



## The Voice of the Vineyards

The Weekly Electronic Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Healdsburg

“The mission of a bulletin is informing the membership, comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable”

Date of Meeting: **August 29, 2022**

Scribe: **Tricia Fichtner**

Photographer: **Rick Tang**

Editor/Publisher: **George Heath**

### WELCOME

**President-elect Kellie Larson** welcomed the members and guests at 12:30 p.m.



**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Ric Helthall**

### VISITING ROTARIANS



✓ **Mark Thayer**, Cloverdale Rotary Club – husband of **Jean Herschede**



✓ **George Dutton**, Healdsburg Sunrise Rotary Club

✓ **Dora Zuniga**, Tampa Rotary Club and Guest Speaker

### GUESTS OF ROTARIANS



✓ **Laura Parker**, daughter of **Nita Parker**

✓ **Bob Scavullo**, guest of **Tom Colbert**

✓ **Jim Manley**, guest of **Dick Cochran**



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



✓ **Rosemary Jordon**, guest of the Club

✓ **Jeff Kay**, guest of the Club



## THOUGHT OF THE DAY

“He who is untrue to his own cause cannot command the respect of others” - Albert Einstein

## TRIVIA QUESTION AND WINNER

“What country has the most vending machines per capita?” **Andy Elkind** answered correctly with Japan. Twenty-five dollars will be added to his Paul Harris Fund



## BOOK RECOMMENDATION

**Ric Helthall** recommended two books by Bill Browder: Red Notice and Freezing Order. Bill Browder invested in Russia after the “wall” came down and discovered corruption. These are true stories, so if you want to learn more about Putin and his cronies, this is a good start.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



✚ **Jeff Kay**, Healdsburg City Manager spoke about the **Kevin Burke Memorial Scholarship** that needs funding. The scholarship is for junior college students majoring in Law Enforcement. Recruiting new law enforcement officers was important to **Kevin** as he knew how difficult it is to recruit and maintain officers. **Jeff Kay** said the goal is to establish a foundation by raising at least \$100,000. He's trying to get the word out to the community. Donations are encouraged.

✚ **Alex Rollins** reminded members of the upcoming social for District Governor **Jennifer Strong** at Young and Yonder Spirits on September 12<sup>th</sup>. It's a no-host bar and members are asked to bring an appetizer to share. Cocktails will be \$12 and mocktails will be \$6. Members are welcome to bring a guest or two. We would like to see a good-sized turnout to greet and honor our new District Governor.



✚ **Ms. Rollins** also announced that “Dinners for Eight” sign-ups will begin in mid-September. She's asking that members who are interested in participating sign up for two to three dates. The host families have already been chosen and are eager to start entertaining.

- ✚ **Ms. Rollins** also was happy to announce that a new caterer, Aaron, from The Trading Post in Cloverdale (who served lunch today) will begin catering for us after Labor Day. Yummy!!!

- ✚ **Mark Thayer**, from the Cloverdale Rotary Club announced that the Asti Bike Tour is taking place on October 8<sup>th</sup>. There will be raffle tickets sold for a Motobicane bicycle worth \$3000.00 Tickets are \$25 for one or \$50 for three.



- ✚ We hope to see some of our bicyclists (come on **Norm!**) enter the tour.



- ✚ **Norm Fujita** announced that the Russian Riverkeepers are holding their 36<sup>th</sup> annual cleanup on September 17. Members are encouraged to sign up and volunteer for this worthwhile project. The meet-up will be at Memorial Bridge. It was suggested that you check Russian Riverkeepers' site online for more information. We would be cleaning the area around Healdsburg's part of the river.

- ✚ **Mr. Fujita** also informed the club that there will be a project with LandPaths on October 21<sup>st</sup> at the Healdsburg Ridge Open Space Preserve. More details are to follow.

- ✚ **Mr. Fujita** mentioned that a Rotary group from Ukiah will be taking an environmental tour in Mexico in October.

- ✚ **Rick Tang** wanted to remind members that polio has reared its head again in the USA. Since Rotary has been one of the great leaders in eradicating polio throughout the world with the Polio + program, he thought it might be beneficial for us to have a program explaining the origins of the Polio + program.



🚩 **Nita Parker** reminded members that there will be a Highway Cleanup on September 16<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are needed and she will have a sign-up sheet at the September 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. Volunteers meet under the overpass on Dry Creek Rd. across from Best Western.

## MEMBERS' BIRTHDAYS



- **Dave Anderson** – September 6<sup>th</sup>, donated \$18 to the Club

## MEMBERS ANNIVERSARIES

- ❖ **Eric Drew** – August 29<sup>th</sup>, celebrating the Drew's 52<sup>nd</sup> anniversary and 56<sup>th</sup> high school reunion, donated \$108



- ❖ **Nita Parker** – She and Dennis would have celebrated their 38<sup>th</sup> anniversary on September 1<sup>st</sup> and it has been 40 years since they first met. She donated \$40 to the Scholarship Fund



- ❖ **Turner Newton** – September 4<sup>th</sup>, celebrating 72 months of wedded bliss, donated \$72 to his Paul Harris Fund.

- ❖ **Andy Elkind** – September 6<sup>th</sup>, celebrating 40 years, donated \$40 to his Paul Harris Fund





❖ **Barbara Oddone** – August 27<sup>th</sup>, celebrated 57 years with a wonderful Peruvian dinner, and donated \$60 to the Community Fund.

## HAPPY DOLLARS

- **Fred Roberts'** daughter, **Anna**, who now lives in Boulder, Colorado, placed 25<sup>th</sup> in the Ironman competition, so the proud father donated \$25 to the club.



## NEW MEMBER INDUCTION

**Tricia Fichtner** was honored to welcome new members:



- **Bob Scavullo**, sponsored by **Tom Colbert**, and

- **Bob Livingston**, sponsored by **Rich Bottarini**, to the club. We now have about 70 members! Great job, sponsors.



**TODAY'S PROGRAM: Project Amigo**

**Dora Zuniga** is the Guidance Director of Project Amigo. She comes with great credentials, having been involved in several non-profits over the years. She is a member of the Tampa Rotary. She said she once had a mentor who said real adults learn to play golf and join a service club. She joined Rotary and learned to play golf. She still belongs to Rotary, but gave up playing golf a while ago.



The Project Amigo program is 40 years old and was founded by a gentleman who was traveling to Mexico and saw children who were not in school on a school day. He learned that education in Mexico is only free through sixth grade and then families have to pay tuition for their children to attend middle school and high school. Obviously, many families cannot afford the cost of education. Project Amigo was created to help fund the education for those who can't afford it, by awarding scholarships. Project Amigo is located in Colima, Mexico, about 2 and a half hours from Guadalajara. Rotary has played an integral part in making the project successful. The Novato club was involved in the building of the school. Other service clubs have helped by donating money and labor to the project.

**Ms. Zuniga** shared several success stories of students who have gone through the program. They were sponsored over the years by individuals. In order to be awarded a scholarship, the students must maintain a certain GPA, apply yearly, have the approval and support of their families, and do community service. She stated that Rotary values are built into each day. They partner with Rotarians, the Becarios, and other like-minded charitable people. The project promotes literacy in all their activities and gives away books to students since there are no libraries and few books to be had. They depend on volunteers who come to Colima to help with various projects.

Project Amigo has been successful over the years and has graduated over 900 high school seniors. They have a 94% graduation rate. Our club sponsored students from 2001-2017 and they are hoping we would be willing to become involved again.

More information about Project Amigo and their different volunteer opportunities can be found on Facebook at [facebook.com/project amigo](https://facebook.com/projectamigo) or at their website, [projectamigo.org](http://projectamigo.org).

Ms. Zuniga can be reached at [dora@projectamigo.org](mailto:dora@projectamigo.org) or 608-345-6769.

## **RAFFLE WINNER**

**Bob Pedroncelli** won again! He didn't pick the right marble but got to take home a bottle of organic wine. Maybe we need to have **Bob** buy a lottery ticket for the club!



## **CLOSING**

**President-elect Kellie Larson** rang the bell at 1:29 p.m. to adjourn the meeting.

**UPCOMING PROGRAM:** September 12<sup>th</sup>, District Governor Jennifer Strong