, the vaccine was unknown

There isn't a big market for poliovirus plush toys. They're not much to look at-about the size of a softball and a sort of ashen gray. That's a fitting color: polios is Greek for gray, and it's the gray matter in the central nervous system that the virus attacks, robbing children of the ability to walk, if it doesn't kill them first. It would be the rare parent who would want even a cuddly likeness of so lethal a thing anywhere near a healthy baby.

But the plush toys were much in demand at the headquarters of the <u>Bill & Melinda Gates</u> <u>Foundation</u> on World Polio Day in October. They were tucked into gift bags, stashed in purses, playfully tossed from person to person. If that seems unserious, well, the 400 people in attendance and the 150,000 more who watched the presentations online had a right to let themselves go.

As recently as 1988, there were 350,000 cases of polio each year, and the <u>disease was endemic in</u> <u>125 countries</u>. In 2017 there have been only 16 cases, in just two countries: Afghanistan and Pakistan. With a case count so low, the question now is a straightforward one: Will 2018 be the year we get to zero? "We've never seen this level of progress, this level of restricted transmission," says Jalaa' Abdelwahab, deputy director of UNICEF's polio-eradication initiative. "We're hoping that by the end of the next transmission season, we will see zero."

If that happens, polio will join smallpox as the only other human disease to be driven over the cliff to extinction. The 16th case in 2017 could, at least in theory, be the last case ever.

The road to almost zero has been a long one–and a lot of the credit has rightly gone to Rotary International, the global service organization that made polio eradication its mission in 1979. That year the group began a five-year campaign to vaccinate upwards of 6 million children in the Philippines. In 1988, Rotary joined hands with UNICEF, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to form the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. In 2007 the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation came aboard. Today 2.5 billion children have been vaccinated worldwide at a cost of \$15 billion.

One thing that has made so mammoth an undertaking possible is the type of vaccine used. There are two varieties: one administered orally and one by injection. The oral polio vaccine (OPV)–which is easier, cheaper and less scary for the children who receive it–has been the go-to choice for eradication. It takes an average of three doses at different times to confer full immunity; as long as the poliovirus is still at large, that will have to continue.

"Each year we vaccinate 450 million children under 5 years old," says Abdelwahab. "OPV is an amazing tool for stopping acute cases."

While OPV can cost as little as 18 cents per dose, inoculating nearly half a billion kids each year is not cheap–especially when you add the cost of field workers and delivery chains. In a world where diseases like malaria and HIV claim millions of lives, pouring so much money into eradicating a disease with fewer than two dozen victims this year raises questions. Health experts concede the seeming disconnect.

"The cost per case at this point seems ludicrous," admits Mark Suzman, chief strategy officer for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The fact is, however, that spending the money now means saving much more later.

For every child paralyzed by polio, there are 200 others who carry the virus without symptoms. A person from an endemic country can thus get on a plane and unknowingly spread the virus elsewhere. WHO estimates that if all polio vaccinations stopped today, the case count would soar to 200,000 per year within a decade. That makes eradicating the virus imperative–and it's a realistic goal.

"Humans are the only reservoir for polio," says Abdelwahab. Wipe the virus out in us, in other words, and you wipe it out everywhere.

One obstacle is the vaccine itself. OPV uses a live, weakened poliovirus to stimulate the immune system and confer immunity. But the weakened virus can occasionally mutate and be shed in its infectious form.

The result is what's known as vaccine-derived polio. It's rare; there are far fewer incidents of it than there would be of so-called wild polio if there were no vaccine, but in 2017 that still meant 80 vaccine-derived cases. Of those, 70 were in Syria, where war makes vaccination coverage spotty, leaving people susceptible to the mutated virus. "Displaced populations are a high-risk group," says Carol Pandak, a polio-eradication director for Rotary.

Eliminating vaccine-derived polio requires eventually dropping the oral vaccine and instead using the injection-administered inactivated polio vaccine (IPV), which uses a killed virus that is unable to cause the disease. After the case count reaches zero and holds there for three years, OPV will be withdrawn and IPV alone will be used for about 10 years as part of routine childhood checkups. Ultimately even that won't be necessary.

Once the disease is no more, the money and resources used for vaccine drives will be freed up for other health challenges. The war against polio has taken the kind of global coordination an actual war does. But while battles in a shooting war claim lives, battles in the polio war save them. *This appears in the December 25, 2017 issue of TIME*.