



Rotary Hosts Exchange Program

By Cathy Tyson



From left to right: Andri Ivondanjaniaina, Josee Rasamoelina, Gary Irwin (Moraga Rotary), Beatrice Randrianarison, Paul Fillinger (Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary), and Colin Barnard, (Moraga Rotary), pictured during a tour of Google. Two other visitors not pictured, Hari Mathur and Olivier Lebon

Recently a number of local Rotary Clubs hosted a group of five business people from Madagascar for a Group Study Exchange. The program is designed to develop leadership skills to prepare participants to address the needs of their communities.

A total of five adults were involved in this particular exchange, which started with Berkeley Rotary, then moved here for a joint effort by Lamorinda Sunrise, Moraga and San Ramon Rotary, then the visitors moved on to Brentwood Rotary and beyond. They will be in the U.S. for the better part of April.

Paul and Glenda Fillinger hosted Beatrice Randrianarison and Jose Rasamoelina, and along with other Rotarians acted as

drivers, schedulers and tour guides for the intrepid travelers. “They were just delightful,” notes Glenda Fillinger.

“This is just one of many of Rotary International’s projects to build better understanding among the people of the world,” said Paul Fillinger. He continues, “Group Study Exchange Teams come to learn more about other cultures and share business and professional information.”