

**ROTARY CLUB of HEALDSBURG SUNRISE  
TAYMAN PARK  
MEETING SUMMARY**

**DATE:           Wednesday, April 19, 2017**

ATTENDANCE:       28/46           61%

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

President Brad delivered the Pledge of Allegiance, and was followed by the remaining members of the Club.

**ROTARY MOMENT/INSPIRATION:**

Vince Dougherty

*Will Rogers: I am not part of any organized political party. I am a Democrat.*

*Winston Churchill: There's something about the outside of a horse that's good for the inside of a man.*

*Yogi Berra: This holiday Inn has gotten a lot better with their towels. I can barely close my suitcase.*

*Good, Better Best:*

*Do your best to make your good better and your better best.*

**SINGING:**

The group tried to sing "I'm Looking Over a Four Leaf Clover" ..... twice. The second time was a slight improvement.

**GUESTS:**

1. Mary Ritchie, outbound Youth Exchange student, Paraguay
2. Devorah Ritchie, Mary's mother
3. Ricco Vasquez, special guest of Diane Bucher. Last week Ricco was the winner of the raffle. He donated his earnings of \$102 back to the Club today.
4. Peter Brahm, special guest of Andy Esquivel

**RECOGNITIONS:**

1. Suzanne Esquivel (Andy) celebrated her birthday with Andy. A donation was made to Polio Plus.
2. Ron Palmieri (Leslie) also had a birthday. A donation was made to the Drew Esquivel Memorial Scholarship Fund.
3. President Brad had a birthday and donated to the Club fund.

**HAPPY DOLLARS:**

1. Dan Erickson has returned from a trip to Mexico. He brought back a \$10 bottle of tequila (no worm!). This was auctioned off with a price of \$50. George Dutton had the money apply to his Paul Harris fund.

2. Vince Dougherty returned from a trip to Hawaii and brought back a promotional brochure from the resort at which he stayed for Pres. Brad. He also brought a bag of chocolate coated Macadamia nuts. He also contributed to the Club fund.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Andy Esquivel reminded members of the bicycle tour and run that will take place on Saturday, April 29. Members need to sign up to assist in some way with this large-scale program that will be the prototype for our major fundraiser in coming years.
2. Pam Moulton will have a brief meeting of the Teacher Appreciation Breakfast team following this meeting today, to assure that all functions have been addressed.
3. Jay Beckwith is stepping down after four years on the Governance Council at the Healdsburg Junior High School. He is looking for a volunteer to take over his position. It involves a monthly meeting of 1 1/2 hours and only slight additional work.
4. Shaun Sheilds thanked members for their generous contributions during our Club auction last week which resulted in a significant increase in the amount of Paul Harris contributions by members of the Club. He also encouraged members to continue contributing to Change for Change at our weekly meetings to help combat polio around the world.

#### RAFFLE:

New member, Steve Rued, held the winning ticket. His question was: *When did the first woman join Rotary?* The correct answer was 1977. The Club that took her into membership lost their charter, which was not restored until the Supreme Court decision allowing women in Rotary in 1986.

#### PROGRAM:

Out-bound-student, Mary Ritchie, presented a program detailing her involvement with Rotary and preparations for her forthcoming trip later this summer

Mary was raised in Geyserville, where she attended her early years of school. Following parental divorce, she spent her time between Geyserville and Healdsburg. She is currently a sophomore at Healdsburg High School and is taking advanced placement classes. She views her strengths as mathematics and problem-solving. She currently holds a 4.24 GPA. She is taking English 100 at the Santa Rosa Junior College to help complete some of the requirements for her junior year which she will not be getting when she is away.

She has always been drawn to life by a sense of adventure. When she learned of the Rotary Youth Exchange Program she was very excited. She had two days to put together her application, and was selected two days after it was submitted and she had been interviewed.

Travel has always interested her, although she does not like flying. She thinks she will be able to overcome this problem on her way to Paraguay. She recently flew to Portland to

visit her sister, Rebecca, and lightheartedly talked about land transportation once she arrived in Portland, getting lost, but ultimately ending up with her sister. It was a great confidence builder!

She is already thinking about some of the anxieties associated with a year away from home. Top on her list is traveling by herself. She will miss her dog and worries about homesickness. From what she has learned of Paraguay, there is very little time for sleep and she fears that she may be tired most of the time. As with all people who travel and try to assimilate into a different culture she is concerned about language skills as well as about the effects of the Paraguayan diet on her lifestyle.

She is doing a great deal of reading to broaden her perspective of the world. She has been researching Rotary International and hopes to be a good ambassador from our Club, as well as District 5130 during her sojourn. She hopes to encourage other youths from Paraguay to participate in Rotary Youth Exchange programs. She hopes to develop lifetime memories of her time in a foreign land during her junior year in high school. I do not think that there will be a problem with that.

Paraguay is a landlocked country. 75% of its borders are rivers. It is one of the largest hydroelectric power producers in the world. One of the seven wonders of the world, Iguazu Falls is situated at the borders of Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay. The native language is Guarani, frequently interspersed with Spanish, making for an interesting environment in which to learn a new "language".

She does not yet know the name of the town in which she will be living. As with all Rotary Youth Exchange programs, she will live with three separate host families during her nine months in the country.

She has already had several very successful fundraisers and will be coming back to the Club with more opportunities to enlist our financial support.

NEXT MEETING:

Leticia Romero, Corazon Healdsburg  
Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Douglas D. Pile, M.D., Club Secretary