



The Voice of the Vineyards

The Weekly Electronic Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Healdsburg

"The mission of a bulletin is inform the membership,
comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable"

Author: **Paul Frechette**
Photographer: **Rick Tang**
Editor/Publisher: **George Heath**
February 26, 2024

WELCOME

- **President Kellie Larson** welcomed members and guests at noon

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- **Rosemary Jorden** led the Pledge



GUESTS OF ROTARIANS



✓ Orlando Jones, husband of Chandra Jones

✓ Chandra Jones, guest of **Rosemary Jorden**

✓ Kevin Jordan, guest of **Rosemary Jorden**

✓ Rich Lapping, guest of **Phil Luks**



✓ Dave Henderson, guest of **Doug Garrett**

- ✓ Sally Parks, speaker (Ted Calvert) support
- ✓ Kerry Pollack, speaker support



THOUGHT OF THE DAY

“If you look at what you have in life, you’ll always have more. If you look at what you don’t have in life, you’ll never have enough.” Oprah Winfrey

TRIVIA

Leap Year happens every four years with some exceptions. What year will the next Leap Year be skipped? (**Mike Potmesil** yelled an answer from the back of the room. **President Kellie** fined him \$5 for “jumping the gun”). Several incorrect answers ensued, until **Andy Elkind** answered correctly: the year 2100. Why? If the year is divisible by 100 and not divisible by 400, leap year is skipped.

IN REMEMBRANCE

Two friends of our Rotary club, both giants in our community, passed away recently. Several members spoke about both of these men; you had to be there to witness the moving words, the stories, the emotions evident in the room.:



- Tom Reed, who, with his wife Kay, has provided significant funds to our Scholarship Fund through the years.
- Bill Dominichelli was also a benefactor to our club, having recently donated his professional construction work for his part in providing structure to the recently completed In Memoriam bench with bricks, alongside the Healdsburg Rose Garden.

NEW MEMBER INDUCTIONS

Three new members were inducted during our meeting today:

- **Kevin Jordan**, whose wife, **Rosemary**, is already a member, and who sponsored **Kevin**.
- **Chandra Jones**, an entrepreneur, sponsored by **Rosemary Jordan**.
- **Rich Lapping**, a retired attorney, sponsored by **Phil Luks**.



President Kellie and Membership Chair **Tricia Fichtner** welcomed our new members, handed each their Member Handbook with a pin and a red badge. Welcome to the three newest Rotarians on Earth!

ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE

Lots of discussion and interesting news today about our club's involvement in Rotary Youth Exchange. This is a renewed effort for our club, thanks in large part to the involvement of members **Cathy King**, **Don Mitchell**, and **Dick Cochran**. Slides of an event were shown and our and the Sunrise club's student from Brazil were featured in those slides. Lara is from Brazil and is here into the summer months. For several of those months, our member **Nita Parker** will open her home to host her.



YOUTH SERVICES

Other Youth Services items discussed at today's meeting included a renewed day for Healdsburg High School seniors called Adulting 101 (formerly called Freedom Day). The date is May 28th, and we will need about 10 volunteers to be involved in this day. More details as the day draws near.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND UPDATES

- ❖ Our deceased member (around 2013) **Rob Jacobi** was instrumental in the early formation of our current Scholarship Fund. His Trust ensured that \$33,000 was issued to our Scholarship Fund within months of his death. This year, we were informed that another approximate \$91,000 is to be provided to our fund (already done, according to **President Kellie**). **Rob Jacobi** was a true advocate for our club and for the youth we support with scholarships.



- ❖ Regarding scholarships, several members of our club have been working together as a group to find ways we can better serve HHS and Geyserville High School students with scholarships. **Andy Elkind** provided an update today, indicating that our club will issue larger scholarships to fewer students. This is viewed as a positive step

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ✚ The SCARC dinner for February will be held on the 29rd of February at 6:00PM. There will be a \$70 fee for the dinner which will be a Crab Feed. The meeting will be at St. Peter's Parish Hall in Cloverdale. For Red Badge holders who have not yet attended a District meeting (a red badge requirement), our club will pay the fee. Contact **Paul Frechette** if interested in attending: paulfrechette@yahoo.com
- ✚ Green Hair Day will once again be held on St. Patrick's Day, on March 17th. This is a Sunday. We gather at Costeaux restaurant as early as 6, and as late as 7 (am!), when the annual shortest parade of the year commences. Most importantly, we as Rotarians do some terrific fundraising for PolioPlus prior to Green Hair Day (GHD). Our members received a template letter to use in our fundraising efforts. Our club is always amongst the best in our District in raising these funds, and we really want to keep that going. For the new members: you don't have to have your hair painted. It's fun to do so, at Costeaux just before the parade, and it does wash out. You can wear green hats, a wig, or just come along and bring your smile to the event. GHD will be a topic of discussion each week at Rotary until the event.
- ✚ Another Arundo removal day has been scheduled for March 9th from 9:00AM to 12:00 Noon. **Norm Fujita** is managing this project for our club's participation, and he requests more people to please get involved. Even if you get involved for one hour, that would be greatly appreciated. 9:00 a.m. at Healdsburg Veterans Memorial Beach. No need to contact **Norm**, just show up....but it would be helpful for **Norm** to know your intentions.
- ✚ Our club's annual Easter Egg Roll will be held on Saturday, March 30th. More details to follow but know that this is a huge event for the early school children of Healdsburg. Hundreds of children attend on a good day, and this is a definite "feel good" event. Eggs are donated by Big John's Market, we field a team to boil them at the Villa, then color them at the Community Center, and hide the eggs in the Healdsburg Elementary School field. Don't miss it. Today, a request from **Phil Luks** (chair of the event) was delivered to urge members to purchase plastic eggs and fill them with foil covered chocolate candy. NO NUTS in the candy! These eggs can be brought to one of our members, and the sooner the better.
- ✚ District 5130 will hold its annual Training Day in Ukiah on Saturday, April 6th. It is cleverly called "District 5130 Spring Training". This is a fun learning event, and all are welcome to sign up and attend. This is another event where Red Badge members can check the Blue Badge requirement box by attending.
- ✚ On our tables today, we found information related to the phrase, "Create Hope In The World". This business-size card includes a CR code which contains pertinent information that we can use to assist themselves or others who could possibly benefit from mental health assistance. It is a useful card to have, and to give to friends and neighbors who might benefit from this information.



✚ **Tricia Fichtner**, Membership Chair, created and passed around a clipboard where members were asked to provide pertinent information to be included in DACdb. **Tricia** said each of us can update that information ourselves by logging onto DACdb, but if we are having difficulty doing that, please let her know what information should be included in your profile.

✚ Our Monday, March 25th meeting will be held in the late afternoon – evening, from 5 to 7 at Tayman Park. Similar to a meeting we held last Rotary year, this one is called Member's Travels. Five members will spend about 10 minutes each in a show and tell of travels they have experienced. Members will provide an appetizer or dessert to share and will bring whatever they want to drink.

BIRTHDAYS



Doug Garrett 2/28--Doug donated \$100 to the Club

HAPPY DOLLARS



> **Dick and Dena Cochran** recently took a somewhat annual ski trip to Aspen; he donated \$100 to PolioPlus in honor of the fun event.

> **President Kellie** and Tom Larson recently spent some warm and sunny days (away from our rain) in Puerto Vallarta. She donated \$50 to the Club to honor the trip.



> **Emily Martin** went to Miami (a cruise, I think), had a blast, and donated \$25 to her Paul Harris Fund.

TODAY'S PROGRAM

Ted Calvert is a former member of our Rotary Club and is now a member of the Sunrise Club. Ted is an acknowledged expert in all things AG and Open Space, and not just in Healdsburg, but throughout Sonoma County. He has written books on Fitch Mountain and other notable subjects, which can be found locally or in the Healdsburg library. Today's discussion was filled with photos, history, and stories of our well-known open space areas in town, e.g.

Fitch Mountain, Healdsburg Ridge, Riddell Reserve, and more. He showed photos of flora, birds, and other animals which share our open space. Ted had sooo much information to share, and all of it was quite interesting. It would do him no justice to try and summarize everything in this short Voice of the Vineyards. It is recommended that you seek out venues where Ted might be the guest speaker, and/or purchase his books. And, if you know Ted, invite him to coffee, and to lead you and others on a hike. He would love to do that.



RAFFLE

Cathy King had the winning number but didn't pull the white marble. She now has another bottle of wine for her collection.

CLOSING

President Kellie rang the bell and closed the meeting.

