



# *The Appleknocker*

## *Sebastopol Rotary Club's Weekly Bulletin*

### Dick Anderson – Guatemala Literacy



**Date:** May 1, 2020  
**Volume:** 2019/20—Issue E18-39  
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**Editors:** P. Dirden, D. Still, J. Holst, T. Boag, HH  
**President 2019/2020:** Keller McDonald



"All the News that Fits We Print"

## BEFORE THE BELL



Your scribe signed on to Zoom around 11:45. As usual, for the last three weeks, many Rotarians had already signed on and were catching up with each other. The learning curve for Zoom is also in evidence. Everyone seems to have learned how to use Zoom. Loved some of the backgrounds. Communal conversation from 12-12:15 was very lively. It was noticed that **Ron Puccinelli** was Zooming in from his porch in Idaho.



THANK YOU, FRONT-LINE WORKERS,  
FOR YOUR *SERVICE ABOVE SELF!*



**Happy May Day!**  
 A northern  
 European  
 celebration of life,  
 fertility and spring ...  
  
*Not an event  
 conducive with  
 shelter-in-place!*



**Sonoma County YWCA Domestic Violence Hotline 707-546-1234**

## Future Programs

TBD until further notice

## Events

Friendship Dinners  
Canceled

Golf Tournament  
TBA

DeBunking  
June 27

## Miscellany

MAKEUP NOTIFICATIONS--JackE Dunlap@gmail.com

On-line Make-Ups:

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

Domestic Violence Hotline:

**707-546-1234**

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

## AT THE BELL

**President Keller McDonald** rang the cow bell at 12:15 sharp. It is May Day! Your humble scribe remembers being one of the girls dancing around the tether pole that had ribbons on it. Little did your scribe know then was that it was a celebration of fertility along with life and spring. The good (?) old days before political correctness.

To get things going, **Bud Daveiro** reported that **Dan Bornstein** (Comedian and Dentist) of the Santa Rosa club was early. **Dick Anderson**, of Anders Associates, from the Tustin-Santa Ana club in Orange County was also present. No guests or friends were introduced.

**Keller** gave a big Thank You to our armed service members who could not self-isolate are out there protecting us.

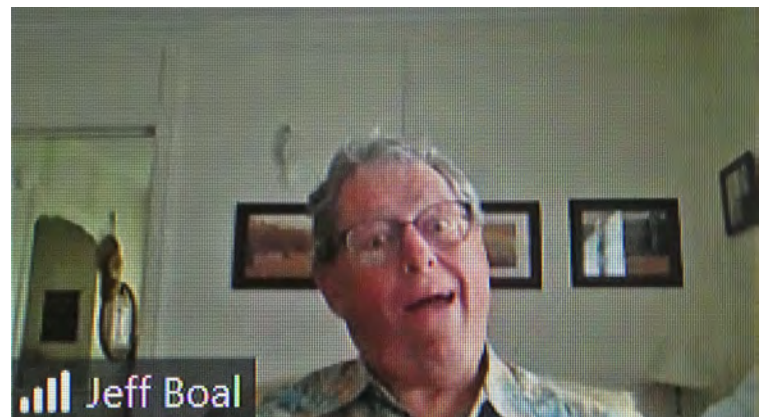
"THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY **Laura Victor-Van Gorder** gave us a two for one thought for the day.

"When written in Chinese, the word **crisis** is composed of two characters: one represents **danger** and the other represent **opportunity**." - John F Kennedy

"Whenever we look upon this earth, the opportunities take shape within the problems.:" Nelson A Rockefeller

**Jeff Boal**, Song Meister

Our song meister, **Jeff Boal**, a one time a YMCA leader, lead three neighborhood children in an echo song from years ago, "Bill Grogan's Goat", from his front yard. He tweaked it to reflect current circumstances. In the original song, the goat ate three red shirts. In today's song, it was a red face mask. Good to see people outside. The kids looked like they were having fun.....or were they signaling for rescue?







## ANNOUNCEMENTS



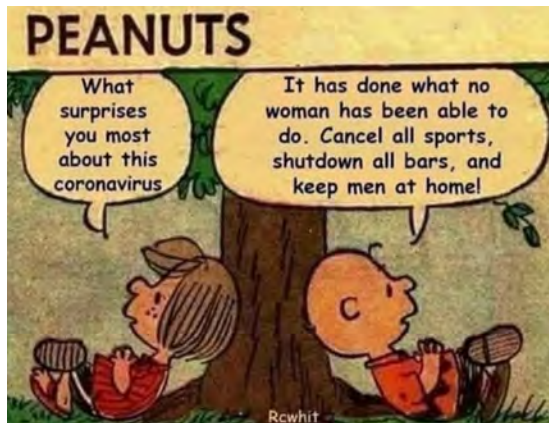
Keller gave a shout out to everyone attending the weekly zoom meetings, praising one and all for following good Zoom etiquette. He reminded everyone that Keller and the presenter cannot see comments in the Zoom chat.....they're not ignoring you. Make sure to identify yourself when asking a question. Our virtual meetings, which are "real" Rotary meetings, officially start at 12:15, and end at 1:15. If you want to gab with friends, fellowship will take place 15 minutes before/after the meetings. Keller encouraged everyone to invite potential members, guests, friends, and relatives to our meetings, no matter where they are!

And.....let's induct a new member on Zoom!

### ***Tropical Escape never seems to go away***

Tropical Escape – we never seem to escape it! All of the glamorous Live auction vacations are on hold until shelter in place is lifted. **David Schreiber**'s safari to South Africa postponed to fall 2021. **Diana Rich**'s trip to Iceland postponed to late 2021. **Katie, Jackie and Aleia**'s escape to Lake County postponed until boats are allowed on Clear Lake. Special hosted dinner postponed until shelter in place is lifted.

Our Club is making the news! The Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup> edition of the Press Democrat highlighted our Teacher of the Year award winners. Our work is making waves across the district. Major thanks to the SREF and our own king of PR, Hal Kwalwasser!



Inspiring! Makes me even prouder to be a Rotarian! I'll be sharing this at my club's Zoom meeting this week.

- Paul Frechette, President Healdsburg noon club

Congratulations!

- Kathy Flanson, Rotary District 5130 Governor

### **STELLAR WORK**

**Rotary Club of Sebastopol,  
Sebastopol Rotary Education Foundation  
and Hal Kwalwasser, PR Chief**



The clever videos and funnies keep coming. We were serenaded by a new version of "Staying Alive"....."Staying Inside." We also learned what surprised Charlie Brown most about Coronavirus.

**Keller** gave "Mega Thanks" to the **Appleknocker Crew** for keeping us informed and connected and injecting a touch of humor into our sheltered-in place lives! Editors: **David Still**, Chair; Photographers: **Harvey Henningsen**, Chair; Scribes: **Patrick Dirden**, Chair

**Rotary** is hitting COVID 19 hard! On Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, Rotary International held a worldwide telethon to raise money for the COVID 19 fight. The goal was to raise \$1,000,000. As of this writing, there is no news about the final total. You can still give by going to <http://on.rotary.org/df>

Just as we all are re-adjusting to our new normal, so is the Rotary International Convention. The convention is on.... virtually. All of the speakers, sessions, and the schedule, will be announced soon. Visit <http://www.riconvention.org> for details. So far, over \$200,000 in cancelled reservations for the Honolulu Convention has been donated to the Disaster Relief Fund, which gives \$25,000 grants to Districts to address COVID-19 and other disasters.

### ***Sebastopol Rotary Coronavirus Relief update as of May 1, 2020***

Pass the hat for *Trends Catering* "bonus gratuity" has reached \$1930. Susan thanked Rotarians and said she will divide it up with the kitchen staff and the Rotary meeting service staff.

The pass the hat for "*Feed the Frontline*", AKA *Project Mario*, has reached \$3,965! \$20 gift certificates for takeout meals at Mexico Lindo are being passed out to front line workers around the west county. Kudos to **Gail Gijzen** for spearheading this project!

## Community Crisis/COVID-19 Support Committee

The Community Crisis/COVID 19 Support Committee is making swift progress helping locals. The committee has allocated \$25,000 to several worthy causes. The committee originally allocated \$20,000 to:

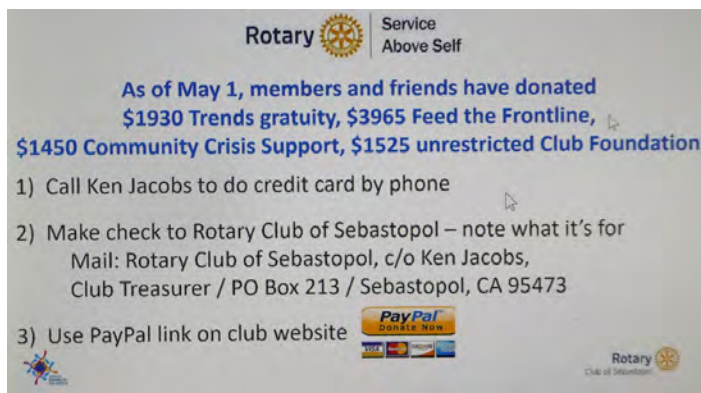
\$15,000 to the Sebastopol Chamber of Commerce for grants of \$500, \$1,000, and \$2,000 for small businesses for crisis response.

\$2,500 to West County Community Services for COVID 19 testing, food, sanitation, and health support for seniors, shut-ins, and homeless.

\$2,500 to Ceres Project for meals for fragile community members. Their need has increased from 1,300 to 2,500 meals per week.

Last week, the committee allocated an additional \$5,000, including an additional \$2,500 to the Sebastopol Chamber of Commerce grants, and \$2,500 to the Graton Day Labor Center for direct grants of \$200 for 200 unemployed undocumented workers/families (they've raised \$15K towards their \$40K goal).

Major thanks to the Community Crisis/COVID 19 Committee members: **Jack Blasco, Richard Power, Aleia Coate, and Gene Nelson**. And, thanks to you for donating! As of May 1<sup>st</sup>, our club members have donated \$1,930 to Trends gratuity, \$3,965 for Feed the Frontline, \$1,450 for Community Crisis, and \$1,525 to our foundation. It's never too late to donate! You can donate on the Club website, mail a check, or call Ken to pay with a credit card.



Rotary Service Above Self

As of May 1, members and friends have donated  
\$1930 Trends gratuity, \$3965 Feed the Frontline,  
\$1450 Community Crisis Support, \$1525 unrestricted Club Foundation

- 1) Call Ken Jacobs to do credit card by phone
- 2) Make check to Rotary Club of Sebastopol – note what it's for  
Mail: Rotary Club of Sebastopol, c/o Ken Jacobs,  
Club Treasurer / PO Box 213 / Sebastopol, CA 95473
- 3) Use PayPal link on club website

PayPal Donate Now

Rotary Club of Sebastopol



OVERCOMING OBSTACLES AWARD  
via Zoom ... Friday, May 15, 2020

We need to enhance the \$ awards!

Richard Peterson  
Award Enhancement Chief

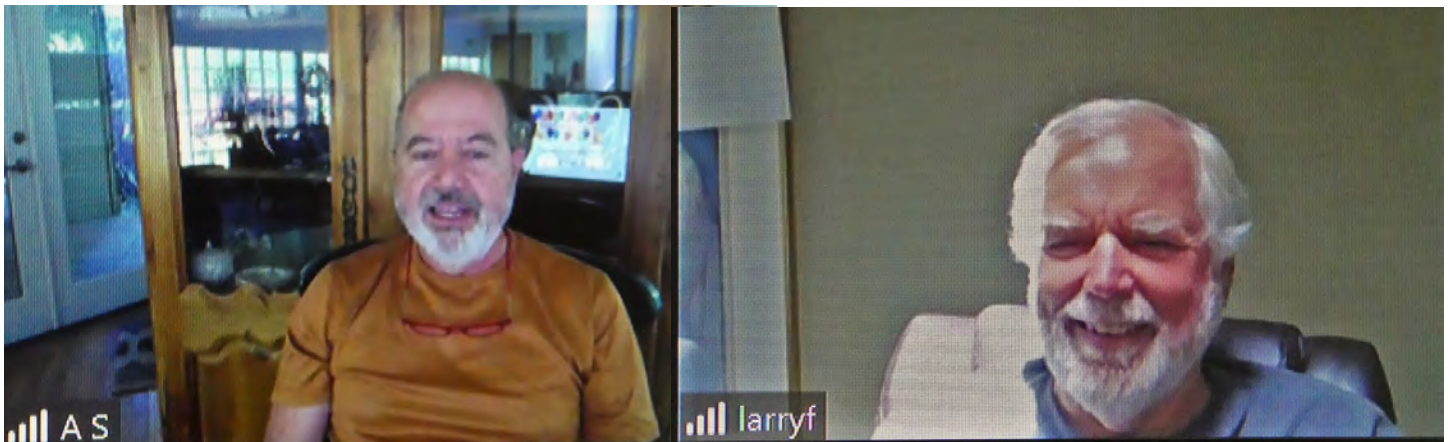
Rotary Club of Sebastopol

The OVERCOMING OBSTACLES AWARD will be via Zoom on Friday, May 15, 2020. Per **Richard Peterson**, Award Enhancement Chief, they need from \$1,000 to \$5,000 more in the pot. Please donate early and often. Call **Richard** or mail a check to the club, and mark it for Overcoming Obstacles. Please send your donation before May 11.

## 🍎 RECOGNITIONS 🍎

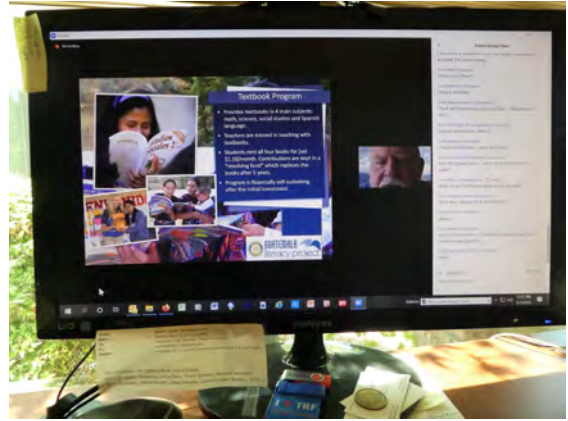
**Alain Serkissian** had a quiet birthday on April 29. He is having a Zoom cocktail party on May 1.

**Larry** and **Gerry Reilly-Ford** had their anniversary at home sheltering in place. He said they worked on his plane and did yardwork. He also said his yard is now beautiful.





## THE PROGRAM



**Keller** passed the screen over to our speaker, Dick Anderson, who spoke about an amazing literacy project in Guatemala. The program was started in 1997 by two young men from Ohio who wanted to be in service. They chose to start the Guatemala textbook program. Guatemala is one of the poorest and uneducated/illiterate countries in the Americas. They worked with two Rotary clubs in America, and one in Guatemala. Dick, and his wife (also a Rotarian), became involved in 2000. They decided to make it their life's work.

Since then, over 608 Rotary clubs in 8 countries and 80 districts have been involved at one time or another. Annually, over 100 Rotary clubs worldwide work on the project. They are a worldwide GLP family. They also partnered with a nonprofit in Guatemala to administer the program. There has been 207 textbook projects involving 54,000 students. There are also 50 computer centers. These projects take place in the Guatemalan mountains, not in the cities. It's a challenge to get other local clubs in Guatemala, because of potential kidnappings. Guatemala is twenty years out of a civil war, and most local Rotarians are high level figures.

Dick pointed out that one third of the indigenous Guatemalans cannot read or write. The textbooks cover math, science, social studies and Spanish. The textbooks cost \$1.50 a month, and are paid by the parents. The program is financially self-sustaining, and the books are replaced every five years. Additionally, the group hands out sports equipment to the schools. During the annual visits, the visiting Rotarians will play soccer with the local kids.

The computer centers are for grades 7-9, and give each student 90 minutes each week with an instructor. This is also fee based to replace computer equipment every seven years. It is also financially self-sustaining. The SPARK READING PROGRAM is for elementary school children to pre-learn for the textbook program. The RISE PROGRAM is for the very poor children who show promise. Teachers recognize very poor students who need financial help. The program provides financial support for these students to stay in school. The students who participate in this program have an 80% high school graduation rate compared to the 95% dropout rate for non-RISE students.

This is not a Rotary International program. It is a District program run at Club level. Currently there are 160 Rotary Clubs in 30 Districts around the world who are participating. Dick is looking for more Clubs to participate.

## THE FINAL BELL

After a wonderful meeting, **Keller** rang the substitute Roto-Bell at 1:30PM sharp. If you need some vegetable starters, **Harry Simms** can help. There are several varieties in his driveway. Give him a call if you are interested. Additionally, local farmers through the FEED Sonoma program are offering organic vegetable boxes. For more details, visit: <https://shop.feedsonoma.com/>

**Here's a quick recap, as of Saturday, April 4th**

All in-person Rotary meetings, including committee meetings through May 8th – CANCELLED

Virtual club meetings will be held via Zoom on Internet or phone

Friendship Dinners – POSTPONED

West County Construction Corps – SUSPENDED

District Training Assembly – POSTPONED

Learn to Swim – CANCELED (May have sessions in Fall 2020 and Spring 2021)

Super Playground Dismantle/Installation – May 2<sup>nd</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>

Overcoming Obstacles Awards – May 15th

District Conference – POSTPONED

2020-2021 Board Retreat – Sat., May 30

Rotary International Convention, Hawaii – CANCELLED – MOVED ONLINE

Rotary Youth Leadership Activity (RYLA) – CANCELLED

Debunking – Sat., June 27 (no meeting Fri., June 26)



## **COVID 19 RESOURCES**



During this time, finding accurate information is of most importance. Your AppleKnocker team has assembled a cadre of reliable resources for you, so you can stay abreast of the latest news and health information regarding COVID 19.

### **Johns Hopkins University Corona update:**

<https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/> This is considered the best and most updated tally and information page of all.

**World Health Organization** – Stay informed on the worldwide spread of COVID 19. Includes resources on how to slow the spread.

<https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus>

**Centers for Disease Control** – Updates on the national response, and resources for businesses, schools, travelers, etc.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

**California Department of Public Health** – Updates on the state response.

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/ncov2019.aspx>

**SoCo Emergency** – Updates on the county-wide lockdown, the county response, and local resources.

<https://socoemergency.org/emergency/novel-coronavirus/>

**Press Democrat** – Local coverage of the COVID 19 pandemic.

<https://www.pressdemocrat.com/topics/?t=Coronavirus>

**EDD** – Resources for dislocated/impacted workers

[https://www.edd.ca.gov/about\\_edd/coronavirus-2019.htm](https://www.edd.ca.gov/about_edd/coronavirus-2019.htm)

**CA Office of Business & Economic Development** – Resources for businesses impacted by COVID 19

<https://business.ca.gov/coronavirus-2019/>

**Redwood Empire Food Bank** – Where to find or donate food.

<https://getfood.refb.org/>

**Catholic Charities** – Where to find food resources

<https://www.srcharities.org/distributions/?filter=food>

**AARP** – Wide array of resources regarding COVID 19 <https://www.aarp.org/health/?CON-HEALTH-COVID19-031220>

**Virtual Museums** – Virtually visit some of the World's best museums from your couch.

<https://www.travelandleisure.com/attractions/museums-galleries/museums-with-virtual-tours>

**2-1-1 Sonoma Information & Resource Hotline** is a number for the public to call for information and resources on the County's response to the Coronavirus. In addition to calling, people can call 2-1-1 or text their zip code to 898-211 to be connected with a call taker.

**Mental Health Support** - Reduce stress and anxiety and practice self-care. For support, call the National Disaster Distress Helpline at 1-800-985-5990 Or text "TalkWithUs" to 66746 Or TTY at 1-800-846-8517. Services available in English and Spanish.

**Stay connected via Social Media** – If you are on Facebook and/or Twitter, consider subscribing to our local government agencies. These feeds are updated 24-7.

#### County of Sonoma

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CountyofSonoma/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/CountyofSonoma>

#### City of Sebastopol

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CityofSebastopolCA/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/SebastopolCity>

# STAY HAPPY AND HEALTHY, FRIENDS!

