



The Acorn

Photo of the day



During this holiday season we feature our own version of Dickens' A Christmas Carol, called the Club Assembly, featuring not ghosts, but Fair Oaks Rotary Presidents past, present, future, and future-

future. Inside, read all about President-Elect Mike Maddox's new board, 2013-2014 President-Elect Jim Cralle's announcement, the Peru team's initial report, and so much more!

Club Events

Christmas Party

Smallhouse Abode
Dec 15, 2012 06:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Holiday Food Baskets

Northridge School
Dec 20, 2012 07:00 AM - 04:00 PM

Board Meeting

Romines Residence
Jan 16, 2013 06:30 PM - 08:30 PM

Inner Wheel Bunco Night

Jan 26, 2013 06:00 PM - 09:00 PM

23rd Annual Fair Oaks Rotary Crab Feed

Divine Savior Church
Feb 09, 2013 05:30 PM - 10:00 PM

Club Meeting Info

We meet Mondays at 6:45 PM
Fair Oaks Community Clubhouse
7997 California Ave.
Fair Oaks, CA 95628 USA

[Venue Map](#)

[Club Site](#)

[Facebook Page](#)



[District Site](#)



District Governor Bob Deering

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Welcome

Beth rang the bell and explained it was the "first warning". It only took about 8 more rings to bring the meeting to order. Wishing the membership good evening (in several different languages) the room finally quieted down.

Pledge of Allegiance

Joe Horyza led us in this evening's pledge.

Song for the Day

Pete printed and distributed the words for tonight's song "Santa Claus is Coming to Town". Based on a quick scan of the room, we probably didn't need the handouts for this one.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus

Rather than our normal Thought for the Day, Charley, in what I'm told has become a Christmas tradition in our club, shared the story of The (New York) Sun's 1897 response to Virginia O'Hanlon's question asking if there really is a Santa Claus. The Picture and story are from [Wikipedia](#).



Is There a Santa Claus?

We take pleasure in answering at once and thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of THE SUN:

"DEAR EDITOR: I am 8 years old."

"Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus."

"PAPA SAYS 'If you see it in THE SUN it's so.'"

"Please tell me the truth, is there a SANTA CLAUS?"

"VIRGINIA O'HANLON."

"115 WEST NINETY-FIFTH STREET."

VIRGINIA, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, VIRGINIA, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, VIRGINIA, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus. It would be as dreary as if there were no VIRGINIAS. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You may tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, VIRGINIA, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, VIRGINIA, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

Secretary Steve's Report

Members are encouraged to make up missed club meetings. The make-up meeting can be 2 weeks prior or 2 weeks after the missed club meeting. Ways to make up include attending other Rotary Club meetings, either locally or internationally, or Rotary Service projects.

Directories of all clubs, with their meeting times and locations, are

in the District Info at District 5180's website:

<http://www.clubrunner.ca/Portal/Home.aspx?did=5180>)

and RI's website: https://riweb.rotaryintl.org/ODData/OfficialDirectory.aspx?Page_Name=Official+Directory+Search

You'll be as welcome at any club as you are at our club since you are a member of the worldwide Rotary Family.

You can also make up online at: www.rotaryclubone.org/programs.htm. There you can pick a speaker topic and, of course, pay your attendance dues, as you do at any club that you visit.

You're also welcome to make up at any of our Fair Oaks Board meetings which meet once each month at board members' homes. The times, dates and locations are on our website: <http://rotaryfairoaks.org/>

May I suggest that you bookmark those websites as they will come in handy in helping you keep up your 50 % attendance requirement.

If you do make up anywhere, please relay that to Steve Hoverman, our Secretary, in order to give you credit towards the 50% attendance requirement. (Notice the triple mention of "50 % attendance requirement." That's going to be coming up again in the future.)

...Steve Hoverman



Recognition of our Cooks!

Our cooks of 15 years, Beth McCall and Roberta Orr prepared a dinner of turkey, mashed potatoes, green beans, and salad with brownie sundaes complementing our wonderful holiday meal.

After dinner, President Beth first confirmed they were available for the Crab Feed, and then recognized our cooks for their service and presented each of them with a token of our appreciation.

Sunshine Report

Buzz spoke with Bev Marks and shared she is home recovering from surgery to help her eye lids open and close more easily. She is happy to report the healing is going well, however she is not going to be able to make the Rotary Christmas Party. Buzz made a point of telling us she said "I love and miss our Rotary Club Members, I will be back".

Via email this week, Beth shared that Bill Wagner is at UC Davis Medical Center for a few days with an infection. Eriko said they would appreciate your thoughts and prayers.



Pete leads us in "Santa Claus is Coming to Town"

Better late than never!

Bill Stapelfeld's Thought for the Day last week didn't make last week's Acorn, so as the heading says...

"Those who think they have not time for bodily exercise will sooner or later have to find time for illness".

...Edward Stanley



District 5180 Newsletter

Hot off the presses...the December District 5180 FOCUS Newsletter! It is available on the district website at www.rotary5180.net or on your club website's home page. :) Look for it in the "Download Files" section. You can also click [here](#).



Ben and Elaine - Kudos to Elaine for helping ensure the bar is staffed every week

Rebecca sings the National Anthem at 11/30/12 Sacramento Kings game

Fair Oaks Rotarian Steve Monroe's daughter Rebecca, sang the National Anthem at the Sacramento Kings game on Friday, Nov 30th 2012 which also benefited Polio Plus. See a video shot by Beth at the You Tube link below.

<http://youtu.be/HcOBE9YRSCw>



International Team “Pre-Report”

Literally just off the plane from Peru, Fred & Alice Rowe, and Jim Cralle were invited to give the club a brief update on their trip to distribute wheelchairs.

The club, bubbling with serious questions such as: why Jim wasn't wearing a vest; and did Beth really think Fred was capable of giving a brief update; finally allowed our sleep-deprived travelers a chance to speak.

Fred, taking the mic first, explained that in Peru he was introduced as the President of the Rotary Club of California, and it wasn't clear he was ready to relinquish the title.

Taking a more serious tone, he shared how they had begun their journey on December 1st, arriving in Iquitos, Peru for the almost final phase of a year-long journey Fred and our club has led to deliver 176 RoughRider Wheelchairs.

Working with the Rotary Club of Iquitos, which the week before their arrival celebrated their 80th anniversary as a Rotary Club, our team consisted of ten people. In addition to Fred, Alice, and Jim, there were three Rotarians from the Rancho Cordova club, two employees from the RoughRider Wheelchair company, and two of Alice's friends.

It turns out Alice's friends were vital to the trip as one was bilingual and the other was a physical therapist.

We didn't know exactly what we would find, but we found the local club had (mostly) correctly assembled all the wheelchairs before we arrived.

We did split up one day when half the team flew to their destination and half the team, including Alice, took a boat up the Amazon to Requena.

Alice explained the trip to Requena took 2 hours by bus, waiting 2 hours there, then 3 hours by boat before arriving to give out 17 wheelchairs, with over half of them being polio survivors.



Jim shared a short story about his day of fishing, explaining he caught “a few fish” including the famed Peacock bass!



After congratulating Jim on his catch, make sure and ask him for his sunscreen recommendations when traveling in Peru and about his Piranha and Alligator stories!

Beth thanked the members of this International team and we look forward to when the full team will be able to come back and share the complete story.

Networking Luncheon

On Tuesday, the 11th, Pete hosted the 3rd Networking Luncheon, originally planned for Maranello's, but moved to Carmelita's. We had about a dozen people show up for this tabletop networking and lunch. Several good year-end business ideas were discussed and there seems to be general agreement these new sessions are a valuable addition to our Rotary activities.

Caroling on the 17th (was 20th)

Maggie wrote:

Hello to all,

I have spoken to Pete and instead of the clubhouse at their place for singing and gathering, we are going to go Christmas caroling at John Yetto's "home". They have asked that we are there at 4:30 in the afternoon. I know it is early for some of us but that is when the home has asked us to be there. So if you can make it

please let either myself or Pete know that you will be there. All voices welcome, Pete will be playing guitar.....

Eskaton FountainWood Lodge



10 Million Charity Miles Giveaway!

Your vote could help Rotary give airline miles for humanitarian projects -- and be first this year for United's 10 Million Charity Miles Giveaway!

Until 25 December, vote daily for Rotary on each of your devices such as laptop, smartphone, tablet, etc. Charities receive a portion of the miles based on the percentage of the overall vote they receive. So forward the link to everyone you know.

Last year, we took second in the contest, receiving 2.5 million charity miles. We're in fourth now and need your votes! Click the link to vote now <http://10millioncharitymiles.com/charity/39>

Food Basket Shopping & Distribution

Thursday, December 20th

Please find attached the sign-up sheets for the shopping and distribution of food baskets at Northridge Elementary School. Please double check the time you noted to work. More hand trucks will be helpful.

If you have any questions, please email or call Tom Rains.

Mobile: 916-224-4261

Home: 916-961-6588



Welcome Home!

Peter and Karen are all smiles as they welcome home their son Brent, daughter-in-law Laura, and their granddaughter Kyleigh. We welcomed Brent with a standing ovation to recognize his service to our country.

Karen explained, Brent is enjoyed spending time with family - duck hunting with Dad, running with his brother and sister-in-law, playing in the park with his niece, Kyleigh. Mom and he had a 3 hour lunch just to talk. He spent a day in S.F. with his aunt, uncle and cousins, taking his niece to the zoo. One highlight of his trip was shopping for an engagement ring for a girl he is hoping will say "yes." Plans to propose before shipping back to Afghanistan in January. He continues to be impressed by the friendliness and giving spirit of the Rotarians and thanks everyone for their warm wishes



Reminders!

Rotary Convention

Remember the Convention in Lisbon and register by Dec 14th

Children's Receiving Home

Children's Receiving Home gifts need to be to Maggie Hoy by Dec 10th.

Food Baskets

Get \$\$ to Tom Rains for food baskets.

Crab Feed

Ralph reminded us that Crab Feed will be here before we know it. Everyone needs to be looking for donations. More donation forms are being printed so talk with Ralph if you need them.

The Donation Letter is available online at

<http://www.clubrunner.ca/Data/5180/9045/HTML/183344//SolicitationLetter2013CrabFeed.pdf>

The task list was emailed to everyone last week and additional copies were passed out at the meeting. If you haven't already signed up for something, please review the list and let Ralph know how you can help.

Our big push this week is to get one more Mega Draw item in the \$1,000 range!

Tickets for the Crab Feed have been distributed to everyone and they make great Christmas gifts so start pushing them. Sales will be limited to the first 500 sold.

Since this is our big money event for the year we are looking for each member to donate approximately \$50 in raffle prizes or cash.



Guests Tonight

Jim introduced his wife Diana who also provided many of tonight's photos!

Bruce Hagel introduced David Chen, our RYE student and Andrew Chang, Rick's son.

Karen Romines introduced her son, Navy Corpsman Brent Romines, his wife Laura and their daughter Kyleigh.

Last, but not least, Alice was able to introduce Dave Claugus as a guest for one last time.



Paul Harris Award

Beth asked Bill Wagner to join her at the front of the room where she appeared to surprise him with the announcement that the past-President of the Sacramento Rotary Club had awarded him a Paul Harris Fellowship.



New Member Dave Claugus

In what has recently become a familiar, but always special event, Beth inducted Dave as the newest member of the Fair Oaks Rotary Club.

Dave has been a frequent guest as he looked to find the right Rotary club for him, and we are lucky he chose us as he has already attended a Fireside Chat and is actively helping with the Crab Feed. Welcome to the family!



New Member No More

Alice invited Carson to assist with another ceremony that fortunately has become familiar of late, the removal of a new member's red ribbon, signifying the completion of the new member's induction process.

Tonight it was Ron Adam's turn, which was in many ways was ironic, given Ron is a Past-President of a nearby Rotary club, and has been an active contributor to our club since joining us.

Ron is a valuable addition to the club, with his support of the Saint John's Women's Shelter, which we recently voted to support as a club, being only the latest example.

Drawings

In what was clearly Bill Wagner's lucky night, Howard drew his ticket for a free dinner.

Alice selected Cliff's ticket for the Ace of Spades drawing where the jackpot has reached \$370. To everyone's relief (except Cliff's) the 7 of hearts is no longer in the deck.

Last but certainly not least, Bob Walters was selected as our Little Genius for the month of January.

Bob, unable to wait until January, made his way to the mic and wished everyone a Happy New Year.



Little Genius

Beth was the victim of Warren's first fine, losing \$2 for taking his thunder on the Christmas baskets.

John Chavez was fined, as near as I can tell, because Warren took his car in for repair and didn't like the bill John gave him.

Jim Cralle was fined for not telling the fish story Warren wanted him to tell.

Fred was fined for taking the microphone from his wife three times during their presentation.

Finally Warren fined Bob Walters for winning the Little Genius drawing honestly.

Charley paid a happy fine in celebration of his 50th anniversary and also made a Christmas basket donation of like amount.

Maggie paid to celebrate all her kids and grandkids being over last Saturday and everyone was having such a good time.

Ben paid a happy fine because on Saturday night he proposed and she said yes! She will be moving here in January and he will bring her to meet all of us.

Peter Romines paid a happy fine to celebrate his son being home for the holidays.

Dan paid a happy fine because in a couple of hours he will finally turn 40. He continued to say his previous statement didn't meet the 4-way test but he was still happy.

Fred paid a happy fine to recognize a great trip to Peru, adding that if we gave him the mic he would tell us all about it.

Bruce Hagle paid a happy fine to celebrate all the volunteers who came out to help at the Fair Oaks library with the literacy project.

Mike Maddox donated a \$100 Trader Joe's Gift Certificate to the Crab Feed.

Bill paid a happy fine because he had a client who kept him from his volunteer time at the library.



Warren saved the last happy fine to share the story of how he fell walking to the mixer at the Chamber, cracked his head, and lost his hearing aid. A good Samaritan stopped his car and walked him down to the mixer. After a few glasses of "water", he found Mike Maddox who volunteered to go back with his cell phone flashlight and help look for the hearing aid. After looking for several minutes Warren gave up and started to walk away when Mike called out "I found it". Being a Rotarian is so important, and Mike is such a great example of the Service Above Self value that he donated \$50 in Mike's name.

New Club Officers

With Tom Albert's passing we need a new Youth Services Director and Don Hicks has volunteered to take on this important role.

Fred Vaske, for family reasons, has had to step down as International Services Director and Fred Rowe has volunteered to take over this position.

The Board has approved both of these changes.



New President-Elect-Elect

Immediate Past-President Peter Romines stepping to the mic told the club “one of the funniest things you can do is be President of this Rotary Club”, eliciting perhaps the biggest laughs of the night.

He went on to explain that in a club of this size, everyone will get a turn at this job and it is one of the most important things you can do because we do more things in this club than any other club around. “We kick ass.”

“It will give you a temporary feeling of control, and then your year starts.”

By unanimous vote, we nominate Jim Cralle as our 2014-2015 President.

By unanimous voice vote and a standing ovation the club, hopefully made Jim feel good about his decision - congratulations!

Jim took the mic and shared how he had just spent a week listening to politicians in a language he did not understand, so no long speech tonight.

He thanked the nominating committee and everyone here for the vote of confidence and said this is a great club and he will do everything he can during his term to keep it that way.

2013-14 Fair Oaks Rotary Club Board

Mike thanked everyone and said he planned to “lower the bar” for Jim, before taking a more serious tone, and addressing the esteemed members, he introduced his proposed new board for the 2013-14 year.

2013-14 Fair Oaks Rotary Club board:

Pres. - Mike Maddox
 Past Pres. - Beth Wilcoxon
 Pres. Elect - Jim Cralle
 VP - Jeanne Maloney
 Secretary - Steve Hoverman
 Treasurer - Dan Smallhouse
 Membership - Alice Rowe
 Communications - Bruce Vincent
 Club service - Maggie Hoy
 Community service - Anne Browning
 International service - Fred Rowe
 Vocational service - Peter Schroeder
 Youth service - Don Hicks
 The Rotary Foundation - Bill Wagner

President Beth Wilcoxon, asked the club to vote and approve the new board, which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Before leaving, Mike presented each of his new board members with a gift; a brand new, stamped, first class envelope so each board member could send a letter anywhere in the US!



Speakers & Meetings

Dec 17, 2012

[NO MEETING](#)

It was two days ago!

Dec 24, 2012

[NO MEETING](#)

You should be waiting for Santa.

Dec 31, 2012

[NO MEETING](#)

Except maybe at The Stockman.

Jan 07, 2013

[Scott Jones and John McGinness](#)

Current and former Sacramento
County Sheriff's

Jan 14, 2013

[Rachel Ostwald and Stacie Wagner](#)

Group Study Exchange (GSE) to
South Africa

Jan 21, 2013

[No Meeting](#)

MLK Holiday!

Officers & Directors

President

[Beth Wilcoxon](#)

Vice President

[Howard](#)
[Papworth](#)

President Elect

[Mike Maddox](#)

Immediate Past

President

[Peter Romines,](#)
[DPM](#)

Secretary

[Stephen](#)
[Hoverman](#)

Treasurer

[Dan Smallhouse](#)

Club Service

Director

[Shelley Mathews](#)

Community

Service Director

[Jim Cralle](#)

International

Service Director

[Fred Rowe](#)

Vocational

Service Director

[Pete Schroeder](#)

Youth Service

Director

[Don Hicks](#)

Rotary

Foundation

Director

[William Wagner](#)

Public Relations

Director

[Bruce Vincent](#)

Membership

Director

[Alice Rowe](#)

Webmaster

[Fred Rowe](#)

Program Chair

[Mike Maddox](#)

Acorn Editor

[Keith Walter](#)



The FOUR WAY TEST

Is it the TRUTH?

Is it FAIR to all concerned?

WILL it build GOOD WILL
and FRIENDSHIPS?

WILL it be BENEFICIAL
to all concerned?

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