



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"

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Editor/Publisher: **George Heath**

December 1, 2025



PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE--Led by Jean Hershede

GUESTS & VISITING ROTARIANS

None.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY-Norm Fujita

The Crab Feast is almost upon us, so I'd like to offer some reflections on that subject. I joined the club five years ago, and so most our CF planning was via Zoom. There was an opening for kitchen work (laughter), so I volunteered for that, and it was challenging. A caterer eventually took over, and that was an improvement. The work was still challenging, but there's nothing wrong with that, and the Feast was a happy event. Being on the CF Committee is great and fulfilling, and one of the reasons I'm happy to be in the club.



THANKSGIVING AT THE SENIOR CENTER

President Cathy played a video of the dancing at the Luncheon, with a initially recalcitrant music system and "elegant" dance moves by all participating, including the **turkey mascot** and club member **Mike McGuire**.



TRIVIA QUIZ

What was the theme of the December issue of the *Rotary* magazine?

Dave Henderson delivered the correct answer: Happiness. He received a valuable United for Good Rotary pin.

BOOK REVIEW

Jean Hershede recommended the just-published *Family of Spies* by Christine Ruehn, whose grandfather, grandmother and aunt, totally unknown to her, were Nazi spies for the Japanese in the run-up to the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Jean was also presented by Foundation Committee Chair **Devin Drew** with a handsome framed certificate for her work for the Rotary Foundation.



UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

- > **Healdsburg Chorus Holiday Concert**, “Joy for the World,” December 13th and 14th

UPCOMING ROTARY EVENTS

- ✚ **Crab Feast**, Dec 6th
- ✚ **Rotary Commemoration of the United Nations**, San Francisco, December 11th
President Cathy will be attending and would welcome other members to accompany her to SF.
- ✚ **Holiday Party**: There will be no holiday party this year, due to expensive local venues. However, if a member would offer their house as a venue, it might be possible.
- ✚ **Redwood Tree Planting Day**, January 24th is a District event.
- ✚ **Valentine's Day Party**-Date TBD
- ✚ **Rotary Talent Show-Summer 2026**. Members should plan on displaying their talents and start rehearsing.

HAPPY \$\$

No Happy Dollars at this meeting due to the lengthy CF program below.

PROGRAM: CRAB FEAST

2025 Crab Feast Committee Chair **Doug Lyle** updated the members on the CF program, first by acknowledging the contributions of all the individual committee members. Planning is challenging and at times difficult but the committee has been great and its results heart-warming, with all pulling together toward a common goal.



- ❖ Members are encouraged to pay for everything by check, since 5% will be added to credit card use.
- ❖ The CF will start at 10.00am on Saturday, and Cathy and others would welcome any member who wished to come to the Villa and help.

Dave Henderson will set up an informational table focusing on the club's A Simple Gesture food-collection campaign. Volunteers are welcome to sign up for 15-minute slots to staff the table 5.30-7.30.

Doug encouraged members to form syndicates for both the live and silent auctions.

- ❖ Everyone signed up as a CF participant, providing an email address, received an online link today to the program.
- ❖ Tickets sold to date total about 275, with the Live Auction room filled at 190.

Mel Schatz strongly urged members to thank donors when they visit their shops, restaurants, or wineries.

Doug then profiled at length each of the live auction item, listing what makes each absolutely unique.



- **Kellie Larson** reminded all that presents for A Christmas Wish are due by Dec. 12 and can be delivered directly to the Boys and Girls Club. **Doug Garrett** will re-send the spreadsheet with what donors have signed up to give.
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- **Mike Potmesil** reminded everyone that there is still time to donate warm used coats. They can be brought directly to the High School main office.
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- **Don Mitchell** highlighted the current exhibit at the Healdsburg Museum, Toy Drive, filled with fascinating vintage toys.

RAFFLE

The ticket winner was **Tricia Fichtner**, whose black marble brought her a bottle of Kendall-Jackson Grand Reserve wine.



CLOSING

Pres. Cathy wished **Gary Barth** Good luck on his upcoming volunteer service visit to Ukraine. She then rang the bell to close the meeting.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS-

- ✓ December 8th-Dark. Crab Hangover
- ✓ December 15th-Speaker: Amy Ramirez, Healthcare Foundation
- ✓ December 22nd-Craft Talks by **Don Anderson** and **Gary Barth**