



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: **Graham Freeman**

Editor/Publisher: **George Heath**

January 25, 2021

WELCOME – Dick Bertapelle

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE--Emily Martin

VISITING ROTARIANS--No visiting Rotarians

GUESTS of ROTARIANS

- Turner Newton – guest of **Graham Freeman**

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

“If we merge mercy with might,
And might with right,
Then love becomes our legacy.
And change our children's birthright.
So, let us leave behind a country
Better than the one we were left with.”

From ‘The Hill We Climb’ by Amanda Gordon

ANNOUNCEMENTS

✚ **Cathy King** heading to the ski fields. Interact Club updates. Children are sending notes and letters to seniors to help provide support during Covid. It would be great for Rotary members to send some notes to the students.

- Sunrise Club had the idea of trying to outsmart High School students. The children ask questions and apply fines of \$10 to incorrect answers. Send notes to **Cathy** if you wish to participate. Time to outsmart the students!

✚ PROGRAMS COMMITTEE – Andy Elkind.

Quick update on Program Committee activity. **Don Mitchell** and **John Avakian** have stepped up to provide a number of upcoming speakers. Craft talks from **Norm Fujita, Emily Martin** and **Lisa Marie Kennedy**. Upcoming presentations are locked and loaded but would like more suggestions.

✚ CYBER UPDATE – Ric Helthall

Upcoming analysis on President Biden election. New Cyber security Director, Rob Joyce, appointed. Major focus on upgrading Cyber Security under new Administration. DHS Cyber Incident Group – if you start seeing phishing mails, forward to: phishing-report@us-cert.cisa.gov

*When **Rick** gets an email that is suspicious, he places it in the “04c ... “folder for future processing.*

When he gets free time, he forwards it onto the US CERT Team at DHS’ CISA, moves it and the Forwarded email into the “2021 Reports” folder.

✚ PDI SURGERY CENTER EVENT – Feb. 5 - 6:00pm

Tom Cleland will be getting honored at the upcoming event. Please reserve Feb 5 to attend the event.

✚ COVID-19 Vaccination Appointments

If you hear of locations for the vaccine, please pass on to the team. Mixed information about when and where to go. **Mel** talked about the speed at which appointments are being taken up. It is happening within an hour or two once locations notify of availability.

✚ SCARC ZOOM MEETING – Jan. 28 – 5:30pm

Petaluma Club hosting this meeting. Please attend if you can make it.

✚ ROTARY STAMP COLLECTION – Jean Herschede

Jean’s husband is a member of Cloverdale Rotary Club. **Jean** talked about Rotary stamps from around the world.

✚ HIGH SCHOOL MEMORABILIA – Ric Helthall

Ric showed a shield from Brandywine Rotary Club. **Ric** donated \$69 plus \$50 to the Club!

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- ✓ **John Torres** Jan 09
- ✓ **Eric Drew** Jan 11
- ✓ **Brad Mitchell** Jan 11
- ✓ **Wally Schultz** Jan 11
- ✓ **Nita Parker** Jan 12
- ✓ **Jim Brenton** Jan 14
- ✓ **Andy Elkind** Jan 25 - pledged \$69 to the Education Fund
- ✓ **Jean Herschede** Jan 27 - pledged \$63 to Paul Harris
- ✓ **Paul Sullivan** Jan 28
- ✓ **Rich Bottarini** Jan 29
- ✓ **Barbara Rosen** Jan 31

HAPPY DOLLARS RECOGNITION

- ❖ Norm Fujita Donation of \$100 as celebration becoming first-time Grandparents.
- ❖ **Alex Rollins** - Pledging \$50 to the Scholarship Fund
- ❖ **Jerry Ogden** - celebrating 57th wedding anniversary. Money saved from not getting haircuts...\$100 being donated to upcoming Green Hair Day.

BLUE BADGE ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Blue badges were earned by:

Tricia Fichtner

Graham Freeman

TODAY'S PROGRAM

Introduction by **Fred Roberts** - Dylan Paauwe – Free & Democratic Economy

Dylan has become a very important member of **Fred's** extended family. He is marrying **Fred's** daughter. He met **Fred** and his family while living in Amsterdam.

Born in Sittard and now lives in Amsterdam. After studying Sociology and working hard in many ways, suffered a burn out physically. After recovering he started up a company called De Vrije Markt. Sources products only from democratically run companies.

He had a long-term interest in economic democracy. Researched the markets and realized there were some companies that demonstrated management in true democratic style.

Started looking into ways in which he could support the companies that met his requirements. He wanted these companies who kept shipping costs low and had broad range of products. One example is Zapatista coffee. German shop selling a variety of democratic products. He has found around 18 companies to date that meet his requirements.

Total number of products is around 70 focusing on coffee and chocolate. Products are sold through a web-shop, vrijemarkt.org. Initial plan is to use street markets, events to get customers to (eventually) buy mostly thru web-shop.

Vision is to find better transport, better storage, greater range of products, connect with similar companies. Longer term, the plan is to have a physical shop, multiple workers, spread the idea, support democratic companies and support establishment of new ones. Ultimate goal is to have a free and democratic economy – free and democratic society, more equitable distribution of wealth and better relationship between humanity and nature

Evidence for viability of democratic companies: examples include Mondragon Corp, est in 1956 with 80,000 workers, 25 Bn Euros in assets. In the US we have 485 worker coops, employing 6,500 workers.

Positive impact:

- * Workers/farmers can take their lives into their own hands, positive health effects, greater social trust and job satisfaction
- * Decision-making by those who do the work, means what and how they do it benefits them. Avoids damage to their health and their environment
- * Workplace democracy implies open access to information and accountability – transparency
- * Money is invested where farmers/workers
- * Empowers people, enabling them to create strong communities to heal from past conflicts and create positive change
- * Decentralizes power – power and property are inextricably linked
- * Creates jobs (eg. taking over bankrupt businesses by employees)
- * Introduce other motives into our economies in addition to profit making
- * Makes society more free & democratic

Rotary 4 way test: this concept meets each criteria

CLOSING

President Dick thanked the speaker and guests and “gaveled” the meeting closed.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- Feb. 1: **Emily Martin** – Craft Talk & Social Media
- Feb 8: **Kevin Burke** – Chief of Police
- Feb. 15: Dark – Presidents’ Day Holiday

