

Rotations

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Meetings:
Thursdays 12:15 pm
Oakwood Athletic Club
4000 Mt. Diablo Blvd
Lafayette, CA

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John Sherry opened the meeting. Peggy Harbarth provided the thought for the day.

Visiting Rotarians: Steve Paddock, Orinda.

We sang Happy Birthday to Peggy Harbarth, and saw photos and articles about her dating back to her World War II days. Peggy donated a wheelchair to the Wheelchair Foundation.

- Peggy was born in New Brunswick NJ where she attended grade and high school.
- She attended Iowa State College in Cedar Falls, IA, and the North Eastern Secretarial Institute.
- She was chosen "Miss Keep Em Flying" or "Queen of the Air Corps."
- She enlisted in the Waves as an apprentice seaman and served from 1943 to 1946. Her decorations included the American Campaign and the WWII Victory Medals.
- She was a "Women Accepted for Volunteers Emergency Service."
- She served in the American Red Cross as a Grey Lady in 1953.
- She worked at Oak Knoll Veterans Hospital, as a Pink Lady at John Muir Medical Center, the Lafayette/Danville Cancer League, NJ Bell as a phone operator, and in property management.
- She participated in the "Jazz in July."
- She has had a 10-year perfect attendance with Rotary and is our Raffle Chair.
- She has two children, two grand children and a Yorkie named Woody. She has survived the loss of two fine men.

Sandi Mitchell gave an update on the Visioning meeting last week. Prominent ideas included growing the club, having outstanding speakers, attracting a diverse and younger membership, and being THE club to belong to in Lafayette. The visioning process will continue in the upcoming year.

Mo Levich provided us with upcoming performance dates for The Big Band of Rossmoor: June 4, a free opening-night event at Moraga Commons; and June 7, at Buchanan Field, for the World War II Airplane Exhibit.

Mike Heller discussed the Debunking of John Sherry event, to be held at Postino's on June 7, from 5-8 pm. There will be no club

meeting the following Thursday, 6/11. The dinner is free to those with paid lunches. Please let Mike know if you and a guest are coming, no later than the 6/4.

Bob Shusta reported on the Concert at the Res. It was a successful event. Bob is collecting feedback and ideas to improve the event next year, and to increase attendance.

Jay Lifson reminded us of the Try Lafayette First party on June 5. The BuzzTones will entertain, and our Rotary club will be helping with the BBQ. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Chuck Vogel and John Sherry were raffle winners this week.

SPEAKER: Jim Eaneman, one of 19 members of the Contra Costa Civil Grand Jury, spoke on what he explained was his last day of his Grand Jury responsibilities. The 2009-2010 Grand Jury would be selected the next day. In March, about 100 submitted applications to serve on the jury. Through interviews, the pool is narrowed to 30, with representation from the various Districts in the county. Of the 30, 19 names are randomly drawn to serve for a year on the Civil Grand Jury.



We heard a summary of this year's Grand Jury work. You can find the full reports at www.cc-courts.org/grandjury. One report was on the looming catastrophe in unfunded pensions and benefits that the county Board of Supervisors has been unable to contain through unions negotiation. Regarding "other post-retirement benefits," there is about \$1.7 billion in county unfunded pension liability, plus another \$1.3 billion across 119 other various governmental districts in Contra Costa County.

Other topics covered by this year's jury: Sheriff Department's Volunteers was found to be a very effective force of volunteers. Bethel Island was found to have limited ability to respond to fire emergencies, following a merger of fire departments. Elder care and elder abuse were found to be a growing issue in the county. One report focused on leadership issues in the Mt. Diablo School District. Another recent report looked at the Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Center in Byron and recommended its closure. The Grand Jury also looked into foster care and child protective services, but was impeded by limited access and cooperation from the Children and Family Services Bureau.





Photo courtesy of Alyssa Herter

Rotaractor Alyssa Herter stands in front of Harpo Studios in Chicago with Invisible Children founders Laren Poole (left), Bobby Bailey, and Jason Russell.

ROTARACTORS CAMP OUT FOR 'INVISIBLE CHILDREN'

Ryan Hyland, RI News – 29 May 09

Rotaractor Alyssa Herter and a fellow member of her Michigan, USA, club joined hundreds of demonstrators camping out on the streets of Chicago in May to call attention to the abduction of children in northern Uganda.

The Rescue, as the event was dubbed, was part of an international demonstration organized by Invisible Children, a nonprofit media-based group that raises awareness of children forced to become soldiers in Uganda's civil war. Demonstrators set up an encampment for six days, which culminated in an appearance on *The Oprah Winfrey Show* on 1 May.

"It was an incredible experience," says Herter, a member of the Rotaract Club of Kalamazoo and cochair of the club's international service committee. "Everyone was so passionate about this cause. We really want people to become aware of the atrocities going on with these children."

Chicago was the last stop in a 100-city, 10-country awareness campaign. In each city, participants marched by foot to a local site, set up tents and wrote letters for a political or cultural figure to come and "rescue" them by making a public statement on behalf of the child soldiers.

The Kalamazoo club, certified in March, designated Invisible Children its primary project, says Herter, who got involved in the movement three years ago after viewing the group's documentary, *Invisible Children: Rough Cut*, released in 2003 and [widely viewed on the Internet](#).

Club members plan to raise awareness by holding fundraisers on the campus of Western

Michigan University and in Kalamazoo and by hosting free screenings of the documentary.

"So many people are in the dark about the issues in Uganda," says Herter. "Hopefully the initiatives we take will make a difference. Anyone who sees this heartbreaking documentary will be moved to do something."

Herter hopes that her Rotaract club can help counter some of the negative stereotypes of younger generations by showing the community that young people do care about being socially responsible, she says.

"I'm so proud of how quickly our club became involved with Invisible Children," she says. "Now, being involved in Rotary's incredible network, I can imagine our club accomplishing so much more."

THE FOUR WAY TEST

Of the things we think, say or do:

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

Dong Kurn Lee RI President
 Jim Campbell Dist 5160 Governor
 John Sherry President
 Sandi Mitchell Vice President
 Bob Shusta Secretary
 Greg Vaisnor Treasurer
 Chuck Vogel Club Service
 Don Anderson Community Service
 Mike Kearney International Service
 Terry Camp Vocational Service
 Ron Wake Past President
 Andy Scheck Sergeant of Arms
 Geoff Zimmerman Sergeant of Arms

GIVE HOPE - GIVE A HAND



The Rotary Club of Lafayette donates an LN-4 Prosthetic Hand in the name of our speakers each week. The LN-4 Prosthetic Hand transforms lives and empowers those who have lost hands and limbs due to land mines, birth defects, and other catastrophes.

MAKE UP MEETINGS

See 'Where Clubs Meet' for meeting times and locations of nearby clubs:

www.rotary5160.org/clubs/meetings.php

UPCOMING SPEAKERS

- 06/04 Paul Menaker, Ph.D., Traffic Engineering
 06/11 **No Meeting** (Debunking)
 06/18 Gary Smith, StinkinThinkin
 06/25 Kirk Baily, The Ghana Rotarian Project
 07/02 **No Meeting**

LOCAL & DISTRICT EVENTS

- 06/07 Sherry Debunking, Postino, 5pm
 06/09 Board Meeting, Chamber, 5pm
 06/26 Diablo View Mixer
 07/11 District Installation Dinner & Awards Banquet, Corning, CA
 10/01-04 Dist. Conference, Lake Tahoe
 11/07 Rotary Day at the Races, Golden Gate Fields

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

- 06/21-24 RI Convention, Birmingham, England
 07/01 New Rotary officers begin their year of service
 Aug Membership and Extension Month
 Sept New Generations Month
 2010 RI Convention, Montreal, Canada
 2011 RI Convention, New Orleans, LA
 2012 RI Convention, Bangkok, Thailand
 2013 RI Convention, Lisbon, Portugal

BIRTHDAYS

- 06/02 Larry Blodgett
 06/13 Ray Bland
 06/18 Bill Eames
 06/18 Bob Shusta

ANNIVERSARIES

- 06/03 Andy Scheck
 06/09 AC Webb
 06/10 John Sherry
 06/20 Tom Henry
 06/26 Ray Bland

GREETERS

- 06/04 Barry Toomajian
 06/11 No meeting
 06/18 Ron Wake
 06/25 A.C. Webb
 07/02 No meeting
 07/09 Jesse Wellen
 07/16 Troy Winkles
 07/23 Geoff Zimmerman