



# The Appleknocker

## Sebastopol Rotary Club's Weekly Bulletin

### Doug Johnson – District Governor

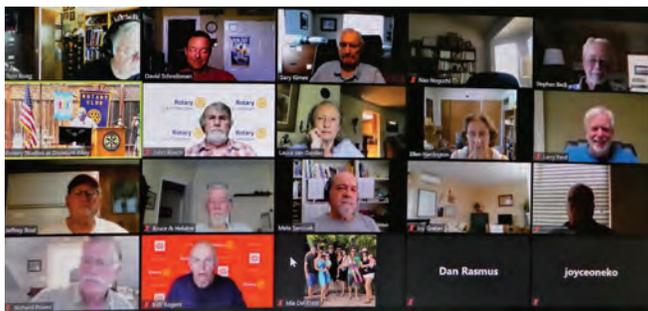


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**President 2020/2021:** Dan Rasmus



“All the News that Fits We Print”

That all too familiar feeling has returned to Sebastopol. The smell of smoke. The feeling of uneasiness. The concern for friends and loved ones. Flames ripping through areas we hike through and drive through, and hold near to our hearts. The Wallbridge Fire is the worst wildfire to hit the West County since the Creighton Ridge Fire of 1978. It's forced people along the Russian River and Forestville, including two of our members, to evacuate. There will be a special section devoted to the fire at the rear of this week's edition. You'll find resources to get the most current information, including fire news, stats, maps, and real time fire cameras.



### AT THE BELL

**President Dan Rasmus** struck the ash covered Roto-bell at 12:15pm sharp. The traveling Roto-roadshow paid a visit to the humble abode of a true friend of Rotary, **Troy** and **Nichole McAdams** and Discount Alley. Despite the smoke, some of our numbers gathered out in the elements, including our stalwart AV team, making sure **Dan** sounded brilliant, and didn't appear frozen! **Troy McAdams** led the flock in the salute to Old Glory.



**Cindy Carter** gave us a great thought for the day from Michelle Obama: “When you've worked hard, and done well, and walked through that doorway of opportunity, you do not slam it shut behind you. You reach back and you give other folks the same chances that helped you to succeed.”



Sonoma County YWCA Domestic Violence Hotline 707-546-1234

## Future Programs

**August 28**  
**Mary Carouba**  
**Women at Ground Zero**

**September 4**  
**Congressman Jared Huffman**

**September 11**  
**State Senator Mike McGuire**

## Miscellany

MAKEUP NOTIFICATIONS—[scottbriggs50@yahoo.com](mailto:scottbriggs50@yahoo.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

We had a few Rotarians who joined in, including our speaker, District 5130 Governor Doug Johnson, Lieutenant Governor Marilyn Lira, who presented us a banner from her home club, Santa Rosa East, Joyce Oneko from the Sunrise Club, Bruce and Helaine Campbell from the Sunrise Club, and Gary Kimes, past Secretary of our club, and current member of the Rotary Club of Broadmoor District in Colorado Springs. We also had Troy McAdams' wife, Nichole, and daughter Heather.



## ANNONCEMENTS

Unless you are living under a rock, we've all had a challenging week (other words come to mind, but this is a family publication). As we left our zoom meeting last Friday, we were in the grips of a historic heatwave. Later that evening, most of the West County got to experience a blast from the past, rolling blackouts. But wait, there's more! We were all awoken early Sunday morning to the constant sound of thunder, a lightning show, and strong gusty winds. A repeat performance happened midday Monday. With the storms, brought hundreds of small, lightning sparked fires. One such fire started Monday afternoon in the hills northwest of Austin Creek State Park along Wallbridge Ridge. Tuesday afternoon, gusty winds turned the small fire into a massive inferno. Since then the fire has burned over 51,000 acres (as your scribe types this), forced evacuations of all the River communities, has destroyed hundreds of homes, and is threatening Armstrong Woods, Rio Nido, Healdsburg, Dry Creek Valley, and Lake Sonoma.



The fire is now the number one priority for firefighters. CalFire brought in the massive supertanker and DC-10 to fight the fire (photos from your scribe). In addition to the Wallbridge Fire, our neighbors to the north are suffering as well. The Hennessey Fire has destroyed areas around Lake Berryessa and far northern corners of the county. It's also reached into Lake County, threatening Middletown and Hidden Valley Lake.

**David** and **Nan Still**, and **Hal** and **Estelle Kwalwasser**, were forced to evacuate. We're happy to report that they are okay. **Dorothy Rodella** and **Rollie Atkinson** are in the warning zones. If you need any help, please reach out to Dan, or any of the board members. We all have your backs, and are here for you. **Yvette Williams van Aggelen** recently has serious health issues, and was hospitalized. She is now recovering at home. As you heard in the After the Bell section last week, Larry Dilley, son of **Tom** and **Pat Dilley**, passed away last Saturday. Please keep everyone in your prayers during these challenging times.

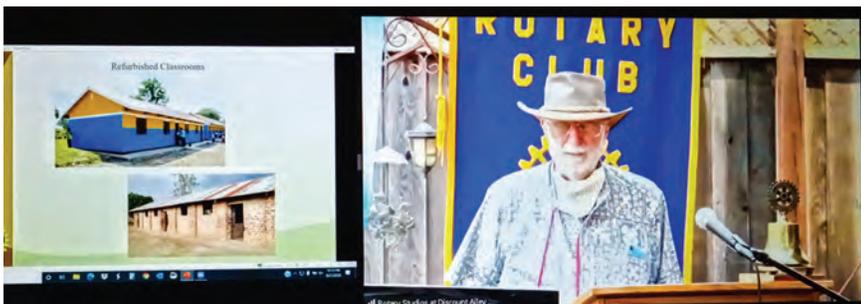
The District 5130 Disaster Relief Fund is back in action. To donate, please send your check to:

Ashleigh Diehl  
 District 5130 Treasurer  
 1315 Fourth Street  
 Eureka, CA 95501

🍎 **KEEPING GIRLS IN SCHOOL** 🍎

**Frank Mayhew** stepped up to the lectern to give us an update on the "Keeping Girls in School" program in Uganda. He started with a beautiful video showing the greeting **Frank** and **Kathie** received from the students at Kaira Primary School. Even **Kathie** joined in the dancing! Years ago, our club offered a grant to Frank and Kathie's project. Its mission was to keep girls in Uganda from dropping out of school. The local Rotary Club was reluctant to help, since we were a small club. This did not stop their mission. The project has helped rebuild and modernize classroom facilities, install proper bathrooms, wash stations, water facilities (solar powered well and tank), and most importantly, changing rooms for the girls. They taught students how to wash their hands, make reusable menstrual pads for the girls, and taught staff how to maintain the toilets and the septic system.

**Frank** stressed how this project emphasizes the opportunities and possibilities Rotary delivers, and the power of Rotary. With an \$18,000 contribution from our club, the project leveraged financial support from district grants, other clubs in the district, bringing over \$122,000 for this project. The project may not be 100% complete, but the results are stunning. In 2015, 71% of girls, and 56% of boys dropped out. In 2019, the dropout rate dramatically decreased to only 15% of girls, and 11% of boys. They are now working on supplying books for the students, and training for the teachers. Goes to show the power of Rotary.



## RECOGNITIONS



**Pam Graber** turned the big seven-o on August 18<sup>th</sup>. Her birthday present came on the 21<sup>st</sup>, as she finally got a play date with her grandkids. **Rick Williams** had a birthday on August 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Jerry Warren** allowed the flock to celebrate his birthday at Rotary. Keeping with tradition since the age of four, his wife baked him a birthday cake. He got a chance to share it with **Harry** and **Jeannie Polley** over a nice dinner. Happy birthday, everyone!



**Jeff and Jean Boal** celebrated 51 years of marriage recently. They had a quiet day at home. Happy anniversary! **Dan** spotlighted three Rotarians celebrating their Rotary Anniversary. **Brendon Houston** celebrated his 16<sup>th</sup> anniversary, **Henry Alker** celebrated his 11<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and **Gene Nelson** celebrated his 23<sup>rd</sup> anniversary. Congratulations, gents.

## THE PROGRAM



**Jack Blasco** introduced our guest speaker, Rotary District 5130 Governor, Doug Johnson. Doug started by stressing how in challenging times, Rotary is incredibly relevant, and needed more than ever. He explained how most of the clubs are now zooming, and commended our club for leading the way with hybrid meetings. He then went on to recall his experience at the International District Governor training in San Diego earlier this year. Over 530 District Governors from around the world gathered to learn their duties, and network with District Governors from all over the world. It was there where Rotary International Incoming President Holger Knaack unveiled the theme for 2020: Rotary Opens Opportunities. He likened the experience to the Oscars, lots of anticipation and fanfare. The message from President Knaack stressed the need for Rotary to change and evolve, and this was before the COVID-19 pandemic.

Since the pandemic began, Rotary has changed, has pivoted, and responded to the necessary changes to adapt to the new COVID-19 world we live in. Rotary has gone through so much in its existence, and each time, Rotary always came out stronger. Doug recalled a quote from the Apollo 13 mission: "Don't tell me what's not working, tell me what's working." During these times, there's so much that is working in Rotary. While some clubs remain unsure about the future, our club is a shining example of what is working. There are many opportunities for Rotary during these times, and many opportunities for people to step up, and be a part of the change.

Doug spoke about a mission that District 5130 is focusing on, ethics. After all, ethics is apart of the Rotary DNA. He announced that at his District Conference, October 8-9, 2021 at the Doubletree Hotel in Rohnert Park, there will be an Ethics in Business Luncheon open to the public. The luncheon will award businesses with high ethical standards, and will feature a high-profile speaker. He sees this as a great way to showcase Rotary to the business community, and how ethics are at the core of our organization. Doug is working with a team to launch this program, which is modeled after a similar program run by the Rotary Club of Portland, OR.

Finally, Doug mentioned that the District 5130 fire relief fund is back in operation, and will need your help. Donation details are on page three of the AppleKnocker.



## THE FINAL BELL



**Dan** thanked Doug Johnson for his presentation, and thanked Marilyn Lira for the banner. **Dan** brought the meeting to a close at 1:15pm. Last week, **Mia Del Prete** gave the thought for the day. We apologize for the error.



## AFTER THE BELL



Getting detailed information about the Wallbridge Fire can be a challenge. Knowing what information is accurate, and what is not, can be hard. The AppleKnocker team has assembled a list of resources to help you know what is happening. Keep these resources handy, as they may be of assistance later in the fire season.

Make sure you are registered for **NIXLE**. You will get text and email alerts about evacuations. This is handy to have year-round. To sign up, please visit: <https://local.nixle.com/register/>

**SoCo Emergency:** Website has detailed information about the Wallbridge Fire, including resources for those impacted by the fire: <https://socoemergency.org/emergency/wildfire/>

**SoCo Evacuation Map:** Learn which areas are under evacuation orders and warnings, and where road closures, and other resources are:

<https://sonomacounty.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=69a0e54e9e2b48c086d122027b21c961>

**National Fire Situational Awareness Map:** Shows near real time locations of large fire intensity: <https://maps.nwcg.gov/sa/#/%3F/%3F/38.5952/-123.0392/11>

**Cal Fire Incident Information:** Current details and statistics about the Wallbridge Fire, Meyers Fire (now fully contained), and the Hennessey Fire:

<https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/2020/8/17/lnu-lightning-complex-includes-hennessey-gamble-15-10-spanish-markley-13-4-11-16-walbridge/>

**AlertWildfire Cameras:** Access PG&E and Cal Fire cameras across the North Bay, and California. Three cameras are currently trained on the fire (click on the link below to access the camera).

Mordhardt Ridge (Northwest of Cazadero): [Camera 1](#), [Camera 2](#)

Pole Mountain (West of Cazadero): [Camera 1](#), [Camera 2](#)

Mount Jackson (Above Rio Nido): [Camera 1](#), [Camera 2](#)

**Broadcastify Cal Fire Sonoma County:** Listen into radio communications with Cal Fire crews:

<https://www.broadcastify.com/webPlayer/31847>

**Purple Air AQI Map:** Shows real time air quality levels:

<https://www.purpleair.com/map?opt=1/mAQI/a10/cC0#10.01/38.423/-122.7509>

**Sonoma West Times and News:** <http://www.sonomawest.com/>

**News of the North Bay:** <https://newsofthenorthbay.com/>

**The Press Democrat:** <https://www.pressdemocrat.com/>

**Twitter Feed for Wallbridge Fire:** [https://twitter.com/search?q=%23wallbridgefire&src=typeahead\\_click&f=live](https://twitter.com/search?q=%23wallbridgefire&src=typeahead_click&f=live)

**Prepare For Wildfire:** Learn how to take steps to prepare and protect your property for wildfire: <https://www.readyforwildfire.org/>

**Returning Home After a Wildfire:** Learn what do if your property is impacted by wildfire: <https://www.readyforwildfire.org/post-wildfire/returning-home/>

## FUTURE PROGRAMS

### August 28, 2020: Mary Carouba, Women at Ground Zero



A popular speaker and performer who shines a light on professional, personal and social issues, Mary is a gifted storyteller who inspires and entertains. Using real-life, poignant examples of ordinary people doing extraordinary things, Mary vividly demonstrates to audience members the possibilities for their own lives. Infusing even the most serious subject matter with humor is a hallmark of Mary's work. Mary's background as a stand-up comic, investigative social worker and prison consultant also adds richness and depth to her presentations and performances. Event coordinators often remark that they have never had a speaker as popular with their groups, and audience members respond enthusiastically to Mary's powerful message that anything is possible when individuals act with passion and urgency on their goals and dreams.

Mary is the co-author of the critically acclaimed *Women at Ground Zero: Stories of Courage and Compassion*, a book that honors the women heroes of 9/11. The challenging process of finding the women heroes and giving voice to their powerful and moving stories was Mary's own "ground zero," and the lessons she learned about taking risks, moving forward in the face of fear, and overcoming seemingly impossible odds became the cornerstone for a powerful series of inspirational presentations. Mary delivers her popular presentations to corporate groups, first-responders, universities and colleges, non-profit organizations and community groups. She also performs on international cruises. Mary is currently working on a book and a one-woman play, "Life, Death, and Other Comedies."

### September 4, 2020: Congressman Jared Huffman



Jared Huffman represents California's 2nd Congressional District which spans the North Coast of the state, from the Golden Gate Bridge to the Oregon border, and includes Marin, Sonoma, Mendocino, Humboldt, Trinity, and Del Norte counties. He was first elected to Congress in November 2012 and currently serves on the Committee on Natural Resources, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and the Select Committee on the Climate Crisis. In the 116th Congress, he chairs the Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Oceans and Wildlife, with jurisdiction over federal water projects, fisheries management, coastal zone and oceans policy, and wildlife and endangered species. Jared also founded the Congressional Freethought Caucus to promote sound public policy based on reason, science and moral values, while protecting the secular character of government and championing the value of freedom of thought worldwide.

Prior to his legislative service, Jared worked as a Senior Attorney for the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC). One of his proudest accomplishments at NRDC was helping forge an agreement to restore a 153-mile stretch of the San Joaquin River in California's Central Valley. Before NRDC, Jared was a successful public interest attorney whose victories included several major jury verdicts in gender discrimination and race discrimination trials. He also served 12 years in local government as a Director of the Marin Municipal Water District (MMWD), from 1994 to 2006. Jared represented the North Bay for six years in the California Assembly where he chaired the Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee. Among his other accomplishments as a state legislator, Jared played a leading role in crafting landmark water reforms in 2009 and authored dozens of successful bills, including California's pioneering lighting efficiency standards (AB 1109) which were subsequently adopted into federal law; the nation's largest programs for solar hot water heating (AB 1470) and paint recycling (AB 1343); reforms that improve California's State Parks system (AB 1589) and Department of Fish and Wildlife (AB 2402); and creation of a new voluntary type of corporation, California Benefit Corporations, to promote corporate social responsibility (AB 361)