

Rotary



Club of Mt. Shasta

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[Heather Maria Solus](#)
Assistant Governor

Mt. Shasta Rotary Meeting 11/11/2020

Wednesday, November 11, 2020

Call to Order & Welcome
Pledge of Allegiance

Guests/Visiting Rotarians: Jon Lopey, Ed Pecis (moved to Colorado and has worked on homelessness and is president of Jon Lopey's foundation), Bob Singleton and Jesse Berg (members of the veteran's leadership council & career military service people in our community)

Thought of the Day & Linda S

You are what you eat

Use it or lose it

Gravity sucks & (first said by multiple astronauts, but it affects your posture and musculature)

Birthdays: Mike's wife, Barbara had a birthday on Nov 9 - \$5

Program:

Jon Lopey & Jon joined the Marine Corps on his 18th birthday during the Vietnam War, finishing his military service as a Colonel in the National Guard. Present at many Siskiyou County Memorial and Veterans Day and other community events, Jon continued his championing of veterans' service during his nearly two terms as County Sheriff.

Jon thanked us and said it felt appropriate he is speaking at Rotary on Veteran's Day. The important thing about Veteran's day was that it started in WWI was Armistice Day as a way to remember the veterans who have served. 34M people have served in the military. There are currently 21M vets in the US. We have to recognize veterans include all branches of service and reserve forces.

CA Army Natl Guard has served this nation in a splendid fashion with COVID, wildland fires, floods and hurricanes & during both peace and war.

Jon has served 4 decades starting with the Marine Corps, serving in the Philippines for a year, and was discharged as a sergeant. He then got a job in law enforcement and joined the National Guard. He served in the National Guard for 30 years and retired as a colonel.

After 9-11-2001, he served in Iraq.

The essence of having a strong military is to deter war & we want to be so respected and to an extent feared that our adversaries won't take us on.

During Vietnam many American people turned against the war and the Vietnam Veteran was typically not welcome home.

The essence of selfless service to the country, commitment, honor and duty mean something to servicepersons.

The important thing to remember that the American people can be proud of people in uniform. Jon retired about nine years ago from the army after 30 years, still proud to be a veteran. Bob served in Vietnam, earned a bronze star. Jesse served in the Navy in the middle east.

The military is made up of a lot of different types of people & diverse military, Native Americans African Americans, women served. The military was desegregated in 1941. All contributed to the defense of this nation. The military, in his opinion, has worked hard to accomplish a mission at risk of injury or death. The military is a brotherhood/sisterhood. No greater love that no man has than to lay down their life for their fellow man/woman.

When we serve overseas, we just don't serve each other. He has worked together with people from other countries to establish some semblance of peace and also humanitarian efforts.

Thank you for recognizing veterans and the sanctity of this day. The term, & Freedom isn't free & means a lot to veterans.

Q&A

Audra: from your perspective what is the greatest need for veterans in Siskiyou County that Rotary could help with. Jon said the recognition issue is important. We have a large proportion of veterans to our population. Helping homeless veterans would be big. There are vets who sustained wounds ♦ these vets have given more than time in the service. They suffer physiological and physical wounds for years and perhaps their life. Their families suffer as well. If you support the veterans service office, make sure you let all of our representatives know that Veteran issues are important. Some vets have problems adjusting to civilian life because they didn't get the counseling to do so. Trying to fill those gaps would be a big deal.

Kathy: Could you speak to what the veteran's leadership council does. Are there stories from your heart about people you have served with? Bob and Jesse: we have several different things going on. The biggest is the memorial we have been working on at the Weed airport, putting in helicopters. They are kind of stymied. We have plans to put in two helicopters next to the aircraft, but have lost contact with the people we were going to give them to them. It is an ongoing project that recognizes the military, firefighters and law enforcement who have died in service www.siskiyoufallenherosmemorial.com. So far, this project has cost them about \$50,000 and they aren't done yet. They also help vets in need in the county with housing, financial assistance, counseling. There is a weekly support group for Vietnam veterans that has been going on for several years ♦ are now meeting via zoom. They are also involved with the Marine Corp League and the American Legion (in McCloud).

As far as his military experience, served four years in the marine corps in the late 60's, was a platoon leader. Staff Sergeants were the glue that held everyone together.

Gary: Wanted to point out that in McCloud, the American Legion has a program headed by a name named Rod Ives. Rod led a group who made quilts and handed them out to veterans. Gary received one last year as a sign of gratitude. Rod passed away just this past week.

Tom S: What is left to be done on the memorial and how much money do you need to complete it? Robert; need to acquire two helicopters and they are expensive ♦ up to \$100,000. Everything else is in place, we just need the helicopters.

Jon interjected that a couple of weeks ago he asked Major General Baldwin if there was a way to acquire a decommissioned helicopter and a Huey.

Ed: was never in the military. At 20 was in law enforcement. Working under Sherriff Lopey has been an honor.

Doug asked Rotarians what the traits we have seen exemplified by our guests?

Mike commended the military on their service. Jon Lopey, in turn, thanked Mike for his volunteer work -Meals on Wheels, recreational activities which helps kids, elders and everything in between.

Kathy said the characteristic that jumps out for her is the heartfelt care for each other in the military. This is a reminder that we can each be citizen givers, even if just in a private conversation to let people know they matter.

Mark Foster ♦ Rotary International Foundation

One of the Rotary International Foundation causes is clean water, sanitation and hygiene. RI last year provided \$18.7M in grants for clean water. Our club is a recipient in our Goodbye Thirsty project that Donna leads. Mark showed a video about Rotary's work with clean water.

Happy Bucks:

- Tom H ♦ Mossbrae Falls trail and Tom Steinsta were able to get the railroad's attention. Now the railroad is bugging us to get the project done - \$5
- Mike R ♦ Worked out with son this morning - \$5 for his service. His son is starting his service in Okinawa as a communications/data specialist - \$5
- Tom S ♦ Has a cousin who had both legs blown off in Afghanistan ♦ involved with group of purple heart anglers. People end up with severe PTSD. He's trying to take his cousin out fishing to show there is another world out there. \$10
- Greg M - \$5 for every year he spent in the Marine Corps. \$30 Hoo Rah
- Merle - \$20 now the proud owner of a condo in Citrus Heights to be close to son and family. Thinks he will have a split personality being both places.
- Kathy - \$20 for two reasons 1 is to celebrate 21 years with Glenn Harvey. Spent a few days doing wine tasting, hiking in Jackson enjoying the fall weather. 2 ♦ we just purchased a townhouse next door to us and plan to offer as a rental.
- Ken - \$5 for Kathy. His son, who is living with them and is a Data Manager, is looking for a place to live. Ken will get in touch with Kathy to help make that happen
- Tom H gives \$5 for each of his dad's four years of service \$20
- Glenn wanted to clarify that Merle's better half has a few small ideas for the remodel of the condo they just bought, as opposed to the one Kathy bought that is done. Merle will be spending significant time doing upgrades. Merle said that has already started.

Announcement:

- Doug mentioned North State Giving Tuesday. We've been meeting via Zoom since April. We used to spend \$14 per meal. Ends up being \$56/mo x 8 months = \$448 you save and

could use that to support Giving Tuesday. Audra said on Giving Tuesday, you can pledge dollars and you can pledge volunteer hours. The total will be tracked for our region.

- Mike ♦ dictionaries have arrived. They planned to distribute in person, but the students are going back online. Barry would like to create a video to talk about the fundraisers and what the club does in the community to send to the school. Greg will do the video, rather than doing in the recording studio, make in in the Expershare facility in the lobby.
- Doug said Tom S made a suggestion to add a special member category for spouses. Go online to search for Rotary International and plug in Spousal membership. You don't have to pay dues to RI. We have spouses who participate as much as members, This can swell the ranks and give people the opportunity to provide more opportunities for services
- Glenn ♦ HS interact club has had a challenge this year with Zoom. They have decided to run a food drive. Things have been slow this fall. If you have canned goods, Glenn will come to your home to pick up.
- Glenn volunteers for Siskiyou food assistance. They are doing a 500-turkey giveaway. They told him there is a turkey shortage because packing plants are closed because of COVID.
- Greg M ♦ regarding Giving Tuesday we are creating a video which will be used in the Giving Tuesday site and on local TV. The content he is using starts with the Assembly put together in 2018 plus some updates on current projects.

The program next week is Kathy Suvia talking about her journey to District Governor and Students of the Month.

Birthdays

No Birthdays Found

Wedding Anniversaries



[Heather Maria Solus](#)
November 11th

Years of Service



[Paul Edward Chapman](#)
12 Years



[Heather Maria Solus](#)
4 Years

Club Meeting

Mt. Shasta

Meets at Normally, Mt. Shasta Resort. Currently via Zoom. * Please note first meeting of each month is an evening meeting at 5:30PM; same location

1000 Siskiyou Lake Boulevard

Mt. Shasta, CA 96067

Time: Wednesday at 12:15 PM