



The Appleknocker

Sebastopol Rotary Club's Weekly Bulletin

Charles O. Prickett – Mississippi Freedom Summer



Date: January 6, 2016
Volume: 2016/17—Issue E15-25
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Photog: HH
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President 2016/2017: David Schreibman



"All the News that Fits We Print"

BEFORE THE BELL



Our meeting opened on a sad note, with a moment of silence for **Hal Pellini**, who passed on January 5th after a brief illness. After a moment of silence, **Pauline** came up to share a very brief remembrance of **Hal... Badge #1** with our Rotary Club of Sebastopol. How she got through it, I don't know, but it was a lovely and heartfelt tribute.

A few tidbits she shared, not found in his formal obituary: [See text of Pauline's talk in After the Bell.]

As a young man, **Hal** loved to participate in street races on Santa Rosa Avenue, later replaced by Hwy 12. There were always "spotters" at each end of the track... in case another car came along.

He and Carson Whitlach were greeters for the Rotary Club, and he loved greeting the members and handing them their badges every week.

Pauline closed by telling us that she always told **Hal** that she married his son just to have HIM as her father-in-law. What a blessing that family and friends shared this great – and sweet – man for 97 memorable years.

Family and Friends are invited to a funeral mass, followed by a reception. Tuesday, January 17th at 10:30 am at St. Sebastian's Catholic Church, 7983 Covert Lane in Sebastopol.

In lieu of flowers the family would prefer donations in his memory to – The Sebastopol Rotary Education Foundation, PO Box 213, Sebastopol, CA 95473, or The Sebastopol Senior Center, 167 N. High Street, Sebastopol, 95472, or to the charity of your choice.





AT THE BELL

Following the tribute to **Hal, Dave McLennon** led us in the Flag Salute, and Keller McDonald introduced us to the “*Crab Feed Anthem*”, sung to the tune of “*What Shall We Do with the Drunken Sailor?*” Look forward to singing this many times before our Crab Feed – to be held this year on Saturday, February 11th, at the Holy Ghost Hall. Plan now to bring family and friends and enjoy making up for last year's lack of Crab!!



VISITING ROTARIANS AND GUESTS

After a short time to wolf down our lunch, **President David** brought us back with the good news: 2017 promises to be a happy and prosperous year, and the bad news: **David** is still President for 6 more months! Ha ha ha... don't remind us!

Our sole Visiting Rotarian was Frequent Flyer and Dentist, Dan Bornstein, from THE Santa Rosa Rotary Club.



Guests of Members were:

Guy Smith brought the lovely **Michelle**,

David Still, Scribe Emeritus and **-Ed.** brought his honey, **Nan**,

Robin Maybury brought his friend, Patrick Dirden, a photographer, who is interested in Rotary,

Bob Hirsch brought Charles Thomas, a retired metallurgist and singer, who works for Medtronic,



Jeff Boal introduced Nancy Dwyer, a retired nurse, who is interested in Rotary, and

Jim Passage brought our speaker, Santa Rosa Attorney, Charles O. Prickett.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



President David then turned auctioneer, seeking bids for the Trip from our Lobster Feed Raffle, 7 Nights in San Diego, January 29 – Feb 5. He has personally stayed at the Carlsbad Seapointe Resort, and can vouch for the gracious resort, and the always lovely San Diego weather. Bidding started at \$250, quickly jumped up to an attempt to get \$650, before announcing the winner, at \$600, **Mike Ferguson**. Thanks, **Mike**... enjoy your trip!



Next, a photo of the Tour de Sebastopol Indoor Bike Ride to End Polio. Our team of **Dan Rasmus**, **DGE Bob Rogers**, **Michael Hixson**, **Kathy Mayhew**, **Robin Maybury**, and **Michele Kimble** raised over \$15,000!!! We were second after Calgary, and will be listed on the Event Trophy. Yay, Team!! Way to go!





Future Programs



January 13, 2017

Speaker: **Michelle Larkin**

Program: **Exchange Student Career Impact 20 Years Later**

January 20, 2017

Speaker: **Madeleine O'Connell**

Program: **Domestic Violence Its Cause and Cure**

January 27, 2017

Speaker: **Cynthia Boaz, Prof. Son. St.**

Program: **Global Governance: People, Power and Non-Violent Solutions**

February 3, 2017

Speaker: **Terese Drary**

Program: **Using the Music Toolbox in the Classroom**

February 10, 2017

Program: **Valentines Day Program**

Org.: **Gene Nelson**

February 17, 2017

Speaker: **Sarah Hart, Heartcom**

Program: **Leadership for a Thinking Environment**

February 17, 2017

Speaker: **Alan Silow, SR Symphony**

Program: **Update and Search for a New Conductor**



Future Events



CRAB FEED - SATURDAY FEB. 11

SEB. HOLY GHOST HALL, 7960 Mill Station Rd.

TICKETS ON SALE (\$70 SEE CLUB WEBSITE).



Miscellany



Next Board Meeting

Date/Time: **POSTPONED**

(Was to be on **Tues. January 10, 5:30 p.m.**)

Location: **David Schreiber's Home in Windsor**

MAKEUP NOTIFICATIONS—Jack Dunlap@gmail.com

On-line Make-Ups: www.RotaryEClubOne.org

INTERACT MAKEUPS

Analy High: **Check Day, Time with Dan Rasmus or Donna Pantzer**

Brook Haven: **Check Day, Time with Pauline Pellini or Mike Carey**

Orchard View: **Check Day, Time with Lisa Jacobs**

Twin Hills: **Check Day, Time with Dan Rasmus or Monica Kretschmer**

For all Interact Mtgs.: CALL AHEAD TO CONFIRM MEETINGS

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



THE RAFFLE



The Raffle this week called for ticket #732, and **Mike Long** came up to claim his \$5 – Would he make it \$25? Yes, he knew that member **Jim Pacatte's** "line" is Retired – Construction. Well done, **Mike**.....Hey, nice to see you, too.



ELEVATOR SPEECHES



Two Elevator Speeches this week: **Our favorite Brit, Robin Maybury** – who, at 14, learned how to type – grew to design security software for H-P, and just generally likes to mess around with computers. He is also bilingual: English and American



Aleia Coate, who we don't see enough anymore since she works in Santa Rosa now, for Umpqua Bank, where, after being in Banking for 21 years, is now the Community Manager, over 4 locations, and is very proud to be a Certified Small Business Lender, helping people get their start in business. (A voice from the back of the room noted that the check **Aleia** wrote for lunch today was dated 2016 – a serious error for a banker – so she was hit with a fine of \$20 more.)


And then, of course, **President David** coerced \$5 out of anyone NOT wearing their Rotary pin. I don't think he's making much money with this gig any more... because we are awesome at remembering to wear our pins!



REFLECTIONS



President David then shared three-slides-worth of our responses to his question, 6 months ago – “What excites you most about Rotary and your involvement?” I hope these pages will be shared with everyone, so you can read how many responses are similar, with a couple of threads above all other – how Rotary, both local and international, allows us to have an outlet for doing things we couldn’t do as well on our own, or be able to do on a community-wide or world-wide level ; how Rotary gives us a chance to meet and do things of value with like-minded people – something bigger than ourselves: how it’s positive, effective, and committed to BIG goals, like Polio eradication etc. etc.

Rotary 
Club of Sebastopol

What Excites You The Most?

- ❖ Extraordinary range of opportunity to make a difference in the world
- ❖ Friendships, strong friendships, comraderie
- ❖ The speakers and lunch programs
- ❖ The international reach of Rotary
- ❖ I love all the events
- ❖ The ability to work with so many types of people he wouldn't have met otherwise
- ❖ Financial literacy outreach
- ❖ The ability to do things he couldn't do himself
- ❖ It's FUN!
- ❖ I have a creative outlet not available in my work
- ❖ Literacy and education efforts
- ❖ The impact our club has on the local community
- ❖ I was new to the area
- ❖ I was accepted for who I am
- ❖ Good and diverse group of people

Rotary 
Club of Sebastopol

What Excites You The Most?

- ❖ Rotary is family; like-minded people who have your back
- ❖ Doing things in groups
- ❖ Working on kids' programs
- ❖ Collectively, the heart – the passion for helping others
- ❖ “Service Above Self” resonates
- ❖ If not for Rotary, he'd have never met some of his best friends
- ❖ Being a part of something bigger than myself
- ❖ SO believes in Four Way Test
- ❖ We use all our skills to do some good
- ❖ I'm much more involved in community
- ❖ Being involved with people who get things done
- ❖ Having an avenue to pay it forward
- ❖ There are SO MANY ways to serve
- ❖ Enjoyed getting to know community leaders as mentors and friends
- ❖ Participating in helping with fundraising
- ❖ Opportunity to use skills, talents that he wasn't using anywhere else
- ❖ Rotary is the best organization in the world at what it does

Rotary 
Club of Sebastopol

What Excites You The Most?

- ❖ Hooking up with people all over the world
- ❖ It's all really positive
- ❖ Turnover, new president, new fundraiser, new ideas each year – keeps it fresh
- ❖ ALL of the money goes to projects
- ❖ Get to have adventures with my spouse
- ❖ Common vision with a group of people who give back while making a difference
- ❖ For the first time since I was a kid, I feel like I'm part of a community
- ❖ Likes that we don't talk politics or religion
- ❖ I like to do a lot of different things, learning
- ❖ Commitment to eradicating Polio
- ❖ I learn something new every week
- ❖ Rotary does more in their sleep than most organizations do when trying
- ❖ Opportunity to be around good mentors
- ❖ An opportunity to do things you couldn't do otherwise

I think **David** summed it up when he said with a little reflection and evaluation, he's found that THIS CLUB is one of the best things in HIS life, and he hopes many of us feel the same way. Thanks, **President David**.....I love that you have such a good heart!



RECOGNITIONS -- SUPERSTARS



And, speaking of heart, it's time to recognize others who have big hearts and have become “Superstars of Rotary”. Those receiving Honorary Superstar Pins are:

Peggy Rogers,
Hal Kwalwasser,
Sally Ewald,
Dorothy Rodella, and
Richard Power.

Congratulations and thanks for all you do!



RECOGNITIONS – BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



Birthdays – Playing catch-up, **President David** had 28 names on the list of Birthdays today, and got to 12! That's amazing!



(Thanks, **David** for trying to rush my March Birthday, but wrong **Barbara**.) **Barbara Bickford** wasn't here today.

Katy Spyрка, who went to Hawaii for her 55th. She learned how to play ukulele, and plays it every day to relax.

David McLennon, doesn't remember what he did..... (Is that good, or bad?)

Harry Simms, turned 70 at Terrapin Creek in Bodega – yum!





Keller McDonald showed a sonogram of his soon-to-be 6th grandchild

Norm Stupfel, who wants to forget birthdays at this point (yeah, sure, **Norm!**), Because his birthday is close to Thanksgiving, he celebrates with family, but – oh, yeah – he also took his first trip to Cabo San Lucas, where it was 75 degrees every day. And still he only had to pay \$5 – what a bargain!



Ken Jacobs had an exciting time, went cave diving in Puerto Vallarta. He went to 100 foot depth, and saw a shark, which was 25 feet long... no, wait, that's how long it looked....more like 12 feet. Hey, that's impressive enough, **Ken!** Glad you made it back in one piece!

Tom Lambert, played golf, then had dinner at Stormy's in Bloomfield....then came home and re-set the scale down two pounds



Jim Passage did nothing that day, but 2 weeks later, he and a dear friend who also had a birthday celebrated together 2 weeks later with a lovely dinner in Petaluma. An artist drew a picture on their tablecloth, and it was very special.

Peggy Rogers went with **Bob** to their timeshare in Nuevo Vallarta



John Blount worked that day, had dinner, and said it's very nice to be home



Tom Dille had provided a photo of he and **Pat** BOTH blowing on the same candle.....what's the story? Well, **Pat's** birthday is the day before his, so they save candlepower by sharing the blow!

To be acknowledged later, **Diana Wilson's** birthday is TODAY!!



Anniversary Recognitions... will have to wait, as it is time for our Speaker



THE PROGRAM – Remembering Mississippi Freedom Summer



Jim Passage introduced our speaker, Charles O. Prickett --

"For many of us in this club, the SIXTIES are remembered as the time of Hippies, and the Summer of Love. For others, the same decade is remembered for the draft, the politics of the election of 1968, the peace marches and demonstrations, and for the death, suffering and related problems of the Vietnam War.

But today, let's remember another theme of that decade fifty years ago – the Freedom Riders, and the many demonstrations and struggles for racial equality that took place during those years were every bit as important to the history and soul of the nation, as were the anti-war movement or Hippies.

Our speaker today, Charles Prickett, a native of Southern Illinois, was there. He was a willing and active participant of the Mississippi Freedom Summer. He is now an attorney in Santa Rosa. As a young man, he had the inspiration, courage, and energy to put himself on the front line for fair treatment of black Americans in Mississippi. And that, my friends, is saying a mouthful. So, as you listen to Charles today, keep in mind that fifty years ago he was there on the front line for racial equality in this nation.

I met Charles last year at the second annual dedication of the Sebastopol Peace Monument, as he was being honored as one of the four individuals for their roles in bringing peace to our community, our nation, and our world. Please welcome a man of action, courage and intelligence, Charles Prickett."



Hello...Thank you for inviting me here today. Yes, I was one of many former civil rights workers – I think sometimes I may still be. I speak to schools a lot, esp. SRJC. I remember speaking to a middle school / 5th grade class 10-12 years ago in Sebastopol. The students stood and recited the entirety of Dr. King's "Dream" speech. I was floored... and really happy to know we are still following the path he set out for us.

Jim mentioned the Peace Monument – I'm proud, but also happy when I see my name in granite that is NOT a tombstone!

In 1896, Plessy vs. Ferguson allowed state sponsored segregation in education. But in 1954, Brown vs. Board of Education ruled that "separate but equal facilities are inherently unequal". Ten years later, I went to Mississippi to teach in the "Freedom Summer", to help register black people to vote – primarily in the Democratic Party.

Along with that project, the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party was founded in April as part of the voter registration efforts. The party participated in the Democratic Convention in August. The entire state of Mississippi was represented, not just whites. The State of Oregon gave them floor-voting credentials. Mississippi also established price supports for crops through the Dept. of Agriculture, with a soil bank, permission to use acreage to grow crops, and a guaranteed price at the market.

And in December, the first Black member of the house was elected in Madison County. You had to write in his name, but it was very easy to remember. Especially since people walking down the street would say it over and over so as not to forget it. In that election, Luther Honeysucker was elected.

On the educational side, even though Brown vs. BOE had been enacted years before, the South was still segregated, black kids still had to leave school almost daily to help pick cotton, and children AND parents had no quality education. There were four organizations that were helping coordinate efforts at that time – the SNCC (Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee), CORE (Congress of Racial Equality), SCLC (Southern Christian Leadership Conference), and NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People).

We were being paid \$14/ week through SNCC – and we were being shot at daily, firebombed from pickup trucks by members of the KKK, White Citizens Council, and fringe people unhappy with what we were trying to do. But because we became part of the community, we were trusted by the families that would send their children to study with us. The community was about 300-400 people, and we saw about 60-70 kids.

We were also receiving funding from Foundations to work in "Freedom Schools" – teaching reading, writing, and math – with 50-60 kids in the daytime. These schools had a very serious academic purpose, and we had to design everything for the process, such as flash cards and question/answer tests. At recess, the kids would play basketball or baseball... just

like any other “normal” kids. We’d teach vocabulary words at the end of the day. At night, their parents would come to learn with their kids. For these people, the saying “Education is its own reward” had real meaning.

During the summer of 1964, I also met and collaborated with actor Richard Beymer (who played Tony opposite Natalie Wood in West Side Story). He and I worked together to capture images for a film he made about those days and what it was like then. It can still be seen on U-Tube, under the name “*A Regular Bouquet*”.

Imagine what it was like to be black in the South in the 60’s:

You couldn’t go to a movie

Couldn’t use the Public Park

Couldn’t eat in a restaurant, or

Go to the library to check out a book

There were literacy tests for blacks, so they “could” register to vote. But if you couldn’t answer all the questions correctly in 10 minutes, you’d have to come back the next day to try again. For blacks, it was a badge of honor to register to vote, and they would keep going back attempting to register.

In fact, we met one black farmer who owned 3 tractors – very unusual, and a real accomplishment! Despite that, he had a cigar box full of slips of paper. They were receipts for his payment of the Poll Tax. Each receipt cost \$2. He had been paying the tax for 20 years, and still had not been able to vote. But he was very encouraging, saying he knew because of our work, someday he WOULD be allowed to vote.

Another farmer I became friends with, Opha Williams, did everything himself. He was a large farmer. He was also well-regarded – because he owned a “one-armed picker” (aka mechanical). We taught him how to read. Opha Jr. still lives there.

When I decided to go to Mississippi, my father, also a farmer, had encouraged me to go to study the issues faced by farmers. My mother was a 2nd grade teacher, so she appreciated why I wanted to go. However, when I went to Mississippi, they also realized the potential danger in what I would be doing – and they took out a \$1,000 Life Insurance Policy so they would be able to bury me.

And in December, the first Black member of the house was elected in Madison County. You had to write in his name, but it was very easy to remember. Especially since people walking down the street would say it over and over so as not to forget it. In that election, Luther Honeysucker was elected.

In August of 1965, the Voting Rights Act outlawed the literacy requirement and the Poll Tax. It was our powerful democratic system at work. In 1965 there were more black officials elected in one year than ever before. One family, named Chin, had several family members who were celebrated Judges to the Superior Court in Madison County. They represented triumph over racism.

That’s when voting worked in Mississippi.

The following spring – in March of 1965 – Martin Luther King and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) wanted to use the passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act to win federal protection for a voting rights statute. After a young protester in one of King’s demonstrations was shot, a protest march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, was organized. Its route would cross the Edmund Pettis Bridge. Governor Wallace prohibited ANY march between Selma and Montgomery, and he ordered the Alabama State Troopers and local Police to turn the protesters around.

When the protesters refused to turn back, what has become known as “Bloody Sunday” was televised worldwide.

A District Court Judge named Johnson had declared the legal source for our right to march was the 1st Amendment, for “redress of grievances”. Then, President Johnson nationalized the National Guard just 5 days before the march.

In those 5 days, the march grew from 150 people to 25,000. On March 21st, the final successful march began with Federal protection, and on August 6, 1965 the Federal Voting Rights Act was passed, completing the process King had hoped for.



I was lucky to meet Reverend King one day. He walked out of Brown Chapel, and was introduced only as “Martin” by a friend. We spent 30 minutes talking; he wanted to know what we were doing, and how it was going. I told him how we became part of the community, and gained their trust. He was humble, soft-spoken, and pleased to hear about our work.

And, you can understand how touching and meaningful it was to me, my friends, and so many others to see President Obama and his family walking over the Edmund Pettis Bridge last year.

I still go back every year since 1964.

President David thanked Mr. Prickett, and presented our gift of a bottle of *Pinot for Polio*.



Our new “-Ed.”, Jørgen Holst.



THOUGHT FOR THE DAY



Thought for the Day was from **Jack Blasco**. From President Franklin D. Roosevelt, it speaks to some of our current events, words we heard from our speaker, and the work we do through Rotary. **President David** provided a photo of the Roosevelt Memorial in Washington, D.C. showing a soup line represented, and Roosevelt with children with Polio.

“The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little.”



THE FINAL BELL



Next Week’s Program speaker is Michele Larkin, former Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar, on the impact of that trip on her life 20 years later.

Ding! (At Exactly 1:30 pm – so members can get back to work.)



AFTER THE BELL



Text of Pauline Pellini's Talk about Hal Pellini – Rotary, January 6, 2017



"It is difficult to sum up a well lived life in a few minutes but I will try...."

Harold Pellini was born in Santa Rosa on November 19, 1919. You all knew him as "Hal". He began school at Lincoln School in Santa Rosa until the family moved to Sebastopol. In 1932, his father, Angelo, took over the Chevrolet dealership in Sebastopol. Hal worked there after school and on Saturdays. How he loved his Chevy's and over the years he assembled a beautiful collection of antique cars. He also loved racing and shared stories of drag racing on Santa Rosa Avenue, now highway 12, with spotters at each end just in case a car happened along.

In 1937, he graduated from Analy High School (almost 80 years ago). In his senior year, he played in the band and they were part of the parade that opened the Golden Gate Bridge.

On October 12, 1941, he married the love of his life, Mildred. They shared 66 years of marriage before her passing in 2008.

Less than 2 months after their marriage, Pearl Harbor was attacked. He entered the Army and was sent to the Aleutian Islands where he spent 32 months protecting our country. Discharged in 1945, he returned to Sebastopol and his job at the dealership. He became the dealer in 1950 until 1984 when he sold the business to his son. He continued to come in to the dealership daily until it closed in 2009.



He became a father on January 6, 1946 with the birth of a son, Pete, followed by daughters Carole in 1948 and Nancy in 1952. He was blessed with 6 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren. Hal was always active in the community and was in the 20/30 club until aging out. He then joined Sebastopol Rotary Club in 1960. He spent years greeting members and handing them their badges with Carson Whitlatch. He served as Vice President when the club had that office and worked on too many projects to list.

Hal was a wonderful, well respected man. I always told him that I married his son to have him as my father-in-law. We were blessed to have 97 memorable years with this great man."



Sebastopol Rotary's Annual **CRAB FEED**

Saturday, February 11, 2017

First Seating: 5:00 p.m.

(Bar Opens & Music Starts at 4:00 p.m.)

Second Seating: 7:00 p.m.

Holy Ghost Hall, 7960 Mill Station Road, Sebastopol

**Get your tickets
NOW!!**

**Seating is
LIMITED**

**This event sells out
EARLY**



**Tickets are
available in
Sebastopol from**

**EXCHANGE
BANK**

**All You Can Eat Fresh Cooked Crab,
Clam Chowder, Salad, Bread,
Dessert & Wine
\$70 Donation**

For Tickets or Information, go to:

www.SebastopolRotary.org

or call 823-4087

**All proceeds of this event will be used to fund
Sebastopol Rotary's Education Grant Programs**

**\$226,000 in Teacher Mini-Grants
Awarded to Date**

Salmon Creek	Apple Blossom Elementary	Monte Rio
Hillcrest Middle School	Journey H.S. - TLC Child & Family Services	Laguna High School
Oak Grove Elementary	West County Special Ed Consortium	Parkside Elementary
Brook Haven Middle School	Willowside Middle School	SunRidge Charter School
Electronic Tuners	Gravenstein Elementary	Harmony Elementary
Marching Drum Head Covers	Sebastopol Rotary Teacher Mini-Grant Awards – Fall 2016	Summerfield Waldorf School
Standing Classroom Tables		Fort Ross Elementary
Digital Projector	Sensory Integration Tools for Spe Need Kids	Android Tablets
Journalism Camera	Laguna Literary Magazines (200)	Desk Cycles
Non-Fiction Book Set	Bal-A-Vis Auditory Exercise	Classroom Dishes
K'Nex Construction Sets	Phys-Ed Velcro Catch Sets	3 Standup Desks
Shortwave Antenna	Phys-Ed Run-and-Spell Game	6 Cameras for 4th Grade
Volleyball Uniforms	Collaboration Table for Maker Class	Kitchen Aide/Cuisinart
Greenhouse Roof Panels	Reading Progress Monitoring Program	Garden Watering Timers
LED Stage Lights	Earphones for Computers	Phys-Ed Team Spots
	30 Book Set for Special Ed Class	Bal-A-Vis Visual Exercise
	Speakers & Recorder for Radio Program	OSMO Genius Kits
		4 Kindles for Library

Future Programs

January 13, 2017 Exchange Student Career Impact 20 Years Later

Speaker: Michelle Larkin

Michele Larkin grew up in Sebastopol attending Apple Blossom, Twin Hills and Analy High School. She attended Cal Poly State University San Luis Obispo, graduating with a BS in Graphic Communication. In 1996 she went to live and study in Costa Rica on a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship, sponsored by the Sebastopol Rotary Club. Upon her return to Sonoma County the following year, she was hired to teach Spanish at El Molino High School where she still works today. Michele teaches Spanish I, II and Advanced Placement Spanish IV. She is the Department Chair of the World Language Department. She lives in Occidental with her husband on their small organic farm, Bella Ridge Farm, where they grow apples and pears. They sell their fruit at local farmers' markets and stores. Michele also teaches yoga classes in Occidental. In addition to yoga, she enjoys cycling and hiking in Sonoma County and beyond. She volunteers for LandPaths as a docent at the Bohemia Ecological Preserve.

January 20, 2017: Domestic Violence Its Cause and Cure

Speaker: Madeleine O'Connell

In 2012 Ms. O'Connell was named CEO of YWCA Sonoma County – the community's domestic violence service provider since 1975.



She was formerly Senior Vice President of Marketing for Sonoma National Bank in Santa Rosa where she managed community relations and non-profit support. Her career in the marketing and public relations arena of community banking spans nearly 30 years and two coasts. For over a decade she served as a member of the Advisory Board and Chair of PR/Media for the capital campaign of The Salvation Army – Santa Rosa Corps where she was named "Volunteer of the Year" in 2009. Honored by the Santa Rosa Chamber of Commerce with a leadership award in the field of Media, Communications and Public Relations that same year, Ms. O'Connell is also a graduate of Leadership Santa Rosa Class 17.

A graduate of the University of San Francisco, where she earned a place on the Dean's List for academic achievement, Ms. O'Connell holds a Bachelor's Degree in Organizational Behavior. She leads a staff of 35 and is responsible for the sustainability of a \$2 million budget. Madeleine and her husband, Kevin reside in Santa Rosa along with their boys, Johnny age 7 and Nicholas age 5.

Challenged with a diagnosis of Stage Two breast cancer in 2014, Madeleine reminds each of us that there was a 20% chance of the lump she found being malignant, which it was – contrasted to the national and local statistic that one in four families will be affected by domestic violence – that's 25% of the people we all know.

January 27, 2017: Global Governance: People, Power and Non-violent Solutions

Speaker: Cynthia Boaz



Dr. Boaz is an Academic Advisor to the International Center on Nonviolent Conflict, a Washington DC- based human rights foundation that collects and disseminates knowledge on civil resistance. Her work with ICNC has sent her to conferences in India, Australia, Chile, Spain, and around the United States, including the annual Fletcher Summer Institute for the Advanced Study of Nonviolent Conflict, at Tufts University, where she has served as an instructor on four occasions (2008, 2009, 2011, 2012). She considers her interview with Nobel Laureate Dr. Shirin Ebadi of Iran to be a highlight of her work in this field. Dr. Boaz continues to work alongside notable veterans of the struggles in South Africa, Serbia, Burma, and the US Civil Rights Movement, including Rev. James Lawson. Dr. Boaz is a prolific writer and contributes analyses regularly to several news and commentary-based media, including Truthout, the Huffington Post, Common Dreams, Waging Nonviolence, and Open Democracy.

At Sonoma State, Dr. Boaz is the Faculty Advisor for the award-winning Model United Nations club and class, which every Spring participates in the National Model United Nations conference in New York City, and is department Internship Coordinator for placements with non-profits and local advocacy groups and organizations. Dr. Boaz is also an affiliated scholar with the UNESCO Program in Peace, Conflict and Development Studies at Universitat Jaume I in Castellon, Spain, where she has taught courses in 2001, 2003, 2007, 2011 and advises graduate students. She is founding board member of the Sonoma Independent, a grassroots media organization. She spent her Fall 2015 sabbatical in West Cork, Ireland.