



# *The Appleknocker*

## *Sebastopol Rotary Club's Weekly Bulletin*

**Abigail Bridgman—The Protection of Children**



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**President 2016/2017:** David Schreibman



"All the News that Fits We Print"



### **BEFORE THE BELL**



Driving to the meeting I saw **Greg Jacobs** straighten the Analy's Class of 1956 Fifty Year Reunion sign in front of **Harvey Henningsen's** place.

As I was parking I saw **David McLennon** walking down from Exchange Bank to the meeting.

When I entered I rushed to the Lobster Boil table and purchased the last ticket. My youngest son, Mark, had told me he wanted to attend when we came across the two bibs from the Club's first annual Lobster Feed.

There was a great group doing the greeting today, shook hands with **Sue Engle**, **Ellen Harrington**, **Peggy Rogers**, and **Rick Wilson**. All greeters had firm grips and Big Smiles.

Our **President David** was also at the line greeting as usual; I thanked him for starting the once a month table mix-up. Something that some of us are really enjoying getting the chance to better know our new and old members.



### **AFTER THE BELL**



Flag Salute was led by **Pat Dilley**

We were led in *God Bless America* by **Karen Daniel**, with her beautiful voice. It was a good thing we had plastic glasses, as she hit that final high note.

**David**, announced that **Steve Beck** ask him to remind the Hands-On Community Service Committee that its initial meeting is right after this meeting in Room 6 to review project proposals already received and agree on criteria for evaluating and selecting which ones they will pursue.

Enjoy Your Lunch!



## Future Programs

**September 9, 2016**

Speaker: Frank Mayhew, Jeff Boal, Russ Cunningham

Program: Uganda

**September 16, 2016**

Speaker: Hal Kwalwasser

Program: What our Kids Need to Succeed

**September 23, 2016**

Speaker: Dist. Gov. Wulff Reinhold

Program: District Governor Visit.

**September 27, 2016**

Set Up for Lobster Boil

**October 7, 2016**

Main Stage

**October 14, 2016**

Speaker: Al Lerma Sonoma Econ Dev.Bd.

Program: Beer and Spirit Industry

**October 21, 2016**

Speaker: . 10/21 Gary Johanson -

Program: Choices for End of Life Care

**October 27, 2016**

Speaker: William Carlsen

Program: Discovery of the Lost Civilization of the Maya

## Future Events

**OCTOBER 1, 2016**

**LOBSTER BOIL AT THE BARLOW**

## Handy Links

[Pinot for Polio Forum](#)  
[Sebastopol Rotary Website](#)

## Miscellany

**Next Board Meeting**

Date/Time: **Tues, September 13<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 p.m.**

Location: **David Schreiber's Home in Windsor**  
(Check ClubRunner for Address)

**MAKEUP NOTIFICATIONS-JackEDunlap@gmail.com**

**On-line Make-Ups: [www.RotaryEClubOne.org](http://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 !!!**

## VISITORS AND GUESTS

12:30 – Bell Rang Again



### **Guests of Club**

**Dorothy Rodella**, introduced Dave McLennon the new manager of Exchange Bank who is now a guest of the Club.

**Aleia Coate** introduced Malene our exchange student from Denmark, who was also a guest of the Club.

### **Visitors**

We had one visiting Rotarian Brian Bowler, from the Sunrise Club.

**Sall Ewald** introduced her husband **David Ewald** who was joining us today to hear



today's speaker.

**Jeff Boal** introduced his charming wife **Patti** and Abigail Bridgeman today's guest speaker.

### **Halloween Party**

The Sunrise Club has asked if our club would like to have a joint



Halloween Party on Saturday the 28 of October at Holy Ghost Hall. David asked for a show of hands of those interested so that a price point for tickets can be decided. About 25 members raised their hands.

### **Rookie Sketch**

**Sue Engle** gave a glimpse of her life before arriving in Sebastopol. She started life North of Manchester. Her first introduction to Rotary was at home as her dad was a Rotarian. She had a great picture of her dad, mother with other Rotarians dressed up for an event. After school she moved to the Lake Country and went to work for "Fast Frank" who was a wiz in merchandising and a great employer. He taught her everything about merchandising, buying, etc.



Then the siren calls of London became too loud to resist. Sue found herself in a new career in music management. She then moved on to start her own business doing backstage management, organizing and tailoring the backstage to meet the needs of the performers where she worked. Yes, this group included names like The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, and many more. Backstage was her domain, from the furnishings, to making sure all of



the physical needs of the performers were being met, including providing their preferred foods. This meant meeting the needs of a staff of 70 at the set-up stage, and then the needs of a staff of 300 by the dates of the performance.

Eventually, she next brought her business to NYC. While traveling with her business from city to city, she met her future husband **Bill** in Hollywood where he worked as a lighting director. After a year of commuting back and forth, she moved to Hollywood where she worked in various jobs in the film industry. After a year and a trip to Sonoma County where they found Sebastopol, she and Bill decided that Hollywood wasn't for them anymore. They packed up and moved to Sebastopol in two weeks.

In Sebastopol she started a new career at HearthSong in their catalogue department. Then she moved up to buying, then traveling all over the Far East making sure the factories they were using were safe for the workers and weren't using toxic materials on the toys or clothing.

After HearthSong moved to Virginia in 2014, she sat down and assessed what she should do next. She decided that she could buy a house with a mortgage or buy a business. So she has a mortgage today for a business here in Sebastopol. She is the newest owner of the Flower Song Florist Shop on North Main Street. Once she gets the business going strong, she'll be traveling off to Uganda and helping to build school houses.

## Centennial Moment

**President David** showed a video of what **Kathie Mayhew** says was the most enthusiastic and largest welcome she and Frank have ever received representing the Anthill Foundation. It was delightful to see the children dancing, singing and holding up signs. It was joyfully and brought tears to the eyes. Towards the end of the video **Kathy** jumps up and joins the children dancing. After we watched the video **David** said, "The world gets very small with the simple act of joining a dance."

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Redwood Empire Food Bank** – Last Tuesday morning members of the Club volunteered at the REFB. As an example of their work, we were shown a slide of two field bins of Gravenstein apples with **Nao Noguchi**, **President David Schreibman**, **Harry Polley**, **Jim Passage**, and others emptying both bins, to make up 200, three-pound bags of apples that will go to 200 families.

**President David** then ask **Ken Jacobs** to standup. He asked **Ken**, "did you know this service project was happening on Tuesday?" **Ken** said yes, then **David** asked "Just didn't fit into your schedule?" **Ken**, said "his dad had been there." **David's** responded "Yes your dad was there, however Tuesday's is your dad's regular day to volunteer." **David** then fined **Ken** "\$20 for a missed father-son bonding opportunity."



**Rotary Day at Laguna Environmental Center** – **Ellen Harrington** has arranged for this volunteer opportunity on Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup> from 9AM to 3PM (lunch provided) at 900 Sanford Rd (corner of Occidental Rd.), Santa Rosa Please RSVP to Ellen at [classical\\_home@msn.com](mailto:classical_home@msn.com)



**No Pin = \$5.** The fines were collected at each table.

## RAFFLE:



**Bob Roger (PP & DGE)** had the winning ticket and a chance to win \$60. His question was what is **Russ Cunningham's** professional designation? Bob thought and thought, just after **President David** called times up. **Bob** goes PGE, (pause) then Human Resources. **David** said, "Time's up. Here's your \$5, next week's pot will be \$80

[OUCH! What exactly is the time limit?—Ed. ]

**President David** showed slides of the Club's Picnic last Saturday at **Dennis and Anna Judd's** home. The slides showed the gorgeous views out over the valley, talked of the great food including Mike McGlothlin's sausages, **Mario Ramos's** chicken and chili rellenos, amazing garden tomatoes, and of course flan. **David** said the highlight of the day was **Dennis'** arrival home from the hospital. He looked well, however was very tired and went into the house to rest.

There were games for all ages. One looked especially fun pin the tail on the Centaur, who had the face of our esteemed **President David**. **Ellen Harrington** deserves the credit for that creative game.



**President David** asked the Picnic Committee to stand, then he asked the co-Chairs **Bob** and **Julie Cugini** and **David Still** to come up to the front. He presented them with Super Star pins.

#### Lobster Boil – SOLD OUT

**Meredeth Bertacco** announced that all the seats have been sold.



### Recognition –

A slide of **Meredeth Bertacco's** vacation trip to Switzerland with her husband. \$20



Another slide followed that had smoke rising from a box. **President David** asked **Barbara Bickford** to explain. Barbara said that every year she goes to the Monte Rio Variety Show. that has had a guitar as the raffle prize, which she has always wanted to win for her son. Though lately she'd been thinking she might want to keep it and learn to play. This year she finally won the raffle, however rather than a guitar it was a beautifully decorated humidor full of fine cigars.

#### **Birthdays**

**Meredeth Bertacco** spent her birthday with her husband in Tahoe. Fine \$5

**Rick Williams** took off work for his birthday. He, his wife, son, and son's girlfriend went to lunch at Barndiva in Healdsburg. Then they went to see the movie with Meryl Streep where the opera singer can't sing. Fine \$5



**Bud Daveiro** didn't really do anything. Went to dinner with a couple people. "Never thought he'd live this long." Fine \$5

**Paul Martinovich** took TMZ bus went to see son and daughter-in-law. Fine \$5





## ELEVATOR RIDES



**Mike Ferguson** –His back was hurting from lifting a toilet yesterday. He grows grapes. He had a thirty-year career in Law Enforcement that was terminated not by his choice. Then three years working for the Census Bureau. He next bought a security business from a friend who was selling companies from Sonoma County. The pickings were slim for years though it and now the business is going well.



**Mark McDonell** –  
“I do the same thing as **Brendon Houston**.”



## THE PROGRAM—ABIGAIL BRIDGMAN



### THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN IN CONFLICT AREA



**Jeff Boal** came to the podium to introduce our guest speaker.

Abigail Bridgman was born in Uganda where she earned her law degree before moving to the United States, seven years ago. She then attended Empire College for a year enabling her to take the California Bar. She also earned her LLM in International Crime and Justice from the University of Turin, Italy. She worked at the Sonoma County District Attorney's office before moving to the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda.

She's here today to address the Protection of Children in Armed Conflict Areas, and her current assignment, which involves a former child-soldier Dominic Ongwen.

Abigail Bridgeman started by explaining the United Nations Convention of Child Rights. "Rights" are things every child should have or be able to do. All children have the same rights. These rights are listed in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. This is still waiting to be ratified by the UN, as all members have signed including the United States which has veto rights



#### Children's Rights

- The definition of a child a person below 18 years (15 years for compulsory military services).
- Life
- Protection
- Health
- Education
- Family
- Identity
- Everyone has the right to protection of personal space.
- Any child who is lost and alone through war or conflict displacement.
- Status/Ethnicity/Legality is not able to be proven in refugee camp, no passport, have no standing if taken by family member in another country, if a child is born of Syrian parents in a Refugee camp in Jordan; are you Syrian or Jordanian?



## Vulnerable Children

### Child Labor

- If you have no identity your more at risk for forced employment, in factories, in the fields, in brothels.

Natural Disasters – separate you from your family by death or separation.

Poverty – not enough food, living in the streets.

Unsafe Home

Gangs

Ms. Bridgman went on to discuss a current case she is working on which involves a former child-soldier Dominic Ongwen in the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) who is now on trial for 70 counts of war crimes at the International Criminal Court (ICC) in The Hague. Ugandan Ongwen was abducted by the LRA at the age of nine. Twenty-five years later, a trial is to establish whether the victim turned perpetrator. Few expected Ongwen's 20-year LRA "career" which took in rape, massacres and abductions – to end in detention in a Dutch prison. But Ongwen gave himself up to soldiers in the Central African Republic last year.

He would attack refugee camps (were 10-40 thousand lived) at night or before dawn killing refugees to get food, resources and people to enslave to be able keep the LRA going.

The case has with important legal ramifications: Ongwen was a child soldier, abducted by the LRA when he was nine years old, it is believed. He is thus both perpetrator and, his legal team argue, a victim.

For more information:

<https://www.theguardian.com/law/2016/mar/27/dominic-ongwen-war-crimes-trial-former-child-soldier-icc-uganda>

<<https://justiceinconflict.org/2016/04/12/the-life-and-times-of-dominic-ongwen-child-soldier-and-lra-commander/>>



## Children in armed conflict



Ms. Bridgman has gotten to know him working on his defense team. He cooks a mean cake, especially his lemon cake. He has learned English while in prison and his English is extremely good.

She went on to tell us of other crimes being committed against children. She spoke of Joan Zara a 17 years old who was kidnapped with other girls from her village by the Boko Haram, a brutal Islamist group "They gave us a choice - to be married, or to be a slave. I decided to marry," she said.

Life was tough and dangerous. The air force jets bombarded the vast Sambisa Forest where the militants have their camps and from where soldiers rescued her and eventually returned her to her relatives. She was 3 months pregnant when she was returned to her family. Her baby boy died at nine months of a snake bite.

She said she is in love with her husband although she believes she has been brainwashed. She feels abandoned by her family and stigmatized by her community.

This is the link for more information on Joan Zara and the Boko Haram:

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-36041860>

### Child Soldiers

Child soldiers will be kidnapped as a group from their village, orphanage, or refugee camp. They will then be made to kill a family member or their best friend to numb them and indoctrinate.

There are an estimated 250,000 child soldiers in the world today. It is estimated that 40% of all child soldiers are girls. They are often used as non-combatant 'wives' (sex slaves) of the male combatants. Child soldiers are recruited by government forces (including the police) as well as rebel groups.



They are used as:

- Foot soldiers
- Spies
- Messengers
- Mine detectors
- Human shields
- Cooks, guards, carriers, laborers

**President David** thanked Abigail Bridgman for her presentation, then asked if she would stay after to answers questions. Then **President David** gave her a present of local Sonoma County products.

#### **Thought for the Day - Meredith Bertacco**

*"It's amazing what you can accomplish when no one cares who gets the credit."*

John Wooden



#### **THE CLOSING BELL .**



#### **CORRECTION**

The Editors regret the error of confusing the fathers of Noreen Evens and Peggy Rogers in the August 19, 2016 issue of AppleKnocker. It was Noreen Evens' father who was a Marine Drill Sargent that taught Noreen "to sit up straight, be honest, and never give up."



## AFTER THE BELL – FUTURE SPEAKERS



Speaker September 16, 2016 -- Hal Kwalwasser —



### What our Kids Need to Succeed. . Changing Priorities for our Schools

Hal's talk will cover the challenges to having high school graduates college or career ready, and how those changing needs might lead organizations like ours, that strongly support our schools, to rethink the priorities for our work.

**Hal** is the former General Counsel of the Los Angeles Unified School District, the second largest in the country with approximately 700,000 students. Since leaving the district, Hal has continued to write and consult about education, including publishing a well-received study of high performing districts: "Renewal, Remaking America's Schools for the 21st Century." He is speaking to us this week on the topic of "New challenges for our schools and changing priorities for the Rotary."

Previously, **Hal** had a varied career. He was Deputy General Counsel/Legal Counsel at the Department of Defense and a partner in the Los Angeles law firm of Tuttle & Taylor. Between those two, he spent several years as a political consultant, including a stint as Chief of Staff to State Senator John Garamendi. He also headed a startup software firm (who around here hasn't?) that specialized in building data base platforms for government agencies.

**Hal** graduated from Swarthmore College and Yale Law School, where he was an editor of the Law Journal. He also clerked for Judge Max Rosenn of the US Third

Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia.

As many of you know, **Hal** has continued to work on interesting education projects, including the development of education summit for school supporters here in Sonoma County and a nationwide effort to eliminate standardized testing for accountability purposes.

**Hal** lives in Forestville with his wife, **Estelle**.



ROTARY

Sebastopol  
**Rotary**  
Club



# Lobster Boil

**at the Barlow**



**SATURDAY**  
**October 1, 2016**

5:00 PM -10:00 PM

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