

ROTARY CLUB  
OF SANTA ROSA WEST



## **Bulletin - 4/2/18 - Tim Ricard, Sonoma County Cannabis Program Manager**

*by Christine Schieberl - Monday, April 02, 2018*

Ever the Energizer Bunny, our gregarious President Chris Parr-Feldman opened the meeting and after the flag salute led by Harry Rubins and the Moment by Ray Mattison we all sang a rousing “Take Me Out To The Ballgame”. Helpers today were David McDonald who set up, Scott Bartley who sold raffle tickets, Kris Lepore took pictures, our greeter was Harry Rubins, Janet Coddling was our cashier and the bulletin was written by Susan Nowacki.





Weston Miller visited our club again and Mike Merrill will follow up with giving him an application. Weston is in the mortgage business and came to Santa Rosa last summer from Marin County. His home in Larkfield burned in the fire so along with Christine and me there were 3 of us survivors at our table.



Chris Parr's student from Roseland University Prep, Monica Zurita, will be going to U.C. Davis next year studying law and looks forward to becoming an immigration attorney. Good mentoring Chris, you've got a great gal.



Mike Merrill told us about the latest SCARC dinner where the subject of Millennials and Rotary were discussed.

Harry Rubins had flyers on the tables mentioning our latest Paul Harris recipients: Bruce Moeller, Christine Schieberl and Milagros Ott. Doug Angelo added another Paul Harris as did Carson Mitchell. Chuck Baker and Tarina Hall added 3 more, Gail Johnson added a

4th, and Janet Coddling and Ginny Pitts added their 5th. Chris Parr's daughter Sherry Parr also received a Paul Harris. Thank you all for your generous donations to the Rotary Foundation!

Thank you letters from 3rd graders who received our dictionaries were on the tables and it was delightful to read them.

Announcements: David McDonald has 10 individuals from his board who have signed up for the District Training Assembly next Saturday, the 7th at Finley Park. The club is paying and all members are cordially invited to participate.

The RYLA event at Westminster Woods will be held June 20th and if you'd like to help serve the dinner see Susan Nowacki.

April 18th will be an information evening at Windsor High for interested students and families for the Rotary Youth Exchange program. We are always looking for host families so please consider participating in this worthwhile project.

Christine Schieberl recently returned from a family vacation in Puerto Vallarta where she attended a Rotary meeting and brought back one of their flags. Her family was invited and accepted an invitation to come to their fundraising dinner hosted by several restaurants in the area to raise funds for upgrading a local road. They all had a great time and Christine said they always go to Rotary meetings when they travel.



President Chris acknowledged Mike Merrill's birthday. Ken Proudly and Bill Fisher along with Carson Mitchell were recognized for starting our club in 1965. Jeff Ray looks great without his glasses. He recently had cataract surgery which was successful and allows him to ski and drive without glasses. Casey Williams made \$7 yesterday in Hayward at the

local comedy club, but he's not quite ready to quit his day job. Gary Lucas collected \$5 from all these busy members.



Jim Underhill said he's been a Rotarian since 1968 and Scott Bartley had praise for Jim and his coaching career.

Denise Chaparteguy gave bragging bucks for her son, Evan, who works for Industrial Light and Magic and designed one of the action figures for the latest robot action movie. What made it special was the design remained just as created. Denise bought 3 of the action figures. Very cool Evan!

After several attempts to pick purchased raffle tickets Don Johnson's number was selected but he couldn't find the black marble. Harry Rubins was lucky with his spin and got the bottle of wine.

Denise Chaparteguy introduced our speaker, Tim Ricard who is the Sonoma County Cannabis Program Manager who is tasked with overseeing the multi-agency implementation of the Cannabis program and working closely with local cannabis businesses to help them navigate the often complex regulatory framework.



Tim brought over 15 years of economic development and urban planning experience to the position previously working for the cities of Livermore, Arroyo Grande and San Leandro. He received a bachelor of arts degree in history from the University of California at Santa Barbara and a master's degree in city and regional planning from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo.

It is estimated 70% of cannabis production leaves the state through the black market as it is illegal in most states in the U.S. Legislators are working on regulations and as Senator McGuire has said “we are building an airplane at the same time we are flying it.” Trying to control cannabis is challenging our legislators due to the complexity of state versus federal regulations. And because they can't use federally insured banks the money laundering goes underground. The suggestion was made that banking be handled by the Native Americans because they are a sovereign nation. However, insurance becomes an issue.

Very interesting topic and his presentation was appreciated.

Respectfully submitted by Susan Nowacki

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