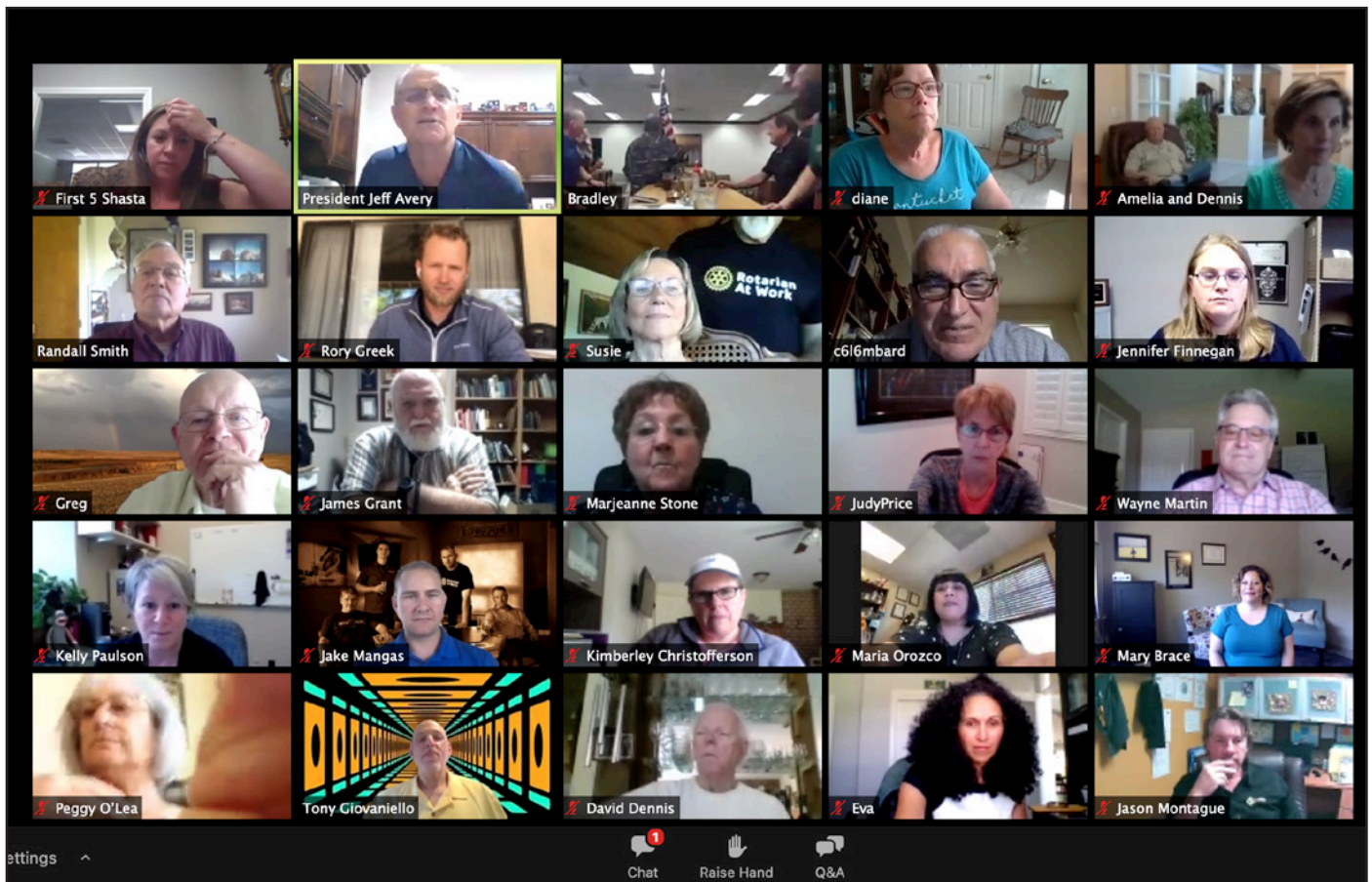




Our First Virtual Club Meeting

History was made today as the Rotary Club of Redding held its first virtual club meeting. Thanks go out to **Wendy Dickens**, **Jennifer Finnegan**, **Mary Brace** & **Michelle Nystrom** for spearheading and coordinating this event. At its high point had 50 in attendance. **President Jeff** was his usual entertaining self, and we had a special guest speaker, **Kelly Paulson** from the Mayo Clinic.



Calendar

May 28	Aaron Hayes from Catalyst Mentoring
June 4	Jim Wadleigh, Redding Airport Manager
June 11	Michelle Nystrom, O2 Employment Services "COVID-19 Employers Answers"
June 18	Past President's Program

Recognitions



Tiger Michiels for coming to the meeting without his shirt - \$50



Greg Balkovek & John Dunlap – Riverfront Playhouse Project - \$100 each



Gary Burks – in honor of Eva's daughter going to UCLA - \$100



Eva Jimenez – in honor of her high school valedictorian - \$200



Rory Greek & Rick Hill – sheltering in place – kids at distillery - \$100 each



Peggy O'Lea – in honor of Eva's daughter going to UCLA - \$100

Do YOU have a recognition to get in before the end of the Rotary year? Be sure and reach out to President Jeff today!

Sunshine Report

This may be old news for some of you, but Joe Cresto had a recent fall in his apartment. He has been in the hospital and is recovering pretty well. He should be able to return home to his apartment at Shasta Estates this Friday.

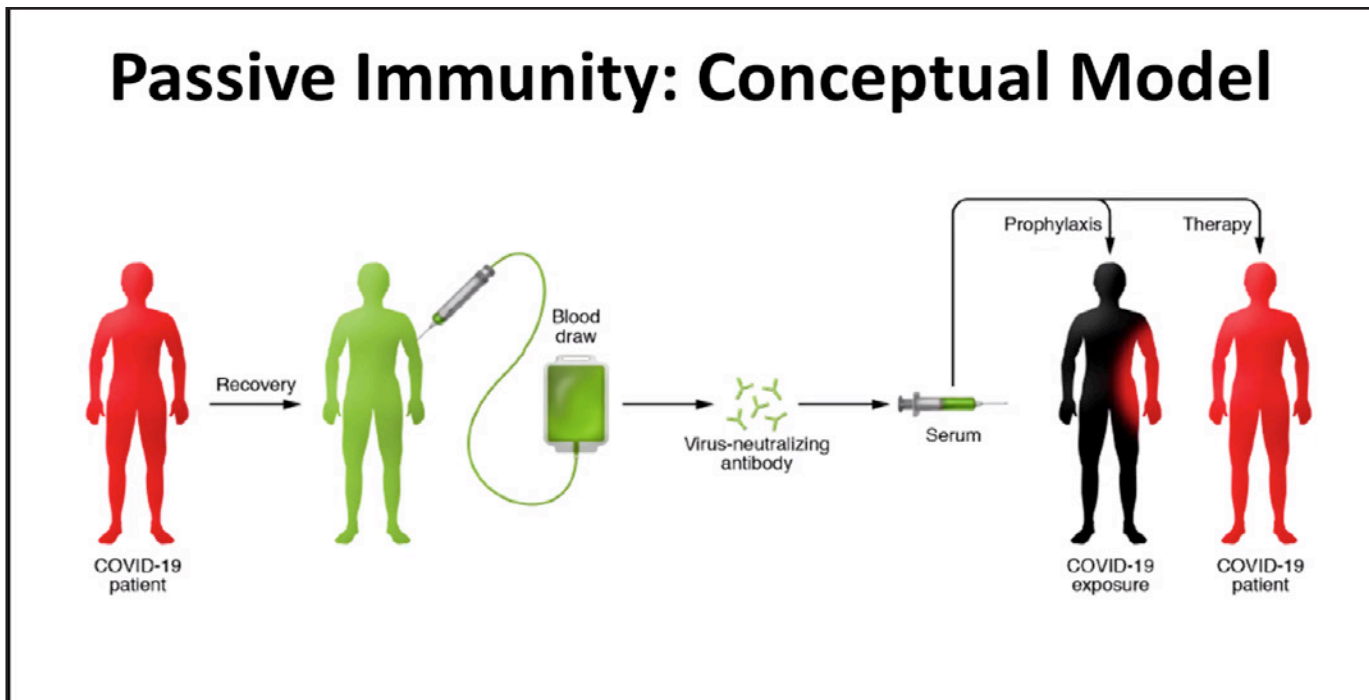
If you would like to send a get well card, you can send it here:

Joe Cresto
Shasta Estates Apt # 315
1350 Buenaventura Blvd
Redding, CA 96001

Today's Program - Mayo Clinic's Convalescent Plasma Program

Thanks to this being a virtual meeting today, we're able to have a very special presenter, **President Jeff's** own sister who works for the Mayo Clinic, **Kelly Paulson**. **Kelly** gave a very timely and informative talk about a specific clinical trial being performed at the Clinic to fight COVID-19. Having been bought off with a case of wine by **Jeff**, **Kelly** declined to give us any family dirt on **Jeff** :)

As illustrated by this graphic, the theory behind this treatment for the disease is to take plasma from a recovered COVID-19 patient and create a serum which can be injected into a sick individual.



In addition to the success that this plasma program is producing, one of the main take-aways from this talk was the speed at which the Mayo Clinic and the Federal Government acted to move this idea from concept to completion. As of today there are over 2,300 clinical sites and more than 6,400 physicians registered in all 50 states taking part in this program.

Advertiser Spotlight - Vitalant

It's Pronounced Vie-Talent and they need you!

Because blood donation is vital...and they have the talent to do it well!

You may know Joe Ayer as one of the two Joes (it's OK to mix them up) and the President in line after Jake. He has been a member of our club since 2010 and a member of two other Rotary clubs – Downey and Elk Grove. You may also know him as the head of what was once BloodSource, which merged with other donation centers to become Vitalant in 2017.

Perhaps you have donated blood at one of our meetings, or you took up the practice elsewhere and continue to donate whenever and wherever you have the opportunity. Our own Dar Barzin is a regular donor – Vitalant sees him every two weeks and it is heroes like Dar that save lives every day.



When Covid-19 hit, people who wanted to do something to contribute headed to Vitalant to donate blood; donors who maybe had done it once or twice in the past, but not consistently, thought that now might be the time to revisit the idea. Interestingly enough, there was a small window where there were more donors than necessary – with the lack of non-emergency surgeries and a reduction in vehicle accidents, there wasn't a need like one might think.

With surgeries now scheduled, Vitalant went from stocked up to desperately needing donors. Joe and the others at Vitalant are hoping that more people choose this method of donating time and resources as humans look around, wondering what they can do to help in times of crisis.

The typical blood donor is over 40 and the median age is only going up. This is a great time to remind younger folks that this is a viable option as they look for ways to contribute to the wellbeing of society.

Things to note in our current climate:

Vitalant is open 7 days a week and needs you! Call (877) 258-4825 or go to <https://donors.vitalant.org>

You will be asked to wear a mask, sit far apart and you don't get to pick up your own snack (don't worry, there will still be snacks!)

If you have or know of a business with indoor space and either heavy traffic or 50-60 employees, please reach out to Joe as a possible pop-up donation space. A good donation event sees 15-20 units donated.

Ask about donating Plasma (AB blood type especially) or Platelets. They take more time, but are also needed.

Convalescent Plasma is real and Vitalant just had their first donor! For those that have tested positive for Covid-19 and recovered, Vitalant is now collecting their plasma for antibodies.

Bloodmobiles are being reevaluated and the use of them may look different in the future.

Please be the inspiration for others to donate!

If you are looking for a reason to take the next step, think of it this way – donating blood is a way for you to help your community, it is free and you don't have to feel guilty as you take some time for yourself.

With nothing else to do and being figuratively strapped to a chair, you don't need to feel bad about wasting an hour on social media, or you could even use the time to start that book you have been wanting to read... It's a win for all!

On behalf of Joe and the others of Vitalant, thank you to all current and future donors!



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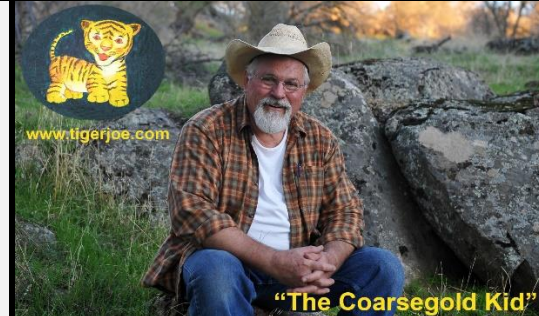
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