



We are meeting in person and via Zoom!

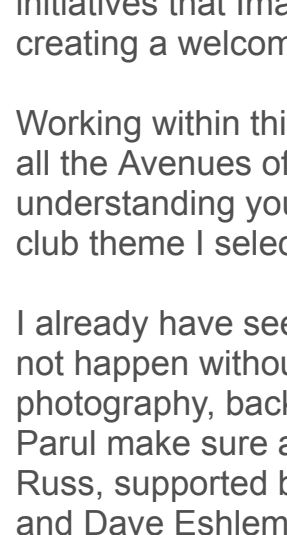
2022 - 2023

Saratoga Rotary

Rotary International President: Jennifer Jones
District 5170 Governor: Savita Vaidhyanathan
Saratoga Club President: Cathie Thernmond
Bulletin Editors: Verna Wong & Archana Vahalia

President's Message

Catherine Thernmond



Welcome to our 2022 - 2023 Rotary year!

As I am beginning to understand all the many aspects of our club, I want to thank everyone who has made Saratoga Rotary what it is today. First a sincere thank you to Immediate Past President Sangita and all the Past Presidents who came for the "Passing of the Gavel" or reached out to offer their support. I hope to be able to follow in your footsteps. Special thanks to the talented Board of Directors and all the members who have accepted the behind-the-scenes positions. Each of you brings something wonderful to our meetings and events. I am delighted to work with you all!

Rotary International's President, Jennifer Jones, has selected the Presidential theme for this year, *Imagine Rotary*. President Jones' *imagines* a Rotary where members act to make their dreams become reality and make the most of their club experiences. She has identified four presidential initiatives that *Imagine Rotary*: advancing our commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI); creating a welcoming club experience; empowering girls; and expanding our reach.

Working within this framework that is so pertinent for our club, we hope to continue our excellent work in all the Avenues of Service, increase our membership while engaging our existing members by understanding their needs and expectations, and tell our Rotary stories to the greater community. The club theme I selected for the year is *Doing Good Together*.

I already have seen many examples of our club members *Doing Good Together*. Our meetings would not happen without the work of our Club Services teams. Nada does our communication and photography, backed up by Maria and Maureen; Peter leads set-up every week; Keong, Sheeba and Parul make sure all the technology is working and run the meetings; our lunch team, Patt L, Sheree and Russ, supported by Maggie, Parul and Terrie, make sure we have something to eat; and Tom Collins and Dave Eschleman delight us with their music. Thanks to Emily and Patt W, we have interesting speakers on a wide variety of topics to look forward to this year. It takes so many dedicated individuals just to make the meetings happen!

Being involved in club activities is a great way to stay connected and *Do Good*. At our August 5 meeting, our Service, Membership and Fellowship chairs will give you more information about the upcoming year. And we will ask you for your input. What do you want from your club? Keep up to date through this monthly bulletin (thank you, Verna and Archana), on our website maintained by Parul, and on Facebook which is updated by Sheeba and others.

I am sincerely looking forward to this coming year and working with all of you. I hope to see you soon!
Cathie

Stories

About the RI Logo

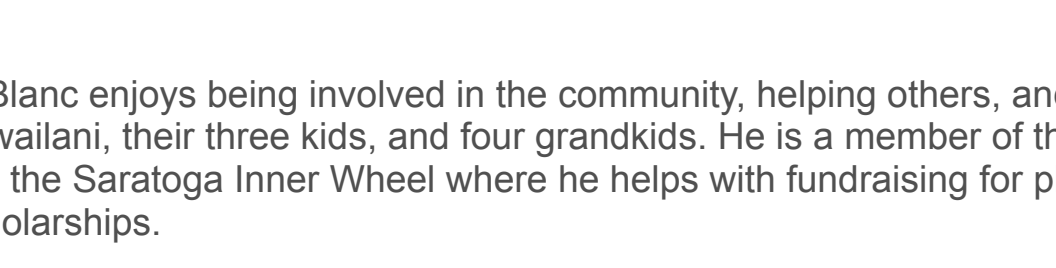
Posted by Cathie Thernmond



The 2022-23 presidential theme logo was designed by renowned Australia-based Indigenous artist Riki Salam to represent RI President Jennifer Jones' theme and initiatives.

The logo represents key elements of Rotary while honoring the Indigenous culture:

- The circle signifies connections to one another.
- The dots around the circle represent people, one for each of our areas of focus
- The circle and the dots together become a navigation star, which signifies Rotary's guiding light
- The solid line underneath signifies a digging stick used for hard work — a tool that Rotary's people of action use to get things done.



James (Jim) LeBlanc enjoys being involved in the community, helping others, and spending time with his three kids, and four grandkids. He is a member of the Saratoga Rotary Club and the Saratoga Inner Wheel where he helps with fundraising for philanthropic projects and scholarships.

Jim grew up in Monta Vista, a small town that is now part of Cupertino. One of his favorite childhood memories is taking the bus to San Jose with his sisters and taking tap dancing lessons. That led to him eventually being on the Record Hop that aired on TV in the early 60s. He also began working at a young age in Monta Vista Paint and Hardware. He learned a lot and worked there through junior high, high school, and later after returning from military service as he finished college.

Jim graduated from Homestead High School and enrolled in Foothill College. He volunteered to join the Navy in 1969 and served for almost four years. He became a weapons fire control technician and went out to Vietnam. He served on two ships, USS Bayfield APA 33, an attack troop transport, taking marines and supplies up the Mekong Delta, and USS Savage DER 386, a Radar Picket Escort destroyer escort patrolling Vietnam and the Taiwan Straits. One very unfortunate mix-up was when Jim's mom was called and mistakenly told that he had passed away in Vietnam. Luckily, his dad quickly called up the government who were able to contact the captain of the ship, who verified that Jim was alive and well. The captain of the ship told Jim it was time to write to his mom!

The day after Jim got out of the Navy, October 24, 1969, he met his wife, Kawaiiani, at an early Halloween party. She had grown up in Hawaii then moved to Astoria, Oregon and later to Santa Rosa with her family. They got married in 1971. While working full-time Jim continued his education, graduating from De Anza, then San Jose State with his bachelor's in Industrial Technology, and then Santa Clara University where he earned his MBA. Kawaiiani was the head nurse at the O'Connor Hospital pediatric ward.

Jim and Kawaiiani have three kids, Kelly, Katie, and Kevin. Kawaiiani stayed home with the kids as they were growing up, getting involved in their education, sports, making sure they were well fed, read to, cared for, and being the stable support they needed. Jim credits Kawaiiani for the success of their kids and their family while he worked. Together, they make a great team!

After Jim earned his MBA, he worked for several companies in many capacities. He worked on nuclear reactors with Westinghouse as a project planner, first building big, heavy hardware, then moving to a company called ESI, where he was an Operations Manager of light weight equipment for reconnaissance systems. Jim also worked at a startup Directing New Product Development before his first retirement 2001. He ended up going back to work at a Department of Defense company where he worked in Quality Assurance before retiring again 2013.

Jim was sponsored to join the Saratoga Rotary Club in 2000. Right away, he began fundraising for the Rotary's annual gift giving campaign and has been doing that ever since. Jim has a lot of experience with fundraising, from raising money for athletes' scholarships back when he was in college at SJSU to a few of his jobs.

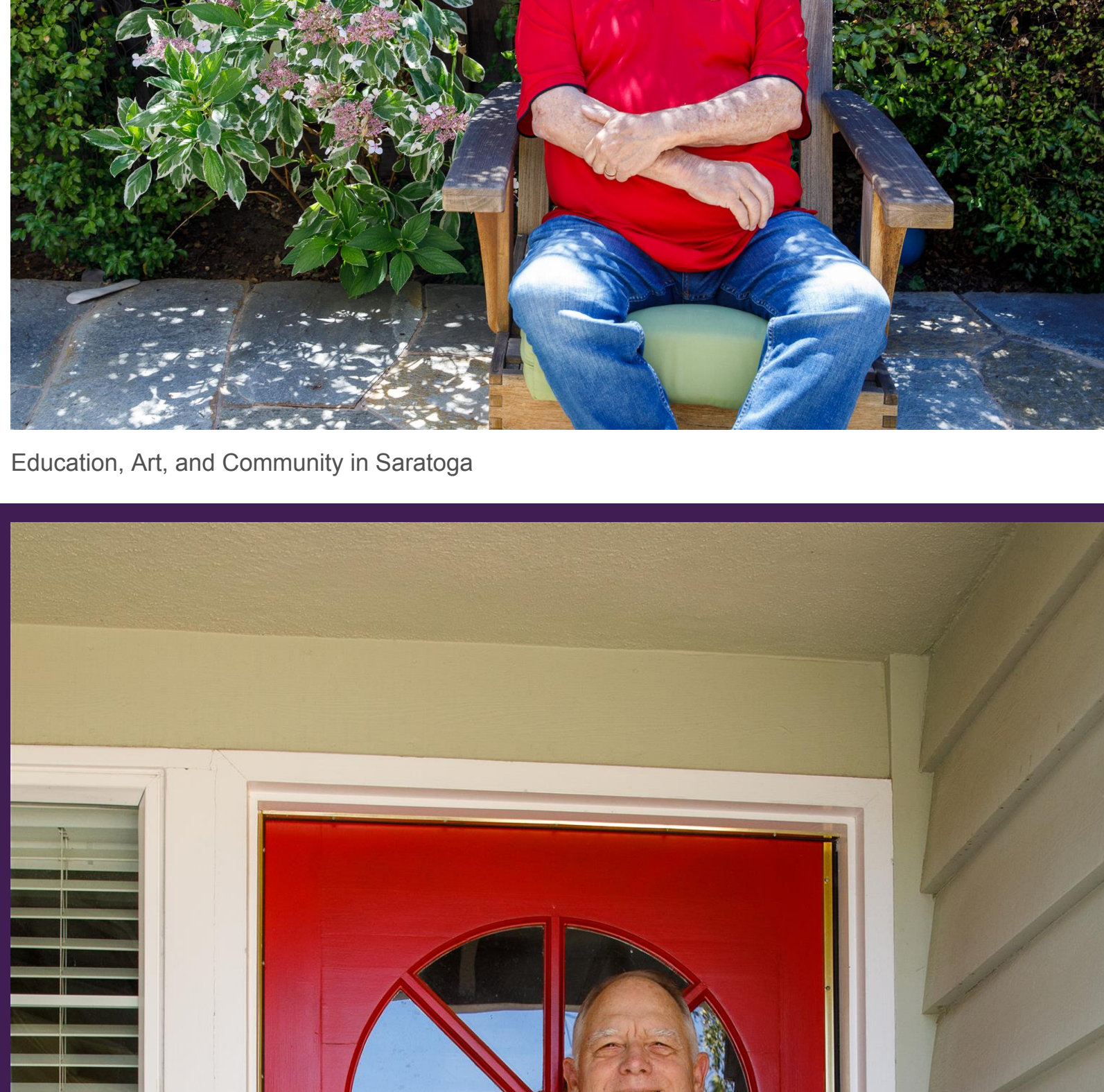
Jim was president of Saratoga Rotary in 2006-7, became the CFO then the CEO of his charitable foundation. Later he received a Rotary Presidential Citation for giving in 2015-2016 while working at the district level as an Annual Giving Chairman. He has also worked with the Inner Wheel to help fundraise for the Myoelectric Limb Project, which helps children who need prosthetic limbs. One of Jim's favorite philanthropies through the Saratoga Rotary Charitable Foundation and his Family Foundation is giving students scholarships to West Valley College, specifically to female veterans.

Jim also enjoys working on the Saratoga Rotary Art Show, the major fundraiser for the Saratoga Rotary Charitable Foundation. The show is held at West Valley College and used to be only one day out on the lawn. In 2015, they couldn't use the lawn and used the parking lot instead. As Chairman Jim worked with the artists and the Rotary to make it a two-day show instead to give people more room in the new space. It ended up working so well that they kept doing it all. There has been an art show every year except 2020 and 2021 during the first weekend in May. Jim likes working with his fellow Rotarians and enjoys mentoring some of the younger members who are eager and filled with ideas.

Jim also belongs to the SIRs Club (Sons in Retirement) and was Big SIR (president) last year and the year before, making it work in the virtual, pandemic environment. He led their meetings on Zoom and set up a call around system. The average age in the club is 83, and Jim wanted to make sure that everyone was talked to on regularly during the isolating times.

On top of Rotary, Inner Wheel, and SIRs, Jim is part of several other social groups. He belongs to the AmSlav men's group in San Jose, a walking group with other Rotarians that meets a few days a week and plays cards with a group that has met once a month for over 30 years. Jim's friends are very important to him, and he has many long-lasting friendships. He finds that conversations used to be about work and are now about health and grandkids!

Jim and Kawaiiani's three kids all live in the Bay Area. Out of their four grandkids, two live in San Jose and two live in San Francisco, and two are seven years old, one is four years old, and one is almost three years old. Jim feels fortunate to have a wonderful family, many years in a career that was always interesting and developing, and now to be able to give back.



Education, Art, and Community in Saratoga



News

Saratoga Rotary Goes to San Jose Giants Baseball Game

Posted by Marcia Hansen

Our July Fellowship event was a group outing to a San Jose Giants baseball game. It was a perfect summer evening and a very fun group attended, some dressed in Giants attire. The Giants won with a walk off hit, which apparently is special because the whole team came out on the field and jumped around together. Next Rotary party is Bocce Ball on Thursday, August 16, at 6:00pm. Join us!

[Read more...](#)

Rotary in the Community

Posted by Parul Samdarsi

This summer Saratoga was once again buzzing with outdoor events and our Club was an active participant!

On July 4, Saratoga held its Independence Day celebration in Kevin Moran Park. Rotary Club of Saratoga was one of the sponsors of the event. Organized by Rotarian Anjali with Chuck as the master of ceremonies, the event was complete with music and speeches and a parade around the park. At the end of the parade, Saratoga Rotary provided popovers to everyone. Thanks to Sheeba, Sabine, and Cathie for staffing our table and introducing attendees to Rotary.

[Read more...](#)

Speakers

Aug 05, 2022 12:30 PM
Club Assembly
Goals for Committee Chairs

Aug 12, 2022 12:30 PM
William McCloskey
Recycling and the new Composting Requirement

Aug 19, 2022 12:30 PM
Jana Medda
Saratoga to the Sea and Hiking Trails

Aug 26, 2022 12:30 PM
Wisa Uemura
San Jose Taiko

[View entire list](#)

Upcoming Events

WVCS Back to School Shopping
Old Navy Westgate Mall
Aug 06, 2022
6:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Board of Directors Meeting
ZOOM
Aug 08, 2022
5:15 PM - 6:15 PM

WVCS Mobile Party / Park-It Market
Aug 10, 2022
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Martha's Kitchen - Food Prep
Martha's Kitchen
Aug 15, 2022
7:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Bocce Ball Party
Campo Di Bocce
Aug 18, 2022
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

WVCS Mobile Party/ Park-It-Market
Aug 24, 2022
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

SRCE Board Meeting
Saratoga City Hall Conference Room
Aug 25, 2022 4:00 PM

Board of Directors Meeting
ZOOM
Sep 13, 2022
5:15 PM - 6:15 PM

WVCS Mobile Party / Park-It Market
Sep 14, 2022
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Martha's Kitchen - Food Prep
Martha's Kitchen
Sep 19, 2022
7:00 AM - 10:00 AM

[View entire list](#)

Inspiration

Shared by Sangita Seshadri

In keeping with the Theme for this Rotary year, I would like to share quotes from three Presidents.

America was not built on fear. America was built on courage, on IMAGINATION and an unbreakable determination to do the job at hand.
— Harry S Truman

Keep exploring. Keep dreaming. Keep asking why. Don't settle for what you already know. Never stop believing in the power of your ideas, your IMAGINATION, your hard work to change the world.
— Barack Obama

IMAGINE a world that deserves our best, where we get up each day knowing that we can make a difference.
— Jennifer Jones, Rotary International President, 2022-2023.

This year let us Dream Big, building on our successes to make a memorable impact to the community as we continue to Serve to Change Lives.

Shared by Archana Vahalia

July 29th is the 210th day in the Gregorian calendar. Multiplier of First 4 prime numbers 2, 3, 5, 7
National Chicken Wing Day, National Lasagna Day and National Lipstick Day are celebrated on July 29th

A poem befitting our Club's family:

"Human Family" by Maya Angelou
I note the obvious differences
in the human family.
Some of us are serious,
Some thrive on comedy.

Some declare their lives are lived
As true profoundly,
And others claim they really live
The real reality.

The variety of our skin tones
Can confound, bewilder, delight,
Brown and pink and beige and purple,
Tan and blue and white.

I've sailed upon the seven seas
And stopped in every land,
I've seen the wonders of the world
Not yet one thousand man.

I know then thousand women
Called Jane and Mary Jane,
But I've not seen any two
Who really were the same.

Mirror bins are different
Although their features jibe,
And lovers think quite different thoughts
While lying side by side.

We love and lose in China,
We weep on England's moors,
And laugh and moan in Guinea,
And thrive on Spanish shores.

We seek success in Finland,
Are born and die in Maine,
In minor ways we differ,
In major ways the same.

I note the obvious differences
between each sort and type,
But we are more alike, my friends,
Than we are unlike.

We are more alike, my friends,
Than we are unlike.

we are more alike, my friends,
Than we are unlike.

Another apt poem:

Never Live

Poet: Unknown

There was a very cautious man
Who never laughed or played
He never risked, he never tried,
He never sang or prayed.

And when he one day passed away,
His insurance was denied.
For since he never really lived,
They claimed he never really died.

Executives & Directors

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President Elect
[Renae Pauzer](#)

Treasurer
[Russ Hansen](#)

Secretary
[Terrie Kusamer](#)

Bulletin
[Verna Wong](#)

Bulletin
[Archana Vahalia](#)

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[Kiong Kam](#)

Club Service
[Emily Lo](#)

Club Service
[Patt Workman](#)

Community Service
[Sheeba Gattu](#)

Fellowship
[Marcia Hansen](#)

Fine Art Show / Fundraising
[Alba Alamillo](#)

Fine Art Show / Fundraising
[Carol Woodard](#)

Information Service
[Vijay Subramanyam](#)

Membership
[Sabine Grad](#)

Membership
[Chuck Page](#)

Public Image
[Mary Ellen Comport](#)

The Rotary Foundation
[Jim LeBlanc](#)

The Rotary Foundation
[Renae Pauzer](#)

Vocational Service
[David Guidry](#)

Youth Service
[Julia Hemdon](#)

Immediate Past President
[Sangita Seshadri](#)

Saratoga Rotary Charitable Foundation Officers

CEO/President: James Lindsay
CO/President: Sandie Prevot
Secretary: Verna Wong

Appointed Positions:

Club Trainers: Larry Grace, Jack Hicking, Jim LeBlanc
Sergeant at Arms: Peter Marra
Information Management: Peter Marra
Meeting Announcements: Nada Marriott
Facebook: Sheeba Gattu
Website: Parul Samdarsi

Membership Support: Jamie Price
Audio/Video Team: Sheeba Gattu, Kiong Kam, Parul Samdarsi
Lunch Liaison: Patt Larkins, Sheree Williams, Parul Samdarsi, Maggie Tsai
Photographer: Nada Marriott, Maria Guldner, Maureen Barton

We Care: Sangita Seshadri
Parliamentarian: Marcia Hansen
Youth Protection Officer: Chuck Swan
Hardship Chair: Gordon Case

Back-up support indicated with *

Doing Good Together