



The Acorn

Photo of the day



Mars continues to surprise



Was it fate? On the day after Toby Owen, NASA Scientist and Mars expert spoke to the club about the search for life on Mars, the red planet made headlines based on evidence just discovered by the latest rover.

The New York Times writes: "Several billion years ago, [Mars](#) may well have been a pleasant place for

tiny microbes to live, with plenty of water as well as minerals that could have served as food, [NASA](#) scientists said Tuesday at a news conference on the latest findings from their Mars rover. But they have yet to find signs that actual microbes did live in that oasis."

What's Inside?	Page
Upcoming Meetings & Events	2
Life is stranger than fiction; New banner for all our flags; Potential new member	3
Featured Speaker - Toby Owen	4
Central Regional Speech Contest; \$408 for Inner Wheel; \$500 for Rotary Clubs of Staten Island	5
Tonight's Guests, Visiting Rotarians, Associate and Honorary Members; Rotary Photos Tell a Story; Golf for Polio Plus	6
New Member - Natasha Owen; Acorn Feedback	7
Little Genius	8
Meeting Minutes	9
Announcements	10
Everything Else	11

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

Upcoming Club Meetings

Mar 18, 2013

[Greg Roeszeler](#)

Playmakers - after school football and literacy program

Mar 25, 2013

[Natasha Owen](#)

Russian Consul - Warren McWilliams 80th Birthday party!!

Apr 01, 2013

[Monica Wilcoxen-Eisel](#)

Monica is Beth's daughter. She will be talking about her recent trip to Tanzania.

Apr 08, 2013

[Regular meeting](#)

TBD

Apr 15, 2013

[Bill Wagner](#)

Social Security and financial info

Upcoming Club Events

[District Assembly](#)

Mar 23, 2013

[Board Meeting](#)

Cralle Residence

Mar 27, 2013 06:30 PM - 08:30 PM

[FO Library Literacy Project Celebration](#)

Mar 30, 2013 12:00 PM

[Board Meeting](#)

Mathews Residence

Apr 17, 2013 06:30 PM - 08:30 PM

[Rotary at River Cats Fun Bus!](#)

Apr 21, 2013

[Rotarians at Work Day!](#)

Apr 27, 2013

[Meet GSE team from Africa](#)

EDH

Apr 30, 2013 06:00 PM - 08:00 PM

[District Conference - Hyatt Lake Tahoe!!!](#)

May 10, 2013 - May 12, 2013





Life is stranger than fiction

Alternatively this photo caption might read: how many Rotarians does it take to set up a presentation.

Tonight's guest speaker is literally a Rocket Scientist, here to describe some of the most sophisticated technology every deployed (without a hitch)...but persuading software from one computer to run on another...well that is a different story.

Fortunately a solution was found prior to the presentation and notes from Toby's excellent presentation can be found later in this issue.

New banner for all our flags

Beth recognized the work Vicki Walter and Alice Rowe contributed in creating our newest wall hanging. With over 100 flags from six continents tucked away in our filing system the addition of this new banner allows the flags of 25 Rotary Clubs from 24 countries to hang on display at our meetings.

Vicki hand made the banner (our largest yet) and Alice added the hanging bar and glued each of the flags selected into position.

The club awarded Vicki Champagne for her efforts, perhaps on the hope that she would craft additional banners for the many flags still sitting in our filing system?



Potential new member

Ray Ward displayed true Rotary spirit in not only telling Margarita Ioannesyn about our club when her schedule required an evening meeting, he made the extra effort to come to our meeting with her and help introduce her.

Margarita seemed to enjoy her first meeting and told me she planned to be back next week. I would encourage each member to make the time to get to know this young woman and learn about all the Rotary experiences she has already accumulated!



Featured Speaker - Tobias (Toby) Owen

Tonight we were fortunate to have as our featured speaker Mr. Toby Owen, a NASA scientist and medal winner for exceptional scientific achievement. He has conducted published research on a number of topics including atmospheric studies of Venus and comets. He has also participated in international space efforts with Europe and Japan, where he met his wife and new Fair Oaks Rotary member Natasha Owen.

This evening he spoke with us about The Search of Life and what has been found on Mars so far.

Using his deep knowledge of the planet based on his work with the rover projects that have been exploring the planet, he combined photos from the recent mission with a great sense of humor to educate and entertain.

Opening his presentation with a story he told how Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson went on a camping trip. As they lay down for the night and went to sleep.

Some hours later, after going to sleep, Holmes woke up, nudged his faithful friend and said, "Watson, I want you to look up at the sky and tell me what you see." Watson said, "I see millions and millions of stars." Sherlock said, "And what does that tell you?"

After a minute or so of pondering Watson said, "Astronomically, it tells me that there are millions of galaxies and potentially billions of planets. And I imagine that around some of those stars there are planets, and beings are looking into their sky wondering if there is intelligent life out there. What does it tell you?"

Holmes was silent for about 30 seconds and said, "Watson, you idiot! Someone has stolen our tent!"

This joke begs the question not only is their life elsewhere, but what is intelligence? The science already clearly shows that approximately 4 billion years ago Mars had water and atmosphere, but we still don't know if the conditions survived long enough for life to have begun, or for that matter if it did, does it still exist, perhaps underground?

Mr. Owen pointed out that the current rovers are not on Mars to find life. They are there to explore the rocks; and while finding signs of life would be exciting, the failure to discover life doesn't prove it didn't exist.





Central Regional Speech Contest

Some changes had to be made to the speech contest configuration of clubs. Our new, revised time and place are:

Central Regional

(Moderators: Mizell & Tracy)

Date: Thursday, April 11 at 6:30 pm

Location: SMUD HQ Building,

6301 S Street, Sacramento

\$408 for Inner Wheel

Beth presented a check to Warren to pass along to the Fair Oaks Inner Wheel, based on what was earned at the Spaghetti Dinner and raffle they hosted for our club last week.



\$500 for Rotary Clubs of Staten Island

Each year the club sets aside money to support disaster efforts. This year the money was donated to five Rotary Clubs on Staten Island to assist in their efforts cleaning up after Hurricane Sandy.

Tonight's Guests, Visiting Rotarians, Associate and Honorary Members

We were fortunate to once again have a very large number of visitors this evening including ten guests from the local Russian community who joined us to see Natasha Owen join as a new member and hear her husband Toby speak this evening as our Featured Speaker.

In no particular order, our guests this evening were: Natalia Phelps, Yuriy Korotkov, Ester Portyansky, Denis Stroud, Katya Broron, Alexandra Sokolova, Margarita Ioannesyn, Ray Ward, Lila Dobin, Lee Oelke, Taiya Suvorova, Vicki Walter, Sherri Brown, Patsy Hopkins, Susan Nisanger, Bonnie McClain, Naoni Monroe, Ruth Elliott, Sherry Luttrell, Toby Owen, Cynthia Marx, Jim Wilcoxon, and Natalie Phelps.

My thanks to Molly for catching that last week her guests Shayna Strauch and Maylis Farando were inadvertently not included in the Acorn...sorry!



Rotary Photos Tell a Story

Each week we are lucky to have Bruce Vincent capture most of the wonderful photos that you enjoy in these Acorns.

This week he happened to capture this wonderful sequence that demonstrates in pictures far better than I ever could in words, how much the members enjoy each other's company and why a sense of humor is a key success factor at our weekly meetings.

Golf for Polio Plus

Who's in for some golfing for a great cause and fellowship? Some Rotary competition? Please email Beth if you would like to golf at this district event, including anyone else that would like to be a part of your foursome.





New Member - Natasha Owen

Tonight we had the pleasure of inducting Natasha into the Fair Oaks Rotary Club.

As her sponsor, I had the honor of joining her at the front of the room as Beth explained the responsibilities and rights of being a member and administered the induction.

Alice Rowe, with a great deal of practice these last few months, had Natasha's pin, certificate and other handouts prepared and ready to go.

Natasha spoke only briefly as her husband was our featured speaker this evening and she will be our featured speaker in two weeks.

Make the time to meet Natasha if you haven't already to hear more of her fascinating story!

Acorn Feedback

Keith, Excellent Club Bulletin, one of the best in the district. I am proud to be on your mailing list. Keep up the good work.

YIR,

Clarence Parkins

District Governor, 2007-2008

District Foundation Chair, 2009-2012

District 5180

"Light Up Your Rotary World"



Bracelet Found at Crab Feed

A silver bracelet with stones that was found on the floor at the crab feed is still unclaimed. If you might know the owner, please contact Beth. BRLW@pacbell.net

Little Genius

For those of you who know Bonnie, it comes as no surprise she found a way to weave St. Patrick's Day into tonight's fines. It was our good fortune that her fines were modest as the Happy Fines were plentiful this evening! All-in-all, a very good evening for the club's fortunes!



MegaDraw tickets receipt help!

Mr. Richard Tauvinger purchased MegaDraw tickets and would like a receipt. If you have contact information for him, please send to Peter Wick. pwick@pacbell.net



Meeting Minutes

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mike Maddox led us in tonight's Pledge.

Thought for the day:

Before our next meeting, we will celebrate St. Patrick's day, so in honor of that Charlie shared the poem from St. Patrick's breastplate.

Song of the day:

Pete led us in a rousing chorus of "For she's a jolly good fellow"...found only on a Fair Oaks Rotary table.

Tonight's Dinner:

Starting with green salad, the main course was chicken with pasta, vegetables and bread, followed by an ice cream and fruit dessert.

Drawings:

Meal – Peter Wick was tonight's lucky winner of a free meal.

Ace of Spades – Art Sutter was oh so close, selecting the Ace of Diamonds, allowing the pot to continue to grow again - already over \$400!





TEXAS HOLD'EM POKER TOURNAMENT

Proceeds Of The Event To Benefit The Citrus Heights Rotary Club



PROFESSIONAL TABLES & DEALERS

Event Sponsored By: **Lucky Derby Casino**



Saturday, April 6th 2013

Citrus Heights Community Center
6300 Fountain Square Dr. Citrus Heights 95610

Appetizers @ 5pm ~ Poker Starts @ 6pm

TABLE SPONSORSHIP AVAILABLE

\$250 Table Sponsorship Includes

- 2 Tournament Buy-ins
- Table Signage on Every Table
- Mention on Event Signage

* Pre-sale By March 16th. \$60.00 Buy-in After March 17th

**\$50.00
Buy-In**



☐ I would like to donate a prize

☐ I would like to be a Table Sponsor

☐ I would like to purchase

_____ buy-in(s)

Name _____

Company _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

For more info please contact Rich Hale (916) 599-5457

Joint Club Dinner

To be hosted by El Dorado Hills, Noel Stack is contact: 530-417-7005

Tentative date: **Tuesday April 30th** (Official meeting for our Club; not regular Monday meeting 4/29)

Location: EDH Community District Services Bldg (Pavilion or Gym)

1021 Harvard Way, EDH

Point of contact for our Club will be defined shortly.

Library Grand Opening

Please put March 30 12-2:30 on your calendar as the grand opening of the Families and Books Center funded by our club and the Friends of the Library.

Carmichael Elks First Responder Appreciation Dinner for 2013

Come Show Your Appreciation for Your Favorite First Responder

Carmichael Elks Lodge #2103

Date: Saturday April 6th, 2013

No Host Cocktails 6:00 P.M.

Tri Tip and Chicken Buffet Dinner 7:00 P.M.

Adults \$18.00

Children 6 to 12-- \$10.00

5 and under Free

Make your checks out to: Carmichael Elks Lodge #2103

Mail: to Carmichael Elks Lodge

5631 Cypress Avenue, Carmichael, CA 95609



ST. PATRICK'S PARTY

To benefit
The Fair Oaks Theatre Festival
SATURDAY, MARCH 16TH
6PM TIL 10PM

Dinner at 7pm

WHERE???: FAIR OAKS COMMUNITY CLUBHOUSE

7997 California Ave. at Tennessee Ave. in the Old Fair Oaks Village

TICKETSSSS \$25.00 EACH

No Host Bar

IRISH FOOD IRISH DRINK

FUN... MUSIC... RAFFLE

Tickets are available at: Bella Fiore, American River Bank, The BBQ PRO or on our website www.fairoakstheatrefestival.com.

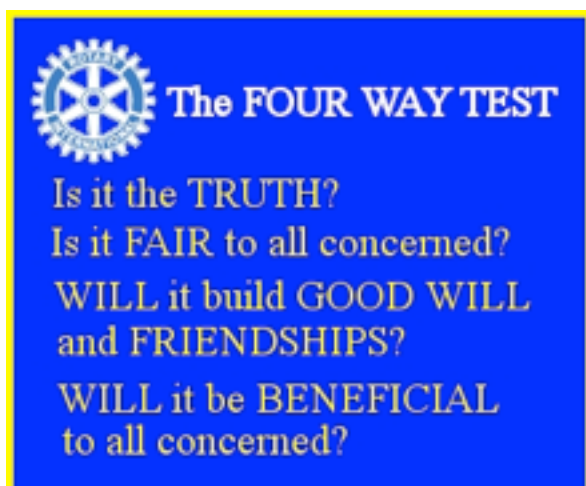
Tickets go on sale February 15th

Please note: Upstairs seating is limited to 183
Seating is first come first served.



Newsletter

Send me your name and email address to receive future issues of the Acorn



Website

Visit our site for the latest and most complete information!

Tell Me More....

What IS Rotary, anyway?
 About Our Club
 Committee Pages
 Fair Oaks Rotary Foundation
 Literacy Project
 The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International
 Rotary On Video

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Vice President <u>Howard Papworth</u>	Youth Service Director <u>Don Hicks</u>
President Elect <u>Mike Maddox</u>	Rotary Foundation Director <u>William Wagner</u>
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