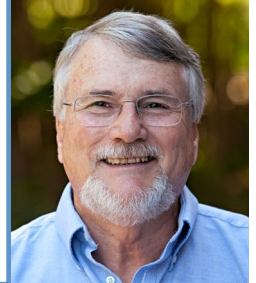




Sebastopol City Manager Larry McLaughlin

Date: November 3, 2017
Volume: 2017/18—Issue E16-18
Scribe: Patrick Dirden
Photog. Tom Lambert, Robin Maybury
Editors: P.Dirden, J.Holst, D.Still, T.Boag, S. Kellner, HH
President 2017/2018 Jack Blasco



"All the News that Fits We Print"



BEFORE THE BELL



Autumn arrived in full force at the Roto-Palace on this Friday. Light showers were falling from the sky. Golden leaves littered the palatial grounds. The calendar read November 3rd, and my goodness, it felt like a November day. While the weather was less than ideal, the call of friendship and fellowship, and the smell of fresh meatloaf, drove the Roto-flock to the Palace.



AT THE BELL



Sharply at 12:15PM, **President Jack Blasco** struck the Roto-Bell, summoning the flock to attention. **Jack** called **Diana Rich** to the front of the hall to lead the group in the flag salute. After which, **Rick Wilson** led the group in a rousing and spirited course of "This Land is Your Land." **Torrey Olson** shared a beautiful and poignant Thought for the Day from Socrates.



VISITORS AND GUESTS



Rotarians are a hearty bunch. Like the postal worker, neither rain, nor sleet, nor snow, would ever stop fellow

Rotarians from missing a meeting. There were many who braved the elements today to be here. **Jack Dunlap** introduced several visiting Rotarians: District Governor Elect Barb Spangler, from the Valley of the Moon Club; Danielle Lallemond, from the San Francisco Evening Club; Brad Howard from the Oakland Uptown Club; and Nicole Jones, from the Rotary International Regional Membership Office in Evanston, IL. **Les Crawford** introduced the Club to Nick Gurney, who has expressed interest in joining our Club. **Diana Rich** introduced our guest speaker, Sebastopol City Manager Larry McLaughlin.



Sonoma County YWCA Domestic Violence Hotline 707-546-1234

Future Programs

November 10, 2017

Host: Mike Ferguson
Program: Veterans Day Program

November 17, 2017

Speaker: Michele Luna
Program: Stewards of the Coast & Redwoods

November 24, 2017

DARK

December 1, 2017

Speaker: Amy Guterrez, 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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Jack alerted the Club to a few community volunteer projects coming up. On Saturday, November 11th, the Club will be working at the Sebastopol Area Senior Center. We will be helping the center move furniture for an upcoming flooring installation project, and finishing chair rails. On Saturday, November 18th, the Club will be working at the YWCA Pre-School, helping to install and paint a fence. For more information, or to sign up, please reach out to **Ellen Harrington**. If you cannot make these dates, don't worry, there will be many more volunteer opportunities in the future.

President Jack then handed the microphone over to **Jerry Warren**, to share the Club's experience volunteering at the Redwood Empire Food Bank. Typically, the volunteer team from the Sebastopol Rotary Club, numbering eight this week, sorts and boxes foodstuff; this time, the crew manned a drive up station, and handed out food boxes to a number of families, including many fire victims. **Jerry** expressed how wonderful it was to help the community at such a dire time as this. **Jerry** reminded the Club that more opportunities to work with the Redwood Empire Food Bank will occur in the future.

If you are longing for eggnog, warm tidings, and ugly holiday sweaters, well, the Rotary Club of Sebastopol might be able to help you. It's almost time for our world famous Rotary Club of Sebastopol Holiday Party! We will be gathering at the Chateau Z Weinery (AKA: the home of **Steve Zivolich** and **Jan Weiner**) on Saturday, December 2nd, from 6:00PM to 9:00PM. Ho-ho-hope to see you there!



President Jack invited **Dan Rasmus** up to the lectern. November is Foundation month. Our goal this month is to raise \$15,000. According to early donations received from our Club members, we are well on our way to reaching that goal! For every \$100 you donate, you will receive six raffle tickets for our Club's Foundation Raffle AND one ticket for the District's Foundation Raffle. If you donate \$20, you'll receive one raffle ticket for the Club's Foundation Raffle. **Dan** reminded us how respected The Rotary Foundation is. Funds received today are not touched for three years; they are invested, and all earnings received pay for administrative and development costs. Expenditures for the Foundation are very low. The application process is through and stringent. For these reasons, Charity Navigator gave The Rotary Foundation it's highest rating, four stars. For all these reasons, give big, and give often!



🍎 RAFFLE 🍎

IT'S RAFFLE TIME!!!! Our own ringmaster, carnival barker extraordinaire, **President Jack**, had each and every ticket holder clinging to the edge of their seats! Would today be the day? We'll soon find out. Number #5610? **Guenter Meiburg**, c'mon down!!! With **Jack's** patented balloon repellent darts in hand, **Guenter** carefully aimed the dart at a red balloon. DING! DING! DING! **Guenter** hit the red balloon with exact precision, and walked away with a wad of cash. Don't spend it all in one place! Remember, the more you play, the more we pay!

🍎 RECOGNITIONS 🍎



Edwin Wilson celebrated a birthday on September 29th. He spent that evening having dinner with friends. For not inviting the Club along, that will cost you \$5! **Patrick Dirden** celebrated his birthday on October 10th. He spent his big day doing something very exciting....working. For having a very dull birthday, **Jack** slapped him with a \$5 fine! **Cory Maguire** celebrated her birthday on October 28th. She spent the day out at Sea Ranch. All of that fun, and sea air, had to be worth \$5! **Shy-Guy Smith** tried to duck away from being recognized for his birthday, but the Club had to celebrate his big day on October 16th. His big day was spent on a big fire. He was on call to man a bulldozer all day. He never imagined that his 65th birthday would be that sobering. Even more sobering was the \$5 fine!



Diana Rich and her husband **Daniel** celebrated their anniversary on September 20th by going out for a nice dinner. She hoped the man sitting next to her was her husband! Well **Diana**, we hope so, too, and to make sure, \$5 please. **Edwin Wilson** and his wife **Diana** celebrated their anniversary on October 4th. **Edwin** was suffering from temporary amnesia, and could not recall what he did that day. Perhaps a \$5 fine will start to re-kindle visions of that day? **Meredeth Bertacco** and her husband **BJ** celebrated their anniversary on October 10th. According to **Meredeth**, it was a weird day. They celebrated their big day over a nice dinner at Underwood in Graton. The gentleman at the next table suffered a heart attack. We hope that guy, whoever he is, is okay. Just to make sure, that will be \$5 **Meredeth**!

President Jack knows how to spoil a good moment. As **Guy Smith** was savoring a delicious slice of meatloaf, **Jack** swooped in and called him out. Turns out he had good reason to, because we learned that **Guy** was a celebrity! He was featured on a recent episode of "American Pickers." **Guy** sold some of his parent's collectibles to help with his parent's care. What a wonderful gesture. **Guy** asked if there were any additional questions. **Jack** raised his hand and asked **Guy** if he could spare \$20! We learned that **Diana Rich** is retiring on December 1st. She's planning on spending her days traveling, walking the dog, and lounging at home in her pajamas while drinking coffee. Congratulations on reaching this milestone, **Diana**! But, it will still cost you \$20! **Brad Benedetti** was forced to evacuate his home in Santa Rosa earlier this month. To make extra sure he escaped the flames, he fled to Colorado. **Brad**, we hope everything at the **Benedetti** manor is okay, but it will still cost you \$20!



Jack handed the microphone over to **Dorothy Rodella** and **David McLennon** for an important public service announcement from Exchange Bank. **Dorothy** and **David** announced that up until Friday, November 3rd, Exchange Bank offered \$5,000 loans to fire victims, no questions asked. The loans were offered with low interest rates, and no pre-payment penalties. The roto-palace applauded the efforts of Exchange Bank to help all of those impacted by the Tubbs and Nuns fires. **President Jack** felt bad to fine **Dorothy** \$20 for the PSA, but not bad enough! **Brad Benedetti** stood up and paid the fine on **Dorothy's** behalf. What a guy!





President Jack soon flipped his slide deck to a puzzling slide, leaving everyone questioning what was up with that random slide. Was **Jack** having some sort of moment? We soon found out, **Jack** wanted to know what was up with certain people. A relief to many, except for those who **Jack** called upon! **Jack** set his target on **Jeff Boal**, and asked him what he was up to. For the record, **Jeff Boal** is 5 feet 10 inches tall. For that towering stance, \$20 please! **Jack** then set his sights on **JT Martin**. When asked what **JT** was up to, we learned that he just wanted to know how much he had to pay to stay out of trouble. It's the easiest answer of the day, \$20! Just remember **JT**, that \$20 does not free you from any future torture!

President Jack soon noticed that **Ken Jacobs'** head was bobbing up and down uncontrollably. **Jack** had to make sure **Ken** was okay. Thankfully, there was nothing wrong with our stalwart **Treasurer!** **Ken** was just agreeing with **Jack's** attempt to bolster the Club's coffers! **Ken** was recently in Mexico, and was living up to the time honored tradition of our Club, eating and drinking! Hope the tacos and margaritas were great, **Ken!** That will still be \$20! Once **Jack** was satisfied that **Ken** was okay, he set his sights on **Michele Kimble**. We learned that **Michele** is busy doing the marketing for the upcoming District Conference in Sacramento. **Jack** was so overjoyed to hear about **Michele's** efforts, but not too blinded to forget his fiduciary duties, and charge **Michelle** \$20! **Jack** decided to learn what our own first lady, **Peggy Rogers** was up to. Well, we learned that **Peggy** is moonlighting as an Uber driver, chauffeuring our own **District Governor Bob Rogers** up and down Highway 101. She's also making sure **Bob** stays on the straight and narrow path. We also learned that she was recently in Sacramento, and accepted a check for \$22,000 for the District 5130 Fire Relief Fund. **Jack** applauded **Peggy's** stamina for keeping up with **Bob's** travels and musings, but still charged her \$20. **Brad Benedetti**, pulling a card from "Robert's Rules of Order", called for a point of order, to ask **Jim Pacatte** what was up with his new hair dux. We learned that **Jim** lost a bet with his grandson on who could grow their hair faster. Needless to say, his grandson just recently visited his barber. **Jim**, being a good sport, threw \$100 at the Rotary Foundation.



THE PROGRAM



Diana Rich stepped up to lectern to introduce our guest speaker, Sebastopol City Manager Larry McLaughlin. Larry has been with the City of Sebastopol for over 35 years. For the first 30 years, Larry was the City Attorney. In 2012, he took on the role of City Manager. Little known fact about Larry, in his early days, he left college to start a surf music band with several friends. While we're sorry he and his friends were unable to catch that perfect wave, we're grateful he ended up here! Larry came to the Roto-palace to update us on the city of Sebastopol's disaster preparedness planning efforts, and how the city responded to the recent wildfires. We learned that the city has a detailed disaster plan. During an emergency, the city would open up an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at the Police Station. The Fire Chief would coordinate all efforts and serve as the Public Information Officer. Every city staff member would have a specific role, and all city functions would close so staff could focus on the disaster. The city performs a disaster drill annually with city staff. Larry informed us that the city recently formed a committee to update the city's disaster plan. He also announced that the city will be re-starting its Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program. The recent wildfires offered the city an opportunity to look at how local jurisdictions responded to the disaster. It also showed where the city could bolster its own planning efforts, especially when it comes to sheltering and caring for disaster victims.

Larry gave the Club a detailed summary on how the city of Sebastopol responded to the wildfires. The Tubbs or Nuns fires never threatened the city of Sebastopol at any time. The Sebastopol Fire Department is an all-volunteer organization. The only paid staff member is the Fire Chief. The city is apart of a county-regional mutual aid network. The city sent one fire truck to the fire lines just before midnight on Sunday night, October 8th. An hour later, another truck was requested. An hour later, multiple trucks were requested. By 4AM, Larry, and other city staffers realized the gravity of the disaster unfolding in Sonoma County. Shelters were quickly setup at the Sebastopol Community Center, and were opened for evacuees before sunrise. As the sun rose over Sebastopol on Monday, September 9th, the people of Sebastopol came together, offering food, water, clothing, and bedding to evacuees. A second evacuation shelter was

opened at Analy High School. During the fires, Larry and city staff constantly monitored needs at the two shelters. He remarked how evacuees had a suite of “uniquely Sebastopol” services, including gourmet food from local restaurants, and therapeutic massage, on top of the other shelter services. Additionally, almost all fire crews from Sebastopol were battling the wildfires; but at no time was the city without sufficient fire coverage.

Larry noted that the city’s efforts during the wildfires were executed without a plan; everything came together holistically. The community came together to help the fire victims in a big way. The city will be taking all of their efforts during the wildfires into consideration while crafting the disaster plan update. The city will be looking at ways to improve the communications process (a key criticism among first responders and local jurisdictions), handling evacuees, and managing the distribution of donated goods. Larry shared his thanks to **Steve Kellner** and the staff at Analy High School, and to the Sebastopol Community Center, for stepping up to help the fire victims. He also shared his gratitude to the people of Sebastopol for their generosity. Unrated to the fires, Larry informed the Club that the city will be including the Sebastopol Area Senior Center in future city budgets. He shared his thanks to the Rotary Club of Sebastopol for their support of the Senior Center.

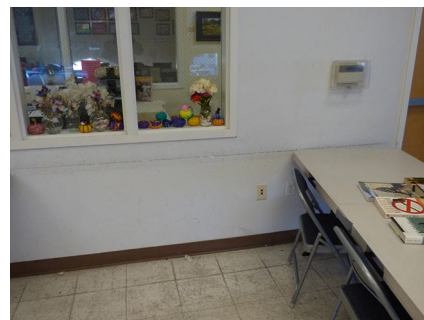
Jeff Boal asked how the city would deal with escape routes out of the city. Larry stated that traffic is a pain point that the city is examining. He remarked at how crowded the streets were the morning of the fires. **John Blount** asked about how city residents would be warned of an emergency. Larry mentioned the problem with the reverse 911 system. Calls only go to landlines, and they are hard to geo target. Currently, the city would send fire and police vehicles out to advise of evacuations. The city council is looking into how evacuation and emergency warnings can be communicated better to city residents.

President Jack thanked Larry McLaughlin for his thorough and interesting presentation, and presented him with a donation in his name to Polio Plus. Larry matched the donation!



AFTER THE BELL

With the clang of the sturdy Roto-bell at 1:30PM sharp, another thought provoking and interesting meeting came to an end. On Saturday, November 4th, some of our members gathered at the Sebastopol Area Senior Center to help paint the Dining Room and install chair rails. Don’t forget to sign up for the upcoming volunteer opportunities at the Senior Center on November 11th, and at the YWCA pre-school on November 18th.





FUTURE PROGRAMS



November 10, 2017: Veterans Day Program – Dan Heddy and Steven McCall



Dan Heddy is one of our guest speakers. Dan was raised in Flint Michigan. He was a college athlete excelling in cross country running, and boxing. He will discuss how that helped him meet the rigorous physical demands. For decades now, Dan has been a general contractor specializing in custom homes and wineries mostly in the Sonoma Valley area. Dan owns two planes, and a partner in a large one. He is also a Charter Pilot, an Airline Transport Pilot (ATP), Commercial Flight Instructor, Dive Instructor, and Skydiving Instructor. The Ball cap he is wearing in his photo will be auctioned towards your Foundation giving. It has the Navy Seal emblem, and UDT/Seals. UDT, Underwater Demolition Team.



Steven McCall was born in Santa Rosa, Ca in 1985 and was raised in Ukiah. After graduating from Ukiah High School in 2003, Steven took classes at junior college and worked as an athletic training intern for a couple years. In January 2006 Steven enlisted into the US Army as a combat medic. After basic training Steven was able to volunteer for Army Ranger Selection. After completing 2 years of training Steven was assigned to 2nd Ranger battalion at Ft. Lewis, WA. While be assigned to 2nd Ranger Battalion Steven deployed twice in support of the global war on terrorism. During Steve's first deployment Steven's platoon was involved in a raid that lead to the death of one of Steven's Ranger Buddy, Christopher Gathercole, from Santa Rosa, CA. In that same mission, senior squad leader Leroy Petry's actions earned him The Medal of Honor. Steven was honorably discharged from the Army in January 2010. After the Army Steven used his GI Bill to graduate from Fresno State and earn his degree in Enology. He now lives in Sebastopol and works at Balletto Vineyards and Winery.

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