Sebastopol Rotary Club's Weekly Bulletin Veteran's Day Program



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President 2017/2018 Jack Blasco

"All the News that Fits We Print"



BEFORE THE BELL



Karen Daniels was busy at the back table accepting checks from members for the Rotary Foundation. This is Rotary Foundation Month. There will be a raffle and prizes at the December 1st meeting



AT THE BELL





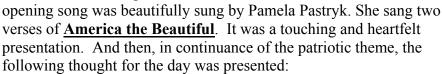
Yes we all realized immediately upon arriving in the hall that this would not be just one more Rotary Club Meeting. **Mike Ferguson** had us all at attention with hand on heart as a color detail of men and women in sharp white uniforms from nearby VFW Posts marched in and placed our flags in their bases. The Pledge of Allegiance was

recited, it seemed, with more dignity and personal conviction than usual. This was the start of the annual Club Veterans Day meeting, there could be no

doubt! **Mike** announced the 245th anniversary of the Marine Corps as well as official National Veterans Day.



To reinforce the patriotic flavor of this meeting, the



Our flag does not fly because the wind makes it. It flies with the last breath of every soldier that died protecting it.





Future Programs



November 17, 2017

Speaker: Michele Luna

Program: Stewards of the Coast &

Redwoods

November 24, 2017

DARK

December 1, 2017

Speaker: Amy Gutierrez. SF Giants

Announcer

Program: Working Among Giants

December 8, 2017

Speaker: Art Ibeleto

Program: The Pasta King

December 15, 2017

Speaker: Andrew Del Monte

Program: Analy High School Choir



Future Events



December 2: Rotary of Sebastopol Holiday Party

(Contact Cindy Carter at 707-824-0846 for info)



Miscellany •



Next Board Meeting

Date/Time: Nov 14, 2017, Tues 5:30 **Location: Jack Blasco's Home, Graton**

> MAKEUP NOTIFICATIONS-JackEDunlap@gmail.com

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

Domestic Violence Hotline: 707-546-1234

INTERACT MAKEUPS

Analy High: Check Day, Time with

Dan Rasmus

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!

sebastopolrotary.org

VISITORS AND GUESTS



There was but one visiting Rotarian this week – He was Dan Bornstein from the Santa Rosa Main Club, But with us at the luncheon meeting were many guests:

Dan Rasmus

introduced his wife Fran. and son Ben and daughter Jane. Ben and Jane are students at Analy High School.



Aldean **Noethig** had two guests. including grandson Aden and



Exchange Student Marina Trivellini



Patrick Dirden introduced Nick Gurney. Nick, we heard, is a possible future member.



Sebastopol Film Fest -. Cynthi Stefenoni.



Michael Hixson presented Eliot Enriquez



And <u>Mike Pastryk</u> Assistant District Governor rose and introduced himself and his wife Pamela.

There followed a hearty round of applause for all of the guests.



Hands were quickly raised by those that will be volunteers at the Redwood Empire Foodbank work party on November 14th.

November is Foundation Month

- Goal is \$15,000 raised this month!
- Raffle Tickets \$100 donation will get 6 raffle tickets for our Club's Foundation Raffle
- Or \$20/per club raffle ticket
- Raffle on December 1



and Children.

Dan Rasmus, discussed the importance of the Rotary Foundation. This is Foundation Month. This club has a goal to raise \$15,000 during this month. There is no doubt whatsoever that we will exceed that modest goal. So bring your checkbook. Raffle tickets are just \$20.

Dan announced that there are three new major donors in this club –And this club routinely raises the largest amount for the Foundation. There are six areas of service that are supported by the Foundation. They are Growing Local Economies; Fighting Disease; Promoting Peace; Clean Water; Supporting Education; Saving Mothers



RECOGNITIONS



Well now we came to the moment to recognize members with birthdays. <u>Fran</u> presented her husband **Dan Rasmus** with a very nice crown. The crown clearly proclaimed his new age – <u>50</u>. <u>Dan</u> gracefully declined to wear his new headpiece for serious club business (the Rotary Foundation). But this weekend his family will be celebrating his new status as "over fifty".



THE PROGRAM

There were two speakers at this meeting. <u>John Balletto</u> introduced <u>Steven McCall. Steve</u> is a native of Santa



Rosa, born in 1985, and attended school in Ukiah. He enlisted in January 2006. <u>Steve</u> was in training for two years and then served as an Army Ranger. <u>Steve</u> is now a cellar rat at *Balletto Winery*.

Steve outlined his army training which was extensive: combat medic school, airborne school, RANGER Indoctrination, and Ranger Medic Training. Trained and ready he was assigned to the 2nd Ranger Battalion at Fort Lewis Washington. Off he went to Afghanistan, where he lived a bit like a nomad. Steve said that he had but one bad day during his four years in active service. He told of a daytime raid that turned quite nasty. He was with wounded soldiers as they were evacuated by helicopter. On another occasion his helicopter was

involved in the security and logistics of President Obamas visit to the forces in Afghanistan.

Steve described his time in Afghanistan as "sleep, eat, go on mission, repeat". No doubt that was good



preparation for his time as a student at Fresno State.

Steve said that in the Army he learned discipline, learned to fight through diversity, and to always do what he could do for the mission.



Next up to the podium was <u>Dan Heddy</u>. <u>Dan</u> was introduced by **Mike Ferguson.** Dan served as a Navy Seal



from 1969 through 1973. <u>Dan</u> is now a successful general contractor in Petaluma. As a Navy Seal <u>Dan</u> had flight instruction, underwater instruction and skydiving instruction. <u>Dan</u> was born in Otaski Michigan, and attended high school in Flint Michigan. He was an active high school athlete – track (running), and boxing. After six months at college Dan joined the Navy. Boot Camp was at Great Lakes Navy Station on Lake Michigan. Dan said that the temperature was forty degrees below zero. Your faithful scribe suggests that that might be a slight exaggeration but further research is needed It was <u>COLD</u>. Soon he had volunteered for special service in the Navy Seals. The training was brutal and involved immersion in Lake Michigan in very very cold water. He was sent to Virginia, not only to thaw, but for "pre-training". His ordeal there was quite

something with exercises in raw sewage, long runs, long hikes, no sleep. It was called Hell Week for good reason.

<u>Dan</u> served in a unit with "mini-subs". They were underwater specialists. From there he was sent to a special school in the Florida Keys. And then it was at Fort Benning Georgia that he was parachuting. After Underwater Demolition School <u>Dan</u> agree to be a "YEOMAN". That job description, we learned, involves lots of typewriter duty. Off he went to Fort Bainbridge Maryland as a typist. At that location he jumped on an opportunity and was soon shipped out to the Island of Crete. His service actually included three years at Crete with a one year interruption for service in London England.





Dan Heddy's Navy Seal Baseball cap was then sold at auction to benefit the Rotary Foundation. **Cory -Maguire** - in need of a baseball cap? - was eager to be the high bidder and happily danced off after paying \$550 for the cap

President Jack announced a donation to end Polio in the name of each of today's speakers



This meeting was adjourned at 1:30 PM



November 17, 2017: Michele Luna – Stewards of the Coast & Redwoods



Michele Luna has worked for Stewards since 1994, raising \$3,000,000 in grant and contract funds to support education, stewardship and resource management projects in Russian River District State Parks. She has been working in the field of nonprofit administration with an emphasis on volunteer programs since 1991. Michele has demonstrated skills in the areas of board development, financial management, fund development, graphic design and web management, advocacy and marketing. She is the overall administrator of the programs that Stewards manages. Michele coordinated the efforts to fund and manage a successful fish habitat restoration project in the Willow Creek watershed, completed in 2014, and was responsible for entering Stewards into a contract with the California Department of Parks and Recreation to manage Austin Creek State Recreation Area in the face of possible park closure. Michele grew up in the San Fernando Valley and moved to Sonoma County in 1979 to raise her family.

November 24, 2017: DARK - Thanksgiving