



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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August 30, 2021

WELCOME

- **President Barbara** rang the bell and welcomed members, visiting Rotarians and guests to the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Lead by **Tom Cleland**

VISITING ROTARIANS

- ✓ Larry Mills, President of the Healdsburg Sunrise Club
- ✓ Mark Thayer, spouse of **Jean Hershede** and member of the Cloverdale Club.

GUESTS of ROTARIANS

- ✓ Jeff Kay, new Healdsburg City Manager, guest of **John Torres**,
 - ✓ Eric Schools of LandPaths
 - ✓ Kerry Weiner, spouse of **Andy Elkind**
 - ✓ Ernestine the French Bulldog, guest of **Emily Martin**.
- ✓ Also visiting today were our guest speakers: Terry Crowley, Director of Utilities for City of Healdsburg, Brad Sherwood, Asst. General Manager, Sonoma Water (more below)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Community Services Director **Fred Roberts**, **President Barbara** and Larry Mills, President of the Sunrise Club presented a check for \$9,600 to Eric Schools, the Stewardship Lead of LandPaths for the purchase of fire mitigation equipment. The donation represents a joint District Grant where Healdsburg and Healdsburg Sunrise each donated \$2,400 which will be matched by Rotary



District 5130. The equipment is critical to LandPaths ability to adequately help mitigate fire risk in the properties under their care and management.

- On behalf of **Kellie Larson, President Barbara** again announced a volunteer opportunity for an Interact fundraising race on Saturday, September 4. They need help from Rotarians assisting with parking at the Lake Sonoma 50 “relentless” foot race benefiting the Children of Vineyard Workers Scholarship Fund. The assignment leaves your day free for other activities, because they need volunteers between 4:30 and 6:30 AM. Contact **Kellie** for more information or to volunteer

- **Mark Decker** gave a brief tutorial on the structure and relationship between our Club’s various entities and those of Rotary International. The information is important because we now have multiple entities under our 501(c)3 charity, and when fines and pledges are made, it is important we use the correct name when writing a check or paying a club invoice. In short, the Healdsburg Rotary Foundation has two charitable funds: the Community Fund and the Scholarship Fund. Contributions to both are tax deductible. Contributions to the Rotary Club of Healdsburg (“the Club”) are not tax deductible but are vital to our ability to meet our Club operating expenses.



- **Norm Fujita** announced that he has agreed to be our liaison with District 5130’s Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group (ESRAG) and that in conjunction with Russian Riverkeeper, we will be participating again in the Russian River cleanup on Saturday, September 18. (**President Barbara** also fined herself \$5 for forgetting **Norm’s** announcement until later in the program)



Find more information and sign up at the Russian Riverkeeper website:
<https://russianriverkeeper.org/rrwcd/>

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES:

- ✚ **Eric and Mary Drew** celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary on August 29. **Eric** pledged \$103 to the Club.



- ✚ **Mark and Peggy Decker** celebrated their 46th wedding anniversary on August 23rd. **Mark** pledged \$46 to the Community Fund.



- ✚ **Fred Roberts** celebrated his birthday and pledged \$69 to the Club. He pledged an additional \$69 to the Club in recognition of his grandchildren returning to school in Dubai and the continued peace and quiet around the house.

- ✚ **Tricia Fichtner** had a significant birthday on August 28 and pledged \$70 to the Community Fund.



HAPPY DOLLARS

- ❖ **Andy Elkind** proudly announced the arrival of their grandson Bjorn on August 18 to their son and his husband. Since 18 is an auspicious number in the Jewish faith, Andy pledged that amount times 5 for a total of \$90 to the Club.



- ❖ **Emily Martin** is leaving the country for the first time in 22 months to visit Mexico so she happily pledged \$22 to the Club.



- ❖ **Ric Helthal** just returned from two weeks visiting Spain and Portugal. He pledged \$50 to the Club and another \$50 to the Club because he was fortunate there was no shopping available on the trip, outside of pearls in Mallorca. **President Barbara** noted that **Ric** did not present *her* with pearls as a gift from his trip.

- ❖ **Dick Bertapelle** pledged \$50 to the Club in honor of the amazing outing a group of members and spouses had at Rancho Mark West with LandPaths, and in recognition of the fabulous lunch prepared by **Barbara**.



- ❖ **Lucia Varela** contributed \$100 to **Andy Elkind's** Paul Harris in honor of his donating his "tickets" to the outing at Mark West Ranch to her and her husband, Paul.



- ❖ **Dave Anderson**, recognizing the long-standing rivalry between Michigan and Ohio (no, not football this time), donated \$50 to Polio Plus in recognition of Michigan beating Ohio in the Little League World Series.



- ❖ **Norm Fujita** had a great 4-day cycling and camping trip along the coast recently and he and Judy's granddaughter just celebrated her 4th birthday, so Norm pledged \$40 to the Club.



❖ **Dick Cochran** and his wife Dena just returned from a week-long cruise in Iceland and participated in a great fundraiser for the Healdsburg Healthcare Foundation last Saturday. **Dick** pledged \$50 to his Paul Harris and another \$50 to the Community Fund.

RAFFLE



Henk Peeters had the lucky ticket but did not pick the black marble so went home with a bottle of Simi rosé.

TODAY'S PROGRAM

Programs Chair **Andy Elkind** introduced Brad Sherwood, Sonoma Water and Terry Crowley, City of Healdsburg for today's timely program on the 2021 Drought and Water Management in Sonoma County.



Brad described the current drastic drought situation in Sonoma County and the implications for water management by Sonoma Water. He explained the structure of the water agency and its role as a “wholesaler” of water and water rights to various agencies, including the City of Healdsburg. Sonoma Water is essentially the primary manager of the Russian River water system, including the contracts to supply water to parts of Marin County. Sonoma Water has been working actively with the State of California and the various local

government and water agencies to manage the available water in accordance with state requirements, future protection, and contracts to supply water to those agencies. Brad emphasized that the current drought and water levels are unprecedented in the history of the agency since 1949.

Terry described the City of Healdsburg's efforts to cope with the drought and enforce the mandatory water use measures. He related the early success of the 40% reduction requirement and the City's implementation of the recycled water program for outdoor irrigation. While the recycled water program has exceeded their forecasts, the costs of water delivery are becoming substantial. The City Council will take up this issue in September. In the meantime, efforts continue to find ways to save water, plan for future droughts and increase the potential supply through everything from wells to purchase of water from alternative sources.



CLOSING

- **President Barbara** thanked members and guests, then gaveled the meeting closed at 1:30

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- ✓ Next Monday is dark in recognition of Labor Day.