

HEALDSBURG ROTARY SUNRISE CLUB

MEETING SUMMARY

DATE: Wednesday, 22 April 2015 Krug Event Center

ATTENDANCE: 28/64 60.87%

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Colleen Householder led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. *(Also in charge of raffle, inspiration and cleanup, on a record pace for becoming a Blue Badge).*

ROTARY MOMENT/INSPIRATION:

Colleen Householder - *It is not the critic who counts. It is not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. the credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly, who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming but who does actually strive to do the deeds, who knows great enthusiasms and great devotions. Who spends himself in a worthy cause who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement and who at the worst if he fails at least fails while daring greatly – FDR*

Will Seppi - Will reminded members to look at the Rotarian magazine for this month which features an article on Jeff Bridges and Billy Shore and their program, *No Kid Hungry*, a campaign to eliminate child hunger in the United States

SINGING: *Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious* was sung with inexplicable enunciation.

GUESTS:

1. Sarah Preston, visiting Rotarian from Windsor Club, Special Guest
2. Tom Preston, visiting Rotarian from Windsor Club, Special Guest
3. Bette Perez, Healdsburg Education Foundation, Noon Club member
4. Gail Cochran, Bird Rescue Center, guest speaker

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Pres. Pam reviewed highlights from the recent Board of Directors meeting. Youth services will have a student participating in the short term exchange program. Communications committee has had great success in publicity for the Club. Club services reports that there will be a change in the program chairperson from Philippe Hobson to George Dutton for the coming year. International reported that they have finished with donations for the year. District funding for the water project in Guinea-Bissau and the lights for the schools in Kenya and Costa Rica will be forthcoming once all paperwork has been submitted to the District. Community service has given the largest ever grant from our Club to the Healdsburg Elementary School library in addition to 2 supplemental grants for the *Cool Kids Camp* in the

Sonoma Canopy Tours for disadvantaged children in the county. A committee of the board has been formed to initiate planning for how we handle the “reserves” in our accounts.

2. Sean Shields reminded members to contribute to *Change For A Change* and *Polio Plus*.
3. Herb Liberman reminded members of the *Wonder League* games that are held on Saturday mornings. Report time is 10:30 AM and hotdogs and caramel corn are served throughout the game and at its conclusion. Volunteers are always welcome.
4. The Club social in May will be held on Thursday, 7 May at 5:30 PM at Bucher Ranch on Westside Road. Members are encouraged to bring a side dish. The main course will be provided by Diane and her family.
5. Final call for voluntary sign-up for *Duck Dash* positions. Members not on an active committee will be assigned in the coming week.
6. A date has been set for our “*Visioning Activity*”. On June 9 this program will be held at the Healdsburg Junior High library. Details of time and agenda will be forthcoming.
7. President Pam suggested that we have an award for the “*Rotarian of the Year*”.
8. *Teacher Appreciation Breakfast* will be held at the usual meeting time and place on Wednesday, 6 May 2015 at the Krug Event Center. All members will be billed for this event and are encouraged to attend.
9. *Healdsburg Community Band* is presenting a spring concert of family oriented music, particularly for children on Sunday, 3 May 2015 at 3 pm at the Fitch Mountain School Multipurpose Room.

RECOGNITIONS:

John Reyes celebrated a birthday. Awarded the birthday hat to be worn for the day. Made a pledge to the Paul Harris and polio plus funds. Jay Beckwith got his 1st patent for children's plans after being in the business for over 25 years. Tim Preston made a pledge for future fines in the event that he joins the Club. Herb Liberman commended Jimmy Gore for his tasteful shirt, and Tim Preston commented that Jimmy had run third-place in the Windsor Chili Cook-Off. Larry Mills, recently returned from a trip to Cuba, presented a Cohiba cigar, the brand favored by Fidel Castro for auction. Fred Walter was the proud winner of this event.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

Jeff Harding and Jay Beckwith presented a check to Bette Perez, Executive Director of the **Healdsburg Education Foundation (HEF)** to help support the renovation of the **library at Healdsburg Elementary School**. This is the largest single donation to a single entity made in the history of the Sunrise Rotary Club of Healdsburg, emphasizing our commitment to education and youth.

RAFFLE: The birthday boy, John Reyes, drew the winning ticket. He was unable to pull the joker from a diminishing stack of cards and did not win the fabulous amount of money in the pot. Instead, he will receive a free breakfast at our next meeting.

PROGRAM:

Gail Cochran–Bird Rescue Center of Sonoma County

Gail came to present a program on the history of the Bird Rescue Center as well as detailed accounting of what activities take place in the facility.

The Rescue Center was founded in the 1980s and is located in Santa Rosa. It is a rehabilitation hospital for birds, including raptors. For the past several years they have admitted over 2000 birds to the facility, including those brought in by volunteers in the community as well as raptors who are rescued by special field rescue teams when found injured in the wild.

The birds go through a detailed evaluation on admission and then are kept for rehabilitation. Many of the birds are fledglings who are unable to fend for themselves in the wild and come in primarily for feeding which is done entirely with volunteer help. Success rate of returning birds to the wild is greater than 50% with most of their birds.

Contrary to popular opinion, it is possible to put birds that have fallen from their nests back and have them be nurtured by their parents. Despite this, well over 50 or 60% of the birds brought to the facility are young birds that simply need time to mature before they are let go into the wild.

With some of the larger birds, including great horned owls, imprinting can occur making it very difficult for them to return to the wild. Intricate ways of feeding them that do not link them with humans make for a higher success rate of return. Although golden and bald eagles are present in Sonoma County, the bird rescue center is not set up to facilitate managing birds of such magnitude. They do not handle waterfowl, which are sent to a facility in Cordelia.

The Center is always looking for volunteers. They will have a *Festival of Feathers* on May 2 as their annual fundraiser at which time 21 resident raptors will be on display. In addition to this public event, they also bring school groups to the Bird Rescue Center for education. The county is currently donating space for the operations of the Bird Rescue Center.

Members seeking more information or wishing to volunteer can visit www.birdrescuecenter.org. The facility is located at 3430 Chanate Rd., across the street from the old Sutter hospital in Santa Rosa.

Pres. Pam's closing thought:

When one tugs at a single thing in nature, he finds it attached to the rest of the world.
John Muir

Douglas Pile, Club secretary, with a special thank you to Larry Mills for his help.