



THE SPUR

The ROTARY CLUB of LIVERMORE



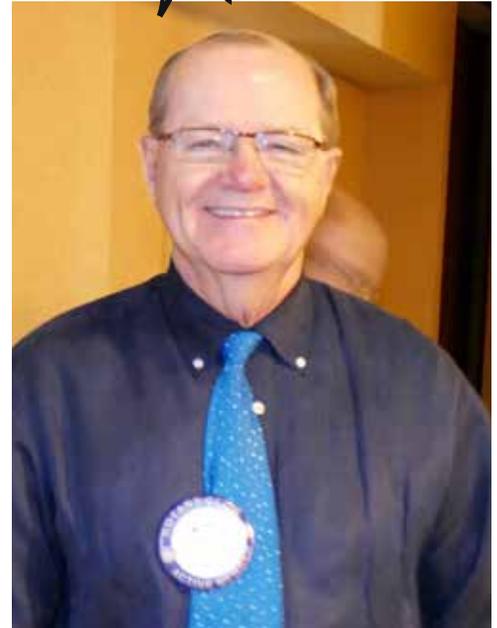
Cattle Ranching in Livermore



Meeting
Photos by
Pat Coyle



Bob Jacobs
Your Spur Reporter



Keith Beck
Thought for the Day

President Sam got us off to a great start today, followed by the ever-popular folk song "Home on the Range" (which was appropriate for today's program). Our own Livermore Police Chief Michael Harris followed our song by leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Paul Brown is in Stanford hospital with a very serious cancer. He appreciates all the cards and letters from the club, which have cheered him up greatly .

Keith Beck reminded us that last night the outdoor temperatures dropped to 34 degrees.

Today is the last day for mini-grants for this cycle.

Sonja Sheffield's husband passed away yesterday. Our thoughts and prayers are with her.

Tim Barry introduced Bob Tucknott - our only visiting Rotarian today.

Nancy Steele introduced her Visitor from Oregon - Eric Steele, brother to President Sam.

Peter Poulsen introduced his wife Jacky.

Alan Burnham was the guest of Irv Stowers.

Rotary Make-up Opportunities in the Tri-Valley

TUESDAY	TUESDAY	TUESDAY	THURSDAY	THURSDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
11:55 AM-12:30	7:00 AM	12:15 PM	12:15 PM	7:30 PM	6:00 PM	12:10 PM
Interact	Livermore Valley Club	Dublin Club	Pleasanton Club	Rotaract Club	Tri-Valley Club	Pleasanton North Club
Livermore High Room 412	Beeb's Livermore	Dublin Ranch Golf Club 5900 Signal Hill Drive	Haps Original Pleasanton	Handles Gastropub Pleasanton	Castlewood CC Pleasanton	Handles Gastropub Pleasanton

New Day!

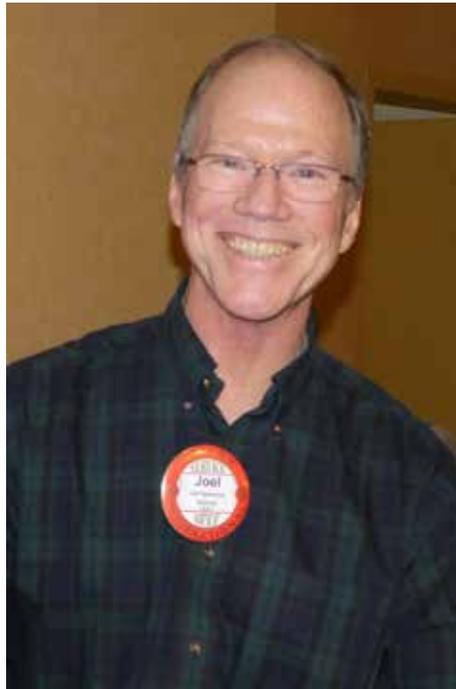
The Meeting

Joel Swanson is one of our newest Red Badgers - he was introduced by Dale Miller.

Our 2018-2019 President Elect is Jay Davis. The slated Board of Directors for next year is Jonathan Hart, Dale Miller and Sonya Sheffield.

The 2018-2019 Secretary will be David Rounds.

The 2018-2019 Treasurer will be Irv Stowers.



Today we were privileged to hear a new member talk by Joel Swanson. His father married the girl next door; went into the military, thought it was hard work and retired from the military (at Port Angeles Washington). His mom then said “we are moving somewhere warm and dry” which meant that Joel grew up in Scottsdale Arizona, where he joined Interact. He became district governor for all of Arizona, and then joined the Naval Academy,

where he was in the glee club and Protest Chapel Choir. He there met a girl that he married after 8 years! He became an Ensign in the Navy and met with Admiral Rickover. He told the Admiral he didn’t want to be involved in nuclear work, and as a result he became a submariner (aboard the USS George Washington). He started working for General Electric in 1983, and came to work at Vallecitos doing nuclear-related work (where Bob Cowan was a top dog in management).

He does barbershop quartet singing and has sung in church choirs for as long as he can remember.

He eventually started working as an analytical chemist at the Lab. They eventually realized he had nuclear detection background. He became a “Field gamma ray spectroscopist” atherafter became the boss of the Radiological Assistance Program overseeing California, Washington, and Hawaii. He would train people in what to do when they found radioactive objects nearly anywhere.

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Joel was previously in Rotary with classification as Nuclear Chemist. He still works very part time at the Lab, and is glad to be back in Rotary.

Pat McMenemy, on behalf of Rotary International Foundation, recognized several members receiving Paul Harris awards. They were Carol Gerich (who received her first Paul Harris award) and Millie Seibel (who received her Paul Harris plus 6 award).



Mike Riehl told us about some of the wildfire evacuations - where people were told they must leave with 1 minute's notice or they might not survive. As a result, lots of kids and families lost

everything. Mike went to the police department, who had a lot of unclaimed bicycles. Mike got on the phone with Del Valle High School and the boy scouts, where he is a scoutmaster, to coordinate a "bike repair" program. On November 19, he rented a U-Haul truck, collected some volunteers, and drove up to the Marin Fire Department where they offloaded a whole group of refurbished bikes. Mike delivered 442 bikes to the Fire Department there, but more than 1700 are needed. Mike is now looking at Southern California to see what might be needed there. What a great way to celebrate Thanksgiving!

The annual Christmas party was last Thursday at Alden Lane. Thanks to Jackie for making that happen.

Last Saturday was a community service project with the Boy Scouts planting trees. Thanks to all those who supported this effort!

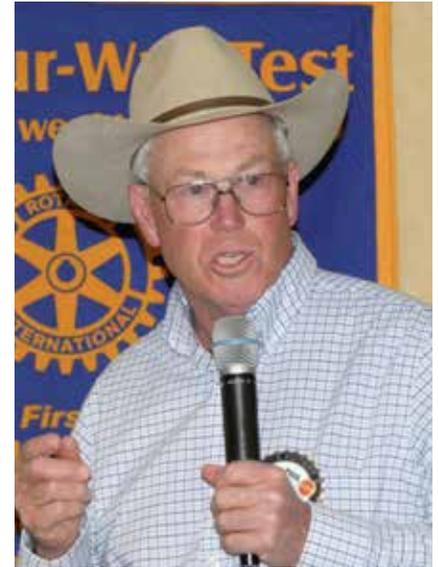
The Rotarian Foundation of Livermore hosted an Annual Holiday part for Deserving Children. There were over 40 Rotarians participating from two clubs. Thanks to Kathy Coyle, Carol Gerich and Gae Adams for all their work in making this happen.

The Meeting

The Livermore Police Department is hosting a Giving Tree. This Giving Tree is located in the Lobby of the Police Department and there are several leftover items from the tree that need to be purchased. Anyone who is able to help can see Sam Steele. Presents don't need to be wrapped - only purchased and provided to the Police Department. The parents will do all the wrapping.



Ken "Crab" Perine let us know that tickets are on sale for the crab feed on February 2, 2018 at the Aahmes Shrine Event Center - 6:00 p.m. Don't wait to get your tickets - this event always sells out! Pricing is \$55, or \$50 for groups of 8 or 10. There will be dancing to the "Spectacular Live Music" from the "Gabe Duffin Band."



Our speaker today was our own Paul Banke. His comments were fascinating, and super relevant to the area we live in.

Paul Banke is the sole owner of the WP Cattle Company. He now runs about 9,000 acres of rangeland.

Paul graduated from Cal Poly with a bachelors degree in Agricultural business management. He's been very active not only in running his ranching business but also in soil conservation and similar activities.

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The Meeting



Paul told us that most people would think that as a rancher you'd be mostly involved in running animals - but that's incorrect. The engine that runs the whole operation is the grass, and these ranchers spend a huge amount of time managing the grasslands. When Paul first started ranching, his family leased 10,000 acres and nearly 90% of it was owned privately.

These days he leases about the same amount of land, but only 5% of it is privately owned. The remainder is owned by various public entities - park districts and such.

If land isn't grazed, then rougher plants overtake the grasslands and smaller grass species are pushed out by these larger species that take over the sun exposure and create too much shade for the smaller, finer species to exist.

Grassland grazing keeps the grassland ecology in balance, and brings in some limited amount of income to the community.

Typical cattle operations are either "cow/calf" and "stocker."

In the "cow/calf" operations you breed a calf every year, raise it to weigh about 700 pounds and sell it for beef. Paul usually has about 250 calves born each year.

In the "stocker" operations, existing calves are shipped to Livermore to graze for an additional season to increase their body mass. Your goal is for them to gain 250 pounds over the grazing season. They have had calves gain as little as 20 pounds or as much as 450 pounds - depending on the moisture and grass conditions. Paul usually imports 800 or 900 of these calves each year for "fattening up."

Grass grows slowly in late fall, quickly in the winter and not at all during the summer. So ranchers breed calves to be born in September or October so that they can take best advantage of the grass at the highest growth time.

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You typically need 10-20 acres of grassland to support one cow and her calf. The ranchers pretty much turn these cows loose and let them be independent.

The difference between heifers and cows is a heifer has never had a calf before. Heifers are at the greatest risk for problems in delivering a new calf. So heifers get fed hay and get a lot better care than the cows, who are expected to be more independent (and self-reliant. Who'd have thought?)

Their bull to cow ratio is 1 bull to 20 or 25 cows.



The ranchers vaccinate cattle for approximately 25 different diseases. Over the years (since the 1970s), the quality and effectiveness of these vaccines has improved tremendously, so that they don't need to use nearly so many antibiotics. Cattle pinkeye is always a big challenge, as is foot rot.

There is a lot of work regularly done on parasite control. Cattle used to have lots of lice, grubs, ticks and other parasites. But modern animal medicine has essentially eliminated these kinds of parasites. They used to have to dip animals regularly in order to get rid of these parasites, but now this is mostly a thing of the past.

Most of Paul's calves are sent to an auction yard either in Galt or Turlock.

His daily tools when moving cattle are his horse, saddle, dog, four-wheeler and trailer.

Thanks to Paul for his generous and expert presentation.

Next week's program is Dr. Kelly Bowers with an update on the Livermore School District, including adjustments for a Charter School.

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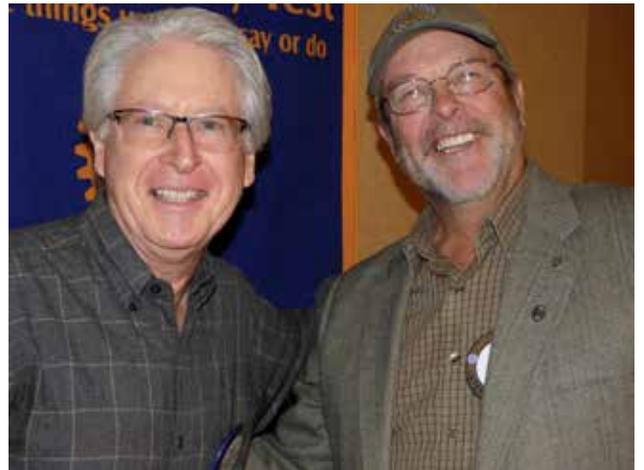
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COMING ATTRACTIONS

- Dec 13 - Meeting - Speaker Dr. Kelly Bowers, Supt., Livermore Schools, "Update on Livermore School District"
- Dec 19 - Board of Directors meeting
- Dec 20 - Meeting - Livermore HS Choir performance
- Dec 27 - NO MEETING THIS WEEK
- Jan 3 - Meeting - Speaker Marty Plone "CA Victim Restitution Laws"
- Jan 19 - Meeting - Mini Grants Awards, Rany Schlientz, chair

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Orrin Mahoney

ASSISTANT GOVERNOR

Milly Seibel

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PRESIDENT ELECT - Kathy Coyle

SECRETARY -David Rounds

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Rotary Club of Livermore
 presents the

63rd Annual

Crab Feed



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The Rotary Club of Livermore will use the proceeds from this event for Livermore Community Service Projects, Scholarships, Grants for Schools and Local Groups and much more.