



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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WELCOME



John Avakian, Past President standing in for current President, **Barbara Rosen**, presided over the meeting. **John** gave two thoughts of the day:

- First was the recognition of the club members for their generosity and involvement in the club.
- Second, he wanted the members to keep in our minds, Rick, the husband of our caterer, Patty. He will be undergoing a triple bypass heart surgery soon.



PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Doug Lyle

VISITING GUESTS

✓ Jack Neureuter – Guest of **Tom Colbert**



✓ Matt Denny – Guest of **Tricia Fichtner**

- ✓ Olivia Foppiano – Guest of **Tricia Fichtner**



VISITING Rotarians

- ✓ **Jerry Eddinger** – Honorary Rotarian



- ✓ George Lawson – From the Healdsburg Sunrise Club



ANNOUNCEMENTS



✚ **Paul Frechette** gave a report on the 42nd Annual Crab Feast and Auction. There was a panic moment due to the YouTube not working about 50 minutes before the start of the live auction. Some cool thinking and action prevailed, and the problem was mostly fixed about 5 minutes before the start of the auction. However, the first item, Dry Creek Kitchen and three-night stay at the Stanleys' cottage, was not auctioned off properly. Therefore, this item was split into two and auctioned at the meeting. After lively bidding, the Dry Creek Kitchen dinner for 8 was won by **Mike Potmesil** with the winning bid of \$1,500. The 3-night Stanleys' cottage stay was won by **Jerry Ogden** with the winning bid of \$1,100. Prior to this auction item today, the grand total of the Crab Feast Auction revenue was \$81,000. with \$27,800 from the live auction, \$11,335 from the non-wine silent auction, \$12,295 from wine silent auction, \$5,200 from the sponsors, and \$24,500 from Fund A Need. Both **Paul** and **John Avakian** mentioned that the donation to Fund A Need is still open to donate. With respect to the "Next Steps," thank you letters to all the donors will be mailed this week and the Crab Feast Planning Committee will meet in December or January for evaluation of this year's event and make recommendations for improvement for next year.

✚ **Club Service** – **Doug Garrett** announced that the Rotary Club Holiday Party will occur this Wednesday from 5 to 8 pm at the Villa Chanticleer. The board members will be donating appetizers. If members bring their own wine, please have the bartenders tag them for your table. Please let **Doug** know if members are forming a dinner group so that he can reserve a table.



✚ **Kellie Larson** reported on the Family Presents Project. Our club bought lots of presents for one family of four. **Jerry Eddinger** bought presents for another family of seven.



✚ **Rick Tang** reported on the coats and blankets donation to Veterans' Village. He thanked members of the club that donated warm coats (about 50) and blankets. These were distributed last Friday.

RECOGNITIONS OF MEMBER BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES (LUCIA VARELA (12/16) AND HAPPY DOLLARS WERE POSTPONED UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING DUE TO TIME CONSTRAINTS

RAFFLE

Tim Regan won the raffle but he did not pick the white marble, so he did not win the cash. He did receive a bottle of a Sauvignon Blanc from Armida Winery



TODAY'S PROGRAM

Jeff Kay, Healdsburg City Manager. "Reflection After One year in Healdsburg"



Kevin Burke introduced Jeff Kay who has been the Healdsburg City Manager for almost one year. **Kevin** had worked with Jeff for about half a year before **Kevin** retired as the Chief of Police for the city of Healdsburg.

Jeff started his talk with a brief background. He was the city manager for San Leandro prior to taking the position of Healdsburg city manager in January of this year. Prior to becoming the city

manager in San Leandro, he was in the city economic development department. He moved to Healdsburg in December 2020.

Overall, he has been enjoying his position which has had many challenges. He had to adapt to a smaller city with less staff. In San Leandro which has a population of 90,000, he had a staff of 550. In Healdsburg which has a population of 11,000, he has a staff of 135. He stated that Healdsburg is a "small town with big ambitions." Having more staff would be helpful but he is managing well with the current number of staff. He was hired by the city council to implement the policies made by the council.

Currently, he is involved with multiple projects including providing more affordable housing, initiating community benefit projects such as improving Badger Park and developing Saggio Hills/Montage area, establishing a transitional housing for the homeless with the purchase of L and M Motel which has 22 rooms, and overseeing the development of the Mill District.

In addition, water management during this time of drought has been quite a challenge for him. Another challenge will be the development of the new city budget that meets the values and goals of the city council. Healdsburg seems to be in good shape with respect to recovering from the recession with increase in revenue from sales and hotel tax in addition to revenues from property taxes.

He says it is "great to be here."

Questions and concerns from the audience included:

1. A concern for giving more building permits in the time of water shortage due to the drought which Jeff said that with thought planning, further building can be done.
2. Conversion of overhead power lines to underground conduits. Jeff said there are no master plans for this but it is targeted.

3. A compliment was given for the beautifully decorated Christmas tree that was done by the city on the Healdsburg Plaza.

Rich Norgrove invited Jeff back to our first meeting in 2022 so he can see what our club doing and planning.

CLOSING

PP John Avakian adjourned the meeting at 1:30 pm.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- ✓ 12/20-Craft talks. Mekey Lupulu. And Kevin Burke
- ✓ 12/27 DARK
- ✓ 1/3/22 Club Assembly-Co-Pres. Richard