



# The Appleknocker

## Sebastopol Rotary Club's Weekly Bulletin

### Spotlight: Rotary Youth Exchange



**Date:** January 31, 2020  
**Volume:** 2019/20—Issue E18-6  
**Scribe:** Patrick Dirden  
**Photog:** Mr Secret  
**Editors:** J. Holst, D.Still, P. Dirden, T. Boag, HH  
**President 2019/2020:** Keller McDonald



"All the News that Fits We Print"

## BEFORE THE BELL

As the flock entered the Roto-palace, pictures from last Saturday's Tropical Escape fundraiser adorned the screen. Pictures of happy Rotarians were plentiful. More on some of the results from the fundraiser to follow.

**Anonymous PLATINUM Sponsor - \$5,000**

**gold Sponsors - \$2,500**

**silver Sponsors- \$1,000**

**bronze Sponsors - \$500**





John & Patti Blount  
for "Learn With Me" program

Mark McDonell, CPA

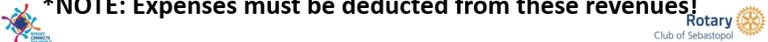




*Tropical Escape* UNOFFICIAL UNAUDITED BALLPARK NUMBERS

Dinner Tickets	\$19,150*	164 (up from 156 on Oct. 25)
Live Auction	\$82,675	
	<i>Heads or Tails</i>	\$2,000*
	<i>Vacation Raffle</i>	\$7,400*
	<i>Paddle Raise</i>	\$32,675*
	<i>Other Live Auction</i>	\$40,600*
Silent Auction	\$10,733	
Donations	\$325	
<b>UNOFFICIAL TOTAL</b>	<b>\$112,883*</b>	

**\*NOTE: Expenses must be deducted from these revenues!**



## AT THE BELL

**President Keller** struck the Roto-bell at 12:15pm sharp. **Tom Dilley** led the flock in the flag salute. Song meister, and ex Foghorn at the Golden Gate Bridge, **Rick Wilson**, led the group in a slightly on-key version of "This Land is Your Land." **Jack Dunlap** offered the thought for the day.

"Real integrity is doing the right thing, knowing that nobody's going to know whether you did or not."



## Future Programs

February 7, 2020  
State Senator Mike McGuire

February 14, 2020  
Love is in the air

February 21, 2020  
Kristen Madsen  
Creative Sonoma

February 28, 2019  
Better Angels

March 6, 2019  
Tawny Tesconi  
Sonoma County Farm Bureau

## Events

CRAB FEED!  
February 8<sup>th</sup>

## Miscellany

MAKEUP NOTIFICATIONS-JackEDunlap@gmail.com

On-line Make-Ups:

[www.RotaryEClubOne.org](http://www.RotaryEClubOne.org)

Domestic Violence Hotline:

**707-546-1234**

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

## VISITING ROTARIANS & GUESTS

The “Bud Man” **Bud Daviero** introduced us to one visiting Rotarian, Dan Needham, from the Sebastopol Sunrise Club. Our regular guest star, Dan Bornstein, was missing in action today. Another emergency double root canal, Dan? **Peggy Rogers** introduced us Robin Bowen, CEO of the Child Parent Institute. **Aleia Coate** introduced our outbound Rotary exchange student for 2020-2021, Gabe, and our current inbound Rotary exchange student, Anni. **Jeff Boal** introduced us to his better half, **Jean**. **Keller** introduced us to former Sebastopol Chief of Police, SRJC Instructor, and Paul Harris fellow, Jeff Weaver.





## 🍎 ANNOUNCEMENTS 🍎

**President Keller** swung the spotlight on Robin Bowen, and a special fundraiser coming on March 26<sup>th</sup>. Child Parent Institute will be having an exclusive screening of REWIND, a groundbreaking documentary of the long-lasting impacts of childhood sexual abuse. The screening will take place at Summerfield Cinemas, on March 26<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00pm. Tickets are \$20, and are available online at: <https://calparents.org/news-events/event-calendar.html/event/2020/03/26/rewind-film-screening-and-director-q-a>

Oh, the breezes were warm, the cocktails were delicious, and the fellowship and comradery were memorable. Tropical Escape is now in the rear-view mirror, but the memories of that glorious night are still fresh. **Keller** announced that the unofficial gross total from the fundraiser was.....drumroll please....\$112,873! The credits for the success of that evening go to many people. **Keller** first thanked all our sponsors and gave a shout out to **Ellen Harrington** for her hard work gathering sponsors. Then, **Keller** thanked the Tropical Escape dream team: **Mia Del Prete, David Schreibman, Ellen Harrington, Meredith Bertacco, Dan Rasmus, Diana Rich, and Bristol Hassler**. **Keller** also thanked all the volunteers who made the evening go smooth. Congratulations to everyone!



One fundraiser down, one more to go! We're days away from the Crab Feed! **Patrick Dirden** got up to urge people to buyup tickets before they sell out. He reminded everyone how fresh the crab will be, how roaring the band will sound, how fun the night will be, and how the Mark Sell Teacher Mini Grants program will benefit! As of this writing, the 5pm seating is sold out, and the 7pm seating is very close to selling out. If you don't want to miss out on the fun, get your tickets now! **Scott Briggs** showed off some of the wonderful crab artwork which will adorn the walls at the crab feed. The winning crab artist will win \$25, and their school will get \$100 for art supplies.

We know the 49er's gave it their all, but could not meet the might of the Kansas City Chiefs. Even though the home team lost, you could still be a winner! The Super Bowl Squares game will be revealed soon! **Keller** announced that beautiful plaques now adorn the benches our club recently installed. Kudos to everyone who made this happen!

**Keller** swung the Roto-spotlight on **Bob Rogers**, and his recent trip to India for National Immunization Day (NID). **Bob** spoke of how in advance of NID day, the volunteers put on a big parade to raise attention of the big day. The parade paid off! Hundreds of people showed up to receive an immunization. **Bob** expressed how he could not explain the feeling of how the drops he delivered to people would prevent these people from ever being struck with polio. **Bob** was touched by all the children he encountered. He quickly learned how kids love to photobomb! He spoke of the wonderful volunteers he worked with from all over the world. **Bob** then left the stage to present **Keller** six banners from clubs across India. But wait, there's more! He gave **Keller** a coffee cup, a statue of Ganesha, and an authentic Indian belly dancer head dress. **Keller**, we've found your new look!



## 🍎 RECOGNITIONS 🍎

**Torrey Olson** celebrated his big day, the big five-o, on January 28<sup>th</sup>. He spent his birthday in San Francisco with his brother. **Bob Hirsch** went to great lengths to attend a makeup meeting at sea. **Bob** and **Joelle** spent ten days on a Mexican cruise. **Bob** attended a makeup meeting on board the ship, and visited our sister club, Puerto Vallarta South Club. **Bob** and **Fran Rasmus** found the best way to escape their in-laws over the holidays, they escaped to Spain! They spent several days in Barcelona and Tarragona. There were no makeup meetings attended! Ooh La La! **Cindy Carter** managed to find a new look for her better half, **Rick Wilson**. His look was found while looking for the ultimate mai tai in Hawaii. Looking good **Ricky Wilson**!

## 🍎 RAFFLE 🍎

What unlucky....errr....lucky duck would win today's raffle? Why Chernobyl Man **Jack Blasco**, of course! Would his recent dose of radiation force the black marble into **Jack's** hands? Nope! \$60 in the till for next week!

## THE PROGRAM

We were supposed to have a panel discussion on the deactivation of the Palm Drive Hospital District. The speakers decided to back away at the last minute. But, thanks to our amazing program committee, we got four amazing speakers, **Aleia Coate**, **Jackie Moreira**, **Katy Spyрка**, and our exchange student, **Anni**, who spoke about the Rotary Youth Exchange Program.



**Aleia Coate** spoke about what the Rotary Youth Exchange program is about and its history. Many clubs around the world participate in the program. Our club has participated in the program for over 40 years, positively impacting hundreds of people. In District 5130 alone, there are 25 clubs that participate in the program. Rotary Youth Exchange encourages and promotes service, leadership, goodwill, and empowerment. It also exposes teenagers to different cultures, which goes a long way to promoting peace. The Rotary Youth Exchange team includes **Aleia**, **Jackie**, **Katy**, **Mark Stevens**, **Yvette Williams van Aggelen**, and **Pauline Pellini**.

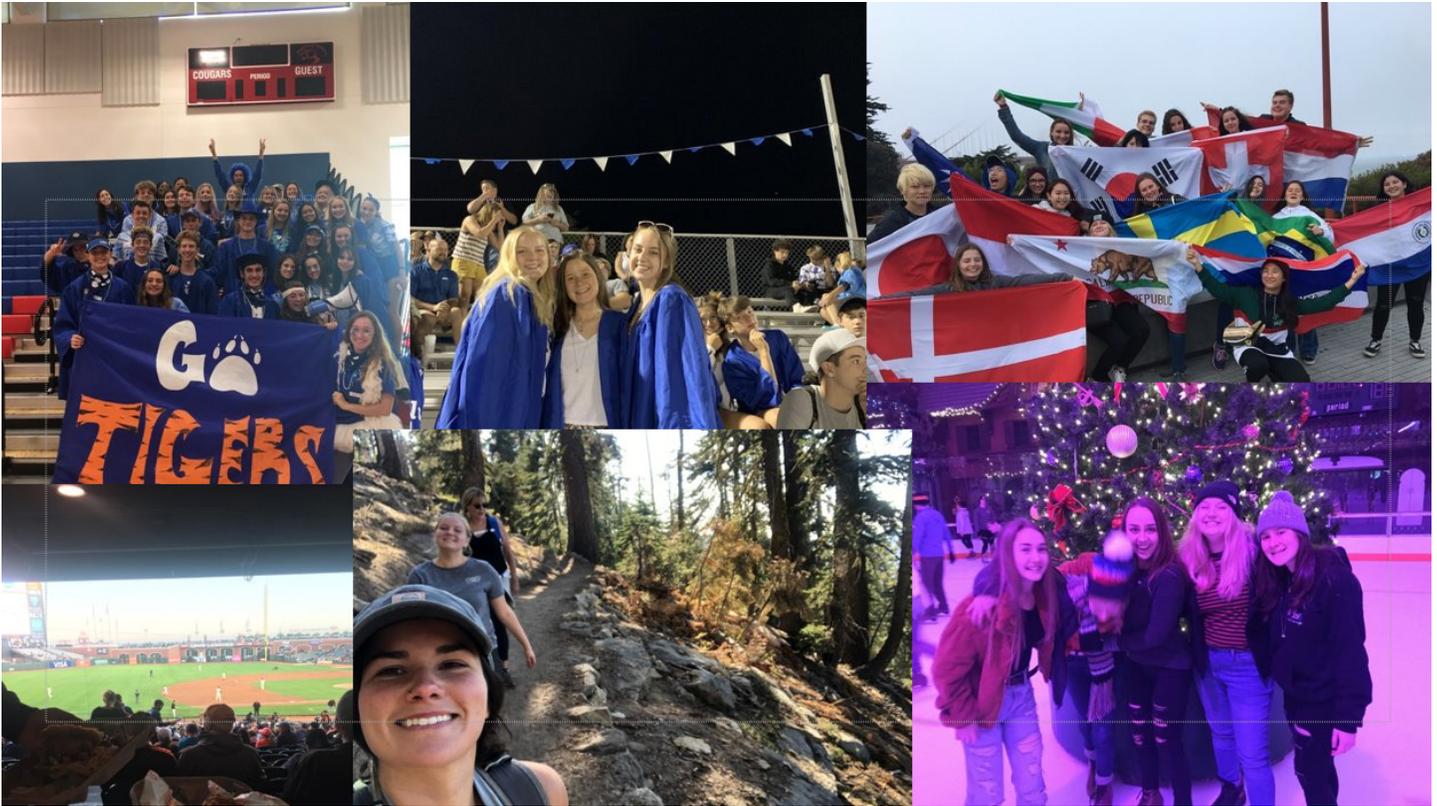
The entire program is volunteer driven and is a year-round process. Members from our club counsel students both local (outbound) and visiting (inbound) to ensure their experience is safe, comfortable, and memorable. Local families from Rotary take turns to house the inbound students. **Aleia** recalled a wonderful story about her experience with one of the inbound students. She picked up the student late in the evening at the airport. The inbound student was terribly hungry, so she stopped at the drive thru at McDonalds. The student wondered what **Aleia** was doing, and what a drive thru was. **Aleia** learned that there are so many things we take for granted that others don't know much about. **Aleia** did turn the student into a burger snob. **Aleia** and **Matt** have had so many wonderful experiences with the exchange student.

**Jackie Moreira** spoke about the outbound students, and how they are recruited for the program. The team starts to visit the sophomore world history classes at Analy High School at the beginning of the school year. A couple of weeks later, the team, along with the Sunrise Club, invites prospective students and their parents to an informational meeting. Interested students are invited to write an essay about why they want to participate in the program. Students and parents are interviewed to see if they are a fit for the program. About two weeks after the informational meeting, the selected outbound student is notified. At that point, the student begins the process of filling out applications, obtaining dental/medical records, transcripts, various forms, and writing a personal statement. At the beginning of January, the outbound student learns where they will be going. They begin to attend language classes, completes the necessary state department/immigration forms, and attend orientation meetings. In April, the outbound meets their host families, and connects with them via email, Facebook, and Skype. In August, the outbound student departs for their host country. Upon their return, they become re-bound students. Many of them choose to mentor new outbound students.

**Katy Spyрка** spoke about the inbound students. Key to the experience of the inbounds are the host families. The host families house the inbound for three to four months. As **Jackie** mentioned, the host family meets the inbound student in April, which begins the bond. Many of the families who hosted students developed life-long bonds, communicating with them years after their visit. **Katy** mentioned that there is always a need for host families. If you are interested in participating in this wonderful experience, contact anyone on the committee.

The group then turned everything to our current inbound student, Anni. She started off by expressing how thankful she was to be here, and that she was the luck one. Anni introduced us to her community in Finland, Raahe. The community is home to 25,000 people. The town is known for its colorful houses and its beautiful islands. She has a brother who is currently in college. Life in her community is quiet, so Anni must find stuff to

do. She spends a lot of her time playing sports and attending concerts and festivals. Her secondary school is home to 300 students. The school is like a Junior College, with students graduating within three to four years.



Anni has made the most of her time in Sebastopol so far. She has met up with many other exchange students. They exchange pins to place on their blazers. She's made many friends during this experience, both at Analy and with the other exchange students. She's attended many sports events and concerts. She was very happy to attend a Sharks game, as she's a huge hockey fan. She's enjoyed her time at Analy, especially her leadership class. She's also enjoyed all of the outdoor opportunities in Sonoma County. At the end, Anni presented **Keller** with a banner from her home club in Raahe. A banner day for Keller, for sure!

## 🍎 THE FINAL BELL 🍎

With another successful meeting down, **Keller** brought the hammer down at 1:30pm sharp.

## **FUTURE PROGRAMS**



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 21<sup>st</sup>: 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.

