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# THE ACORN

THE ROTARY CLUB OF FAIR OAKS

MARCH 7, 2016

Rotary



# SPEECH CONTEST



## The Rotary Club of Fair Oaks

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Fair Oaks, CA 95628

Facebook: [www.facebook.com\FairOaksRotary](http://www.facebook.com\FairOaksRotary)

## Weekly Meetings

We Meet Almost Every Monday Evening

Social Hour 6:15 - 7:00 PM

Dinner & Meeting 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Location: Fair Oaks Community Clubhouse

7997 California Avenue

Fair Oaks

Visitors are Welcome



# SPEECH CONTEST

Reporter: Bruce Vincent



The club was treated the best speech contest of the past six years - which is how long I've been a member. The assigned topic was "Be a Gift to the World". All of the speakers did a very, very good job – in fact, their speeches were so they received a prolonged standing ovation at the end of the contest.

The winner was Olga Rozmarynowska from Bella Vista High School. The title of her speech was "Be a Fruitloop in a Bowl of Cheerios" and the key wisdom in her speech was "to become a gift to the world, embrace your own differences and greatness". Olga has an older sister whom she described as "brilliant, beautiful, warm, compassionate and an award-winning pianist", to whom she was always compared. Olga always felt that she was never quite as talented as her sister and was afraid she was a constant disappointment to her parents.

While not a concert pianist, she learned to play French horn and joined the marching band in high school - and participated enthusiastically in a number of other extracurricular activities. Even so, Olga still did not yet feel special. In marching band, she met Abigail, who not had never played an instrument and also had a learning disability. Olga volunteered to help Abigail and worked with her all summer, teaching her about music and the nuances of marching band. Abigail learned to play French horn and became a capable member of the marching band. This showed Olga that she can, in her own special way, be a gift to the world. She now wants to pursue teaching.

Every single one of the speeches was impressive. All of them addressed the theme of Be a Gift to the World and all of the speeches were delivered with maturity and poise.

# SPEECH CONTEST

What follows is what I was able to capture in my notes. Hopefully the outline format will make it easy to follow each speaker's train of thought.

## Speaker #2: **We are the caretakers of our planet**

- Being a gift to the world requires compassion, understanding and giving back to the world
- The opportunities of tomorrow are more important than the opportunities of today
- The future depends on the choices that we make today
- Help others achieve their greatest self
- Have empathy and understanding and work to better someone else's life

## Speaker #3: **There should be a harmonious relationship between man and nature**

- Life is too often treated as a contest and we are consumed by greed
- It is now common to ignore environmental crises
- 4,000 people per day die from the effects of air pollution in China
- The environment needs our help for restoration
- The best way to correct the disregard for the environment is through environmental activism
- Disseminate information on the environment
- Do little things in daily life such as picking up litter
- Be a gift to the world by realizing the world is a gift to us

## Speaker #4: **How can a teenager be a gift to the world?**

- Use your talents to help others or your talents will go to waste
- It is our responsibility to develop and use our talents
- Some examples of people using their talents to overcome adversity and improve the world
  - Malal Yousafzai – an activist for female education who was shot by the Taliban
  - Steven Hawking – who overcomes severe physical disabilities to do great physics
  - Kiran Sridhar, a Bay Area high school student who created Waste No Food, an online website that connects restaurants and farmers with charities
- Most of us can be a gift to the world by just doing nice things for others
  - Christmas caroling at the Shriners Hospital
  - Donating clothes to WEAVE
- Polio has been eradicated in all but two countries – Polio Plus has been a tremendous gift to the world

## Speaker #5: **The world has limitless potential**

- Our actions affect all of the life around us
- Being kind is pivotal in being a gift to the world
- Kindness is a choice
- Greet people with a smile and be a gentle keeper of kindness
- Be tolerant of others and yourself
- You grow when you give love, so give it freely
- Being aware, tolerant, kind and loving is not easy
- To make the world better, you must choose to make yourself better every day



# SPEECH CONTEST

Speaker #6: **Being a gift to the world does not have to take a lot of time**

- It can be simple act such as holding an elevator door or asking someone if they are having a bad day
- Or it can be a larger act of compassion and kindness such as donating to a food bank or organizing a group to help others
- The speaker's family spent a morning making 150 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches
- They gave the sandwiches to the homeless
- The speaker saw hope in the eyes of people who had given up and had a better day because he made a difference
- Refuse to allow hate and ignorance in our lives
- We are all one people and we must break down barriers
- We must refuse to hate and we must move forward together

## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER



**Joedda Wick** was recognized by club president Pete Schroeder for her hard work on many club projects and events.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Fred Rowe** briefed the club the worldwide effort to eradicate polio. In 1985, there were 120,000 new cases of paralytic polio diagnosed every day. There are now only two countries where new cases of polio have been reported: Pakistan and Afghanistan. There have been only five new cases of polio in 2016. There have been no new cases in Afghanistan this year.

The Rotary Club of Fair Oaks is #2 in District 5180 in total donations to the End Polio Now campaign.

## MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Mary Cate Gustafson** notified the club that the Honeymooners will be running our next meeting – the annual Saint Patrick’s Day meeting.



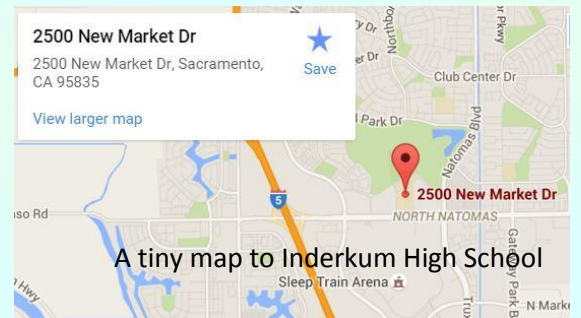
**Karen Romines** is our president elect and the annual District Assembly is fast approaching. It will be held on April 2 at Inderkum High School. The District Assembly is mandatory for all of Karen’s incoming Board of Directors members and Karen would very much like to see all new club members attend. Doors will open at 8:00 am and the Assembly will begin at 8:30 am and run until 2:00 pm, with lunch at 12:10 pm. Register online using the link below and you will receive a free lunch. This event is free (it won’t cost you anything to attend).

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/district-5180-annual-training-assembly-tickets-21047993114>



**Linda Aseltine** wants everyone to attend the club’s 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party.

Please see the next page for details



A tiny map to Inderkum High School

# SAVE THE DATE

## From the Desk of President Pete Schroeder

District 5180 will host its Annual Training Assembly on Saturday, April 2, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Inderkum High School, 2500 New Market Drive, Sacramento (near Sleep Train Arena.)

# PARTY LIKE IT'S 1946

## 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY DINNER

Imagine its January 1946. You just confirmed there is a new Rotary Club forming in the village. Excitement is in the air, you've waited a long time for this, now finally, all your efforts are coming to reality.

Let's step back to the day...January 29<sup>th</sup>, 1946. The weather has been mild - highs in the 50s and lows in the 30s. World War II is finally over and the New Year is looking promising. Alabama beat California in the Rose Bowl and Saint Mary's lost to Oklahoma in the Sugar Bowl. Well we can't win 'em all--but there is a new football team called the Rams moving to California and we'll see what they're all about. Lucky Luciano is on his way back to Italy and we're getting Roosevelt's mug on the dime.



You just bought your first new car from Charlie Edgett.



They tell us this thing called television will replace the radio, but time will tell on that



It's a Wonderful Life" is showing at the cinema and most folks seem to like it.

**Step back with us on Saturday April 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Community Clubhouse in the Park.**

Cocktails at 6:00 Dinner at 7:00

Cost is \$40.00 per person

***Requested Attire is 1940's***

**R.S.V.P. Linda Aseltine-916-293-4911 or [laseltine@sierravistabank.com](mailto:laseltine@sierravistabank.com) by March 25<sup>th</sup>.**

Meal choices: Grilled Flank Steak with fire roasted tomato and pepper sauce  
Chicken Montrachet-boneless breast stuffed w/brie, pine nuts, basil & sun dried tomatoes  
Pasta Primavera-sautéed vegetables , tossed with fusilli in a tomato pesto cream sauce



# 2016 District Conference

## “Come Dressed To Play”

Don't  
Miss  
The  
Fun



Rotary 



Where: DoubleTree by Hilton Berkeley, CA

When: Conference May 20-22, 2016

Excursions begin May 19th to 22nd

Registration [www.Rotary5180.org](http://www.Rotary5180.org)

**Limited Event Availability**

**Why Attend?**

- Enjoy Friendship with Fellow Rotarians
- Explore the Bay Area
- Great Speakers
- Great Entertainment



To Sign-Up go to [www.Rotary5180.org](http://www.Rotary5180.org)

**Deadlines**

- 4/25/2016 For Hotel Group Rate
- 5/6/2016 Conference Registration



No Deposit Refunds After July 1, 2015

## FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Club Meeting St Patrick's Social	March 14	At the Clubhouse
Club Board Meeting	March 16	The McClain abode 8530 Emperor Drive
Club Meeting Rob (On The Road) Stewart	March 21	At the Clubhouse
Club Meeting Eric Anderton: Motivation	March 28	At the Clubhouse
Charter Night 70 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party	Saturday April 2 6:00 – 10:00 pm	At the Clubhouse 1940's garb suggested
District 5180 Annual Training Assembly	Saturday April 2 8:00 am – 2:00 pm	Inderkum High School Registration is free
No Meeting	April 4	
Club Meeting Estate Planning Speaker: John Goralka	April 11	At the Clubhouse
Club Meeting	April 18	Clubhouse
Club Meeting Rotary Youth Exchange Speaker: Stine Nicolajsen	April 25	Clubhouse
Club Meeting	May 2	Clubhouse

# LITTLE GENIUS ASKS - A CONSPIRACY OR MERE COINCIDENCE?

Nick Broad, a product of the English education system, was selected as Little Genius for March at last week's meeting. Before Nick's number was even drawn, one of Nick's table mates, immediate Past President Jim Cralle, identified Nick as the next Little Genius. Nick was shocked when his number was personally drawn by President Peter Schroeder. Nick immediately suspected a conspiracy by the club's leadership.



This is Jim Cralle, seen here keeping a low profile but mostly managing to look extremely guilty.



# A CONSPIRACY OR MERE COINCIDENCE? YOU DECIDE



As a product of the English education system, Nick is exceptionally eloquent, even by Rotary standards. He leveled stinging accusations of conspiracy against not only President Schroeder and Past President Cralle but also Treasurer Nancy Regan, Past President Fred Rowe (“nothing happens in this club without Fred’s involvement”) and Membership Director Alice Rowe (“Nothing happens in the Rowe household without Alice’s involvement”)



There is, of course, a downside to extreme eloquence: long windedness. As the verbal indictment went on, and on , and on and on, club members began to plead with the Little Genius to get on with the program, with some even going so far as to wave money at Little Genius in a vain attempt at bribery.



# A CONSPIRACY OR MERE COINCIDENCE?

The alleged conspirators were fined an appropriate amount, handed toy guitars and required to read the Four Way Test to the club. The purpose of the toy guitars was not revealed by Little Genius. Mercifully, the toy guitars did not have batteries and could not be played.



The conspirators (left) read the Four Way Test aloud to the club.



The Gang of Five Little Genius Conspirators (left) pose with their toy guitars and the Four-Way Test



# International Cook-out

Sunday April 17

Folsom Veterans Hall  
1300 Veterans Way  
Folsom Ca 95630

1:00-4:00

\$20.00 donations, 100% of proceeds helps fund RYE students at District Conference.

Please come taste food from around the world. The Rotary Youth Exchange students will be making a dish from their country. We also need adults to help make dishes from their heritage.

For more information Please contact:

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