

The Rotarindan



The irreverent Bulletin of the
Rotary Club of Orinda
Mar 16, 2016

Chartered March 18, 1949
Club Number 449
District 5160

THIS WEEK AT ORINDA ROTARY:

STOP, think again before you hop into that car to go to our regular meeting this week: We will not meet at the Country Club but in Charles Mounzer's La Piazza restaurant instead. If you can't find parking downtown, the scribe is opening his driveway on 12 Southwood Drive to all Rotarians. From there it is only a 2-3 minute walk to La Piazza.

This week's speaker will be Donald Eng, the former Chief of the Construction Management Bureau for the San Francisco Department of Public Works (DPW). He will report about Using Dispute Resolution Board to resolve potential construction claims. Before his retirement, the speaker he had been with the DPW for 18 years.

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR:

John Wyro will be honored at our Citizen of the Year dinner at the Orinda Community Center this **Saturday, March 18**. Wyro served on the Orinda Union School District board, and the board of the Acalanes District Education Fund. He spent many years on the boards of the Orinda Fire Protection, and Moraga Orinda Fire districts, and was on the California Shakespeare capital campaign committee. He currently is on the city Public Works Aesthetic Review Committee. Bran Yaich promises a great dinner. See Jean Gannett for tickets at \$55 per person. This event is sponsored by our Club and the Lamorinda Sun newspaper.

LAST WEEK AT ROTARY:

We got a trio of three great speakers explaining to us how we can maximize the value of our philanthropy as a Rotary Club: Think matching grants from the District and from Rotary International. District 5160 Officer Jane Louie was joined by Don and Becky Jenkins.

President Frank honored long time Rotarian Kevin Merrick, who recently passed away. From now on, the weekly joke telling competition will be called "Kevin Merrick Joke of the Week"

NEW OFFICERS:

It is now official: last week, we elected a slate of new officers for the Rotary year beginning July 1, 2016:

President 2016/17: Gary Wong
VP, President Elect for 17/18: Barbara Bontemps
Secretary: Sue Breedlove

The position of treasurer is still open. Dick Burkhalter volunteered to do it part time, but as you know, he spends his summers out there in the wilderness near Lassen National Park. We still need a volunteer to share the burden with Dick. According to current treasurer Gary Wong, you don't need to be a rocket scientists to keep our finances straight. Anybody who can balance his check book can do it. Please see Gary or President Frank if you are interested.

POLIO PLUS:

RI recognized Nigeria's President Muhammadu Buhari (right) with its Polio Eradication Champion Award. Last year, the World Health Organization (WHO) removed Nigeria from its list of polio-endemic countries after the African nation went one year without reporting a case of the disease. Nigeria was the last country on the African continent to report active transmission of the wild poliovirus.



Shortly after taking office in July 2015, President Buhari demonstrated his personal commitment to ending polio by publically immunizing his young granddaughter. Mostly recently, he convened a Presidential Task Force on Polio Eradication, through which 36 Nigerian State Governors reaffirmed their commitment to keeping Nigeria polio-free.

"Progress against polio in Nigeria, while a tremendous achievement, remains fragile. The country must ensure high-quality polio campaigns and surveillance activity for at least another two years, or risk the return of this disease," said Rotary International President K.R. Ravindran. "President Buhari and the Nigerian government have shown they are equal to this challenge, maintaining strong commitment and public support for polio immunization in the face of zero cases."

Rotary established the Polio Eradication Champion Award in 1995 to recognize leaders and others who have made significant contributions to the global eradication of polio. Past recipients include Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan; Angela Merkel, Chancellor of Germany; David Cameron, Prime Minister of Britain; Enda Kenny, Prime Minister of Ireland; and Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary General.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 3/18:** Citizen of the Year Dinner (see above)
- 3/26:** Annual Easter Egg Hunt. 10 Volunteers needed, see Dick Burkhalter.
- 3/30:** Elaine Yamaguchi will speak about Project SEED:
A STEM Program of the American Chemical Society
- 4/1-3:** District Conference in Yolo at the Yolo County Fairgrounds. The attendance fee is only \$99, which includes a ticket to the Friday evening Follies show, three meals on Saturday and a brunch on Sunday.
- 4/23:** Assembly line to package thousands of meal packets for **Stop Hunger Now** at the Founders Auditorium in the Community Center. In 2015 alone, this group served 50 million meals all over the world, mostly to children. This is our International Project for this year. We need all hands on deck!

PROGRAM NEXT WEDNESDAY (MARCH 23):

Albert Hoe from the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency will speak about the new subway to Chinatown.