



# *The Appleknocker*

## *Sebastopol Rotary Club's Weekly Bulletin*

### SRJC Scholarship Winners



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**President 2019/2020:** Keller McDonald



"All the News that Fits We Print"



### BEFORE THE BELL



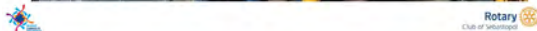
Your humble scribe zoomed into the May 29<sup>th</sup> virtual meeting (our 11<sup>th</sup> virtual meeting) of the Rotary Club of Sebastopol at approximately 11:50 AM on a gorgeous Friday morning. We were enjoying a comfortable 70 degree day, a cool down from the mid 80's that we had experienced earlier in the week. There was a spirited group of brother and sister Rotarians having a zooming good time sharing experiences. Among them were our **Prez Keller "Big Mac" McDonald**, **Pauline Pellini**, **Steve Prandini**, **Jeff Boal**, **Aleia Coate**, and many others.



### AT THE BELL



Our Fearless Leader, without the Roto Bell, called the meeting to order at exactly 12:15 PM. After a little bit of fumbling around, **Keller** managed to come up with a little tinkle bell to officially start the meeting. To recognize Memorial Day and honor our flag and front-line workers, **Prez Big Mac** had a virtual fly over of 6 Navy F/A-18 Hornet aircraft. **Robin Maybury** and **Jeff Boal**, our two song meisters, acquired (or bribed with ice cream) two young singers to provide us with the song for the day, "America the Beautiful." **Russ Cunningham** gave us the thought for the day.



**SONG FOR TODAY – May 29, 2020**  
**Robin Maybury and Jeff Boal, Song Meisters**  
**"Oh Beautiful For Spacious Skies"**



"By prevailing over all obstacles and distractions, one may unfailingly arrive at his chosen destination."

Christopher Columbus



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

## Future Programs

**Foreign Policy in China**  
**June 5**

## Events

**DeBunking**  
**June 27**

## Miscellany

**MAKEUP NOTIFICATIONS—**[JackEDunlap@gmail.com](mailto: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 AND GUESTS

There were no visiting Rotarians—Where is Dan Bornstein when we need him? We had Katya Lynch, President of the Analy Interact Club; Nicole Ellwood, Interact Club advisor at Twin Hills Middle School; and Jeff Stucker, Interact advisor at Brookhaven Middle School.

## SPOTLIGHT ON INTERACT

**Prez Big Mac** swung the spotlight on **Pauline Pellini** for an update on the Interact activities this year. Pauline expressed great thanks to the teacher advisors for their hard work and dedications to the clubs.

The Sebastopol Rotary sponsors three very active Interact Clubs. Each club had 30 to 35 members. Each club has a teacher advisor and two Rotarian advisors. They each elect officers. Each club does their own projects and fund raisers. All three clubs help our club with fund raisers and projects. All three clubs participated together in Adopt a Family project in December. They made the holidays brighter for 26 families and 70 children.

Analy High School

Teacher advisor: Brian Miller

Rotarian advisor: **Aleia Coate** and **Mark Stevens**

Raised \$2000 and donated \$1000 to the Redwood Empire Food Bank, \$500 each to Ceres and West County Community Services. Additionally, they donated over 1,000 books to schools in Malawi. It's their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year.



Brook Haven Middle School

Teacher advisor: Joe Aiello

Rotarian advisor: **Pauline Pellini** and **Jeff Stucker**

Raised \$1000 and donated \$250 each to the following. Ceres, Inter Church Food Pantry and the Humane Society and The Living Room.



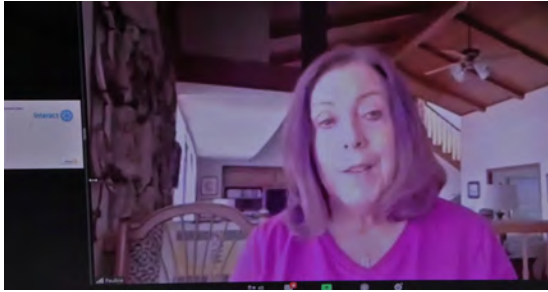
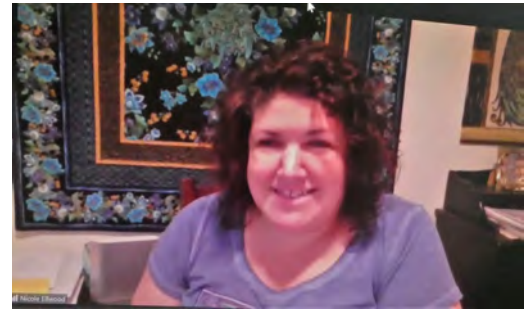


Twin Hills Middle School

Teacher advisor: Nicole Ellwood

Rotarian advisors: **Dan Rasmus** and **Pauline Pellini**

Raised \$900 and donated \$300 each to the following Ceres, Interchurch Food Pantry and toward yearbooks for 8th graders.



Each club did other projects all year for non profits, their schools, their community and internationally. The Interactors are great students and it is wonderful that our club gives them the opportunity to learn leadership skills, fundraising and giving back. They have all learned giving "Service Above Self."

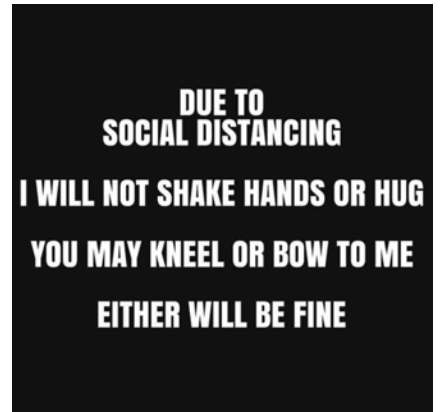


## ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Hal Kwalwasser** made an appearance at the virtual El Molino High School Senior Awards night. **Hal** presented the Overcoming Obstacles Scholarships to the four recipients from El Molino.

**Incoming Prez Dan Rasmus** is getting his year of terror all planned out. He's already had three planning sessions with his incoming board. Sounds like **Dan** will be keeping the tradition of social distancing. Kneeling our bowing to **Dan** will be preferred.



Save the Date ... **Rotary International's Free Virtual Event**  
**"Now More than Ever, Rotary Connects the World:  
The 2020 Rotary Virtual Convention"**  
Saturday, June 20-Friday, June 26

Sessions will be recorded for On Demand viewing  
Sebastopol, CA times are shown  
\*Schedule subject to change. For more info: [MyRotary.org](https://www.myr Rotary.org) or [RiConvention.org](https://www.riconvention.org)

**Saturday, 20 June - General Session 1: Together, We Connect**  
•06:00-07:15 am in Sebastopol, CA, USA

**Sunday, 21 June - General Session 2: Together, We Learn**  
•06:00-07:15 am in Sebastopol, CA, USA

The Rotary International Virtual Convention is coming June 20-26. The entire agenda is now online at <https://www.riconvention.org/en>. The general sessions will take place Saturday and Sunday morning at 6:00am. Breakout sessions will take place three times a day, Monday to Friday. If you don't want to wake up at 6:00am to watch the general sessions and breakout sessions, they will be recorded.

Our club, along with the Sebastopol Sunrise Club, presented a \$30,000 check to the City of Sebastopol to help pay for the new Super Playground. The weekend of May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 30 Rotarians and others gathered to spread new woodchips around the new playground structures. This was the culmination of 8,500 tamales, made, sold, and consumed. Major congratulations to everyone!





On Wednesday May 27th **Past President Jack Blasco** emceed our first Rotary Zoom Trivia Extravaganza! Well-fortified Rotarians (some might say pickled), attempted to answer the most mind-numbing and Irrelevant Rotary questions that **President Keller** and **PP Jack** could devise, with prizes so good that nobody could claim them. **David Schreiber** and **Bob Rogers** were the big winners. The only bright spot was a \$100 donation to Polio Plus by **Jack** and **Ruthie Dunlap**, this year's best effort to turn lemons into lemonade. It's over now, so we all must be winners.

**Keller** asked a deep question. What would happen to the fabric of our lives, our community, our world, if Rotary went away? What would you miss? What would be gone? Of course, we'd miss our meetings, our fellowship, and our wonderful parties. We'd miss the work done by the West County Construction Corps. We'd miss the COVID 19 Community Response, the Super Playground, and so much more. We would miss how Rotary impacts youth through Interact, RYLA. We'd miss our international projects, and so on. We would miss bringing sanitation to remote villages, hospital beds in Uganda, and so much more. Take a pause, and reflect on all that this 96-year young club does every day.

What gaps would appear in the fabric of  
our lives  
our community  
our world  
if the **Rotary Club of Sebastopol** went away?

Club Service  
Vocational Service  
Community Service  
Youth Service  
International Service

## RECOGNITIONS



**Linda Irving** was recognized for her May 26 birthday. **Jack** and **Marie Blasco** celebrated their anniversary on May 30<sup>th</sup> with a virtual stay at home picnic. **Kelly** and **Laura Back** celebrated their anniversary on May 31st. Congratulations for enjoying another year of wedded bliss.

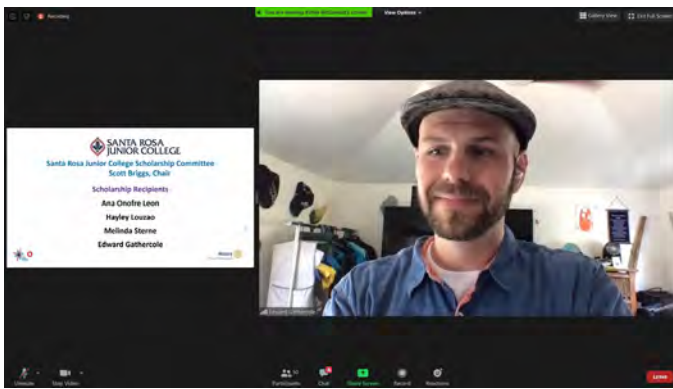
## THE PROGRAM

**Keller** took the reins and introduced our club to the winners of the SRJC Sebastopol Rotary Scholarship. Once again Sebastopol Rotary completed its selection of outstanding SRJC students to receive a \$4000 Sebastopol Rotary scholarship. This year the Scholarship Office forwarded 38 student applications to our SRJC Scholarship Committee, winnowed from a pool of hundreds of candidates based on our general selection criteria (candidates must have a West County connection and meet minimum GPA standards). Following review of the 38 candidates, our Scholarship Committee selected nine students for interviews, conducted remotely for the first time this year using Zoom.

Following the student interviews, four of the nine candidates were selected as scholarship winners. Money to fund these scholarships came from a combination of \$10,000 from Sebastopol Rotary Club funds and \$6000 generously donated by a Committee member. This year's pool of interviewed candidates was particularly strong, making the selection of winners quite difficult. Ultimately, four candidates were ranked highest and chosen as scholarship winners based upon scholastic merit, evidence of leadership skills and community involvement, clear scholastic and career goals, and financial need.

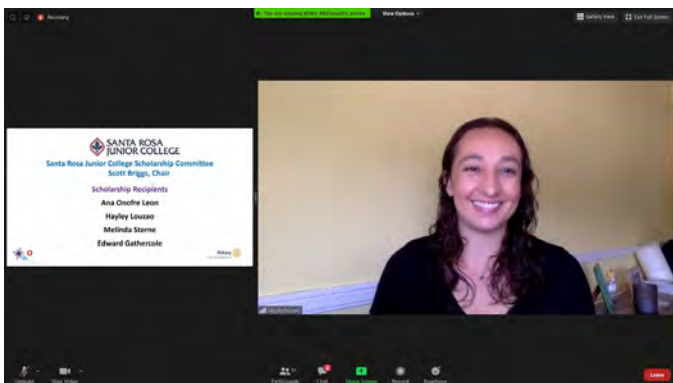
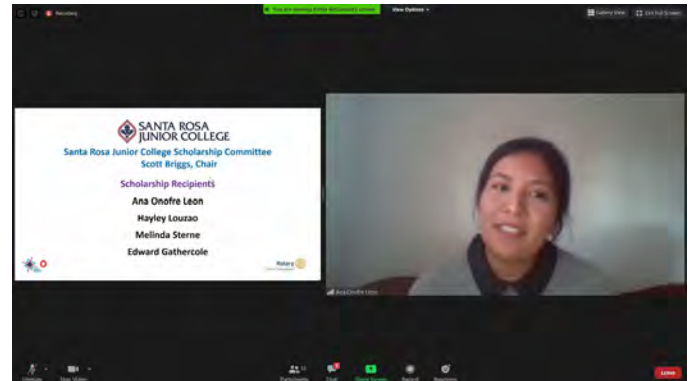
The four winning students for our 2020 Sebastopol Rotary SRJC Scholarship Program are:





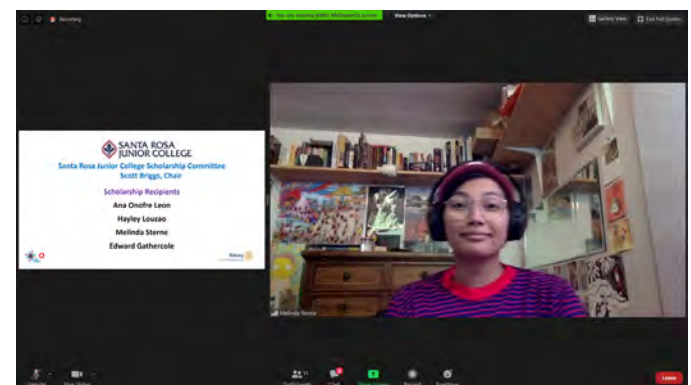
Edward Gathercole: a shining example of an excellent student who has overcome many obstacles. Edward's goals include attaining an associate's degree in machine tool technology coupled with a mechatronics technician certificate, with hopes of a career in machining and automation. Edward identifies his daughter as a prime motivation for continuing his education and pursuing his career goals.

Ana Onofre Leon: a nursing student with a stellar academic record, Ana immigrated to the United States from Mexico at age 6. Ana has a long record of local volunteer efforts, including her role as a SRJC SSS Trio Hope Intern for which she advises first-generation, low-income students with disabilities. As a nurse, Ana intends to represent the Latino community by providing health assistance in Spanish to the growing Latino community in California.



Hayley Louzao: a former star of the SRJC Woman's Basketball Program, Hayley was accepted into the SRJC Associates Degree Nursing Program in the Fall of 2019, and plans to eventually transfer to Sonoma State University's ADN to BSN Bridge Program to obtain her bachelors degree in Nursing. Hayley has worked hard to overcome a learning disability, and has achieved strong communication and teamwork skills, and an infectious positive attitude.

Melinda Sterne: a first-generation immigrant from Thailand who has overcome depression and much family instability, Melinda is now studying computer science full time to receive her Associates Degree at the SRJC, with plans to eventually transfer to the UC system to obtain her bachelor's degree in Computer Science. Melinda has maintained a nearly perfect GPA while also doing freelance Web Development, and has worked for the SRJC updating the school's websites to be ADA compliant.



Many thanks to the SRJC Scholarship Committee: **Scott Briggs** (Chair), **Hal Kwalwasser**, **Henry Alker**, **Jim Passage**, **Ellen Harrington**, and **Tom Boag**.



## THE FINAL BELL



With that, **Keller** struck the virtual Rotary bell at 1:15pm sharp.



## ZOOM MEETING TIPS FOR ROTARIANS



Okay so we have had several Rotary Zoom meetings and probably some committee meetings and maybe even a Zoom meeting with your employer or your grandkids. It's time to get serious about Zoom. You may not know that there is a Twitter website called RoomRater where people rate your Zoom room behind your back. Literally, behind your back. Do you get 10 out of 10 for your room? (Cool books that people think you read, view of the redwood forest, Dracula standing behind you). Or do you get a 1 out of 10 (Dead flowers behind you, fake flowers behind you, bare walls)?

Time to really think about some dos and don'ts. Ask yourself, would I go to a Rotary meeting looking like this? Is my cluttered Zoom room a reflection of my cluttered mind?

### Quick Tips

1. Get rid of the fake flowers. Really obvious.
2. Don't bring your dog unless it's really cute like Bud Daviero's
3. If your phone rings or someone comes to the door and you are not muted, it has a negative effect on the rest of the Zoom meeting.
4. Tilt the computer so we are not looking up your nose. Really
5. If you are not on mute – something bad will probably happen. Double check often.
6. Learn how to go audio only. In fact if you RoomRate yourself a 1 or a 2, just go with audio only, the rest of us will appreciate it.
7. Get a Zoom Room advisor to buy you some books to put behind you so you look smart.
8. Hair combed? We know there is not much you can do about the mess on top of your head but give it a try. Please.
9. Don't shave. Then do shave. Then don't shave. I know we are reaching here but Zoom meetings can get a little boring.
10. Keep in mind that people are taking screen shots of your Room. There is a permanent record somewhere.

So please take some time to evaluate your Zoom position. Rate your Room yourself or others will. **David Still**



## COMING ATTRACTIONS

