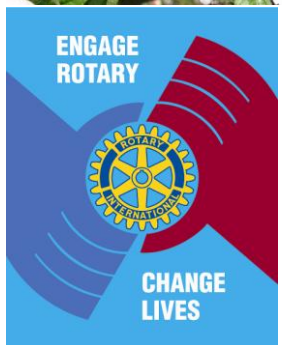




The Appleknocker

Sebastopol Rotary Club's Weekly Bulletin

Overcoming Obstacles Awards 2014



Date: April 11, 2014
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Scribe: David Still
Photog: Jerry Warren, Richard Power, Larry Ford, Jack Dunlap, & HH
Co-Editors: Tom Boag / Jack Dunlap ☒: The Dilleys
Club President 2013/2014: Bob Rogers



"All the News that Fits We Print"



At 9:00 a.m., a group of Rotarians welcomed six seniors from local West County high schools (El Molino, Laguna, and Analy) to be honored as the 2014 class of winners of the Overcoming Obstacles Award. This award is given to high school students who have prevailed over obstacles, who are succeeding in completing their high school careers, and who now have higher education plans.

After the morning session, the students are slated to speak at the Rotary noon meeting but the nine o'clock meeting provided a seminar for the students. Each student was matched with a "Mentor" for the day.



These mentors included **Robin Maybury, Harry Simms, Aldean Noethig, Diana Wilson, Greg Jacobs,** and **Linda Johnson**. Mentors had the task of supporting the student and helping them to make connections throughout the day.



At 9:25 a.m., **David Schreibman** called the meeting to order and welcomed all participants. **David** gave an overview of Rotary and summarized the coming events. Students heard from three different speakers about overcoming obstacles and their road to success. After each speaker finished, the students, mentors, and other participants discussed the individual stories.

The first speaker was **Mike Carey**. **Mike**, an academician in his past life, worked at the white board. **Mike** acknowledged that his own obstacles, faced when younger, were not in the same category as those faced by many of the students. He did discuss the fact that everyone faces a certain level of tribulation and must adapt and overcome. **Mike** came from a somewhat dysfunctional family in East Oakland – a fact he had kept hidden for years. He faced disappointment in school and in sports and made some bad decisions while growing up.



Future Programs

Speaker: Collette Michaud
Program: Where Curiosity and Imagination Come to Play
April 18, 2014

Speaker: Susan Hill & Ted Rose
Program: Project Amigo
April 25, 2014

Speaker: Sally Ewald
Program: Vocational Awards
May 2, 2014

Speaker: Mary Radu
Program: Live Smart after 50!
May 9, 2014

Program: DISTRICT CONFERENCE
 ROHNERT PARK
May 16, 2014

Program: Club Assembly
May 23, 2014

Speaker: Chris Ategeka
Program: CA Bikes
May 30, 2014

Speaker: Jay Bell
Program: HEALTHACTION - A 2020 Vision for Sonoma County
June 6, 2014

Future Events

April 21
LEARN TO SWIM STARTS

June 28
Debunking – Holy Ghost Hall

Handy Links

[Pinot for Polio Form](#)
[Scribes and Photogs](#)
[Sebastopol Rotary Website](#)

Miscellany

Next Board Meeting

Date/Time: Tuesday, May 20th, 5:30 p.m.
Location: President Bob's Home (Address in C/R)

MAKEUP NOTIFICATIONS – jcbiasco@comcast.net
On-line Make-Ups: www.RotaryEClubOne.org

INTERACT MAKE-UPS – HAVE YOU TRIED IT?

Analy High: 12:40 Most Wednesdays In Choir Room
 (Check with Bob Hirsch, Jack Dunlap, Ted Baggett)

Brook Haven: 12:10 First & Third Thursday, Room 18
 (Check with Pauline Pellini, Mike Carey)

Orchard View: Different meeting times
 (Check with Mike Carey)

Twin Hills: Every Other Tuesday 12:45pm - 1:20pm
 (Check with Dan Rasmus)

For all Interact Mtgs.: CALL AHEAD TO CONFIRM MEETINGS

!!! CHECK IN AT SCHOOL FRONT OFFICE FIRST !!!

Mike pointed out the importance of choosing the right friends and adult role models to help you succeed in life. He showed a keen familiarity with each of the six students and used examples from his life to connect with them.



The second speaker was Armando Coronel - owner of El Coronel, a favorite Sebastopol Mexican Restaurant. Armando spoke with passion and pride about his struggle to become the success he is today. His mother left home when he was only a year old. He has virtually no memories of her. Raised by

his father and extended family in both Mexico and the United States, he spoke of the dislocation of such an unstable upbringing. Exposed to gangs, drugs, and violence at a young age he often succumbed to temptation. Upon return to the United States at age 19, he began working as a busboy in a restaurant. Despite struggles with alcohol, he kept his goal of home and family in mind. After hitting bottom, he turned his life around. He always remembered as a child admiring other families and vowed he would one day have a wife, a home, and a family. Today he has all of those things. He never forgets his past; he said that his past is his treasure (tesoro).



The final morning speaker was Bob Florez, who provides youth advocate and counselor services for the CEYD at Sunny Hills Services. (CEYD stands for Community Engagement and Youth Development.) Bob teaches psychology and consults with academia and law enforcement on

youth matters – especially in the areas of gangs and gang culture. Bob spoke of his youth where gangs and gangsters provided his role models and influences. Growing up in a neighborhood where gangs predominated, their path seemed to be the correct path for him.

Bob got into trouble by following their lead. After one particularly serious incident, he was nearly expelled from school. The School superintendent decided to give him one more chance on the condition that he performs in the play *West Side Story* for the



summer. He grudgingly complied and found success and fulfillment. He also loved team sports and found a new life there. The gang life called him back however and only a last minute intervention by his father – which included both verbal and physical persuasion – caused him to stay on the right path. Bob was thankful for the direction he received from adults and recognized that his youthful ideas of what was best for him were often sadly mistaken.

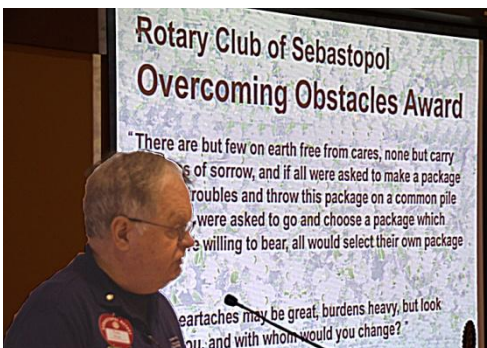
After each speaker, the Overcoming Obstacles Award participating students discussed the various aspects of the stories. It was obvious that many of the students identified with the stories they had heard this morning. At 11:45, the students and mentors proceeded to the Rotary meeting nearby.

🍎 At the Bell 🍎

At precisely noon, **David Schreibman** introduced each of the Overcoming Obstacles Award winners to the applause of the assembled Rotarians and Guests. The winners are; from El Molino High School, Marcos Hermosillo and Vanessa Haspod; from Laguna High, Mike Terry and Lee Monroe; and from Analay High School, Clare Schuett-Hall and Mackenzey Nolan.



At the lunch meeting, the students were seated at tables with their “Sponsors” who provided funding for the event. The sponsors included **Sally and David Ewald** (Ewald Vineyards), **Dorothy Rodella** (Exchange Bank), **Henry Alker**, **Mark and Lena Sell** (Richard Power sitting for them), **Les Crawford**, and **Jim and Rosemarie Pacatte**. Guests of the students sat with them as well.



President Bob brought the meeting to order with the *Pledge of Allegiance*. **Tom Boag** provided the Thought of the Day:

“There are but few on earth free from cares, none but carry burdens of sorrow, and if all were asked to make a package of their troubles and throw this package on a common pile and then were asked to go and choose a package which they were willing to bear, all would select their own package again. Your heartaches may be great, burdens heavy, but look about you, and with whom would you change.” (The Friend Literary Journal, 1904)

🍎 Visiting Rotarians and Guests 🍎

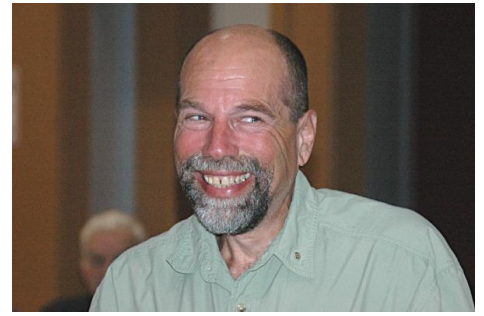
The reputation of the Overcoming Obstacles Award has spread "far and wide" and drew a great number of visitors and guests.



District 5130 Governor Helaine Campbell and husband, Past District Governor Bruce Campbell, were introduced.

District 5130 Governor Elect Kevin Eisenberg was in attendance.

From Sebastopol Sunrise, Vicki Johnson and Jim Goodenough.



From Russian River Rotary came **Ross Bickford**, husband of **Barbara**.

Bob Cary introduced Linda Kanzler

Mia Del Prete introduced her parents Pete and Judy Barbieri.

Dave Madsen introduced Rich Ray.



Sally Ewald brought husband **David** and neighbors, Gordon and Jim Dow.

Rick Wilson introduced **Cindy Carter** and Kendall Allen

David Schreibman introduced his guest Greg White.

Tom Lambert brought his wife **Sally**

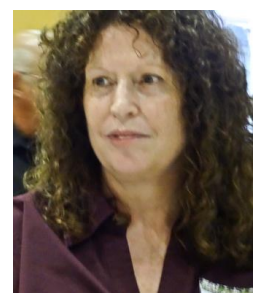
Kathie Mayhew introduced **Bob Cugini's** caregiver, Willie.



The speakers from the morning session were introduced - **Mike Carey**, Armondo Coronel, and Bob Florez.



Keller McDonald introduced the academic contingent including El Molino Principal Doria Trombetta, Laguna High Principal Kent Cromwell, Analy Vice Principal Raul Guerrero, and student counselors Kim Finch, Dr. Doug Pepe, and Debbie Demeduc.



At this point, each of the students was introduced by his or her mentor and then asked to introduce any special guests seated at their tables.



Lee Monroe introduced his Uncle Royce Monroe and friend Lorez Bailly.

Mike Terry introduced his friend Dylan Brumley.



Mackenzzy Nolan introduced her counselor Linda Ruder.

Clare Schuett-Hall introduced her friend Olivia Patterson.



Marcos Hermosillo introduced his mother Lisa Hermosillo.



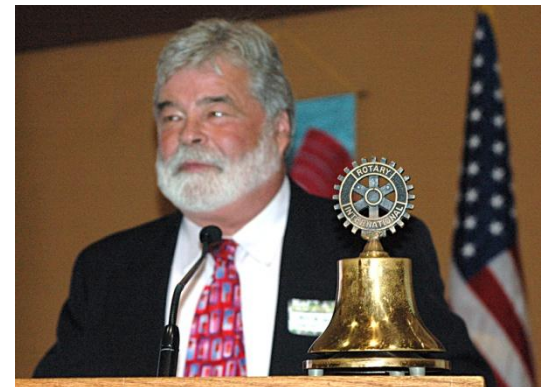
Vanessa Haspod introduced her foster mother Gayle Ballinger and sister (and prior year OOA honoree) Dakota Kantala as well as her friend Daniela Bravo.



The Program – Overcoming Obstacles Awards



President Bob introduced **Rick Wilson** to handle the Emcee duties. **Rick** said that the Overcoming Obstacles meeting is his favorite meeting of the Rotary year. **Rick** made clear the meeting is not a speech contest. The six selectees would tell their stories without dwelling on the tragic, but emphasizing and sharing their triumphs. [Rick reminded the audience that applause should be held until all speakers had finished – This admonition had mixed success because the talks were really good. **-Ed.**]



Lee Monroe, senior at Laguna High was the first to get the nod. Lee said that he somehow knew that he would be first. He quipped that he realized that his 18 years on this earth are not many - especially considering the average age of the audience. [Ahem! **-Ed.**]

Lee spent many years homeless, moving from place to place without stability or guidance. At age 5, he was frequently responsible as caregiver to his three-year-old sister. He was forced to steal food to eat and believed that there were times when the store owners saw him stealing but let him go to help out a little. He soon found himself in the foster care system with mixed results including physical abuse. West County Community Services found Lee and put him on a path to success. He now believes that

life is filled with obstacles but that he will succeed. He would like to achieve a state of security that will allow him to give back to the community and someday go back and repay the people that helped him.

Clare Schuett-Hall, a senior at Analy, was born in Cazadero to a family with two moms. She experienced few problems in her non-traditional family and grew up happy. Her trials began when one mom became ill with cancer. Although there were good times and bad during the illness, it unfortunately culminated while Clare was on a program abroad helping in Nicaragua. She rushed home to find her mother's condition critical. A group of friends and supporters helped her two mothers, partners of 27 years, get legally married only days before her death. The marriage was formally recognized through the legal efforts of several friends. Clare is very grateful for the help of these friends and wants to give back in her life to help alleviate poverty and bring justice.



Mike Terry is a senior at Laguna. Mike was raised in a family plagued by alcohol and domestic violence. His father was never there – even for a single birthday – while he was growing up. It was the only present he ever wanted. There were times when his family lived in a car. Mike refuses to let drugs and alcohol take over his life as he has seen in others. Mike said that he is ready to start his life and he is looking forward to it. His goal is to study auto mechanics at SRJC and become certificated.

Vanessa Haspod is a senior at El Molino High. Vanessa told of being abandoned by her mother at a young age. Her father tried to keep the family together but was overwhelmed. At times, her relatives would help out but her life became a series of cheap motels and shelters. Vanessa had run ins with the law and at one point heard a judge say of her, "Vanessa is not getting it." Vanessa was placed in state care and finally found a stable environment. She was encouraged to find a purpose in life and found one with the Bergen companion animals program. She says that today she sees travel, learning, and family in her future. She plans to spend a life working with animals.



Marcos Hermosillo is a senior at El Molino. Marcos too had an unstable family upbringing without a father figure to emulate. He has vivid memories of his mother's friends presenting bad examples. Marcos lived for a time with his grandmother while his brothers and sisters went into the foster system. Marcos realized at a young age that he was on his own. He found a role model in his uncle who showed him what it is to be a man. He also has the support of a close friend in his endeavors. Marcos is self-supporting and wants to become a diesel mechanic. He wants to give back to the community and support his family.

Mackenzzy Nolan is a senior at Analy High School. She has been accepted to the engineering program at UC Santa Barbara based on her 4.3 GPA. This is all the more remarkable given her unstable upbringing. She has moved about the country on several occasions including a stay in Panama. In her junior year, her mother brought her from Florida to Sebastopol and they lived in a tent - camping instead of living in a home. Cooking over an open fire and hauling water all while taking advanced placement classes. Mackenzzy said that she always felt she could help herself out of her situation but nonetheless appreciates the help that others have provided to her. With the help of others, she now lives in a condominium with a real roof over her head.



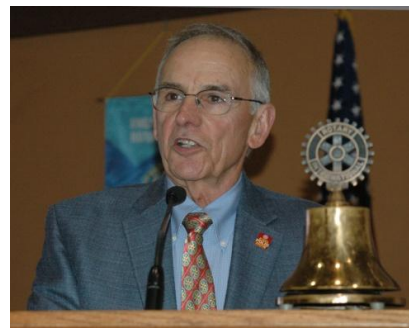
🍎 Announcements 🍎

After the students completed their speeches, the judges convened to judge one of the winning students as a special winner. This gave **President Bob** an opportunity to conduct some business and make some announcements.

Happy Hour at GTOs last Friday was a great success, with 18 Rotarians and spouses/friends showing up to share the good time. **President Bob** thanked **Monica Kretschmer** for putting the event together and led us in a round of applause for her work.

President Bob showed some unusual pictures from last weekend's District Training Assembly. District Governor Elect Kevin Eisenberg and the President-elects shooting hoops. This is not your father's typical Training Assembly!!! DGE Kevin was asked to stand once again so folks could see who will be leading our district through March Madness next year...and, oh yeah, the Rotary year.

Rev Gene Nelson put out a call for volunteers for the April 27 Rebuilding Together Project in Sebastopol. A disabled woman who lives with her disabled son will be the beneficiary of this year's project with some yard clean up and some ramp building. The call is out for the skilled and the unskilled.



Tony Given [Time Keeper for today's student talks -Ed.] was the beneficiary of a rousing *Happy Birthday to You* song by the assembled. **President Bob** was in high dudgeon however because **Tony**, as last week's Scribe, misspelled President Bob's name, **Tony** was fined \$10 for the offense as were the **AppleKnocker Editor** and **ProofReader**.

This financial catastrophe comes as frightening news to all potential **scribes** so **this scribe** has devised a simple test:

President Bob's last name is properly spelled:

- (a) Rogers
- (b) Rodgers
- (c) Rojers
- (d) Rogerz

The correct answer is (a) ... Any of you who marked your answer sheets with (b), (c), or (d) should refrain from **Scribing** for the rest of the year and possibly next year when the **President's Name** really is hard to spell. In fact, you should all just fine yourselves \$10 right now.



The Winner Among Winners



Before revealing the winners, **David Schreibman** made a last minute announcement that, due to the generosity of some individuals, the size of the scholarships has been doubled. He then announced the special winner, Mackenzey Nolan, will receive a \$2,000 scholarship. The other students will all receive \$1,000 scholarships. All are winners. Each of the six received check for \$200 as well.

🍏 The Closing Bell 🍏

President Bob announced next week's program, asked us to support our fellow Rotarian businesses, and rang the bell...2 minutes early!!!

🍏 After The Closing Bell 🍏

After the Closing Bell, the students gathered in the courtyard for group photographs.



Well, Sorry folks, We're out of file size. (3MegaBytes is all we get.)

Next Week we'll include photos of Sebastopol Rotary & Sebastopol Rotary at the Apple Parade.

We'll also include **Tom Lambert's** photos of Rotarians building the Children's Discovery Garden and PlayScape at the Laguna.

And you'll be the first to see a full sized version of this fine poster Including a date June 28, 2014 - You know what that is....



How to get your personal donation information online

Computer input – www.rotary.org

Click on “My Rotary” – top right of center on opening page

Top of next page click on “Sign in/Register” if you have not already created an account.

Enter your email address

Enter your member ID – on the address label of the Rotarian magazine,

RI will send an email to your EMAIL address with a link to activate your account.

Now that you have a registered account.....

Computer input – www.rotary.org

Click on “My Rotary” - top right of center on opening page

Highlight your name (top left) and click profile on drop down menu

Click “Donor History Report” – find in mid page right

Under “Individual” select “Donor History Report”

On the bottom of this page:

The first page is “Overview” of all your history of giving to the Foundation. – bottom of the page

Select “Transaction Detail” at bottom of page to see detail of total history of your transactions

Voila! Your complete history of transactions with RI is before you. You can now answer all questions on who you gave a PH when and give your tax accountant details of dates and amounts contributed to RI Foundation

Any troubles – Call me 829-5600

Sally Ewald



SEBASTOPOL
ROTARY

30th Year!

LEARN TO SWIM

Like working with Kids?
Enjoy the Water?
We need you to volunteer!



APRIL 21 - MAY 15, 2014
IVES POOL, SEBASTOPOL
Help Sebastopol Area 2nd Graders
Learn To Swim!

Contact Greg Jacobs at (707) 823-7341 or [gjacob48@gmail.com](mailto:gjacobs48@gmail.com)
Rick Wilson at (707) 824-0846 or chefrickeywilson@yahoo.com



(Learn to Swim Photos by Greg Jacobs, Dorothy Rodella, May, 2012)

THE ABC's of Rotary

**(Taken from "The ABCs of Rotary", a Rotary International publication
originally prepared by**

Dr. Cliff Dochterman who was RI President in 1992-93)

#31: Invocations at Club Meetings

In many Rotary clubs, it is customary to open weekly meetings with an appropriate invocation or blessing. Usually such invocations are offered without reference to specific religious denominations or faiths.

Rotary policy recognizes that throughout the world Rotarians represent many religious beliefs, ideas, and creeds. The religious beliefs of each member are fully respected, and nothing in Rotary is intended to prevent each individual from being faithful to such convictions.

At international assemblies and conventions, it is traditional for a silent invocation to be given. In respect for all religious beliefs and in the spirit of tolerance for a wide variety of personal faiths, all persons are invited to seek divine guidance and peace in their own way. It is an inspiring experience to join with thousands of Rotarians in an international "silent prayer" or act of personal devotion. Usually all Rotary International Board and committee meetings begin with a few moments of silent meditation. In this period of silence, Rotary demonstrates respect for the beliefs of all members, who represent the religions of the world.

Since each Rotary club is autonomous, the practice of presenting a prayer or invocation at club meetings is left entirely to the traditions and customs of the individual club, with the understanding that these meeting rituals always be conducted in a manner that will respect the religious convictions and faiths of all members.

Polio Milestone Attracts Media Attention

[Click Here to go to Website](#)



11 April 2014 | A roundup of Rotary news



[Polio milestone attracts media attention](#)

The certification of the World Health Organization's Southeast Asia region as polio-free has led to many stories in the media highlighting Rotary's instrumental role in achieving this important milestone. General Secretary John Hewko joined Rotary member Devin Thorpe last week in a live Forbes.com interview to discuss how we will eradicate polio in the three countries where it still exists: Afghanistan, Nigeria, and Pakistan. [Watch the video](#) and check out these media mentions.

- [New York Times: An End to Polio in India?](#)
- [Forbes: The Secret to Polio Eradication in India](#)
- [HuffPost Live: Violinist & Conductor Itzhak Perlman LIVE](#)

GIVE

Learn how to identify and share your own personal story

National Public Radio's StoryCorps recently coached regional coordinators on the attributes of a compelling personal story, and how sharing one can be an extremely effective way to get Rotary's message across. Learn more about how you can tap into your innate storytelling ability on Rotary Voices.

- [Read the blog post](#)
- [Share your story with us](#)
- [Read Rotary Scholar Artis Henderson's story](#)

Vocational training

India project teaches students how to sew

Rotary members in Bhubaneswar, India, purchased four sewing machines along with stitching materials for a project that is training physically impaired and deaf students tailoring skills so they can seek self-employment. The project is one example of how Rotary is empowering individuals through vocational training.

- [Read more about this project](#)
- [Learn about a vocational training project in Maharashtra](#)
- [Join a discussion about vocational training](#)

TELL YOUR ROTARY STORY

Find materials to promote your club in Rotary's new Brand Center, including logos, customizable templates, and guidelines.

- [Visit the Brand Center \(sign-in required\)](#)
- [Read Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [See how others are telling Rotary's story](#)



CREATE POSITIVE CHANGE AT THE CONVENTION

Volunteer on a service project and help make a difference while in Sydney for the 2014 Rotary International Convention.

- [Register for the convention](#)
- [Get involved in a service opportunity](#)
- [Find more activities on the Host Organization Committee's website](#)

Announcements

Choose the winning book title and win a trip to the Convention

We have commissioned Rotary member and author David Forward to write the definitive history of our Foundation to celebrate 100 years of Doing Good in the World in 2016-17. From now through 15 June, you can vote for one of four selected titles or submit your own for a chance to win a trip to the 2017 Rotary Convention in Atlanta or a free copy of the book. Learn more, and stay up to date with the announcements below.

- [Choose a title or submit your own](#)
- [Problems running reports on Internet Explorer 11](#)
- [Check out The Rotarian's new website](#)

Resources & reference

[Rotary Voices: Stories of service from around the world](#)

[Rotary Leader: Helping club and district officers achieve success](#)

[Rotary Images: Download photos to use in your club or district publications](#)

Rotary Weekly brings you the latest Rotary news, features, and resources. Use this content in all of your Rotary communications, including club or district newsletters and websites.

Send questions to website@rotary.org. Share comments on [Rotarians Worldwide discussion group](#).

GET MORE NEWS