

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

DATE: Wednesday, 27 January 2016

ATTENDANCE: 31/47 66%

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Ann Marie Montecucollo led the group in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROTARY MOMENT/INSPIRATION:

Ciro Morales offered these thoughts:

This country will not be a good place for any of us to live in unless we make it a good place for all of us to live in. Theodore Roosevelt

I slept and dreamt that life was joy.

I awoke and saw that life was service.

I acted and behold, service was joy. Rabindranth Tagore

The difference between "try" and "triumph" is just a little "umph". Bonnie Przybylski

Waste no more time arguing about what a good man should be. Be one
Marcus Aurelius.

SING ING:

The group got the meeting off to a galloping start by singing "*I'm a Yankee doodle Dandy*".

GUESTS:

1. Chris Call, Special Guest of Will Seppi
2. Richard Kagel, guest speaker – Guinea-Bissau water project

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. **Vince Dougherty** announced that Wunder League gear is available today for purchase. Items include jerseys and hats. Ideally members would wear this to the SCARC dinner that will be held tomorrow evening.
2. **Diane Bucher** reminded members that tickets are available for **Wine and Dine**. Each member is expected to sell two tickets at \$100 per ticket. **The drawing will be held on 16 March 2016 at Cousteau bakery** , which will also be the evening of a Club Social event.
3. The **Foundation Advisory Committee** will meet briefly following this meeting.

RECOGNITIONS:

Jake McKee was recognized for being one year older . The donation was made to the Healdsburg Sunrise Foundation.

HAPPY DOLLARS:

Cioro Morales reports that he won the Super Bowl in his fantasy football after many years. The Sunrise Foundation was the beneficiary of his success.

Diane Bucher reports that her wines will be featured in a booth at a Super Bowl city event in San Francisco.

RA FFLE:

George Lawson held the winning ticket but was unable to extract the two of diamonds from a stack of playing cards. Once again, the house won. Enjoy your breakfast George.

PROGRAM:

Guinea-Bissau Water Project – Richard Kagel

Richard presented a program on the progress of the Guinea-Bissau water project, of which our Club is a sponsor.

Richard has been involved with Guinea-Bissau for over four years. His initial interest in the country came as the result of traveling with a long time employee from his business who was originally from Guinea-Bissau, who after 19 years of working for Richard, decided to return home to live in his native land. Richard accompanied him on his trip home, in hopes of dissuading him from making the move. Instead, Richard became intrigued with the land and its peoples.

Guinea-Bissau is a very poor country. Most people earn approximately two dollars a day for their services. The country is plagued with political unrest and has little or no infrastructure.

Illness, due primarily to water-borne infections, is rife. There is a 10% infant mortality in the first year of life, and of those children who live through the first year one out of seven will die before the age of seven. There is one doctor per 20,000 inhabitants. Most of this illness can be traced to contaminated drinking water.

Richard has made six trips to Guinea-Bissau that have culminated in the building of a production facility to make ceramic water filtration devices that are affordable and effective in improving the quality of the drinking water.

As part of his presentation, he showed a video of a Ted talk that outlined reasons why aid projects frequently fail. The main reason is that local people are not engaged in the project and do not take ownership of the project once the donors have left the country. Infrastructure may be created, but rapidly falls into disrepair and is no longer usable.

Richard has been engaging local people with his project throughout the four years that it has been developed. He has good working relationship with the local people, their churches, the local governing bodies as well as a broad base of supporters from outside the country.

This project has been fraught with mishaps, most notably with the initial firing of the kiln which melted the steel members supporting it resulting in its complete collapse. It has since been rebuilt and has been fired successfully numerous times.

The product produced is a ceramic pot made of clay mixed with sawdust. The clay and sawdust are mixed and pressed in a mold. During the firing process, the sawdust burns off, leaving multiple microscopic pores in the finished pot. This is treated with colloidal silver, which is a very potent antibacterial,/anti-parasitic agent that is stable over time. Each pot manufactured goes through a simple quality testing process to assure that it is filtering properly and uniformly. In the initial production runs, only 2-3 out of 400 pots have passed the standards. There have been adjustments to the hydraulic press used to form the pots, which is resulting in a much higher success rate.

Richard will be returning to Guinea-Bissau in April of this year along with six other people from the community of supporters to oversee production and to help make the facility more efficient.

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, 3 February 2016, Tayman Park.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Pile, Club Secretary