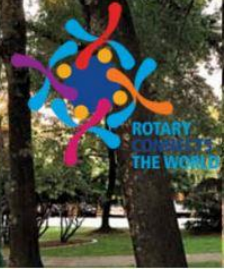




# Rotary Club of Healdsburg



## 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"

Author: **John Hazlett**

Editor/Publisher: **George Heath**

**August 17, 2020**

**WELCOME – Dick Bertapelle**



**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE LED BY: Tom Colbert**

**VISITING ROTARIANS OR GUESTS OF ROTARIANS--None**

**QUOTE of the DAY**

"I'd like to think I am taking people on a journey; I am not just entertaining people but giving them something to think about when they leave."

– Madonna (62<sup>nd</sup> birthday)

**MEMBER BIRTHDAYS**



✓ **Phil Luks**

**Aug 03**



✓ **Jerry Campbell**

Aug. 08

✓ **Mark Decker**

Aug. 15



✓ **John Avakian**

Aug. 16

✓ **Joe Sobolewski**

Aug. 19



✓

**Harvest Echols**

Aug. 23



✓ **Brent Stanley**  
Education Fund

Aug. 24 Contributed \$100 to the



✓

**Fred Roberts**

Aug. 25

## CONDOLENCES

- George Dutton – Past President – Healdsburg Sunrise – lost his wife, Karen
- **Paul Sullivan** – lost his father

There is no one in the Club who sends sympathy cards – Any volunteers?

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ✚ Club Services Survey – **Doug Garrett** will host a Club Service Zoom brainstorming session this Wednesday at 10:30. The purpose is to solicit thoughts about how we can hold Club Service events outdoors and still social distance. These could include hiking, discussions about movies, wines or books. **Doug** will send out another survey to members after this meeting. Let **Doug** know if you'd like to participate.



- ✚ Healdsburg Hospital Update – **Dr. Dave**, member of Sonoma County Health Care District.

- Our hospital will be bought by NORCAL Health Connect which also owns Santa Rosa Memorial. This must be approved by voters in November and there is no objection by physicians. Purchase price is \$5 million now and \$10 million over next 10 years. They are also buying the hospital in Petaluma. If purchase is not approved, there is a 70-80% chance that our hospital will close. There will be funding of \$20 million by 2030 to do a seismic upgrade. Another option being discussed is to build a completely new hospital. We will pay a parcel tax of \$150 whether the purchase is approved or not.



- Virtual SCARC Meeting — Hosted by our Club – Aug. 27, 5:30pm
  - Guest Speaker – Supervisor. James Gore
- Special Board Meeting - Monday, Aug. 31st

## HAPPY DOLLARS RECOGNITION



- ❖ **President Dick's** granddaughter is now the co-captain of her dance company. His grandchildren in Portland completed a 30-mile hike. For these achievements he contributed \$25 to the Club.
- ❖ **Doug Garrett** and his wife kayaked the Russian River in Jenner. He donated \$20 to the Club

## TODAY'S PROGRAM--Introduction by **Fred Roberts**

Brad Smith, Author and CEO of ABCandME has had a very colorful and fulfilling career. He flew for the Coast Guard and served as a Program Manager as a CWO4. He flew in the first Desert Storm serving under Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf. He has two daughter, Christi and Alison. He worked for 15 years as the L-3 Communications Program Manager in Healdsburg. He then worked as a Sr. Program Manager at General Dynamics in Healdsburg. After losing his wife of 25 years, he took a two-year sabbatical and then started his company, ABCandME.

This name stands for Alison, Brad, Christie and Megan, his late wife. Its theme is Continuous Connections of Love. It is a disabled veteran-owned children's book and song company. The book and song products provide a way for children to stay connected with parents/grandparents, even when they cannot physically be together.

Brad started by writing a song for his daughter, Christie. He then created a song for Alison using a poem written by her great-great-great aunt in 1930. From this grew a passion to do something to maintain continuity with children. He faced the many complexities of starting a company. He was helped immensely by mentors he connected with at SCORE. He also had to find an illustrator, arranger and vocalists. Vistaprint held a competition to select 3 veteran-owned small businesses to free professional marketing support. ABCandME was selected and this jumpstarted his company. They now produce books, songs, coloring books, quilts and other products that keep parents and grandparents connected to children. As Victor Hugo wrote,

*The future has many names:  
For the weak, it's unattainable  
For the fearful, it's unknown  
For the bold, it's ideal*

Brad is seriously considering joining our Club and will follow up with **Fred**.

**Dick** adjourned the meeting at 1:30.

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Aug. 24<sup>th</sup>: Kathryn Hecht, Executive Director, AVFS  
Aug. 31<sup>st</sup>: Doug Johnson, District 5130 Governor  
Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>: Dark – Labor Day Holiday