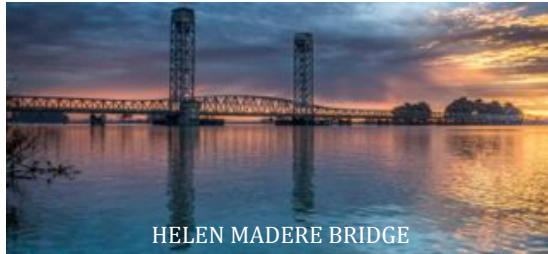


Bob Bard
Editor
(left)

Edwin Okamura
Cub Reporter
(right)



HELEN MADERE BRIDGE

"Having fun
helping others...
watering the
rosebuds"

—DR. TED SCHULZ



"I never understood why it's "greed" to want to keep the money you've earned, but not greed to want to take someone else's money."—THOMAS SOWELL

Guests of Rotarians

Don Beno welcomes Kathy Wright, Marci Rossi, and Julie Griffin; the trio will be today's speakers.

Announcements

Dan advises, "Our peanut butter and jelly *now has bread!*" Dan passes the assignment list around and says the next golf committee meeting is February 22 at 7 p.m. at Hector's home. Ted excitedly volunteers Ken to supply golf balls for the tournament's goody bag.

Lee lets us know that after some back-and-forth, Charter Night's venue is changing and will held March 4. Evelyn is working out details with The Point.

Tom Donnelly is pleased that he has nailed May 1st as the deadline for the scholarship program, and President Kelly applauds Dan and Hector for their participation.

Sec'y. Jim relays that American Legion Post 178 is planning to build a few homes for disabled veterans through Habitat for Humanity. They are sponsoring a golf tourney at the prestigious Green Valley Country Club on July 29. The donation of \$125 includes lunch, dinner, and green fees. Jim asks that we call the Post for more info.

Jimmy Mac received a letter from Solano County Fair promoting Youth Ag Day on March 14. Third grade students will be participating from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Patrick is officially blessed with his badge and membership schwag.

Bob gloats about the \$190 he won in the marble draw and graciously donates it to the Rio Vista

Foundation's Perpetual Fund.

President Elect Danny attends Pre-PETS. He learns about other clubs, and happily reports that they enjoy drinking. He learns that many are impressed with Ed. Bob's world famous bulletin.

The Sheep Dog Trials (benefiting Soroptimist, Youth Services and the Food Pantry) are approaching, and Dennis takes a moment to educate the Club on Baa-Baa Bingo. He explains that sheep walk on a grid that has numbers. The winner of the \$500 will be determined by the numbered box on which the sheep leave their mark. In advance of the game, the sheep will be "plugged" to encourage



Kelley wields a mean dual edged gavel while sporting stylish cap, gifts from Dr. Ted.

expediency.

Treasurer Walt reminds us the Chamber's Annual Awards Banquet will be next Friday at 6 p.m. at the Veteran's Hall. Rotarian's Josie and Ken are a few of the recipients. Walt notifies the Club that the former Sidwell Hotel now has a new owner!

Birthdays and Celebrations

With no birthdays or celebrations on the calendar, Molly glows that 3-mile Brewery will be celebrating their 1-year anniversary. She segues into her confession, highlighting that their brewery will be celebrating from February 16-19 with live music and the launch of a growler club with 25 brews. Molly invests \$25 into her Paul Harris.

Confessions

Cub proudly announces that after a hard-fought battle, Derek and Ryan now own a dealership in Martinez. Ryan will be managing Abel West, which is



Interact members deliver report; from left are Holly Witcraft, Carlin Cline, and Josie Hamilton.

near his home. They will sell certified used cars. Derek proclaims they'll sell 80 used cars a month, so he'll donate \$80 to the general fund. He also received his marble draw money, which he donates to Josie's college fund.

Gary wins \$40 bucks in a Super Bowl pool, so he rounds it up to \$50 and donates to Ted's dictionary fund.

Student report

No school Monday. Interact students are looking forward to visiting the Senior Center for valentine's day. Girls B-Ball had two games this week, winning the first and losing the second. Next Tuesday is Senior Night, and they'll be playing Golden Sierra. Per Josie, the game may be rowdy, but welcomes Rotarians to attend. The Academic Decathlon was this past Saturday. They did okay, but ultimately lost. Random Acts of Kindness club met 2 weeks ago and will be selling candy for Valentine's Day. They've sold one ticket to the Vice, thus far.

The golf team met yesterday, with Carlin and Josie predicting they will do very well. Derek recalls when Ted was his golf coach, to which Ted retorts that he did not coach, he did "beatings!"

Program

Don Beno, Superintendent of RDUSD, presents 3 faculty members, Mesdames Rossi, Wright and Griffin. This year, under the Teachers on Special Assignment program (TOSA), rather than teach students, Marci is teaching teachers how to utilize cutting edge digital technologies in the classroom. As an employee of RDUSD, Marci's expertise will remain with our district, even after she returns to teaching.

Kathy is charged with helping district teachers hone their instruction techniques to implement Common Core.

When Kathy started teaching, 25 years ago, a "Teaching Guide" defined several grade level goals, and the student's achievement was measured by the CTBS test administered for those grade levels.

Later, a standardized test, the CST was developed to test grades 2-11 statewide. Under this system, however, graduates were lacking in critical thinking skills and solving workplace problems.

Also, their writing and communication skills were inadequate for the jobs they were hired to do.

Common Core was then developed to assure our youngsters get the knowledge, training, communication skills, and technological abilities to address these issues. The goal is now to have graduates be college and career ready. Kathy's job is to retrain our teachers to adopt modern teaching methods and implement educational tools available online.

Marci introduces Julie Griffin, a Digital Arts teacher at RVHS. Julie gives a slide show demonstrating the latest digital teaching techniques. All our schools have access to high speed Internet via one central server. Currently, there is one Chromebook for every 4 students. (The Rio Vista Foundation has been instrumental in obtaining grants to purchase many of these useful items, which are like laptop computers without storage capabilities.) Ultimately, the district seeks to have 1 Chromebook

for every student.

Marci's favorite quote, "Be curious, act like a fourth grader, push all the buttons, you're not going to break the Internet." Marci lauds RDUSD for using TOSA to teach technology usage to our teachers, prompting one boisterous Rotarian to make our program chair blush, as he shouts, "Good job, Don!" Don's abashed response, "That's the first time I've heard that, all week."

Marci reviews the online Core programs, "Wonders" & "Study Sync." They are language arts programs in which the students can read, analyze text, and do writing problems; they make learning seem like playing games.

She demonstrates a program called, "Blasts" and shows a section dealing with gender identity in sports. The programs are presented at varying reading levels to match the student's capabilities.

They often provide polls for to the students to discuss the material and then view the comments of their peers. The lessons are interactive or "gamified," so that students are drawn into the lesson.

To get students involved in critical thinking, lessons cover intense group analysis, problem solving, communication, and math.

All testing is administered on the computer, so



RDUSD teachers Kathy Wright, left, and Marci Rossi discuss teaching with digital technologies.

students learn computer usage by the third grade. They logon with their email addresses, and any inappropriate material is filtered out. The most amazing part: the programs are free!

Marci presents Julie Griffin, who teaches Graphic Design at RVHS. Julie started using Google Classroom in January, and now 90% of her classwork is paperless. This program permits students to access their work anywhere there's internet or cell service, and it stores their work, lessons, class videos, etc. in an organized fashion for easy retrieval.

Julie shows how the students use the PenTool program for their artwork. She no longer has to enter grades for both students and district, as the program sends the grades to both locations. If a student misses a class, they can learn it online.

Tim asks Julie if she can teach the students to hack into their grades. Probably not the best idea. Julie's computer lab boasts 24 each 28" Macs, and

they are "amazing." She invites us to visit. They applied for and received a Career Technical Education Incentive Grant. Students can take 3 consecutive courses from Julie that build on each other, called a pathway. Once they do, they can take a proficiency exam to earn a certificate for the workplace. First or second periods, 8:10--9:40 or 9:50--11:20 are good times to visit Julie's lab.

Mollie asks if they'll offer an adult class. They're planning on it in the future.

Any device that is connected to the internet can utilize Google Classroom, which offers access to these programs.

Wayne asks if kids at McDonald's will learn to make change. Kathy is hopeful. Cub doesn't think Wayne should eat at McDonald's, but he doesn't say why.

50/50 Raffle

Tom can't find the winning marble.

COMING ATTRACTIONS		
DATE	SPEAKER/EVENT	PROGRAM CHAIR
Friday, February 17, 2017	Solano County Assessor/Recorder Marc Tonnesen	Jon Blegen
Friday, February 24, 2017	AFS Student from Norway	Molly Coito
Friay, March 3, 2017	No meeting (Tomorrow night's Charter Night)	Dick Burkhart
Saturday, March 4, 2017	Charter Night, possibly at the Point: Venue Chair--Evelyn Wilson	Lee Williams
Friday, March 10, 2017	To Be Announced--Possibly Emily Gollinger on Skate & Dog Parks	Pat Byron