



# 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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**July 24, 2023**



**WELCOME: President Kellie Larson**



**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Andy Elkind**

**VISITING ROTARIANS: NA**

**GUESTS OF ROTARIANS**



● **Cindy Brenton, Guest of Jim Brenton**



● Don Cliver, Guest of Club

● Jim Wood, Guest of Club, Program Speaker



● Will Tesconi, Guest of Club



● Stephanie Domenichelli, Guest of Club

## **THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY**

“I will always choose a lazy person to do a difficult job. Because he/she will find an easy way to do it.” Bill Gates

## **TRIVIA**

In what year was the first Wimbledon held? 1877 Winner: NA – Having googled the answer, a contention shouted the answer simultaneously and was reminded by the President of the Four Way Test.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- ✚ Scribes needed, a sign-up sheet was circulated
- ✚ Sonoma County Association of Rotary Clubs (SCARC) Dinner, July 27 at Balletto Vineyards starting at 5:30 pm, \$50 per person, RSVP by 7/23/23 [rkeyser@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rkeyser@sbcglobal.net)

- ✚ Climate Mobilization Strategy public workshop, July 26 from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm by the City of Healdsburg at the Community Room



- ✚ Farm to Table gleaning interest? Confirmed, **Jean Herschede** to organize

- ✚ Board Decisions: Supported provided books to Healdsburg Elementary School's Third Grade students, grant for School Garden Network to provide seeds for Healdsburg Elementary School's garden, Veteran's Peace Pole for 6 area schools

- ✚ District Grants: Supported a grant for fire mitigation work and outfitting a mental health safe space for partners in Guatemala.



- ✚ Paul Harris Awards: Presented by **Dick Cochran** to **Norm Fujita** and **Doug Garrett** +3

## BIRTHDAYS

- ❖ **Devin Drew** July 17
- ❖ **Jaime Campoverde** July 24
- ❖ **Mike Potmesil** July 28 \$122 to Polio+
- ❖ **Alex Rollins** July 30



## ANNIVERSARIES

- ❖ **Mike Potmesil** July 13



- ❖ **John Hazlett** July 21 \$25 to The Club



❖ **Doug Garrett** July 7 \$25 to The Club

## HAPPY DOLLARS FOR RECOGNITION

- **Kathy King:** \$50 to The Club
- **Doug Garrett:** \$50 to The Club
- **Kellie Larsen:** \$50 The Club

## TODAY'S PROGRAM

Assemblyman Jim Wood, presented by **Don Mitchell**

- 80 members in State Assembly, representing about a half million people each
- Largest District in the Assembly, larger than 6 states
- Priorities: Healthcare and Health Committee Chair
- Longest Serving Health Committee Chair in last 70 years
- Term Limited to 12 years, he's in 9th year



Focused on:

- Affordability, accessibility, cost containment of Healthcare
- Down Year for Budget, but not dipping into Reserves
- Still spending comparable to last year
- Deferred Projects, include Climate Projects
- June 15: Budget Shell completed, allocations come in throughout the year
- Won't know actual tax revenues until November, working with estimates until then
- January adjustments are likely

Currently working on:

- Addressing PG&E's inability to energize projects upon their completion, with some affordable housing and home construction delayed 2 or more years to be powered.
- The Electrification of Things strains the existing infrastructure of power – yet he's not seeing investment in infrastructure to make it work
- Solutions for what happens when the power goes out as we become more dependent on electricity

- Broadband Infrastructure is lacking in many areas, supporting the 10,000-middle mile broadband network that will be state owned to reduce the digital divide
- His district has the lowest adoption rate of Broadband in the state because it's not available in many rural areas, like Guerneville and the North Coast.
- MediCal system, which provides health insurance to about 14 million Californians, including 60% of children in California who qualify for MediCal. Modernizing the system is essential.

Relationships and their importance to pass legislation:

- While working on the five-member city council of Healdsburg, needed the support of 2 others to make decisions.
- In the State Assembly, you need the support of 41 others, 54 for fiscal issues
- If you achieve that and the bill goes to the Senate, you need 21 and 27 for fiscal.
- If the Assembly and Senate agree, you need the support of 1, the Governor, and that can be the hardest one to gain.
- Not easy to pass new laws, by design
- 2,500 bills introduced a year

Questions:

- Dental Forensics? Still involved, use of dentistry to identify victims, including the fires in Santa Rosa and Paradise City
- Is there an online summary of State Government activity for citizens to be aware of the actual activity? Introduced Will Tesconi, Santa Rosa Representative for his office. Assemblyman Wood's activity is updated on his website, Legislative Information System online allows citizens to search by bill number. Citizens can call the Assemblyman's office with questions about legislative issues.
- Feeling in Sacramento about the Governor's interest in higher office? Like to see the current administration to continue, but it's apparent.
- State rules on new housing versus Local rules? State is working on bills to address new housing starts in response to communities who don't want to allow new construction or limit new construction. There is friction between state and local control, but the goal of the state is to ensure the needs of the citizens are met.
- Speak more about addressing the digital divide. An ongoing, continued effort, with over 10,000 people in our district trying to get broadband services.
- What do you plan to do after government? No retirement in State government, so he will have to work but is unsure about his plans.



**RAFFLE WINNER: Don Mitchell** received a bottle of Rodney Strong Wine

**UPCOMING PROGRAM: Barbara Oddone** Craft Talk and RLYA Students