

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”

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November 29, 2021

WELCOME – **President Barbara Rosen** called the meeting to order at 12:24.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Before leading the assemblage reciting the pledge, **Andy Elkind** shared some pledge history. It was instituted by Congress in 1942 and **President Eisenhower** added the words “under God” during his administration. Members were encouraged to mentally emphasize the pledge’s last three words.



VISITING ROTARIANS: None

VISITING GUESTS:



✓ **Matthew Fromme**, a guest of **Tricia Fichtner**



✓ **Doug Lyle**, a guest of **Norm Fujita**

VISITING SPEAKERS:

- ✓ **Mother Sally Hubbell**, St. Paul's Episcopal Church
- ✓ **Rev. Sean Rogers**, St. John the Baptist Catholic Church



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **President Barbara** reminded members that blankets and warm jackets are being sought. If members had brought donations with them, they should pass them on to **Rick Tang** after the meeting.
- **Club Service-- Doug Garrett**

- A sign-up sheet was circulated for members to select their lunch choice for next week's meeting.
- Scribe volunteers are needed as many upcoming meetings don't yet have volunteers. A volunteer sign-up sheet was circulated. **Dick Cochran** inquired whether being a scribe met the criteria for claiming one was a published author. Doug confirmed that was indeed true.



- A sign-up sheet was circulated for the club's holiday party. **Doug** asked members who wished to attend to please add their name to the list or if they had previously signed up online, to confirm their reservation had been properly recorded. **Doug** indicated he had received questions about the cost and nature of the event. He explained that the Board of Directors had considered different party times and venues and viewed the chosen party arrangement as offering the best balance between cost and benefit. **Doug** reminded members the party will be held at the Villa Chanticleer, Fireplace Room, 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm, Wednesday, December 15. An hour enjoying hors d'oeuvres and wine will precede dinner starting at 6:00.



- **Norm Fujita** reminded members that tomorrow is Giving Tuesday. He encouraged members to support ESRAG (Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group). The web site is www.ESRAG.org. Norm mentioned the Russian River clean-up project the club supported had been recognized by ESRAG and included in an ESRAG documentary film. Norm advised that ESRAG donations are tax deductible.



➤ **Paul Frechette** discussed plans for the upcoming Crab Feast.

▪ A volunteer sign-up sheet was circulated seeking members to help post Crab feast to distribute auction items to winning bidders and collect funds. Thanks to **Graham Freeman, Jaime Campoverde, Tim Regan, Tricia Fichtner, Norm Fujita,** and

Don Mitchell for volunteering.

- There will be 156 items in the silent auction, 73 wine related and 83 non-wine related. The aggregate indicated retail value is almost \$40,000. Assuming the club realizes a 65% historical norm, silent auction proceeds should come in around \$26,000 which would be viewed as a big success.
- The club's public web site shows the Crab Feast but misstates the silent auction's start date. The correct start date is Monday, December 6. The web site error will be corrected shortly.
- There is already a Crab Feast advertising banner facing northbound 101, just before the Central Healdsburg exit. **Mel Schatz** and **Paul** will be hanging three more banners in town after the meeting, including at Garrett's Hardware and Bell Ambulance.
- **Alex Rollins** has been promoting the Crab Feast on both Linked-In and Facebook social media platforms. **Alex** encouraged members to log into their Linked In accounts, "like" the Crab Feast, and say they will be attending. The more "likes" entered increases the frequency the Crab Feast web site will be found in Google searches. **Alex** mentioned that due to **Tricia Fichtner's** efforts, Crab Feast promotions also appear on both Healdsburg Patch (web site) and What's Happening Healdsburg (Facebook group).
- **Paul** emphasized the need to recruit Crab feast auction bidders. At next week's meeting there will be a demonstration on how to use the Greater Giving web site to enter bids. He indicated the process is rather intuitive.
- **Tricia Fichtner** will be distributing a letter signed by **President Barbara Rosen** and **President-to-be Richard Norgrove** encouraging the public to participate in the Crab Feast's auctions. Members should forward the letter to friends and family.
- **Paul** indicated the live auction will start at 7:00 pm on Saturday,
- December 11 and should end sometime around 8:30. Silent auction bidding will begin on Monday, December 6 and end at 5:00 pm on Sunday, December 12.



BIRTHDAYS



- **Janet Ziedrich** (November 20) donated \$65 to Polio Plus in recognition of her birthday.

- **Courtney Cochran** (November 24) was not present. Father **Dick Cochran** declined to step in with a donation on Courtney's behalf but did mention that members could make donations to Rotary International as Christmas gifts.



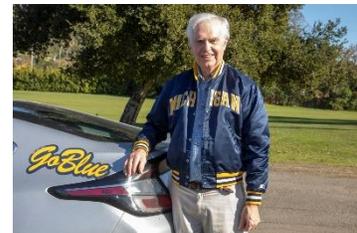
- **Rick Tang** (November 30) used some counterintuitive math to calculate a \$10 donation to the club in recognition of his birthday.

HAPPY DOLLARS



- ✚ **President Barbara** observed that Cal beat Stanford in the big game and donated \$10 to the club in recognition of this infrequent achievement.

- ✚ **Dave Anderson**, sporting a Michigan jacket, observed that Michigan beat Ohio State and in recognition of this achievement donated \$42 to Polio Plus.



- ✚ **John Hazlett** had several happy events to share. **John** and wife, Carol, spent six weeks in Italy, including a week at the Umbria villa and visits to the Amalfi Coast and Sicily. **John** and Carol also went camping at Angel's Camp in the Sierra foothills and viewed the Sistine Chapel exhibit in San Francisco. November 3 was John's 13th Rotary anniversary. The sum of **John's** happiness totaled \$50 which he donated to the club. **John** presented **President Barbara** with a bag of precious Sicilian salt.

- ✚ **Doug Garrett** traveled all the way to Hayward to meet a brand new granddaughter. **Doug** donated \$50 to Polio Plus in honor of the family addition.

✚ **Doug Garrett** observed that yesterday Steph Curry set a new fastest to 100 three-point baskets record, bettering the old mark by one game. He donated \$20 to the club.

✚ **Fred Roberts** informed members that Baylor had bested Texas Tech last weekend. He donated \$51 to the club in recognition of this achievement.



✚ **John Torres** announced that after 36 years he moved from Century 21 to join The Agency Healdsburg at 119 North Street. He donated \$50 to the club.

RAFFLE

Father Sean drew ticket #551 from the jar. **Tricia Fitchner** held the winning ticket. Tricia's luck didn't hold as she failed to select the clear marble from a crowded tin. **Tricia** was awarded a bottle of wine as a consolation prize.



TODAY'S PROGRAM

John Avakian introduced **Mother Sally Hubbell**, The Reverend at St. Paul Episcopal Church in Healdsburg and **Father Sean Rogers**, Pastor at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church.

Mother Sally reminded members that our club had previously contributed \$16,000 to help rebuild the St. Paul parish shower room. The shower room serves both homeless and working poor who lack adequate bathing facilities at home. Each year more than 1,000 showers are taken by the needy. Year-to-date the count is 985. Nineteen volunteers staff the shower facility. Recently the City of Healdsburg has assumed responsibility for providing supporting laundry services, relieving St. Paul of this duty.



St. Paul Church is a Healdsburg Shared Ministries partner. Each partner takes a turn preparing Sunday dinners that are served at St. Paul Church. This effort has been expanded to include breakfasts on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. The Sunrise Rotary Club assists in this effort.

St. Paul Church works collaboratively with Reach for Home to provide emergency shelter during inclement weather.

During the pandemic, St. Paul Church was remodeled. A new baroque organ was purchased, refurbished, and installed as part of this process. Organ concerts are held on the second Sunday of the month, 5:00–6:00 pm. Christmas carol performances will be held from 5:00–6:15 pm on December 3 and 4. The public is welcome to attend all.

Mother Sally encouraged club members to volunteer to help in St. Paul Church’s outreach programs.

Father Sean Rogers arrived in Healdsburg in 2013. St. John Church serves needy members of the community with clothing donations run through the St. Vincent de Paul Society and provides \$25,000 annually in financial assistance to Healdsburg residents struggling to make rent and utility service payments.



St. John Church is currently distributing \$150 certificates to 140 working poor families to be used to pay for Christmas gifts.

Father Sean observed that the number of working poor families in Healdsburg is declining in response to higher housing costs in town.

Dave Anderson recalled how both St. Paul and St. John churches helped start both the Food Pantry and Alliance Medical Center in the 1970s.

John Avakian mentioned that the last organ recital held at S. Paul church drew a standing-room only crowd. **Mother Sally** mentioned a steady flow of organ tourists and musicians making appointments to play the church’s baroque organ.

Mark Decker asked about St. John school enrollment. **Father Sean** advised that enrollment is 290, the school’s maximum capacity and there is a waiting list of children seeking to enroll for most grades.

Andy Elkind was curious how the close relationship between St. Paul and St. John churches is viewed higher up in each churches’ hierarchy. Both **Mother Sally** and **Father Sean** reported it was viewed positively and encouraged. **Father Sean** spoke regrettably about how religion loses whenever it becomes embroiled in politics.

On behalf of his rosarian wife, Cher, **Paul Frechette** inquired how St. John Church manages its rose garden so well. Father Sean shared how the garden was bequeathed to the church and is tended by a skilled gardener.

President Barbara thanked both **Mother Sally** and **Father Sean** for their presentations.

FINAL REMARKS & ADJOURNMENT

President Barbara expressed her thanks to members of the Healdsburg Kiwanis Club for their assistance with last Monday's senior lunch service. She inquired about scribe volunteer sign-ups, and **Doug Garrett** indicated while a few members had signed up during the meeting, several open dates remain.

President Barbara reminded board members to stay afterward for a stand-up meeting.

President Barbara adjourned the meeting at 1:26.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- ✓ December 6 Crab Feast - final plans and coordination
- ✓ December 13 Jeff Kay, Healdsburg City manager