

Rotary

Club of Southwest Eureka



Serving the North
Coast Since 1969

Club Meeting

Southwest Eureka
Meets at The Elks Lodge at 445
Herrick Ave Eureka CA
Members Contact Lorna Petersen
lornah101@aol.com

Time: Friday at 12:00 PM

Club Leaders



Scott Pesch
President



Elan Firpo
President-Elect



Lorna J. Petersen
Secretary



Marie Liscom
Treasurer



Cynthia Denbo
Public Relations Chair



William Gillespie
President-Nominee



Mark McGowan
Rotary Foundation
Chair



Rick Roberts
Membership Chair



Kenneth S. Singleton
Sergeant-at-Arms

Haider Ajina
Lyme Tap Chair

Rotary Club of Southwest Eureka January 13, 2023

By Jeremy Sorci
Photos by Cindy Denbo and Mary Crumely

Our meeting was called to order at 12:30PM by **President Scott Pesch**. The pledge and thought of the day were presented by **Peter Fuller**.



Visitors and Guests – Chris Hampton (Arcata Rotary), Barry Pires (Old Town Rotary), Justin Kuxhausen (Kristen's husband), Jim Sessa (Coast Central CEO), Juan Pablo Cervantes (Humboldt County Clerk, Recorder, Registrar of Voters),

Sunshine report – Mary Crumley shared that she had a health update for member Berny Kemp. She shared that he is unable to walk, and his health appears to be deteriorating. Keep the Kems in your thoughts.



Mary L. Crumley
Webmaster



Michael Davies-Hughes
Community Service
Chair



Eddie Alexander
Morgan
Club Service Chair



Wendy Starr
International Service
Chair



Melinda Ciarabellini
Vocational Service
Chair



Vinson Champ
Youth Services Chair



Elizabeth Ennis
iPast President



Carly Robbins
Assistant Governor



Announcements:

Mark McGowen celebrated his birthday on January 11. He commemorated the occasion with sushi and a night-in watching Top Gun! In addition, Mark was honored as Rotarian of the Month for all of his behind-the-scenes efforts for Rotary, sponsoring our Youth Exchange, helping with Rotary finances, and his leadership around the club's annual Golf Tournament. Congratulations, Mark!

Events / Speakers

January 18th

Southwest Eureka Monthly Board Meeting

Speaker: BOD meeting

February 15th

Southwest Eureka Monthly Board Meeting

Speaker: BOD meeting

Birthdays



Gregory Hufford
January 17th



Davin Bowerman
January 18th

Mike L Newman
January 25th



Scott Pesch shared his intent to create an "Earthquake Help" day for residents of Rio Dell. Rio Dell has been hit the hardest by the recent earthquakes and a number of the city's residents are in need of basic assistance such as damage clean-up. While Scott observed that Bill Gillespie could handle it on his own, the request for additional Rotarian participation was made. A 2 to 3 hour workday should do the trick, with an intent to be back home by noon. See Scott for more details.



Don Chin won the mini Yahtzee tournament held at the last meeting. While we can't comment on Don's luck and dice rolling skills, we can say Don is thorough. Being that he is the only one who wrote his name on the scorecard, he proved that he had what it takes to be a winner in our book.

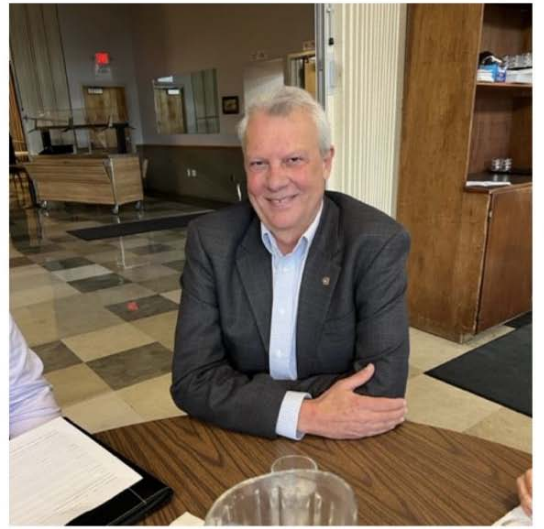
Speaking of Yahtzee, the Yahtzee Tournament Fundraiser brought in a gross \$48,975. After expenses, the club raised \$26,780 for scholarships. Everyone who was there should feel like a winner! In case you missed it, the merriment wrapped up with a group sing to "Sweet Caroline"! Great job bartenders!

Want more competitive action? Guest and Arcata Rotarian, **Chris Hampton** is calling all Cal Poly Humboldt basketball fans to attend a fellowship event when The Jacks take on SF State, Thursday, January 26. Just \$10 will get you admittance, some cool swag, and what should be a great basketball game!



Show your Pride! Member, **Haider Ajina**, showed off the newly designed Rotary apparel available for purchase. But time's running out! You have until the end of January to put your order in.

Get the Facts! Guest and CEO of Coast Central Credit Union shared some of the current local headlines surrounding the credit union as of late. He states that there is, unfortunately, some confusing misinformation going around and he wants the community to have the facts. He generously offered his personal cell number for anyone interested in learning more. Contact him at (707) 496-1298.



Recognitions

The subsequent Rotarians were recognized for the following:

- Bill Gillespie - Happy Birthday! (December 22)
- Eddie Morgan - Happy Anniversary! (December 27)
- John Goff - Happy Birthday! And, what a shirt! (January 8)
- Kristin Kuxhausen - Happy Birthday! (December 29)
- Elan Firpo – Happy Anniversary! (January 19)





Guest Speaker

Mo Harper-Desir, activist and co-founder of Black Humboldt, shared information about the non-profit organization with the club. She spoke to the challenges faced by black, indigenous, and people of color in our community, and how Black Humboldt is helping to address those issues. The goal of the institution is to create safe spaces, resources, and opportunities for the black and brown communities of Humboldt County. You can learn more at www.blackhumboldt.com



Triple Yahtzee!

Greg Dale won the raffle. While he graciously accepted the reward of hot sauce, he donated his cash prize back to the Rotary Club. Our generous members really are what make us the best Rotary Club in all the land.



Closing

Before adjourning the meeting, Scott mentioned a need for programs. If you have ideas for future meetings or presenters, please get in communication with Scott Pesch or Eddie Morgan.

Final Thought

Live your life like Forrest Gump- very simply. Forrest knew the importance of family, the importance of friends, and most importantly, he knew how to love.
