



# 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: **Dave Henderson**  
Photographer: **Rick Tang**  
Editor/Publisher: **George Heath**  
March 2, 2026

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- Led by **Jim Brenton**.

## GUESTS & VISITING ROTARIANS

- ✓ Helen Abe, Member of San Rafael Harbor Rotary, guest of **David Moreland**



- ✓ Adam Bulatewicz, Enso Village



- ✓ Cindy Brenton, guest of **Jim Brenton**



- ✓ Bo Simons, former club member



✓ Carol Hazlett, wife and guest of **John Hazlett**

✓ Kent Porter, speaker

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

**Tim Mann** recalled that a Chinese aphorism states that "The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second-best time is now". This phrase highlights that while it is ideal to have started sooner, the present moment is the best available time to take action and change the world.



## WELCOME TO NEW ROTARIAN



**David Moreland** sponsored **Adam Bulatewicz**, Director of Finance at Enso Village. Membership Chair **Graham Freeman** recommended that if you want to get anything done at Enso, **Adam** is the one. His interests in golf and high energy fit him well for our club. **Graham** presented **Adam** with his Blue Badge and our newly-revised (by **Paul Frechette** and **Jim Westfall**) Member Handbook.

## BOOK REVIEW

**Dave Henderson** led off by citing Rotarian Steve Kaverman's "A Troubling Tradition" letter in the March 2026 Rotary magazine calling for a reexamination of the custom of members' reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance to open Rotary meetings.



**Dave** then recommended *To the Flag. The Unlikely History of the Pledge of Allegiance*, by Richard J. Ellis. (2005, University Press of Kansas) for its fascinating account of the historical origins of the Pledge and its vicissitudes through the years.

He concluded with a reference to his own personal revision of the Pledge, published in the *Press democrat* in 2024, and to the readers' comments that followed.

## TRIVIA

**President Cathy King** asked what was theme of the "President's Message" by Francesco Arezzo in the current issue of Rotary magazine.

Answer: The power of a project, in this case, a water project by the Rotary Club of Panama Nordeste to enable remote indigenous communities to access clean water, to become a force that extends beyond geography and borders.

Winner: **Fred Roberts**, who will enjoy President-baked cookies. **Cathy** added that Panama's project is closely mirrored by one of our own club, HANWASH in Leogane, Haiti.

## TEN THOUSAND BUDDHAS

**Don Mitchell** reported on the Interact District meeting in Talmage, in Mendocino County, at the City of the 10,000 Buddhas, around the theme of what has worked best for each club. The HHS Interact club had a very large group of participants. Participants enjoyed a farm-raised vegetarian meal and the large flock of peacocks.



## ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATES

- ❖ Plastic for Interact Club. **Don Mitchell** reported on the 2nd 190-load of plastic that he and **Norm Fujita** delivered to the HHS Interact club. Costeaux Bakery helps as well and **David Moreland** is coordinating contributions by Enso Village. Goal is 1,000 pounds.
- ❖ **Norm Fujita** stated that Rose Garden workday to fertilize roses on Tuesday, March 24 from 9 to 11 am. Assign up board will be circulated at a future meeting.
- ❖ The Steelhead Festival is at Lake Sonoma on March 7th. The club is a sponsor and will staff a table at the event, which will display a new vertical "Protecting our Environment" banner, created with the help of **Rick and Vickie Tang**, with impressive photos of six ongoing projects of the Environment Committee.
- ❖ *Broomapulloza*  
This family-oriented volunteer broom-pulling day on Fitch Mountain was a big success.



## EASTER EGG SCRAMBLE

- ❖ The Scramble will be on April 4, starting at 7.30am. Only plastic eggs will be used.

## DISTRICT LEARNING ASSEMBLY-

**President Cathy** reminded members of the Assembly on Sat-Sun April 3 and 4th, Ukiah, to share expertise.

## DISTRICT CONFERENCE

**President Cathy** reminded members that Amtrak train transportation is available to the May 3-4 Reno Conference.

## HEALDSBURG BUDGET PROCESS AND ONLINE SIMULATION TOOLS-

**Andy Elkind** distributed a flier outlining a process that City of Healdsburg has designed to encourage the public to advise the City on residents' ideas / priorities for allocation of City budget monies. QR codes allow residents to complete an online interactive budget simulation.



## HAPPY \$\$

- ✚ **Fred Roberts** donated \$39 for his 39th wedding anniversary with Patricia, celebrated at the Harmon House, as well as for the safety of his family members in Dubai in the current international crisis.



- ✚ **Doug Garrett** is grateful for his 73rd birthday spent at the renovated Lodge at Sea Ranch and donated \$100 to the Education Fund.

- ✚ **Andy Elkind**, in admiration for **Don Mitchell's** excellent work with the Interact club, donated \$25 to Don's Paul Harris Fellowship, and in honor of our recently-deceased member **Henk Peeters**.



- ✚ **Jim Manly** donated \$74 birthday dollars to Polio Plus and \$100 in memory of **Henk Peeters**.



- ✚ **Mike Potmesil** celebrated his new granddaughter, in L.A., with \$100 to Polio Plus.

- ✚ **Tim Regan** unveiled his re-built back, marking the occasion with \$100 to Polio Plus.



- ✚ **Jerry Ogden** commemorated his sister's passing with \$100 to Polio Plus.



- ✚ The **Fujitas** recently spent 3 days cycling with friends in the Santa Monica Mtns, and **Norm** celebrated with \$50 to Polio Plus.



- ✚ **Nita Parker** is proud of the girls' basketball team winning the Division championship, with \$50 going to Polio Plus—and in honor of **Henk Peeters**.

- ✚ Tracy Cliver's 60th birthday was celebrated by **Don** by blundering into a drag show at Santa Rosa's Flamingo, for which he donates \$60 to Polio Plus.

## TODAY'S PROGRAM

Kent Porter, Press Democrat Photojournalist



Kent Porter is an intrepid wildfire photographer and storm chaser who also has won numerous awards for images that capture intimate personal moments. He has been a photojournalist and videographer with The Press Democrat since 1987 and was part of The Press Democrat team awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Breaking News for coverage of the 2017 North Bay wildfires. He also was named Photojournalist of the Year (small market) by the National Press Photographers Association in 2022. He

is also a seven time NPPA regional photographer of the year. He's been shooting professionally since 1984, starting at the Midland, Texas, Reporter-Telegram.

Kent recounted his growing up in Lake County, where his father aimed to, but rarely got around to fish. This is his 7th time addressing Rotary and he does not miss a Green Hair Day.

He shared his experiences with the beginning of the Tubbs fire and, more recently, the Esparto explosion of the fireworks warehouse. His photographs are evidence of how it takes a long time—30 years—to learn how to do the job right.

He shared his “slices of life” photos, including a Pt. Reyes rancher, No Kings protest, the Glass fire, tornadoes, a protest against violence to indigenous women, kids just lying on the ground, etc.

## **RAFFLE**

**Ric Helthall** vaunted the winning ticket but pulled black, not white, thus taking home a bottle of Cabernet Sauvignon.

## **UPCOMING PROGRAMS**

- ✓ March 9th-Mark Martindill: A Simple Gesture
- ✓ March 16th-Lake Sonoma Fish Hatchery Tour, 10:00 am