



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 – Club President Richard Norgrove

President Richard welcomed us all to the first in person Rotary club meeting in several months. There were 45 attendees, including about 6 who attended via Zoom. This meeting was held with the requirement that all in-person participants must be fully vaccinated and it was required that masks be worn at all times. To accommodate the mask requirement, there was no lunch served nor drinks provided. Thus, no need to unmask. From the notes below, you will see this was quite a fun- and fact-filled meeting. Great to be together once again.



PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: **President Richard** led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY--PROVIDED BY PRESIDENT RICHARD:

“The truth of the matter is that you always know the right thing to do. The hard part is doing it.”
General Norman Schwarzkopf

VISITING ROTARIANS None

GUESTS of ROTARIANS

- ✓ Ernie, the cute, well behaved, and photogenic French Bulldog, a guest of **Emily Martin**
- ✓ Jeff Kay, City Manager of the City of Healdsburg, a guest of **Andrew Sturfels** and **Andy Elkind**
- ✓ Matt Jenkins, Healdsburg Chief of Police, guest of **Andy Elkind**



✓ Peter Basso, guest of **Fred Roberts**

✓ Cindy Brenton, wife of and guest of **Jim Brenton**



✓ Jack Neureuter, guest of **Tom Colbert**

✓ Ron Bellanti, guest of **Jaime Campoverde**



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK, PROVIDED BY PRESIDENT RICHARD (and read aloud by this scribe): The day the power of love overrules the love of power, the world will know peace.” Mother Teresa

ANNOUNCEMENTS

✚ Easter Sunday is April 17th this year. Our club is once again hosting the (mostly) annual Easter Egg Scramble the day before Easter, April 16th. More details to follow. Club Sergeant-At-Arms **Don Mitchell** requested each member to commence filling two dozen plastic eggs with candy. These plastic eggs will be scattered throughout the field (Healdsburg Elementary campus) together with colored hard-boiled eggs (several hundred).



Regarding the hard-boiled eggs, **Don Mitchell** also asked for volunteers to help boil said eggs at the Villa Chanticleer the Thursday before Easter. Contact **Don** if you're interested in helping—his email is dmitch@sonic.net (easily found on ClubRunner).

✚ **Don** also announced that the Healdsburg High School Interact Club (which our club supports in concert with the Sunrise Rotary club) will be participating the Russian River Clean-up Day, to be held on March 5th. **Don** is requesting our club members to participate as well. An email to **Don** would be appropriate.

✚ **Fred Roberts**, Chair of our club's Community Services, announced that we are working with the Sunrise Rotary Club to produce a blood drive to be held on June 22nd. More to come on that subject.



✚ **Fred** also announced that the Sunrise club is once again producing the (mostly) annual 4th of July event, held in the Plaza. This is a terrific day for Healdsburg residents, and the Sunrise club should be lauded for continuing to produce this event. Once again, Sunrise is asking for volunteers from our club. An email to Fred at flrhealdsburg@gmail.com should get you on the volunteer list.



✚ Club Foundation Chairperson **Dick Cochran** provided details for the upcoming Green Hair Day event, to be held on St. Patrick's Day, which (of course) is March 17th. **Dick** announced that we will start to gather at the Costeaux restaurant at 6:00 a.m. to drink coffee, eat pastries, and paint our hair (for those of you who wish to do that). This scribe's experience is that Costeaux doesn't open its doors 'til 6:30 on this date, but hey, maybe Chairperson Cochran can push for that earlier time. **Dick**

also mentioned that across the street from Costeaux, John & Zeke's bar will open its doors at 6:00 a.m. to accommodate the merrymaking. Commencing at about 7:00 a.m., our club will participate in the always fun and loud St. Patrick's Day parade, marching around the Plaza and ending up at Costeaux once again. Always a fun day.

✚ To further the above announcement, **Dick Cochran** reminded our club members that **Graham Freeman** has authored a solicitation letter he successfully uses to produce donations to the PolioPlus cause, which our Green Hair Day is all about. This letter was sent to all club members this week. Contact **Dick Cochran** and/or **Graham Freeman** for more details, as needed (both email addresses are in ClubRunner).

✚ On the tables during the 2/28 meeting, members saw a flyer announcing the first annual Healdsburg Prune Packers golf tournament. This will be held on Friday, April 29th at Windsor Golf Club. At least one foursome with our club members has been formed, and we encourage others to sign up as well.

✚ The Rotary Club of Santa Rosa will be hosting a Kentucky Derby Gala on Saturday, May 7th. More details to follow—or check out that club's website for further details (Google.....).



✚ Youth Services Chair and Club President-Nominee **Kellie Larson** announced that on Wednesday, March 9th, Healdsburg High School juniors will be presenting their experiences in recently completed internships. This is always a fun and meaningful event, and Rotarians are always a big part of the supporting cast (listening to the students, asking pertinent questions, etc.). **Kellie** was able to produce names of several

Rotarians who volunteered for this event (this scribe will participate, as usual). Contact **Kellie** if you are interested.

- ✚ **Alex Rollins**, our club's Public Image Chair, urged all who have announcements to be sure they are included in our club web site, Facebook, etc. **Alex** said she is willing to show us how to do this ourselves, so please do contact her.



MEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

- Club President-elect **Doug Garrett** celebrated his birthday today. He said the weekend was filled with family (four generations) and included dinner at Barn Diva.
- **Fred Roberts** and his wife, Patricia, celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary yesterday. Fred donated \$35 to the club as recognition for this occasion.



HAPPY DOLLARS RECOGNITION

- ❖ **Fred Roberts** first offered a "Sad Dollar" donation; his father passed away on 2/5 at the age of 96. He lived a good and meaningful life, and **Fred** donated \$96 to the Green Hair Day event in honor of his dad.
- ❖ On a happier note, **Fred** noted that Baylor (his alma mater) recently defeated Kansas, 80-70. He donated \$10.70 to the Club.



- ❖ **Dick Cochran** and his wife, Dena, have returned from a week skiing and partying with friends in Aspen. No injuries to report. **Dick** donated \$50 to Green Hair Day.



- ❖ **Brad Pender** announced that he and his wife, Alissa, are expecting their first child, a daughter, in the coming months. Yay for **Brad** and Alissa! He donated \$50 to PolioPlus.

- ❖ **Janet Ziedrich** announced that her daughter recently adopted baby Charlie! **Janet** donated \$50 to the Green Hair Day fund.



- ❖ **Alex Rollins** and her husband, Paul, recently returned from a vacation in Laguna Beach, and in the coastal towns on the drive home. **Alex** provided a President's gift to **President Richard** from Laguna Beach.



- ❖ **Dick and Pat Bertapelle** recently spent 8 days in Kauai with friends. Four rounds of golf, food and drink, sun-filled days and star-studded nights. **Dick** donated \$50 to Green Hair Day.



- ❖ **Emily Martin** is producing wine and food events in the coming weeks, with Charlie Palmer and others. She urges participation and donated \$25 to her Paul Harris to acknowledge these events.

- ❖ **Jim Brenton** pronounced, "The Rams Win!" (To a round of boos.....) For this win, and to acknowledge a fun visit with his brother, **Jim** donated \$100 to PolioPlus.



- ❖ **Tom Cleland** announced that his wife, Emmy, had successful hip replacement surgery. She's walking a mile and a half a day already (after just three and a half weeks). Tom donated \$100 to the Green Hair Day fund to acknowledge this happy news.



❖ **Graham Freeman** and his wife, Jann, took care of grandchildren while his daughter vacationed in Hawaii. He's happy to get out of the house today and donated \$50 to the club.

❖ **Jaime Campoverde** was going to AZ for baseball spring break festivities. Alas, it's been canceled. Instead, he and his wife, Donna, spent a great weekend in San Francisco to celebrate her birthday. He donated \$50 to his Paul Harris fund.



TODAY'S PROGRAM

Public Outreach Campaign, with **Andrew Sturmfels**; and an update from Healdsburg City Manager Jeff Kay, which included an introduction to Matt Jenkins, Healdsburg Chief of Police. Matt provided some information regarding the department; see below.



Andrew, a club member, and the City of Healdsburg's Director of Administrative Services, called our attention to a flyer on the tables. This campaign flyer is also going to be made available in several public places, including inclusion in a future utility bill sent to all Healdsburg residents. Our city is undergoing a campaign to have its residents provide important input as to how the city should balance its budget. Using an online interactive budget simulation tool, residents can make recommendations as to how the city's budget should be set and managed. Spending choices located on the simulator include Public Safety; Community Services; Planning and Building; City Administration; Transportation and Mobility; Utilities, Resources, and Sustainability; Housing, Homeless, and Low-Income Support; and Economic Development. With the flyer passed out, we can scan the QR code to enter into the interactive budget simulation. Or we can visit the following website to do so: <https://bit.ly/3grjn6u>. The interactive simulation will be available until 4/1/22, and it takes no longer than 10 minutes to complete.



City Manager Jeff Kay urged all residents to participate in this outreach program. It's our chance to really make a difference in this city. Jeff then introduced our new Chief of Police, Matt Jenkins.



Matt was promoted from within the ranks of the police department, having served under **Kevin Burke** for several years. Some discussion points included these:

- In a given period of time (last year, it appeared):
- 15,000 calls for service
- 29,000 telephone calls, of which 3,300 were 911 calls, up 13% year over year)
- 178 arrests for outstanding warrants
- Theft is/was the number 1 crime in Healdsburg
- Matt said there are 18 positions within the police department. Currently, there are two open police positions, and interviewing is underway. When considering candidates, a great deal of importance is placed on a candidate's customer service capabilities, empathy, and, of course, police work experience.
- We learned about the PD's initiative to combine mental health experts with police work, a/k/a "Social Service Workers". This has been well received, and so far, there have been 157 calls for service.
- Regarding homelessness, Chief Matt is optimistic about the L&M Motel situation, wherein the city has purchased that property to turn it into homes for current homeless. It's a partnership with Reach for Home and is expected to open late summer 2022.
- Not much gang activity in Healdsburg, although there is some. Most complaints emanate from gang-produced graffiti.

CLOSING

President Richard thanked our members and guests for attending this week's meeting. A short conversation ensued regarding future meetings, and so far, it is felt that we should continue in person, with no food or drink, for at least a few more weeks. Meeting adjourned

UPCOMING PROGRAM

- Next week: Corazon's Role in the Community