

**HEALDSBURG ROTARY SUNRISE CLUB
KRUG EVENT CENTER
MEETING SUMMARY**

DATE: Wednesday, 2 December 2015

ATTENDANCE: 34/47 72.37%

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Larry Mills led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance

ROTARY MOMENT:

George Dutton presented these lines about Rotary:

The right charity changes world, just as it changes us when we engage with it.

SINGING:

Celebrating the impending arrival of Christmas, the group sang *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*.

GUESTS:

1. Rick Phillips – Community Matters
2. Jacqueline Phillips – Community Matters

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. **Next week we will be visited by Erin Dunn, District Governor.** She will meet with the Board at a special late afternoon meeting on Tuesday, followed by dinner at Kin Smokehouse. She will be present at the regular meeting the following day and will be the featured speaker on Rotary and District 5130.
2. Sean Shields once again presented **change for change**, our program to fund the eradication of polio. So far our fund has collected over \$300, we are not yet halfway through the Rotary year and are off to a good start. One member, John Holt, has contributed over \$100 of this amount.
3. Doug Pile, clarinetist in the **Healdsburg Community Band** informed members of forthcoming concerts on Saturday, 5 December at 3 PM in Sebastopol and on Friday, 11 December at 7:30 PM at the Healdsburg Community Church. Tickets are \$10 for adults, children under 12 are admitted free. This is a fun filled and spirited performance.
4. Pam Everson is once again coordinating the **Present Project** for our Club. She circulated lists for people to sign up to purchase gifts for these select families. If you did not have an opportunity to sign up today, you may sign up next week, or contact her at her office in Healdsburg.
5. Andy Esquivel reminded members of **Sock Drive** sponsored by the **Healdsburg High School Interact Club**. Members are encouraged to bring socks and small toiletries to our next meeting to complete this project. They have a goal of providing over 1000 pairs of socks by the time school lets out for the Christmas holidays on 17 December 2015*sock it to 'em!*

6. Pam Moulton inquired whether the Club had interest or was planning to sing **Christmas carols** at Healdsburg Senior Living Center again this year. They will be contacted to see if there is an appropriate date and action will be taken thereafter. Pam also reported on the **Valley fire** community of Middletown. Charter school in that community is back on its feet and has a new location. She has collected 30 boxes of gifts to bring to the students this coming week. These gifts are made possible through the generosity of many members of our Club.

RECOGNITIONS / HAPPY DOLLARS:

Sponsorship pins represented by Membership Chairman Manuel Ramos to **Pam Moulton** and **George Dutton** for recently bringing Chris Vanden Heuvel and Vince Dougherty into the Club.

Brad Benson reported that his nephew, seriously injured in a skateboard accident many months ago is showing significant improvement at the present time.

Colleen Householder would like to thank Will Seppi from Cousteau bakery and Healdsburg Bar and Grill for the generous contributions to help feed 100 people on Thanksgiving day. She is very appreciative of the support that our Club provides to people in her program.

Ciro Morales recently passed his project manager examination at work and in light of that accomplishment has made a generous donation to the Sunrise Foundation.

Cindy Brenton, Jim Brenton wife, suffered a fracture of her wrist in a bicycle fall just before Thanksgiving and has had surgery to restore the joint with a plate and screws. Our thoughts are with her as she heals.

Pres. Lee recently put up the Christmas tree at his house, and has been repeatedly questioned as to why he did not put up the lights and decorations as well. He is happy to have gotten the tree up and is also happy to share the experience that he believes many other men in the room have had.

RAFFLE:

Bonnie Headley returned after an appreciable lapse of time and held the winning ticket. Because she was out of practice, or for some other reason, she was unable to pick the number that President Lee Morton had previously written on his notepad. Enjoy your free breakfast, it will be waiting for you.

PROGRAM:

Rick Phillips and his wife, Jacqueline, were here to speak today **about Community Matters, – Safe School Ambassador Program**, initially in Sebastopol, but now worldwide.

Rick is the cofounder and Dir. of Community Matters, a 501(c)(3) corporation. He presented an outline of the goals and programs offered to schools throughout the country and around the world by his Foundation.

The underlying philosophy of Community Matters is that strong students today are essential for a secure future. Students who can learn compassion and respect can pass these skills onto others.

A major focus of their programs is to wake up the courage within kids so they can speak up when they see things happening around them that are perceived as hateful, hurtful or harmful to individuals and communities. By learning to recognize and take corrective actions to resolve these issues the world is made a better place.

The program consists of identifying the student leaders from all groups on a campus and engaging those leaders in a workshop where they learn understanding of compassion and to see the opportunities that exist to protect others and keep their immediate environment safe. When these thought leaders learn the language of nonviolence it can rapidly spread through their unique social groups and from there throughout the entire student community. The program gives them the skills and courage to make such adjustments.

Once students learn that silence in the face of hurtful behavior is the same as the behavior itself, the frequency and severity of the hatefulness declines. Students learn how to take care of each other. Their courage to speak up grows in an environment where it is encouraged by their peers.

This program has been the Healdsburg Unified School District for over four years, starting initially in the high school but now extending as far down as the fourth grade. During this period of time there has been a dramatic reduction in the severe punitive actions taken by the district, including suspensions and expulsions from school. When the program began there were over 35 or 40 of these incidents each year, so far in 2015-2016 school year there have been zero episodes.

Community Matters has programs in over 35 states, three European countries and a program is just getting started in Japan. In that country there is an alarming rate of adolescent suicide due to bullying, teasing, and hurtful interactions. The program is one of only six of its kind in the nation to have a federal rating. The 501(c)(3) Foundation is supported by donations some of which have come from our Club over the past several years.

Information about this program can be found at www.community-matters.org or www.safeschoolambassadors.org . Email requests for more information can be sent to teams@community-matters.org.

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, 9 December 2015

District Gov. Erin Dunn will be present and will make a presentation about District activities, as well as receive reports from various committee chairs and officers from our Club. Let's have a good turnout for Erin.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Pile, Club Secretary