



The Appleknocker

Sebastopol Rotary Club's Weekly Bulletin

Randi Rossman of the Press Democrat



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President 2019/2020: Keller McDonald



"All the News that Fits We Print"

BEFORE THE BELL

The temperature in the roto-hall finally cooled off after last week's, shall we say, stimulating program. The only fever in the air was football fever. The infamous Sebastopol Rotary Super Bowl pool returned today. While some showed their 49'er pride, some "misguided souls" decided to show homage to their beloved teams. No extra credit for sporting a cheese hat, **Gene Nelson!** There was also a special honor bestowed on one of our beloved members. On with the show!

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Tropical Escape

Saturday, January 25; 5-10 pm
Suggested attire ... casual tropical!






Rotary Club of Sebastopol

AT THE BELL

President Keller brought the hammer down at 12:15pm.
Ann Hill led us in the salute to old glory. **JT Martin**, who prepared day and night for over a week to sing the LSU Fight Song, was skunked by Keller, and forced to sing "My Country Tis of Thee. Next time, JT!

Katy Spyрка brought us a wonderful thought for the day.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Katy Spyрка

Success is not the key to happiness.
Happiness is the key to success.
If you love what you are doing,
you will be successful.

- Albert Schweitzer



Sonoma County YWCA Domestic Violence Hotline 707-546-1234

🍏 Future Programs 🍏

January 24, 2019

Rotary Climate Action Committee

January 31, 2019

**A Debate on the Future of Palm Drive
Hospital District**

February 7, 2020

State Senator Mike McGuire

February 14, 2020

A Romantic Speaker of Sorts?

February 21, 2020

Kristen Madsen of Creative Sonoma

🍏 Events 🍏

**“Fall” Fundraiser
January 25th**

🍏 Miscellany 🍏

MAKEUP NOTIFICATIONS–JackEDunlap@gmail.com

On-line Make-Ups:

www.RotaryEClubOne.org

Domestic Violence Hotline:

707-546-1234

sebastopolrotary.com

🍏 VISITING ROTARIANS & GUESTS 🍏

Jack Dunlap grabbed the mic and introduced us to three visiting Rotarians. In the Roto-Palace, we had our own District Governor, Kathy Flamson from Calistoga, regular guest star from Santa Rosa, Dan Bornstein, and David Mark Raymond from Sebastopol Sunrise.



Greg Jacobs introduced us to our guest speaker **Randi Rossman** from The Press Democrat. **Pauline Pellini** introduced us to her life-long friend, **Susie Kaido**.



Tom Lambert introduced us to his sister, Nancy Lambert. Mark **Stevens** introduced us to his friend, Gail. **Jim Pacatte** introduced us to his better half, **Rosemarie**.



ARCH KLUMPH SOCIETY

Keller quickly gave the Roto-lectern to District Governor Kathy Flamson. Kathy started by singling out our club for the great contributions we have made to The Rotary Foundation. She noted how donations to the Rotary Foundation have substantial impacts internationally and locally. Today, she was proud to be at our club, and help celebrate a big honor, an induction of one of our members into the Arch Klumph Society. Arch C Klumph started The Rotary Foundation. He felt that Rotary could make so many contributions to the World. In 2004, The Rotary Foundation started the Arch Klumph Society in 2004 to honor the highest tier of donors, those who donate \$250,000 or more during their lifetime. **Kathy** noted how our club is a shining example of what clubs can accomplish. Last year, **Frank** and **Kathie Mayhew** were inducted into the Arch Klumph Society. Today, we celebrate the induction of **Jim** and **Rosemarie Pacatte** into the Arch Klumph Society.

Jim and **Rosemarie Pacatte** moved to Sonoma Co in the late 1970s and founded Pacatte Construction Company in 1980. Their company has built a great many of the commercial buildings in use in Sonoma County today. **Jim** and **Rosie** married in 1966 and they will soon celebrate their 54th anniversary, on January 29th. Happy 54th anniversary, **Jim** and **Rosie**! They have three children, a son Doug and daughter Daniel who lives next door, and another daughter Dawn who lives in Windsor. They also enjoy eight grandchildren and six great grandchildren. **Jim** has retired but son-in-law Jammie Hagle continue to run the company.



son Doug and daughter Daniel who lives next door, and another daughter Dawn who lives in Windsor. They also enjoy eight grandchildren and six great grandchildren. **Jim** has retired but son-in-law Jammie Hagle continue to run the company.

Jim has always been involved in the community. He joined Rotary in 2008, has led the North Bay Builders Association, and is a strong supporter of 4H. As a Rotarian **Jim** can always be counted on to help the building part of community service projects, including Sebastopol Senior Center remodeling projects, benches for the library, and fences for domestic violence safe houses. **Jim** loves building things including bird houses and

garden benches for sale at fundraisers and completing a home remodeling project. **Jim** and **Rosie** also enjoy playing golf and travel including to several recent Rotary International conventions. After the presentation, **Jim**, choking back a tear, expressed his gratitude to the club. **Jim, Rosie**, congratulations!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mark your calendars, clear your date books, and prep your appetites! A crab feed is coming to town! Yes, the Sebastopol Rotary Crab Feed is coming, Saturday, February 8th at the Holy Ghost Hall on Mill Station Road. All you can eat crab (fresh off the boat) awaits you for only \$70! All of the proceeds go to the Mark Sell Teacher Mini Grant program. Want to double your efforts? Then volunteer at the crab feed! Our volunteer wrangler **Dan Rasmus** has a job, or two, for you! You can sign up online at: <https://signup.com/go/wJoucch>



If you know a dynamic, innovative teacher in the West County, then consider nominating them for Sebastopol Rotary Education Foundation's West Sonoma County Teachers of the Year award. This year we will be recognizing three teachers; one new teacher, one innovative teacher, and one career service teacher. Each teacher will receive \$1,000. Applications must be received by February 14, 2020. Criteria and nomination forms can be found at: <http://www.sebastopol-rotary-education-foundation.org/>

Are you ready for some football???? The world-famous Super Bowl Pool Squares are back! If you want in on the fun, get your squares next Friday! The board is 50% full! Squares are \$20 each. Even Patriots and Cheeseheads can play! The big winner is SREF, as they will receive \$1,000. See **Aleia** or **Torrey** on Friday!

Keller swung the spotlight on the magnificent Audio-Visual committee. Without them, our meetings would consist of white boards and post it notes! Thanks to them, we're getting closer and closer to

going completely wireless. Additionally, the team supports AV needs for District 5130, and other districts throughout the west. Way to go! Not to be called a second banana, **Keller** also recognized those who volunteered at the Redwood Empire Food Bank last week. Orange you glad they volunteered! Of course, the big payoff was the donuts! Great work everyone.

🍎 RECOGNITIONS 🍎

Aleia Coate, and her husband, **Matt**, celebrated their 7th anniversary on January 12th. They celebrated their anniversary up at Bear Valley. This anniversary was easy, as it was the first year where the Patriots were not Super Bowl competitors.

Jim Pacatte celebrated his big day (January 16th) by unpacking and moving into his new house. **Tom Lambert** skipped town for his big day on December 5th. He spent his birthday hiking and birding in Utah. **Tom** managed to spot a Roadrunner. No coyotes? Meep Meep! **Jack** and **Ruthie Dunlap** notched one item off the bucket list. They spent several days on a safari in South Africa. They stayed at a wonderful reserve and got up close and personal with the exotic and majestic animals of South Africa. In fact, if you want to walk in **Jack** and **Ruthie Dunlap's** footprints. At next week's Tropical Escape fundraiser, you can bid on a 9-day, all-inclusive African Safari with Mafigeni Safari. Bring your wallet, this will be a hot auction item!



Greg and **Kathi Jacobs** took it easy in the big easy recently. They spent some quality time in New Orleans eating, seeing the sights, including the home of Louie Prima and Louis Armstrong. Of course, no trip would be complete without some fishing. **Greg** caught enough red fish to feed 100 hungry diners twice over! **Nao Noguchi** came in a close second! The new year cannot start until **Nao** host annual Mochi party, the traditional Japanese celebration of the new year. While a whole pig was slowly roasting in an open pit, guests consumed warm sake, wine, and whisky. Even Kazuhiro Iryu, the Japanese Deputy Consul General, payed a visit.



🍎 RAFFLE 🍎

The mysterious black ball awaited raffle winner **JT Martin**. Would **JT** pull the elusive black ball, of course he did, winning a quick \$40!

🍎 THE PROGRAM 🍎

Greg Jacobs stepped up to the Roto-lectern to introduce today's guest. Having worked in the DA's office, **Greg** was familiar with today's guest speaker, Press Democrat reporter Randi Rossman. He mentioned how professional and fair Randi was. Before **Greg** started to throw around fishing metaphors, he turned the microphone over to Randi.



We learned that Randi was in her first official week of retirement, and her last story appeared in Sunday's Press Democrat. Randi is a local, growing up in Sonoma County, attended Piner High School, Santa Rosa Junior College, and Chico State. When Randi returned from Chico, she started work at KSRO Radio, where she was an on-air reporter. In 1981, she went to work at the Press Democrat. After covering a double homicide case in Sebastopol, she knew that she wanted to cover crime. She was assigned to cover stories in Petaluma for several years. There, she spent lots of time roaming the halls of the Petaluma Police Department, getting to know the officers. When the Polly Klass kidnapping and murder took place in 1993, Randi's connections with the Petaluma Police ensured the Press

Democrat's stories were factual and timely. Often, she beat other news outlets to the story. The same connections proved valuable when covering the Ramon Salcido murders. The lesson here, professional connections matter.

During the remainder of her time at the Press Democrat, Randi covered crime, and breaking news, which included disasters. In 2016, after covering the death of a woman who drove her car into the Russian River, and the drowning homicide of another person, Randi started to step away from crime, and concentrate on fire services in Sonoma County. She got to know many of the fire chiefs around the county. Fast forward to October 2017.

The week before the October 2017 firestorm, Randi was covering the mass shooting in Las Vegas, speaking with many locals who were at the Route 91 Festival. The day before the wildfires began, Randi had a terrible feeling the next day would be a wildfire day. That evening, Press Democrat photographer Kent Porter was responding to the Atlas Peak fire above Napa. En route, he learned about a wildfire burning west of Calistoga. He later told Randi that he felt sick to his stomach, because he knew the fire would end up in Santa Rosa and would follow the same path as the 1964 Hanley Fire. While attempting to flee the fast racing inferno, Kent became lost, and eventually ended up in Fountaingrove, surrounded by flames. He later met up with fellow reporter Martin Espinoza near Coffey Park.

Upon learning about the fire from reporter Julie Johnson, Randi immediately went to work. It began a three-week stint, working twelve hour plus days. Randi became a field general, directing reporters and photographers to specific locations. She stayed chained to her computer, constantly contacting fire chiefs. Randi and her staff became well versed on the fire geography, and all the fires burning in the North Bay. Her typical day started at 5am, and end around midnight. Randi and Julie were feeling overwhelmed, struggling to capture each story. At times, they felt defeated. Randi mentioned

that newspapers from around the country were delivering food to the newsroom, which helped to keep them going. When the Press Democrat received the Pulitzer Prize for their coverage, everyone was shocked and surprised. It was then they realized the importance and significance of their work, and what everybody accomplished. Everyone felt grateful for the award but felt bad that it was on the backs of those who suffered.

In 2019, Randi contemplated retirement, but vowed to cover one more fire season. She was one of a small handful of veteran reporters left at the Press Democrat. Many long-time reporters left after the 2017 fires. When the Kincade fire started in late October, the staff at the Press Democrat were prepared. They knew how to cover the fire and had the resources. Kincade was the only fire burning during that time, which made it easy to cover, and made it easy for fire officials to pour massive resources on it. After the 2017 wildfires, the Press Democrat realized that the story never ends after a wildfire is extinguished. Stories regarding recovery and rebuilding have become part and parcel of the weekly news stories.

Dick Zimmer asked if the reporters and photographers felt in any danger. Randi expressed that many of the reporters and photographers in the field felt in danger quite often. They learned never to turn their cars off, in case they had to leave a scene fast. **John Blount** asked how social media changed the news and news gathering. Randi feels that old school methods are still best. Building professional relationships and rapport with officials is critical. She's tried to bestow that quality on new reporters. Social Media has changed the game of news gathering. Randi admitted that sometimes it's hard to keep up with news showing up on multiple social media platforms. **Robin Maybury** asked if the recovery stories have aided those who have encountered difficulties with recovery. Randi mentioned it has helped at times. **Mike Ferguson** thanked Randi for her professionalism while he worked in law enforcement. He credited her professionalism, integrity, and fairness. **David Schreiban** asked what made the stand in Windsor by 200 plus fire fighters heroic? Randi expressed how many fire fighters felt they failed the community after the 2017 wildfires. They took the attack in Windsor personally. The stand might have not been heroic, but it was heroic about doing it right.

🍎 THE FINAL BELL 🍎

With a swift crack of the hammer at 1:30pm sharp, **President Keller** brought another successful meeting to a close.



FUTURE PROGRAMS

January 24th: Rotary Climate Action Committee – John Mather

John is a past president of the Rotary Club of San Francisco and has held several positions with Rotary District 5150, including Youth Services and OD Specialist. Climate change is an unprecedented challenge to humankind. CO2 in the atmosphere is changing our planet, no matter what or who may be the cause. It is that simple. And there is no fixing it later, due to the long life of CO2 in the atmosphere and oceans.



The world's least prepared and most vulnerable are those that will be impacted the most. These are the same people Rotary has devoted its services to over the last century. Many years ago, an individual Rotary club saw a need and took action to begin the eradication of polio. The same grassroots effort is necessary to tackle climate change. We must act now to prevent it from getting even hotter, disrupting our weather and raising sea levels. Rotary can take a leadership role. If not Rotarians, then who? If not here, then where? If not right now, then when?

January 31st: A Debate on the Future of the Palm Drive Hospital

Formed in April 2000, Palm Drive Health Care District serves the approximately 50,000 people who live in western Sonoma County, including the communities of Sebastopol, Graton, Forestville, Bodega Bay and more.



But since the sale of the hospital in 2019, the disbanding of the district is a topic of contention. Some say it's high time we disband the district and get rid of it, before it accrues more debt, while the other side have a constructive look and want to make it work. For this Rotary program, we are going to experiment with a new format: a public debate between the two sides, moderated by our own Jorgen Holst.

February 7th: State Senator Mike McGuire

State Senator Mike McGuire is a third generation Northern Californian, whose family farmed prunes and grapes in the Alexander Valley for nearly a half century. Raised by his mom and grandma, Mike worked his way through high school and college and enjoyed a career in the radio and television industries. He was first elected to the Healdsburg School Board when he was 19. As one of Northern California's youngest school board presidents, he led successful efforts to rebuild local decaying schools.



He then progressed through the Healdsburg City Council where he was the city's youngest mayor, then the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors. He helped lead efforts that turned years of deficits into a multi-million-dollar surplus and brought forward the county's economic recovery and jobs plan that made Sonoma County one of top counties in job growth in California. Mike attended Santa Rosa Junior College and graduated from Sonoma State University. He is married to local high school teacher and middle school assistant-principal, Erika McGuire. Erika and Mike live in Healdsburg.

February 21st: Kristen Madsen of Creative Sonoma

Kristin Madsen, Dir. of Creative Sonoma, a department of the Sonoma

County Economic Development Board, will present an overview of the place of arts in the economy of Sonoma County. The purpose of the Creative Sonoma department is to help the arts community in Sonoma County by developing the skills of all creative people in Sonoma County to enhance the value of the work they provide. Creative Sonoma is helping to foster new ways of presenting artwork to the community, both for the economic enhancement of the artists involved, as well as to the general exposure the public to works of art.



Rotary Club of Sebastopol – Board Report Summary – January 14, 2020

President's Report to the Club for January 2020

Fellow Club Members and Friends,

Welcome to the New Year!

Heartfelt thanks to **Jim and Rosemarie Pacatte** for graciously opening their home to our club and hosting our Club Holiday Party! And to **Cindy Carter-Flamm** for chairing the event, and to the many, many people who contributed wonderful food, talent and energy to make this a great evening! About 80 Rotarians and guests mingled, enjoyed each other's company, and ushered in the holidays with a feel-good event!

Our club's robust support of The Rotary Foundation (TRF) is underscored by the success of our recent TRF fund drive and raffle. Each of those Paul Harris Fellow awards and each Paul Harris Fellow Plus pin represents a Rotarian providing significant long-term support for the life-changing good works of The Rotary Foundation, both internationally and here at home. Remember, we get direct benefit from our club's support of The Rotary Foundation. TRF funds allocated back to District 5130 are providing a \$2,400 matching grant to our club for the SuperPlayground Replacement Project.

I can't remember a time in my 30-plus years as a Rotarian when I've seen so much well-deserved Paul Harris and Rotary Foundation recognition! It is priceless to see the look of surprise and appreciation from family members and friends when they are announced as new Paul Harris Fellows and greeted with a standing ovation! Thanks to all for supporting TRF!

Of course, **Tropical Escape** on Saturday, January 25 and the **Crab Feed** on Saturday, February 8 are the big events coming up for our club. It's "all hands on deck" to pull together and make both of these fun events successfully raise funds to propel our service projects.

Thanks for making the Rotary Club of Sebastopol a very special place to call home.

Yours in Rotary Service,

Keller McDonald

Rotary Club of Sebastopol President, 2019-20



[You can see the full Directors' reports at ClubRunner| Member Area| MyClubRunner| ViewClubDocuments| BoardMeetingMinutes| 2019-2020. –Ed.]

CLUB ACTIVITIES – ELLEN HARRINGTON, DIRECTOR:



APPLE BLOSSOM PARADE FLOAT (**Dan Rasmus**, Chair) – The Committee is established & plans will be forthcoming later on. **Dan Rasmus & Aleia Coate** have agreed to work on the float project together. No current updates.

DEBUNKING (**Ellen Harrington**, Chair) – The Committee will start meeting in January for this year's debunking. Venue contract is in the works. Keep watching this spot!

FRIENDSHIP DINNERS COMMITTEE (**Cindy Carter-Flamm**, Chair) – **Cindy** is planning friendship dinners for March 2020. No current updates.

GOLF TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE (**Jackie Moreira**, **Katy Spyra**, **Aleia Coate**, Co-Chairs) – The great Golf team has set the event where all club members will be able to attend. The event will take place May 21st at Northwood Golf Club in Monte Rio. Like our club picnic, this event will pay for itself, & the cost will be \$30/person. We will be doing a BBQ that the restaurant will provide. A beverage cart will also be available. No current updates.

HAPPY HOUR / FIRST FRIDAY (**Aldean Noethig**, Chair) – Something will be planned after Crab Feed.

HOLIDAY PARTY (CLUB) (**Cindy Carter-Flamm**, Chair) – Our thanks to **Jim & Rosemarie Pacatte** who are opening their home for our holiday party. **Cindy** did a great job organizing it and running the show. We kept the expenses well under budget.

PAST PRESIDENT DAY (CLUB) (**Harry Polley**, Chair) – **Harry** has some ideas, & discussion is taking place to fit this in. No current updates.

PICNIC (CLUB) (**David Still**, **Bob Cugini**, Co-Chairs) – I have ideas on cutting costs for next year's picnic. No current updates.

SUPER BOWL BOARD (**Aleia Coate**, **Torrey Olson**, Co-Chairs) – **Aleia & Torrey** will start this coming year's SB Board on January 17th.

VETERAN'S DAY (**Mike Ferguson**, Chair) – The program went well, & there is no more information until next Rotary year.

CLUB SERVICE – PATRICK DIRDEN, DIRECTOR:

ANNIVERSARY CARDS (**NANCY DWYER**, Chair) – No report this month.

APPLEKNOCKER EDITORS (**David Still**, Chair) – AppleKnocker editing set through March 2020.

AUDIO/VISUAL TEAM (**Paul Thielen**, Chair) – Nothing unusual with the A/V group. Looking toward supplying support for the fundraiser, going to the East Bay the next day to film the incoming district governors for our President Elect Training Seminar presentation and will have sound for the Crab Feed. Also, **Tom Dilley** has generously donated space for us to store the gear trailers. Great news, that! And we are working the bugs out of going wireless with mics at the meetings. We've had snags and whenever we have a problem, it shows. Patience, please!



BIRTHDAY CALLER (**Pam Graber**, Chair) – No report this month.

GREETERS (**Rick Wilson**, Chair) – No report this month.

HISTORY (CLUB) / ARCHIVAL (**Chair: Tom Boag**) – No report this month.

MEMBERSHIP (**David Schreiber**, Chair; Subcommittees: ROTARY INFORMATION, MENTORING, NEW MEMBER ATTRACTION) – The Membership Committee is excited to welcome in a brand new member! **Mete Senocak** was inducted Friday January 10, and is jumping in right away. He's excited to be joining and feels he is with the right people at the right time in his life.

There are a couple of other prospective members nipping at the edges, but nothing imminent.

Jack Blasco's work on the Membership Retention Committee is stellar. He's organized a group to follow up with those who are lagging in attendance as well as those lagging in payment. There has never been this much attention and organization behind the efforts to keep members happy and staying with the club.

Rick Wilson's team of Past-Presidents doing Rotary Information sessions is stable and most reliable.

PHOTOGRAPHY (AK) (**Harvey Henningsen**, Chair) – "All remaining months of **Keller's** reign-of-terror have been filled with reliable, capable, artistic image-makers."

PUBLIC RELATIONS (**Hal Kwalwasser**, Chair; Subcommittees: PRINT/RADIO, TV AD MEDIA, SOCIAL MEDIA, WEB DESIGN AND MAINTENANCE) – No report this month.

SCRIBE (AK) COMMITTEE (**Patrick Dirden**, Chair) – Starting to lineup great storytellers and fiction writers for the Winter months.

SECRETARY SUPPORT (**Jack Dunlap**, Chair) – No report this month.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS (**Nao Noguchi**, Chair; Subcommittee: Song Leaders (**Jeff Boal**, Chair) – No report this month.

SPEAKERS, WEEKLY (**Jørgen Holst**, Chair) – Program committee has some fantastic programs coming up but also a few openings over the next months. Have some exciting leads, but if people have suggestions, please feel free to share them with us.

SUNSHINE (**Mark Fink**, Chair) – No report this month.

TREASURER SUPPORT (**KEN JACOBS**, Chair) – No report this month.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AREA – SCOTT BRIGGS, DIRECTOR:



COMMUNITY GRANTS (**Linda Johnson**, Chair) – Committee work was scheduled to start in December. However, given the rescheduled Tropical Escape, it will now be late January/early February before we will know the available budget for this grant program.

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER PROJECTS (**Diana Rich**, Chair) – The benches we installed at the Sebastopol Library are getting their bronze plaques.

CRAB FEED (**Patrick Dirden**, Chair; **Scott Briggs**, Secretary; **Nao Noguchi**, Secretary) – Ticket sales are scheduled to begin Friday, December 6. **Cindy Carter** has agreed to take charge of ticket sales, and we are working to enable ticket sales via our website. As noted previously, **JT Martin** has worked to line up the Luv Rustlers band. Finally, we are closely tracking the situation re the official dates for this year's commercial crab season.

DICTIONARY PROJECT (**PAUL YEOMANS**, CHAIR) – Nothing new to report.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS (**Stephen Zollman**, Chair) – This Committee arranged for a Domestic Violence panel discussion of top County leaders who deal with the many issues and outcomes surrounding the issue of domestic violence. We are currently working on our DMA Committee budget request, which is currently focusing on supporting the YMCA with maintenance needs or the upgrade of a room in the safe house or therapeutic school. Budget estimate is \$1,000.

LEARN TO SWIM (**Rick Wilson**, **Greg Jacobs**, Co-Chairs) – Nothing new to report.

MARK SELL ROTARY TEACHER GRANTS (**Jack Blasco**, Chair) – The Club Board of directors approved the teacher grants as recommended by the committee. Mark Sell Teacher Grant checks were mailed to schools on November 26, 2019.

PEACE AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION: (**Henry Alker**, Chair) – Nothing new to report.

SPONSORSHIP COMMITTEE (**Ellen Harrington**, **Patrick Dirden**, Co-Chairs) – Nothing new to report.

SUPER PLAYGROUND PROJECT (**Keller McDonald**, Chair) – We have reached our \$30,000 fundraising goal for this project, thanks to steady leadership from Michael McGlothlin (Sunrise Club) and our own **Mario Ramos**, countless hours of volunteer work from Sebastopol Rotarians and friends, and generous donations from Rotarians and Interact Clubs. Sebastopol City leaders, with input from city staff, the community, and Rotary project planners are finalizing

the design of the play structures. City staff is counting on Rotarians to help disassemble the old play structures in April, and to install bark, borders, and landscaping in May. This project is slated to be complete in June.

TROPICAL ESCAPE FALL FUNDRAISER (Mia Del Prete, Event General Chair) – As noted, this event has been rescheduled for Saturday, January 25, 2020, 5:00-10:00 PM at the Santa Rosa Golf and Country Club. The committee is currently working to confirm wine table hosts, and on expanding the tropical escape guest list. The silent and live auctions will be packed with great items.

VOCATIONAL / YOUTH SERVICE AREA – JØRGEN HOLST, DIRECTOR:



Career Fair at Analay High (**TBA**, Chair, if Analay has event) – No news since last month, awaiting developments at school.

COOL KIDS CAMP (Robin Maybury, Chair) – **Patrick Dirden** and **Robin** and Libby Fitzgerald from Petaluma Valley club, co-chair and her husband John will meet with Shawna and Colin who run Cloverleaf Ranch this week.

They reviewed last year's camp and some issues that arose, planning for this year's camp and looking forward to updating our club board with any news, next month.

A key challenge for the CKC committee this year will be raising \$700 per camp attendee from all the clubs in District 5130.

Robin has sent out a couple of preliminary emails to give all club presidents a heads-up.

FINANCIAL LITERACY (David Schreiber, Tim Moore, Co-Chairs) – Nothing to report yet.

HIGH SCHOOL SPEECH CONTEST (Richard Power, Larry Ford, Co-Chairs) – No news this month.

INTERACT (ANALAY, TWIN HILLS, BROOK HAVEN) (Pauline Pellini, Chair) – School has been out since December 19th, club meetings are starting again this week.

INTERACT HOLIDAY ADOPT A FAMILY (Chair: Pauline Pellini, Chair) – All three clubs participated in the Adopt a Family project on December 14th which was a success. 62 children, 26 families. I think everyone received photos of the day. We were so very lucky with the weather.

OVERCOMING OBSTACLES AWARD (Tom Boag, David Schreiber, Hal Kwalwasser, Co-Chairs) – Overcoming Obstacles Award - **Tom Boag, David Schreiber, Hal Kwalwasser, Co-Chairs** -- Eleven student applications (2 from Analay, 6 from El Molino, and 3 from Laguna HS) were received on January 14. This was much later than the initially anticipated deadline of November 25, 2019 and even the first-delayed deadline of December 13. In summary, these delays occurred because of last year's disruptions (Fire, Power Outages, Evacuation, Strike that impacted all of us. The applications were, as usual, collected into a large PDF document and distributed to all OOA Committee members for their review and rating. A special committee meeting to select participating students (& backups) will be held on Wednesday, January 22 – then we will continue per the following schedule:

- January 31 - As soon as the committee selects the six participating students (and two backups) we will notify them and get confirmations from selected students that they will participate... or we will chase after them.
- February 10 to February 14 - We will schedule "Break the Ice" group meetings with the students at each high school - together, with several of our committee members attending. We use these first meetings with the participating students to put them at ease, answer questions, and to assess which of the selected students will benefit most from 1:1 assistance with their speeches. (Some students really need this assistance, a few stare at us like "deer in the headlights" – Some of them need several sessions. This is one of the unadvertised things we do for our participants. We make them win!)
- February 17 to April 17 - This is an eight (8) week period when the participating students write and practice their speeches.
- March 16 to March 20 - This is Spring Break for the students. Many of the participating students start work on their speeches at this time.
- March 24 to April 17 - Four last weeks for the students to get their speeches in line, get help from several of our committee members, and practice.
- April 24 - The event date. Everyone will be prepared, practiced, and will do well.

ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARDS (RYLA) (Cindy Carter-Flamm, Chair) – **Cindy Carter-Flamm** will chair, committee to be put together, the activity scheduled for next summer at Westminster Woods.

From District 5130 RYLA Director: "You are all being contacted to spread the word about RYLA 2020, June 14 - 19. We are ready NOW to accept your reservations, fees, and (new this year) sponsorships.

ALL THINGS RYLA can be found on our new website...**FILL OUT THE RESERVATION FORM ASAP** to reserve spots for the number of students your Club can commit to send. This should be done **BEFORE** you select your students. If your Club needs assistance or is new to RYLA, particularly with camper selection, let me know. We'll be happy to help.

New this year: RYLA Sponsorships providing new ways to support this amazing Rotary youth program...see SUPPORT RYLA on the new (District) website."

SRJC SCHOLARSHIPS (**Scott Briggs**, Chair) – No new news.

TRADE PATHS (VOCATIONAL) AWARDS (**Hal Kwalwasser**, Chair) – The Board has decided this committee will be dormant for now – due to the collaboration with the North Bay construction Corps.

YOUTH EXCHANGE (**Aleia Coate, Jackie Moreira, Katy Sproka**, Co-Chairs) – Nothing new to report.

LEARN WITH ME (**Linda Irving**, Chair) - Central to Rotary's Learn With Me program is the relationship between students and tutors. Research shows that positive tutor-student relationships increase student motivation, engagement, and learning. Trust and mentoring develops from recognizing each child's strengths and helping them progress from where they are closer to where they're expected to be. How do we know the students welcome our help? It's evident in a myriad of ways: The smiles when they see us, the welcoming hugs we receive after holiday breaks, the running to us when they see us at the grocery store or bank as we explain to their parents we know their children from school. Rotary Learn With Me tutors become important adults in the lives of their students--helping provide support for learning and a buffer to the life challenges our students' faces.

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE AREA – BUD DAVEIRO, DIRECTOR:

PROGRAMMA DE Becas (**Dorothy Rodella**, Chair) – **Dorothy** obtained the following information. Eleanor Hawthorn has taken over *Programma de Becas* for John Powell. She plans to work on the program in January and get on the calendar with **Keller** for an update to the club – more than likely be after the Crab Feed.

Eleanor says: "I would like to introduce myself as the person who is now responsible at the Puerto Vallarta end of things for the Scholarship *Programme* that our Rotary Club has run for a number of years now – longer than I have been a member of the club.

I have been copied messages received from **Bob Rogers** from your Rotary Club. I apologize for not having contacted you before today but I have had family visit from the United States and my days have been busy. I am grateful to Sandra Stolz and Malcolm Laird who, I know, have been in contact with you and, hopefully, provided you with all the information that was requested.

Our *Becas Programme* is alive and well even though it seems as though we have been remiss in not providing better information to the people who have been supporting it. The programme thrives, thanks to the generosity of sponsors and I believe that you are now aware of the number of students who are currently benefitting from that sponsorship and that you have also received a copy of our brochure. If there is anything else that you need please don't hesitate to ask. We are incredibly grateful for the support that we have received from your club. One of our club members is well-known here for saying that 'Education, Education, Education' is the basis for providing young people in this country with a promising future. With help from our sponsors we will be doing our best to make that happen."



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION (**Ruthie Dunlap, Lu Frazier**, Co-Chairs) – **Lu Frazier** reports that Foundation Month at Sebastopol Rotary Club was very successful, and, in fact, we set a record! Once **Bob Rogers** returns from India, he will briefly report to the Club at a future meeting possibly on either January 17 or 24 that we're partnering with the Sunrise Club on the Tanzania School toilet and water project for \$2,500. A slide concerning the following will be available.

- Tanzania School Toilet Block / Water Catchment System / Menstrual Hygiene project
- Rotary International Global Grant now approved!
- Partnering with Sebastopol Sunrise (we committed \$2,500 in 2018-19), other clubs, and host club from Bukoba, Tanzania
- Jerry Meshulam from Sunrise Club to visit Iluhya School in Bukoba, Tanzania in February as part of D5130 Eastern Africa Rotary Project Fair (Photos and project information to follow from Jerry.)

WORLD COMMUNITY SERVICE (Chair: **Bob Rogers**, Chair) – Nothing to report until next month.