



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: **Fred Roberts**

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Editor/Publisher: **George Heath**

February 3, 2025

WELCOME: Jim Westfall, Club President, rang the Opening Bell at 12.30PM sharp



PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by **Lucia Verela**

VISITING ROTARIANS--None

GUESTS of ROTARIANS



✓

Janet Hoehn, guest of **John Avakian**

✓ Christian Kallen, guest of **Dr. Dave Anderson**



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



✓ Michelle Oxford, Guest Speaker

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: An Irish Saying: A good friend is like a four-leaf clover, hard to find and lucky to have.

IRISH TRIVIA QUIZ:

Irish Trivia Quiz

4. The Blarney Stone at Ireland's Blarney Castle is said to confer what gift on those who kiss it?

- Fresh Breadth Good Luck Long life **Eloquence**

5. Which of these is commonly known in Ireland as "the black stuff"?

- Money **Guinness** Blood Sausage Asphalt

6. Historically, a shillelagh (shil-LAY-lee) has been used for what activity?

- Sailing Farming **Fighting** Playing Music

Irish Trivia Quiz

7. The orange in the national flag of Ireland represents what?

- Prosperity Sunrise Abudant Harvest **Protestants**

8. If you accept an offer of boxty at a pub, what are you most likely to do?

- Eat** Kiss Fight Dance

9. *Taoiseach* (pronounced "TEE-shock") is a term used for what important job?

- Distiller Priest **Prime Minister** Fiddler

Irish Trivia Quiz

1. Ireland has a musical instrument as one of its official symbols. What is it?

- Fiddle Bugle **Harp** Bagpipe

2. St. Patrick is reputed to have driven what animals out of Ireland?

- Spiders **Snakes** Dragons Wolves

3. A person visiting Ireland may hear "sláinte" said many times. Which of these is synonymous with *sláinte*?

- Goodbye **Cheers** Please Get Lost

Rotary 



WINNER of a Gift Card from Starbucks: **Tim Mann**

UPCOMING ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE ACTIVITIES- Norm Fujita



- ❖ 1:00-3:00 Thursday, March 13 Hansen Mine Tour, sign up with **Norm**, who will send out meet up location
- ❖ 9:00-12:00 Saturday, March 15 Russian Riven Arundo removal, sign up with **Norm**

- ❖ Landpaths BroomaPullooza! Pictures – **Fujita, Lapping, Reis, Potmesil** (seen getting familiar with a lizard), **Tang, Westfall**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

🚩 Green Hair Day

- ✓ 6:30AM Monday, March 17. Meet at Costeaux French Bakery. **Richard Norgrove** informed the Club he had plenty of Green hair dye, and some volunteers to help
- ✓ 7:00AM parade. Optional breakfast at Costeaux afterward.
- ✓ Polio Plus funding raising event – see **Dick Bertapelle** email of February 14 for fundraising letter.

- 🚩 Irish in America Video: sent to Club Members by **President Jim**, who asked, “How many pounds of potatoes did Irish men eat per day BEFORE the potato famine? Answer: 10 pounds!



- 🚩 **Graham Beal** made an appeal to Club Members to support Aaron and Gwen Rosewater, owners of our beloved independent bookstore, Levin & Co. Aaron is dangerously ill, in and out of coma, and close to death. A friend has set up a GoFundMe account: Support Gwen in Aaron’s Journey to Recovery. Here is the direct link to contribute: [GoFundMe Link](#)

JOHN AVAKIAN FAREWELL SALUTE

- ✓ 1984? Joined Rotary
- ✓ 2009 joined Healdsburg Rotary
- ✓ 2012-13 Membership chair
- ✓ 2014-15 Club president
- ✓ 2019-20 & 2023-24 Club Service Chair
- ✓ 2015 & 2018 Crab Feast chair / 2019 Crab Feast co-chair



Several Club Members wore hats in honor of **John** with his stylish hats

- **John Hazlett** said there are three great things about **John**:
1) He's a great Rotarian, 2) He's a great Friend, and 3)
He's a great Bartender! Hazlett stated, "We have a
drinking Club with a Service problem!"



- **Joe DiSalvo** said **Avakian** is a great BBQ'er, a bit anal though. "He's the only guy I know that uses a meat thermometer on hot dogs!"



- **Kellie Larson** announced, "**John** is more than just a (Club) member. He's the heart and soul of our Club".



- **Henk Peeters** added about **Avakian**, "**John** joined our Club when I was president. **John** was always ready to provide good wine for every occasion. We evacuated together during one of the fire threats, and John brought a half o' case! I'm honored to be your friend".

- **Paul Frechette** spoke of **John** fondly. "I thought it would be a good idea to create a Strategic Plan for the Club and John agreed to Host our meeting. I'm not sure about the Plan but we did drink a bottle of Sauternes wine. And he agreed to Chair the Crab Feast!"



- **Dick Bertapelle** said **Avakian** recruited him at a party they were both attending. **Bertapelle** stated he'd not had a great experience at another Community Services Club and was not too interested. But **John** persisted "at the right time, in the right way", was sure glad he did. **Dick** called **John** the Rotary Recruiter of the Century!



- **President Jim** told the Club, **John Avakian** sponsored him (**Jim**), **Dick Bertapelle**, and **Joe DiSalvo** into the Club.
- **President Jim** presented **John's** wife, Janet Hoehn, with a beautiful bouquet of flowers.



SCARC DINNER

- 5:30 March 27 - Sonoma County Area Rotary Clubs (SCARC) Dinner – Santa Rosa
- RSVP Deadline March 18. \$55 / person
- **Matt Anderson**, **Nita Parker**, and **Richard Norgrove** are attending if anyone wishes to contact one of them to carpool.

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- ❖ **Doug Lyle**, pledged \$67 to Polio Plus

PROGRAM

Dr. Dave Anderson introduced Michelle Oxford to our Club. Ms. Oxford accepted the role as CAO for Petaluma Valley Hospital and Healdsburg Hospital. Michelle comes to HDH from Kern Health Systems where she was the executive director of Medicare since August 2022. In this position, she was responsible for strategically leading the evaluation and planning of a new service line for Medicare Advantage.



Prior to this role, Michelle served for ten years at the Bakersfield Heart Hospital; she was their president and CEO for seven years. Michelle has a wealth of experience in hospital operations, service line growth, financial performance and coordination within an integrated delivery network.

In her brief remarks, Ms. Oxford detailed the progress she is making at the Hospital regarding services, which includes keeping the Lab and radiology services, maintaining the high standard of delivery in the ER, and making improvement and updates to the interior and exterior of the hospital.

Michelle fielded many, many questions from our Membership.

RAFFLE



Doug Lyle was a very fortunate member, whose ticket was chosen from a lucky dip by Ms. Oxford. He selected the white marble, earning him \$192! He generously donated the proceeds to Polio Plus!

CLOSING

There being no further business for the good of the Order, **President Jim** rang the closing bell at 1.30PM

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

March 24 – Craft Talks – **Shaun Shields & David Moreland**

March 17 – DARK, no Club meeting (Green Hair Day)