



ROSSMOOR ROTARY NEWS



President: Sue A **Address:** PO Box 2177, Walnut Creek CA 94595 D5160 Club 461

Notes: James Olson **Photos:** Paul Wilson May 29, 2024

Club Website: www.rossmoorrotary.org

District Website: www.rotary5160.org

MEETING NOTES: 05/29/2024

Call to Order: President Sue, Pledge led by David B, Patriotic Song – Memorial Day medley of all the Armed Forces Anthems

Guests and Visiting Rotarians: Steve E., Jackie O., Steve O., Anne B., Bill H.

Thought for the Day: Irv F.- A soliloquy written by Tom Cotton honoring those Americans who have given their lives for our country and democracy resting at Arlington National Cemetery.

Happy Dollars: Jim O.-celebrating his wife Antoinette's birthday; and the birth of his 12th. Great-grandchild; Bill B, complementing our guest speaker; Eddie F. on the milestone date of his meeting Robyn, and being a part of the celebration put on by the Rossmoor Scholarship Foundation; David B., Jim D., and Sue A.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kathy S.- Farmer's Market Dates to staff Rotary's table. We are looking for 3-hour commitments from members. All dates are on Fridays. **June 28; July 5; August 23; September 27; October 4.** Kathy will place sign-up sheets on our tables next week (June 5).

Raffle: Ruth R. and Norm A-wine.

PROGRAM

Guest Speaker- Member, Retired Superior Court Judge, Solano County, Mike S. spoke about the "The History of the California Trial Court System." Mike gave an expansive historical overview of the creation of the California Trial Court System; what do Superior Court Judges do; how does one become a judge; and the difference between the Federal Judiciary and State Judiciary system. He told of the beginnings in Alta California, 1846, when there was no system of justice when Spanish Alcaldes did the work of justice along with vigilantes until the Treaty of Guadalupe Hildalgo ending the Mexican- American war, and Mexico ceded California to the U.S. In 1849, the California Constitution created a unified Judiciary. In 1879, a new State constitution specified that each county would have 2 Superior Court Judges. There are 58 superior courts in California, one for each

county.

In 1924, municipal courts were created. And, until 1976, you did not have to be a lawyer to be a judge. Mike talked about why he preferred being a superior court judge and not a municipal court judge. Because of the difference between working important cases rather than minor cases, such as, small claims, traffic violations, etc.

How does one become a judge? You must be a practicing attorney for 10 years before becoming eligible for judgeship. Judges are elected officials. During an election, one can run for a vacant position, or run against a sitting judge. Superior Court judges serve 6-year terms.

Mike said, “the beauty of being a Superior Court judge or Appellate Court judge is the availability of time” to review cases.

He also commented on his work on the Commission for Judicial Performance assessing the work of sitting judges.

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 5	Mark Roberts – District 51160 Foundation
June 12	10:30 Club Board of Directors Meeting
June 12	Fred McCormick - National Organ Transplant Act
June 19	10:30 RRF Trustee Meeting
June 19	Sue Adams- Presidential Awards

PHOTOS



Alison Lee and President Sue – May 22