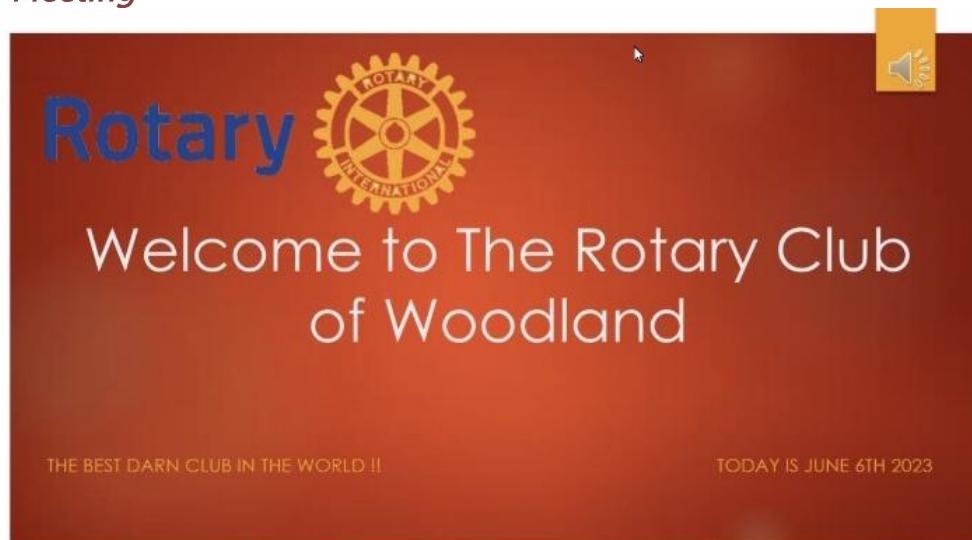


**Meeting Date:** June 6, 2023

*Today's Meeting*



With three meetings to go (counting this one) Shawn Seyk welcomed us all and asked Peter Holmes to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Steve Venables was our only Rotary Grace Singer and



he led us in a bang up rendition of Rotary Grace.



Shawn's words of wisdom, "There are opening day pitchers and those that pitch on opening day". This pearl comes from ex Giants manager Roger Craig,



Humm Baby, who died on Sunday.

### *Visiting Rotarians and Guests*



We had no visiting Rotarians, but we had two guests. Don Huff, III introduced former member Dave Molinaro.



Karl Diekman, in Gary Wegener's absence introduced Phil Safran.



### *Announcements*



The Demotion is June 28<sup>th</sup> at Blue Note Brewery at 5:30. They promise the pizza oven will be up and running. There is no meeting on June 27, 2023.

The final amount for Giants tickets to the game on July 9<sup>th</sup> against the Red Sox is \$70 per person and is due now.

### *Anniversaries*



Clyde Brooker will celebrate 47 years with Krim on June 12<sup>th</sup>. They were married in Carson City, Nevada for \$10, which Clyde had to

borrow.



### ***Birthdays***



No birthdays this week.

### ***Recognition***



Jim Nolan was finemaster. His theme was your favorite type of food and restaurant.



First was Happy Time: Karl Diekman was back from a trip to Japan and then



to the Rotary International Convention in Australia.

President Shawn was excited about the Woodland Soccer Club tryouts. They expected about 600 and 975 showed up. The club will increase from about 460 members to 630. Davisites are now coming to Woodland. He was also happy his girls team will be elevated to the State Premier Level for the upcoming season.



Clyde Brooker's favorite food is German food in honor of his wife, Krim. He could not name a good German restaurant.

Dave Molinaro's favorite food is Thai food and he likes the House of Siam in



Sacramento. Don Huff, III had to pay Dave's fine.

Gina Bravo's favorite food is Mexican food and she did not have a favorite



restaurant. Guess she likes them all.



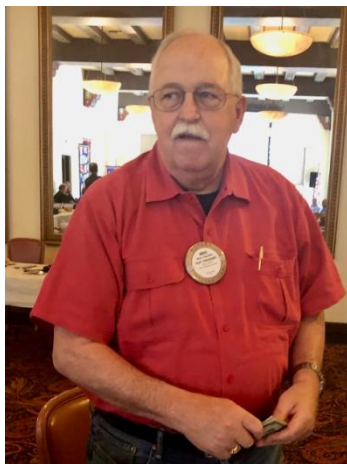
Marie Galbo likes Italian food.

Roger Kohlmeier's favorite food is steak that he has grilled.





Mike Chandler likes anything that is put in front of him. When asked his favorite fast food place, he said Burger King.



Steve Venables complained about his mother's cooking and that he didn't get enough food as a kid, so he did not grow to 6'6" as predicted, but is somewhere around 5'8". I hope his mother can read this and haunt him appropriately.



Tim Pettit likes Italian food and likes Mattone's in Sacramento.



Kris Kristensen also likes Italian food and likes Mattone and Carboni's in Winters.

Kevin Haarberg likes Vodka and his favorite restaurant is Cracchiolo's for



Tuesday lunch.

He loves mystery food items.

Carl Rodegerdts' favorite place is his home and he likes pork tenderloin.





Chuck Maltese likes, surprise, surprise, Italian food. He likes Mattone's, but



is not sure about Carboni's.

Christian Sherrill just likes food, healthy food, and he barbecues every



weekend of the year, including winter.

### *Rags to Riches*



Kris Kristensen, our photographer (so no one took his picture) won a free lunch. There were 11 cards and \$662 on the line.

### *Today's Program*



Nan Su, senior reporter for the Epoch Times newspaper spoke to us about Chinese expansion. The Epoch Times was

founded by Chinese Americans to print the "truth", especially about Communist



China. On April 8-10, 2023, China completely surrounded the island of Taiwan with military exercises designed to intimidate Taiwan and provoke the United States as well as Japan and other East Asian countries. Taiwan is important to China as a main piece of the puzzle to control the South China Sea. Nationalist goals are really secondary to this objective of control.

**China conducts  
military drills around Taiwan**



**Apr.8-10, 2023**

## China conducts

### six military drills around Taiwan



August 2022



China has created man made islands in the southern part of the South China Sea by building concrete land masses on coral reefs. This gives them the pretext of claiming the waters surrounding these so called islands. They have constructed military bases on these islands. Gaining control of Taiwan gives them total control of the entire South China Sea and enables them to cut off Japan from its major supply routes. With total domination of the South China Sea, China will have dominion over 40% of the world's trade.

Total control over the South China Sea will give China significant influence over all of Southeast Asia, and further their goal of controlling South Asia. It also is a key step in what Nan says is China's ultimate goal of control over the world. They are allied with all our chief enemies, Russia, Iran and North Korea. All of the "Stan" countries between Russia, Iran and China are loosely under China's influence. Nan asked who is our most dangerous rival, Russia or China? Russia has only 1/10<sup>th</sup> of the GDP of China, and thus is not our most dangerous rival.

# China, Russia, Iran



## Xi met Putin prior to Beijing Olympic



Feb. 4, 2022

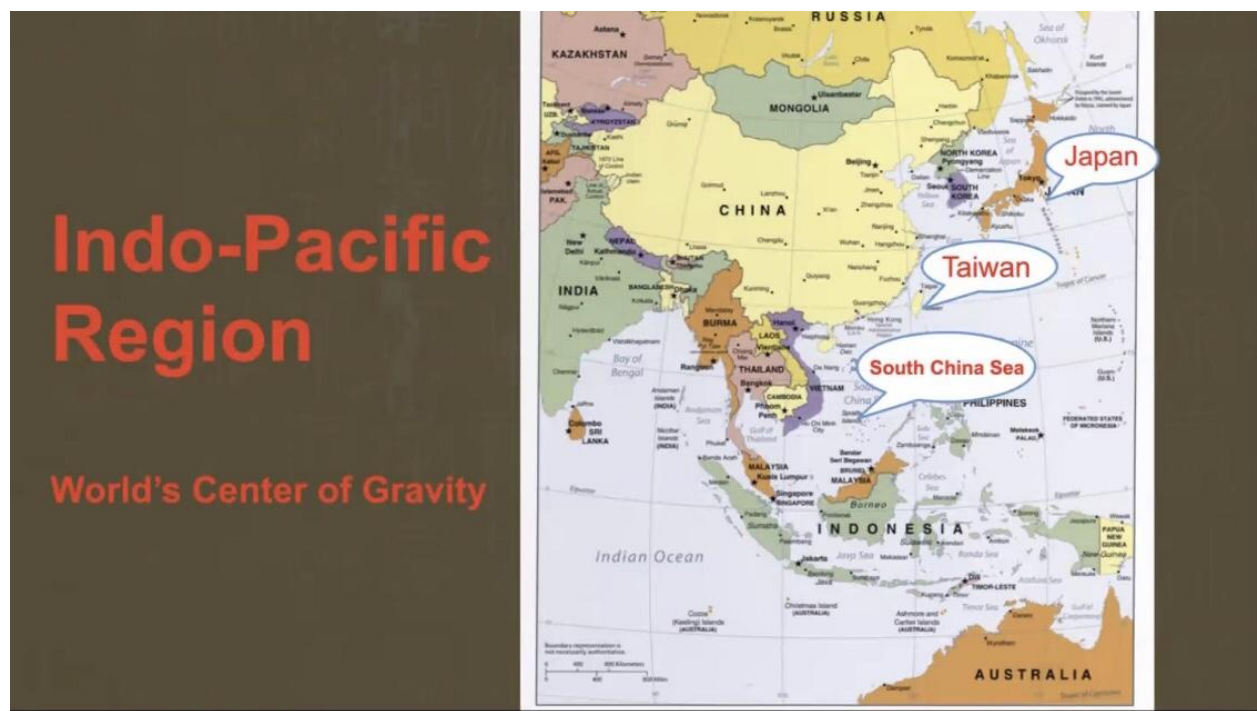
## GDP Comparison — 2021

China vs Russia

**National GDP 2021**

**Russia: \$1.65 tri VS China \$16.86 tri**





The Southeast Pacific has  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the world's population and  $\frac{2}{3}$  of world trade (both of which includes China). China is expanding its military. It already has more navy ships than we do. Other Asian countries are expanding their military also, including Japan, which increased its defense spending 26.3% this year over 2022 and if five years will double its 2022 defense spending.

Nan's message was clear, China is dangerous and our most dangerous rival. It is a brutal dictatorship. After the Communist takeover, the government has killed 80 million of its own citizens. The so called monster China has become was fueled by direct U.S. investment. In 2021 the U.S. directly invested 118.2 billion dollars in China. The one thing Nan could not answer clearly is exactly what kind of control is China seeking. Is it economic superiority and influence, or is it actual ruling of other countries and the destruction of our country?



# Level of Threat

between **CCP** and...you name it

- 1.The economic power
- 2.The military power
- 3.The technology
- 4.The control of total population
- 5.The history of killing its own people

## US Direct Investment to China

2021	\$118.2 bn
2020	\$115.0 bn
2019	\$105.6 bn
2018	\$107.6 bn
2017	\$105.2 bn
2016	\$ 97.5 bn



### Upcoming Programs

Next week we will be joined by: **Alexis Mata "Journey to Professional Soccer: From Woodland to**

**Spain";** <https://www.dailydemocrat.com/2023/05/04/woodland-soccer-club-names-pioneer-high-school-graduate-alexis-mata-as-academy-coordinator/>



June 20<sup>th</sup> we will meet on a field trip away from the Hotel.

See more program listings on the Club's website at:  
<http://www.woodlandrotary.org/Programs.cfm>