



# The Voice of the Vineyards

The Weekly Electronic Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Healdsburg

“The mission of a bulletin is inform the membership,  
comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable”

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**January 9, 2023**

**WELCOME: President Doug Garrett**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Ric Helthall**

**VISITING ROTARIANS: None**

**GUESTS of ROTARIANS: None**



## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

“When the politicians complain that TV turns their proceedings into a circus, it should be made plain that the circus was already there, and that TV has merely demonstrated that not all the performers are well trained.” Edward R. Murrow



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

✚ **Travels with Club Members, Tuesday, January 10.** At Tayman Park. Evening 5:00-7:00, significant others welcome. Buffet dinner by Himalayan Restaurant, Windsor

✚ **Paul Harris Fellows (Dick Cochran)**

**Dick** presented a Paul Harris Fellow Award to **Emily Martin**. An anonymous membe-donated Paul Harris points to **Emily’s** account because of her hard work finding donors



for the Crab Feast. Congratulations, **Emily!** Thank you for helping make the Crab Feast a success.

✚ **District 5130 Meetings:**

- District Training Assembly 3/31-4/1 (Location not yet set)
- District Conference 5/4-5/7  
Konocti Resort, Clearlake

✚ **SCARC Dinner & Optional Play**

January 26 5:30 PM, 6th St. Playhouse, Santa Rosa (hosted by Santa Rosa East/West)  
The play is Little Shop of Horrors.

- ✚ **Dave Anderson** discussed the situation at the Bistro at the Senior Center in Healdsburg. Their grant money has run out and they don't expect to receive a new grant until June or so. The Bistro serves 35-45 seniors once a week. Ten percent of the seniors who enjoy the lunch do not pay because of financial difficulties. The Bistro needs about \$25-30,000 to stay operating through the winter and spring. **Dave** was wondering if we could figure out a way to help donate money to keep the Bistro open. We will investigate how we can best help and who might be able to accept the donations we have.



**MEMBER BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES:**

- **John Torres** - January 9, Birthday



- **Eric Drew** - January 11, Birthday  
Happy 75th birthday, **Eric**. **Eric** donated \$75 to the club.



- **Bob Pedroncelli** - January 13, Anniversary  
Congratulations on your 44th Anniversary, **Bob**. **Bob** donated \$50 to the club

- **Joe Sobolewski** - December 31, Anniversary
- **Nita Parker** - January 12th, Birthday  
Happy 73rd birthday, **Nita**. **Nita** donated \$73 to the Scholarship Fund



- **Jim Brenton**, January 14th, Birthday  
Happy 74th, **Jim**.
- Also, **Jim** celebrated 24 years in Rotary in December. He donated \$100 to his Paul Harris

- **Jean Herschede**, January 27, Birthday

**Jean** will be traveling to Guatemala during the month, so wanted to recognize her birthday before leaving. She will be 65! She's happy to be able to sign up for Medicare. Her husband, Mark, will also be celebrating his 80th birthday this month! A bit of sad news, however, as her father passed away this morning at the young age of 101. His goal was to live to be 100, so it looks like he definitely reached that milestone. Jean donated \$200 to her Paul Harris.



## HAPPY DOLLARS RECOGNITION:

- ❖ **Ric Helthall's** granddaughter came to visit over the holidays. Not having seen her grandfather in a while, she pointed to his stomach and said, "Baby?" Needless to say, **Ric** was having a light lunch today. He donated \$25 to the club.
- ❖ **Pat Williams** had "sad" dollars to donate. Her father passed away on December 14th at 93. She also had some happy dollars to donate as she's going to South Africa for her best friend's wedding. She donated \$100 to her Paul Harris. Safe travels, **Pat!**



- ❖ **John Avakian** and his wife, Janet, had the pleasure of accompanying their twin granddaughters to the Santa Rosa Playhouse to see "Frog and Toad". They drove them back down to Oakland this morning, so had a busy morning. **John** donated \$10 to the club.



❖ **Bob Livingston** had three reasons to donate Happy Dollars. The 49ers won, we had no rain today, and everyone in his family is finally well. He donated \$25 to his Paul Harris.

❖ **Dick Bertapelle** and his wife, Pat, enjoyed two weeks at **Nita Parker's** condo on Maui. He thanked **Nita** and also brought **President Doug** a present from the island - a magnetic surfboard bottle opener. Dick donated \$25 to the club.



❖ **Turner Newton** had a great trip to Mexico. He presented **President Doug** with a “record” keeping notebook. **Turner** donated \$25 to the club.

❖ **Emily Martin** recently returned from a trip to Uruguay. She wasn't sure if it was the 42nd country she's visited but will check. She donated \$42 to her Paul Harris and presented **President Doug** with a bottle of wine from the country.



## TODAY'S PROGRAM: Club Assembly

**President Doug** started the assembly by showing slides of where most of our money goes. The largest amount of money we raise is given to education (scholarships, etc.), with donations to community causes next. We then donate money to hunger and to international programs. He said we raised \$48,920 for the Scholarship Foundation at the Crab Feast (Fund a Need) and \$84,660 for the Community Fund.





The Crab Feast grossed \$195,011 and netted \$133,580. The consensus is that this Crab Feast was our best by far.

- **Youth Services - Kellie Larson**

**Kellie** stated that we are committed to sponsoring two RYLA students this year.

She thanked **Jim Manly** and **Don Mitchell** for their Interact involvement. They work closely with the Sunrise Club.



The Scholarship program is thriving.

Our club will once again be involved in Healdsburg High's Senior Seminar on May 23, 2023. Plans are being made now.

**Kellie** stated that there are more programs we're trying to "get going" again, such as mentoring high school students and the Rotary Exchange Program, which **Dick Cochran** is working on. Hopefully, we can start it next year.



- **Environment - Norm Fujita**



**Norm** went over the different projects and agencies the Environmental Committee deals with.

We have helped purchase, through a district grant, battery operated tools for the Russian River Keepers and some members have participated in their clean-up days.

We continue to work on the District Environment Challenge and have completed eight of the challenges so far.

We will continue to work "hands on" with LandPaths

We continue to collect plastic for NexTrex Recycling. Norm thanked Healdsburg Lumber for their help as well as members of the club who continue to bring in their plastic for recycling.

He said we will continue with environmental education programs.

We will also participate in the Climate Fest on April 22, 2023

- **International Service - Cathy King**

**Cathy** will be discussing in more detail what has been happening with International Service.

Today she briefly went over some of the projects we've been working on.



We have new “My Dream” calendars made by Ukrainian children to help raise money for the Rotary Clubs in the Ukraine to use to purchase needed items such as emergency medical kits and generators. A Zoom meeting was recently held with the two clubs we've been aiding and they have been thankful for all we've done for them so far. They listed the ways they have used the donated money to help those in the country. Cathy has recorded the Zoom call, so if you'd like to see it, please let her know.

A group from our club will be traveling to Merida, Mexico this month to help the Rotary Merida English Club and the Merida Rotary work with villagers to build a community garden. The clubs will also be helping teach the village how to grow and sell their vegetables so they can become more self-sustaining. We were awarded a District Grant to begin this project.

We continue to be involved with Amigos de Guatemala Education Program. More information will be coming at another meeting.

- **Rotary Foundation - Dick Cochran**



The Rotary Foundation's goal is to maintain the club's giving to “End Polio Now” and to publicize World Polio Day.

One of the programs where **Dick** would like to see more progress is the Benefactor Program where members can leave money to Rotary through their will or trust. Only two members in our club have done this.

Over the last years our club has contributed \$71,231.32 to Polio Plus, largely because of our Green Hair Day campaign. **Dick** stated that he has high hopes for this year's Green Hair Day on March 17th and that plans are in the making for it now.

**Dick** encouraged people to make holiday/birthday donations as gifts to family and friends.

So far this year we have donated \$4,103 to Rotary International and \$1,594 to Polio Plus (but just wait until March 17th!!!)

- **Club Service - Alex Rollins**



**Alex** said that the Dinners for 8 were so successful that the committee is planning on lining up more for the spring and summer.

Other social events at wineries will continue

In the plans are a Valentine lunch, help with Green Hair Day, work on the Debunking, have an interclub social, and try to arrange a trip to a Giant's game. (In case you didn't know, they're a baseball team...)

Our club was quite successful this year with our Dinners for 8, winery socials, the Halloween dinner, and hosting the SCARC dinner.

**Alex** mentioned that lunches may be provided at Tizsa's once or twice a month and the committee is looking into box lunches from other places such as Big John's. Sign-ups for lunches will be with the Google spreadsheet, but if you have difficulty with it, let her know and she can help. Lunch is \$20 a person if you sign up. Everyone will be billed \$5 a week for rental of Tayman whether or not you buy lunch.

Please be sure to clean-up after eating lunch. Everyone's help is needed. And, if you'd like to make a simple dessert to share with the club at lunch, please let **Alex** know.

- **Membership - Tricia Fichtner**



**Tricia** shared a graph showing the membership trends for the club. We have recently lost several members due to various reasons and remain at about 65 members, not counting the Honorary members.

Our club is an aging club and new, younger members are needed as well as more female members. Currently, our mean age is around 70 and our membership is only 20% women. The Board is holding a retreat next week and membership will be one of the discussions. How do we recruit and keep young members? It's difficult when our meetings are held at lunchtime for some working people to attend. Any suggestions would be appreciated and should be addressed to **Tricia**.

- **Programs - Andy Elkind**

**Andy** thanked the members of his committee for bringing us the great programs we have had. He displayed a slide showing the upcoming programs through March. Get ready for some very interesting speakers as well as some informational Craft Talks!



## **RAFFLE**

**Fred Roberts** won the raffle and reached in the can to pull out the winning marble. He donated the \$96 prize money to the club. Now, that's something to be happy about. **Fred!**



## **CLOSING**

**President Doug** adjourned the meeting at 1:40 p.m.

## **UPCOMING PROGRAMS**

- ✓ No meeting January 16!
- ✓ **January 23, Cathy King** - Update on International Projects