



## David Goodman-Redwood Empire Food Bank



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**President 2017/2018:** Jack Blasco



"All the News that Fits We Print"



### BEFORE THE BELL



As we arrive for the final meeting of the year, our beloved **President Jack's** last hurrah, what should our wondering eyes behold but **President Jack** on crutches? I know that being Rotary President can be tough at times, but that tough? Crutches? And no smart comments about "lame" meetings. Let's just hope that incoming **President Larry** doesn't get so stressed out that he loses his teeth!



### AT THE BELL



After an enthusiastic call to order, **President Jack** announced that he had undergone knee surgery. Hence the crutches. That's his story and he's sticking to it. He then called upon **Mark Fink** to lead the Pledge.

**Keller McDonald** then led us in a tribute to **Jack** with a rousing chorus of "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow." And so he is!



Filling in for an under the weather **Rick Wilson, Cindy Carter** shared this Thought for the Day: "

The pessimist complains about the wind. The optimist expects it to change. The leader adjusts the sails."

## Future Programs

June 29, 2018  
DARK for Debunking

July 6, 2018  
Speaker – Toni Beal  
Superintendent WSCUHSD

July 13, 2018  
Speaker – Linda Collins  
Sebastopol Chamber of Commerce

 Future Events   
Debunking: Saturday, June 30<sup>th</sup>

Summer Picnic:  
Saturday, August 18th

## Miscellany

MAKEUP NOTIFICATIONS–JackE[Dunlap@gmail.com](mailto:Dunlap@gmail.com)

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

Domestic Violence Hotline:  
**707-546-1234**

**[sebastopolrotary.com](http://sebastopolrotary.com)**

## VISITORS AND GUESTS

Barbara Barney, Sebastopol Sunrise



Vicki Johnston, Sebastopol Sunrise



Vicki Johnston, soon to be retiring at way too early an age from Umpqua Bank, introduced the new manager, Mike Johnson.

**Dorothy Rodella** introduced Kelly Back who will be the new manager at Exchange Bank. Good to see you, **Dorothy**.



**Mia Del Prete** introduced Toni Beal, the new District Superintendent of Schools. Courageous of her to sit next to **Keller**.

**Sue Engle** introduced Sue Brooke

**Steve Beck** introduced a return visitor, Joyce Oneko.





Ms Beal



Ms Brooke



Ms Oneko

## 🍎 ANNOUNCEMENTS 🍎

Once again, mark your calendars for....The Debunking of **Jack Blasco**. Some way, some how, our club has survived his Reign of Terror. Now it's our turn! The date – June 30<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are on sale now - \$40.00. *Sebastopol Arts Center*, beginning at 5:00 and lasting until he is thoroughly paid back for the year we endured.

It is also time to sign up for next year's committees. This is where the real work of Rotary is done. Find an area of service that interests you and please sign up. Contact Incoming **President Larry**.

R.I. Convention, 2019. It will be in Hamburg, Germany – if Germany still has diplomatic relations with the United States. Sign up now and you receive a significant discount! The dates are June 23 – 27. .



† **Keller McDonald** reported on this year' grants, all funded by proceeds from our annual Crab Feed. Grants are anywhere from \$50 - \$500 for educational supplies and tools, equipment, classroom materials and other educational enhancements – things teachers often had to fund out of their own pockets. Since the grants began in 2002, over \$273,000 has been distributed to local teachers. Truly a wonderful accomplishment. This year, 44 applications from 19 schools were received. 33 grants were approved, at least one from each school, for a total of \$11,781 – funding everything from math and reading to robotics to a weather station to a reforestation project in burned out areas of the county. Thanks to all for your support.

Special thank you to **Mark McDonnell** who has quietly and efficiently handled the tax returns of our two local Rotary foundations at no cost to the club. Great Job!





And congratulations to **Nancy Dwyer** who was presented with her red badge. The rest of you green badgers need to pick up the pace!

And thank you to our Sebastopol Rotary Program Committee. This hard-working committee, chaired by **Mia Del Prete**, provided great programs all year. Committee members: **Jim Passage**, **Diana Rich**, **Henry Alker**, **Steve Zivolich** (get well fast, **Steve**), **Barbara Beedon**, **Jorgen Holst** and **Tom Boag**



## 🍎 RAFFLE TIME 🍎



Apparently **President Jack** has run out of balloons, so he created a pyramid to be knocked down with...a Nerf automatic weapon. **J.T.Martin** had the winning ticket, and with a rapid burst of fire pretty much destroyed the pyramid, thereby earning a certificate of honor from the NRA and a pile 'o cash from our president, which **J.T** promptly donated to the *Sebastopol Rotary Education Foundation*.



## 🍎 RECOGNITIONS 🍎

Only one person today happily made a five dollar birthday donation:

**Cindy Carter**, June 10<sup>th</sup>, who spent her birthday with family in Tahoe. I believe Rick was also invited to come along.





Anniversaries included

**Hal Kwalwasser** and Estelle – June 5.



**Ken Jacobs** and Lisa – June 7 – something about a romantic trip to a hotel with all the children.



**Steve Beck** and Terry – June 18<sup>th</sup> – number 52! How about a hike to the headwaters of the Laguna.



**President Jack**, Dazed and Confused:

**Barbara Bickford** correctly guessed that a flounder's eyes actually migrate as the fish grows. Wonder which parts of my body are migrating these days? She still paid \$20.

**Bud Daveiro** almost guessed the nickname of the major stadium in Beijing, but almost still cost him \$20, even though he insisted that if he still owed \$20 he would not have come to the meeting. He strongly suggested that **President Jack** did not have to administer the fine, but our prez seemed to feel differently.



**Bill Lippert** added \$20 for A 25 DAY CRUISE from Ft. Lauderdale to southern Europe. Now that is some serious cruising and a lot of midnight buffets!



**Pauline Pellini** shared the joy of having grandchildren and paid \$20 for the honor.



**Richard Peterson** correctly guessed blue cheese – fill in your own question – but still paid \$20.

Luckily for the rest of us, time mercifully ran out and wallets were safe.



## 🍎 THE PROGRAM 🍎

**Jerry Warren** introduced David Goodman, CEO of the Redwood Empire Food Bank, a position he has held since 2000. During his tenure, the amount of food distributed annually has increased from 4.2 million to 15 million pounds. Valued at \$40 million, the food distributed is the equivalent of 36,000 meals each day. Fresh produce, brought in from throughout the West, now makes up one-half of the food distributed by REFB. \$1.00 spent on food equals \$4.00 of food distributed. REFB is now served by 8500 volunteers, including the Rotary Club of Sebastopol. REFB administers 12 food programs, including programs for children, seniors and families, and has begun a summer lunch program. From its Santa Rosa base, it distributes food all the way to the Oregon border. One interesting program is the Kitchen Collective. The Food Bank chef reviews what has been donated and then creates recipes and entrees using that food. The meals are flash frozen and distributed to seniors. But I must confess that your faithful scribe was not too sure about mushroom bacon.



The Food Bank works with and provides food for a number of non-profits in the county who distribute food, including the inter-church food pantry here in Sebastopol. Our food pantry has had a long and fruitful relationship with REFB. REFB also has its own food distribution centers. One million pounds of food comes in to the Food Bank every month.

After the October fires, the amount of donated food doubled and 3600 volunteers stepped forward. He called them “ferocious” volunteers because they wanted so badly to help out and did not want to be told they were not needed. At the height of the crisis, the line of cars waiting to receive food often extended from the Food Bank to 101. And REFB never received any support from the federal, state or county governments. David said they kept looking over their shoulders for the cavalry to arrive, but it never did. What did arrive was overwhelming local support. And at the time, the Food Bank was still serving people in fire-stricken Lake County where there were virtually no services. Expenses reached \$100,000 a month, but they did it.

Some other points:

- REFB cannot meet all the food needs in our seemingly affluent county. He used the phrase, “missing meals,” meaning that even those they help still have food needs.
- Threatened cut backs in the federal SNAP – food stamp – program would be “devastating. Food banks would be overwhelmed.
- School food programs are defined by the area the school is in. 50% of the students must qualify for food aid.
- In April, 2013, the Food bank completed a \$9.3 M capital campaign to build a new food bank near the airport that will serve the hungry in our communities for decades to come. It was a monumental humanitarian effort.



And volunteers are desperately needed during the week of July 4<sup>th</sup>. Hunger never takes a holiday!



## AFTER THE BELL



Before ringing his final closing bell, **President Jack** gave heartfelt thanks to our club for our support of him and for all that we unselfishly do in our community. It was a year that will remain with him always. He received a well-deserved *Standing Ovation*.

One more time folks... Debunking, Saturday June 30, 5:00 at Sebastopol Center for the Arts. \$40. It will be a wonderful and memorable time together. See you there!





## **FUTURE PROGRAMS**

### **June 22, 2018: David Goodman, The Redwood Empire Food Bank**

From the REFB website: Over twenty years ago, I stepped into a food bank for the very first time. When asked why I was there, I replied that I wasn't there to feed hungry people. I said I was there to work hard, and if hungry people benefited, then it would be a job well done. The interviewer replied, "Good." I still embrace the idea of working hard, but I would no longer answer the question in the same way. I have come to believe that it is a privilege to help people in need. I believe that in many ways we owe a debt of gratitude to many of the people who turn to us for help, as they are the people who care for our children, tend to our homes, serve us meals, work our land, and help our parents age with dignity. Finally, there is one belief that I hold above all others - People are in need for one of two reasons, decisions they have made or circumstances beyond their control. In either case, hunger cannot be the price they pay.

