

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: **Andy Elkind**Photographer: **George Heath**Editor/Publisher: **George Heath August 7, 2023**

WELCOME: President Kellie Larson



PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Brent Stanley led the Pledge today

VISITING ROTARIANS: None

GUESTS OF ROTARIANS



✓ Cindy Brenton, Guest of **Jim Brenton**



✓ Steve Campbell, Guest of Jerry Campbell



✓ Mike Jones, Guest of Fred Roberts

✓ Lisa Wilson, Guest of **Alex Rollins**



✓ Stephanie Domenichelli, Guest of Tricia Fichtner



✓ Nizza Sequeira, Guest of the Club, Program Speaker

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"I am not young but I feel young. The day I feel old, I will go to bed and stay there. J'aime la vie! (I love life.) I feel that to live is a wonderful thing." – CoCo Chanel

TRIVIA

What creature is considered the most dangerous in the world, responsible for more human deaths than snakes, bears, sharks, and lions combined? **Winner: Jim Westfall** correctly answered – the mosquito. Jim won a fabulous Rotary baseball cap as his prize.

UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS



• Paul Frechette reminded us of the upcoming Social with the Sunrise Club, this Friday, August 11, from 4:00-6:00 at Bacchus Landing. The Clubs will provide pizza. Just bring money to buy wine on site. If you're interested in attending, please add your name to the Google doc or send an email to Paul.



• We're planning a Club Social for Wednesday, August 30, at the home of **Barbara Oddone**. The tentative time is from 5:00-7:00 but please stay tuned for more details. And as **Barbara** noted, let's hope for "no smoke, no fire!"

 Doug Lyle announced that he will be sending out an email inviting members to sign up to host a Dinner for 8 in September, October, or early November. Please keep an eye out for Doug's email and let him know if you're willing to host.



COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENTS



Norm Fujita reported on the August 3 Stewardship Day at the Riddell Preserve. Norm and five other members of the Club participated: Doug Garrett, Dick Bertapelle, Andy Elkind, Devin Drew, and Rosemary Jordan, along with two of Rosemary's colleagues from the staff of Enso Village. Working under the guidance of LandPaths, the group cleared Bay Laurels and Douglas Fir to reduce the fuel

load and (in the case of the Bay Laurel) remove one of the sources of the bacteria that cause Sudden Oak Death.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

♣ Doug Garrett provided a quick update on the Crab Feast. A great committee of leaders has already been assembled, and the group will kick into high gear after Labor Day. The next meeting − open to all − will be next Monday, August 14, at 11:00. The Crab Feast will be held on Saturday night, December 9 − please mark your calendars now!



♣ President Kellie announced that the next Board Meeting will be Monday, August 14, at 9:00. Everyone is invited to attend.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

- ❖ Jerry Campbell will turn 92 tomorrow, August 8. Jerry thanked the members for the birthday cards he received, and expressed his gratitude to the members who brought him to and from the Club meetings. The Club feted Jerry with a very harmonious rendition of Happy Birthday. Jerry generously donated \$100 to the Club.
- **Stewart Moore** also has a birthday on August 8.
- **Tricia Fichtner** has an anniversary on August 12.
- **Andrew Sturmfels** has an anniversary on August 11.
- ➤ President Kellie, her husband Tom, and their entire family were in South Lake Tahoe last week to celebrate the wedding of their youngest son. The wedding couple is now enjoying a honeymoon cruise to Mexico. President Kellie donated \$100 to the Club.
- ➤ President Kellie also reported on her success in a tennis tournament yesterday. Playing in the heat of the day, Kellie and her partner won the first set before going down 2-5 in the second set. They then proceeded to win 5 straight games to take the match! For playing (and surviving) 22 games in the brutal heat, she donated \$22 to the Club.
- ➤ **Doug Garrett** was so happy to report the birth of his new granddaughter last week that he forgot to mention that his aunt just celebrated her 101st birthday. **Doug** donated \$101 to the Club.



Alex Rollins noted that her concerns about cybersecurity are the reason that her birthday does not appear in ClubRunner. But she did celebrate her birthday last week.

Alex donated \$60 to the Club.



➤ **Norm Fujita** shared that on Saturday he and a group of friends rode the Marin County Century. Because of the heat they cut off about 20 miles from the route but still had a great time. **Norm** donated \$25 to the Club.

TODAY'S PROGRAM



Programs Committee Chair **Don**Mitchell introduced today's speaker. Nizza Sequeira is the Public Information Officer for the Marin/Sonoma Mosquito and Vector Control District. She has been with the District since 1996. She holds a degree in Business Management and is certified through the California Department of Public Health as a Public Health Vector Control Technician.

Nizza explained that the Marin Sonoma Mosquito and Vector Control District is a special district that was formed in 1915. A special district is a type of local government that delivers specific services to citizens within its boundaries, under the guidance of its own Board of Trustees. The district is funded through property taxes which average about \$27 per homeowner per year.

The District provides the following Programs and Services:

- Mosquito Control: Residents that are experiencing a mosquito problem may request service.
- **Mosquitofish:** Free delivery of mosquitofish for permanent ponds or water features.

- Lab/Surveillance Program: Provides testing and early detection of existing and emerging vector-borne diseases.
- Yellowjacket Control: Treatment of in-ground yellowjacket nests.
- Rodent Control Advice and Inspections
- **School Presentations:** Grades K 8
- Insect Identification

Nizza provided an overview of the 23 species of mosquitoes that live in Marin and Sonoma, along with their four lifecycle stages: Egg, Larva, Pupa, Adult. The transition from egg to adult only takes about 5-7 days. She noted that only adult females bite, as they need blood nourishment in order to lay their eggs.

Nizza emphasized that mosquito control is everyone's responsibility. She urged each of us to:

- Report mosquito problems
- Check our yards
- Dump out containers that contain water
- Screen rain barrels
- Stock ponds with mosquitofish
- Report neglected ponds

From mosquitoes, Nizza turned to ticks. Ticks are capable of transmitting a variety of diseases. The Western Blacklegged Tick is responsible for transmitting Lyme Disease. Nymphs are found in leaf litter, and on logs and mossy rocks. Adults are found "questing" on blades of grass. Ticks cannot fly or jump, but they do easily attach to clothing or pets.

Nizza urged us all to undertake the following personal protection measures:

- Use an effective repellent (such as DEET, Picaridin, IR3535, or Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus)
- Wear long sleeves and long pants
- Spray clothing with Permethrin
- Stay on trails (adult ticks are typically more abundant on the uphill sides of trails)
- Avoid contact with nymph habitats (such as leaf litter, logs, tree trunks)
- Periodically check for ticks on people and animals

If you do find a tick, it's important to remove it correctly:

- Do not squish, burn, smother, or twist the tick
- Ideally, use tweezers to grasp the head of the tick as close to the skin as possible, and pull the tick straight out
- Afterwards, wash your hands and the bite site with soap and water and apply an antibiotic to the bite site

Nizza went on to discuss yellowjackets. The term yellowjacket refers to a number of species of highly social wasps that make large, covered nests and can be very aggressive.

To avoid getting stung, Nizza advised that we:

- Keep lids on garbage cans
- Avoid using heavily scented products
- Place yellowjacket traps away from eating areas
- Do not swat at yellowjackets
- Do not set fire to nests

Traps can be effective. The most common lure in traps is *heptyl butyrate*. Because traps attract yellowjackets, it's important to place traps far away from where we want to sit or eat. In a large outdoor area, you should place traps about 200 feet from seating and about every 150 feet along the circumference. In smaller backyards, place the traps along the fence line.

If you find a yellowjacket nest in the ground, please contact the District and they will eliminate the nest free of charge. However, please be aware that the District does not treat nests that are attached to structures or up in trees. They also do not treat other kinds of wasp or bee nests.

Nizza graciously fielded many questions from our members. She also noted the wealth of misinformation that is easily available on the internet. If you have any questions, please contact the District. You can call 707-285-2200 or request service online at www.msmosquito.org. Nizza also shared her personal email: nizzas@msmosquito.org

RAFFLE WINNER

Dick Bertapelle's ticket was drawn. **Dick** received a bottle of wine from Selby Winery

CLOSING

President Kellie thanked members and guests, then rang the bell so close the meeting.

Upcoming Program: Next week our Fire Chief Jason Boaz will give us an update on Fire Safety in Sonoma County.