

Rotary



**Rotary Club of Merced Sunrise &
Merced Sunrise Rotary Club Charity**
Zone 26, District 5220, Area 8, Club 22798
PO Box 3262 Merced, California 95344
www.mercedsunriserotary.org

- Date:** October 5, 2017
Time: 5:30PM
Location: Whitegate Drive, Merced
Members Present: Mike Altomare (P), Eric Moore (S), Rich Miller (T), Mike Cuchna (PE), Pope Lawrence (VP), Donald Barclay (Vocational), Ruth Alejo (Community), Bob Casey (IPP), Douglas Forte (International)
Members Absent: Butch Hughes (Youth), Regina Cherf (Club)
Guests: District Governor Ray Caparros, Danica Gautney, Bud Gautney, Frank Reed (Foundation Chair), Wayne Hague
Reference: General Monthly Board/Annual District Governor Meeting
1. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by Mike A.
 2. **Roll Call:** As listed above.
 3. **Approval of Agenda:** None Provided - Agenda Set by Governor
 4. **Approval September 19, 2017 Board Minutes:** M/S/C, Pope, Rich Aye.
 5. **Leadership Reports**
 - A. **President.**
 1. **Budget and Treasurer Report.** Mike A asked Rich to pass-out budget info. The monthly Treasurer Report was passed. M/S/C. Pope, Don, Aye.
 - B. **District Governor.** Mike A turned the meeting over to Ray so he could ask and answer questions per his agenda and interests.
 1. **Membership.** Ray emphasized that recruiting and member retention are paramount to the District and Club health. Mike A gave a history centered around Rich recruiting 17 new members in a single year with active members peaking at 53 in recent years. Current active members are 43, with five honorary members. Mike A also described a new Corporate Membership model and working on a Vocational Membership method too in addition to a distant 5:30PM Satellite Club opportunity.

2. **Community Service.** Mike A emphasized that members are engaged in various government commissions and boards in addition to; Field of Honor, Clothes for Kids, Rescue Mission, anti-human trafficking, and another dozen smaller on-going community programs. Ray suggested the Club work on elderly services. Rich stated Rotaract does this service.
3. **International Service.** Doug outlined the Club's roll with Modesto Sunrise on a bicycle water pump project. This was in addition to the Club's support of water well construction in Uganda. Ray supports a well-funded and material District cultural exchange to Republic of the Philippines. Ray is always looking for new members to join him February 19 thru March 1.
4. **Youth Service.** Butch was not present. Mike A spoke about leading the invigoration of Merced baseball and soccer programs and related complexes - \$1.2 million in local improvements. Clothes for Kids is a material \$10,000 project, in addition to RYLA and Speech Contest and other sports giving.
5. **Foundation.** Frank explained the Club was a 100% Paul Harris Club last year. District giving is set at \$175 per member. The Club goal is \$14,000. Ray wanted the Club to be well represented at the annual Foundation Dinner with Major Donor recognition. Mike A and others remarked that the Club was not well recognized by the District for Foundation giving at recent opportunities.
6. **Polio Plus.** Mike A stated the Club would make a \$3,000 donation, which would be matched totaling \$9,000.
7. **Club Service.** The Club shall endeavor to achieve the annual Presidential Citation. Eric M will navigate this matter and the Club shall make this an annual priority. Related, the RI President Risely wishes clubs to plant a tree for every member. The Club has a goal to plant 100 trees in the fiscal year – representing both members and spouses. Bob C is chairing this project in cooperation with Merced College. Alternatively, the City of Merced sports complexes may need trees as well.
8. **Vocational.** Don mentioned the upcoming UC Merced Project 2020 site visit. The Club has a material on-going vocational scholarship program. Don is working on supporting an area prison-VFW Post project. Ray mentioned a vocational team program under his Philippines project that deploys American instructors.

9. **District Conference.** Tenaya Lodge, April 28, has been selected.

10. **Disaster Fundraising.** Ray mentioned that the District is organizing consolidated disaster fundraising efforts in conjunction with RI. All clubs are encouraged to participate. This effort appears to be separate from Foundation giving.

11. **Final Thoughts.**
 - a. **Needs Assessment.** Mike A and Mike C mentioned the Club's efforts to identify and address community needs. An RFP was drafted to find new ideas for the Club to attack Spring 2018.
 - b. **Merced's Growing Importance.** Eric M spoke to Ray about Merced receiving over \$1.5 billion in UC and State capital investments into a community of less than 100,000 residents and the impact that investment will have on the Central Valley and the District. Eric made the point that hundreds of researchers and their families are descending upon Merced in the next years, enhancing Merced as a basic science research community – which does not exist anywhere in the District. Merced will be a more important center of Rotary opportunities in the District and the District needs to accept that fact and plan accordingly.

Next Meeting Date: 5:30 PM, November, post Field of Honor.

Meeting adjourned at 6:33PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

/Eric A. Moore/
Secretary
November 11, 2017