

## HEALDSBURG ROTARY SUNRISE CLUB

### MEETING SUMMARY

**DATE:** Wednesday, 15 April 2015–Krug Event Center

**ATTENDANCE:** 30/46 65.22%

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** John Reyes lead the Pledge of Allegiance

**ROTARY MOMENT/INSPIRATION:** Bob Durler provided an inspirational thought.

**SINGING:** America the Beautiful was sung beautifully!

### GUESTS:

1. Susan Preston, Windsor Rotary Club
2. Tim Preston, Windsor Rotary Club
3. Lois Loofbourrow, PSST, Program Speaker
4. Wayne Novach, PSST program

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. **Diane Bucher** reported on soliciting **scholarships**. Positive response to a mail request sent to over 120 entities. Scholarships for scholar athletes, Rotary ideals, and Marce Becerra Academy will be presented in May. A donation of a month's membership at Park Point Club was received and was auctioned to a Club member, with the proceeds going to the scholarship fund.
2. **Dan Erickson** reported that the **May social** for the Club will be held on Thursday, 7 May, at the Bucher Vineyards on Westside Road. Function will begin at 5:30 PM.
3. **Larry Orr** presented the subject of **name badges and assigned slots** in the storage box. Member should be prepared to purchase a slot as was done by the Charter Members of the Club.
4. **Andy Esquivel** reported that **interact** members will be participating at the Healdsburg Senior Living Center this Friday at 3 PM playing games with residents. They are also the group to form "buddies" with the Wonder League participants this Saturday.
5. Arrangements are being made for an Evening Under the Stars with the **Transcendence Theater Company** for Friday, August 21. Cost is approximately \$80 per person. 14 members (including guests) showed interest in the event. More details will be forthcoming.
6. **Colleen Householder** reports on a work project for the **North Coast Senior Center** that will be held tomorrow evening. An apartment building will be painted in preparation for occupancy. Also reports that a spring cleanup day at the apartment projects will be held in May.

7. Pam reported for Jess Shaw that members are urged to continue contributing to the **Every Rotarian Every Year** program and through the Change For Change boxes on our tables. There are still some members who have not made a named donation to the Foundation.
8. Pam auctioned **T-shirt provided by the Every 15 Minutes** program presented at the high school last month. She then encouraged all members who have been involved with Rotary activities in the last week to stand. Sequentially members stood for scholarships, teacher appreciation, Interact activities, PSSST, mentoring, saw any recognition in the press of the Rotary Club or received e-mails from Rotary. Virtually all members stood and were encouraged to applaud ourselves for our commitments

### **RECOGNITIONS:**

Pres. Pam presented special recognition for **Jeff Harding**. Jeff has been with the Club since its inception. He has been instrumental in the Scholarship Committee and as a liaison with the school system. He has accepted a position to become superintendent of schools in a large district serving Mountain View and Los Altos schools. This job will start on July 1. His presence in our Club will be severely missed. He will be moving to the Mountain View/Los Altos area after the school year is completed. . Jeff inspired numerous members at the meeting today to donate additional funds to the scholarship program.

**Jim Brenton** called attention to the recent publicity that the Club has obtained recently in the Healdsburg Tribune.

**Jimmy Gore** will be going to Alta Bella, Italy for a week. He is also recognized for forgetting his daughter's Easter egg basket at the Fool's Night Out anniversary dinner. He is also recognized for the birthday of his wife Elizabeth.

**John Reyes** recognized for being the # 10 salesperson in Northern California Ford motors company for new car sales. He was #11 last year. He hopes to continue moving upward.

**Jerry Anderson** was recognized for his wife, Trish's, birthday, as well as for having a large show in NYC.

**Kent England** celebrated his and his wife's birthdays and anniversary. Generous donation was given.

### **RAFFLE:**

Jimmy Gore held winning ticket, but failed to draw the Queen. Free breakfast next week.

## **PROGRAM:**

Lois Loofbourrow, Board Member PSST Healdsburg

Philippe Hobson introduced Lois and gave a detailed history of her background including the success that she had with mentoring programs in San Francisco prior to coming back to Healdsburg. She was born and raised in Healdsburg and has always admired the service orientation of our community.

She is a board member of the PSST –Public Schools Success Team–that has been operating in Healdsburg for 5 years. This is a program for mentoring students starting in the 5th grade and carrying through until high school graduation. The program begins in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade when teachers are interviewed and asked which students might benefit from PSST. Students are then asked to apply to be part of the PSST prep team and are exposed to the mentoring process through their teachers, community adults, and trained high school volunteers. The program begins in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade with active mentoring. All mentors and tutors receive extensive training in the process, which helps them connect with their students. Throughout her presentation Ms. Loofbourrow likened the services of PSST to opening a door for a student to the world of greater educational opportunities and personal development with the guidance of successful business people and respected peers. The relationships formed between the student and the mentors are lifelong.

Not only are the mentors helpful in academic pursuits of math, critical thinking, writing skills and reading, but they also serve as coaches for nonacademic issues. These center around adjustment to the social environment and by maintaining contact with a group of positive-attitude individuals who are confident in the success that can be had by hard work and careful guidance.

Students who complete the PSST program, going from 5th grade through high school graduation, are guaranteed an admission position at Sonoma State University, providing they meet the minimum academic standards.

She recounts the story of a girl in a program in San Francisco who in the 7th grade decided that she would like to attend Wesleyan University. When asked why she wanted to do that, she said that her tutor, a college freshman, was attending Wesleyan University and told her that she was “Wesleyan material”. The young girl did attend Wesleyan, got her degree and later got an advanced degree from Yale. The door had been opened for her by her tutor and with careful support and nurturing, she was able to achieve a significant goal.

PSST offers a 5 credit elective class for 10th through 12th grade students in which students are placed as helpers in every class at Fitch Mountain School. They also serve as tutors to the fifth-grade PSST prep class where they become role models and friends of the young students.

PSST is always looking for volunteers. It takes 10-15 volunteers per class to staff each program. Volunteers are encouraged to contact hbgpsst@gmail.com or at (707) 494-4968.

**Closing comments by Pres. Pam:**

*Government's view of the economy could be summed up in a few short phrases—if it moves, tax it.... if it keeps moving, regulate it.... and if it stops moving, subsidize it.  
Ronald Reagan*

*The only difference between a taxman and taxidermist is that the taxidermist leaves the skin.  
Mark Twain*

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas Pile, Club Secretary