



Maile Arnold – Cover Crops



BE THE INSPIRATION

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"All the News that Fits We Print"

 **BEFORE THE BELL** 

Spring arrived prematurely to the Roto-palace. Even though the skies were clear, and the air was soft as a spring day, everyone streamed into the palace. If the flock was not in a spring mood, they would be after today's talk.

 **AT THE BELL** 

Our fearless leader, **President Larry Ford**, convened the meeting at 12:15PM. **Edwin Wilson** stepped to the front of the hall to lead the flock in the flag salute. Our own member of the British Invasion, **Robin Maybury**, led the Roto-light chorus in a rousing version of "God Bless America." At least **Robin** did not sneak "God Save the Queen" in! **Tom Dilley** delivered a great thought of the day from Frank Zappa:

"The mind is like a parachute, it doesn't work if it's not open."



 **ROTARIANS & GUESTS** 

We had several visiting Rotarians. Guess the news is out about our scrumptious lunches! Not a stranger to our meetings, and our famous meals, was Dan Bornstein, from the Santa Rosa club. From the Sebastopol Sunrise club, was Michael Cook and David Mark Raymond (self-proclaimed **Dick Zimmer Wannabe**). David



Sonoma County YWCA Domestic Violence Hotline 707-546-1234

🍎 Future Programs 🍎

February 1, 2019

Ellen Bauer
Sonoma County Department of Health
Services

February 8, 2019

TBD

February 15, 2019

Lance Morgan
Marine Biologist

February 22, 2019

Deborah Ramelli
Ceres Community Project

🍎 Events 🍎

Crab Feed

February 9, 2019
Holy Ghost Hall, Sebastopol

🍎 Miscellany 🍎

MAKEUP NOTIFICATIONS--JackEDunlap@gmail.com

On-line Make-Ups:

www.RotaryEClubOne.org

Domestic Violence Hotline:

707-546-1234

sebastopolrotary.com



alerted the club about a great event the Sunrise Club is putting on called A Parisian Rendezvous. The event takes place on March 23rd at the Sebastopol Center for the Arts. There will be French cuisine, wine tasting, a silent and live auction, and a special appearance by the Transcendence Theatre Company. Tickets are \$75, and available on the Sebastopol Sunrise Club website. Last but certainly not least, **Aleia Coate** introduced us to our exchange student, Laura.

🍎 ANNOUNCEMENTS 🍎

Are you ready for some football? Place your bets folks, the world famous Rotary Club of Sebastopol Super Bowl square is back in town! Our pit boss, and self-confessed Patriots fan, **Aleia Coate**, has pulled the sheet out from mothballs, and is ready to take your money and run! Tiles are \$10 each, and there are still some un-claimed tiles. Make the square your first stop this Friday!

Well, unless you live under a rock, or have been traveling down the Amazon for several months, we have a Crab Feed coming! Yes folks, the Sebastopol Rotary Crab Feed is coming up very fast! On Saturday February 9th, we'll be serving from the freshest, most delectable, and mouthwatering crab in the county! We still have tickets available, and they are \$70 each. Tickets are available on the club website, at the meetings, and at Exchange Bank. Don't delay, this event always sells out. If you're



on the fence, remember, all of the proceeds go to the Mark Sell Rotary Teacher Grants Programs. So, clear your calendar, save your appetite, and help the great kids and students of the West County! Don't forget to sign up and work at the Crab Feed. We still need crab crackers, pot washers, and cleaners. Reach out to **Patrick Dirden** if you're interested!

Jerry Warren will be leading the Roto-flock on a field trip to the Redwood Empire Food Bank this week. The flock will be gathering on Thursday, January 31st. **NOTE, new time from 11am to 1pm!** If you are still interested, reach out to **Jerry** today. **Larry** announced that the annual Golf Tournament is coming up on Monday, April 29th. Details to follow! **Jim Passage** gave us an update on our Ukraine Project, led by Sebastopol Resident Dr. Steve Levenberg. **Jim** announced that over \$400,000 in medical supplies safely arrived in the Ukraine. Our club donated \$5,000 to assist with the shipping costs.

🍎 **RECOGNITIONS** 🍎



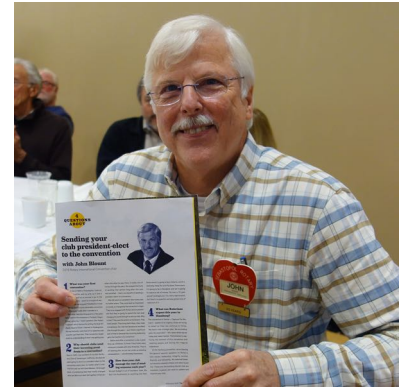
Bob Boyd was in the Roto-house. **Bob** celebrated a birthday on December 27th, and could not remember all the details from that day. Unmemorable days cost \$5!

John Blount spent his birthday (December 29th) fighting a cold. He watched a gripping and compelling movie, of which he could not recall the name. We know that movie all too well. There was also some talk of **John** renting a pizza. Hummmm, don't what to know how that works. \$5 please!



Harvey Henningsen spent his birthday at Rotary! The Rotary-light singers quickly assembled and serenaded **Harvey** with a spirited chorus of "Happy Birthday." Because the birthday boy was in the house, no charge!

We learned that **John and Patty Blount** had an anniversary on December 16th. No double jeopardy, and no double fine. All it will cost is an explanation as to why **John's** mugshot was in this month's *Rotarian*. Well, between root canals, **John** has been moonlighting as a program director for the 2019 Rotary International Convention in Hamburg. He's been busy assembling the program, making strategic decisions, and working hard to make this year's convention the best yet. Tickets, and hotel rooms are still available.



We learned that **Dana Moises** has a new grandson, Jordan. Her new grandson arrived weighing 7 pounds and 14 ounces. Congratulations, **Dana!**

Brenden Houston, you've got some explaining to do! It looks like **Brendon** found a new form of bait to catch fish, his daughter! Well wait, before you all the police, let's hear what he has to say. It appears **Brendon** and his family were vacationing in New Zealand, and they all (including his daughter) went bungee jumping over open water. No crime there! **Brendon** did go fishing, and caught a whopper of a fish. But, since it was 20 centimeters too short, he had to return the fish to open waters. I'm sure that fun was at least \$5 worth!



🍎 RAFFLE 🍎

There's always room for a raffle! **Jack Dunlap** was the lucky winner. He ended up stringing two bolos on the rack, and left \$10 richer.

🍎 THE PROGRAM 🍎



Richard Power introduced today's speaker, Maile Arnold, who spoke to the flock about the wonder of cover crops. She was inspired to learn more about the benefits of covering crops by a desire to help curb climate change. We learned that by tilling soil, carbon becomes released from the soil. If crops are covered, carbon will remain in the soil. When sunlight hits the soil, heat waves are bounced back, which contributes to climate change. Covering crops helps mitigate this problem.

When plants are at 50% bloom, she advises to cut the plant with a weed whacker or a mower. At that point, the plants, and the cut plants, are covered with a tarp. The tarp remains on the plants for four to six weeks. At that point, the plant mass decomposes into the soil, releasing micro biotic organisms into the soil, producing soil ready for planting. The plants perform well, producing a greater crop yield, and requires less watering.

Another benefit of cover crops is how decomposed roots create channels for water to distribute more efficiently in the soil. We also learned that naturally occurring sugars are created easier, allowing for more flowering plants to bloom.

We learned that uncovered crops require more water, and produce less product. She shared the story of her brother, who owns a vineyard, and constantly tills the soil. The grape output is far less than what the plants

can produce, and the increased watering required harms the plants. We also learned that runoff from the plant nutrients can harm waterways. She described how nutrients have created large swaths of algae in the Gulf of Mexico, depriving areas the size of Massachusetts of no oxygen, creating dead zones. We learned that 30% of the carbon dioxide in the air comes from farming.

 **THE FINAL BELL** 

After a fascinating meeting, **President Larry Ford** struck the Roto-bell at 1:30Pm sharp, bringing another meeting to a close. Remember to buy your Crab Feed tickets today! Be there, or be crabby!