



The Appleknocker

Sebastopol Rotary Club's Weekly Bulletin

Dee Schweitzer Civil Grand Jury



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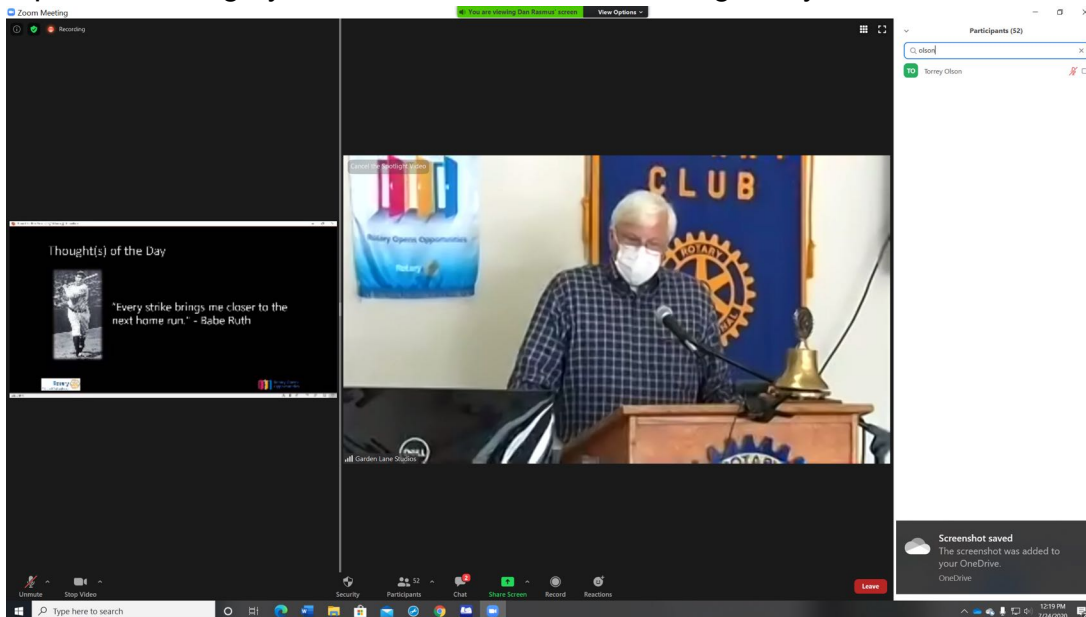
“All the News that Fits We Print”

AT THE BELL

Fearless Leader AKA **President Dan Rasmus** brought the hammer down on the Rota Bell for the July 24th 2020 meeting of the Rotary Club of Sebastopol at 12:14pm, It was the 17th virtual meeting.

President Dan seemed somewhat perturbed due to last week’s error in the AppleKnocker. We at the Appleknocker are fully ready to offer apologies; the full text of the problem and the Apology can be found After the Bell.

Frank Mayhew started things off by leading us in pledging to the Stars and Stripes. He began by reminding us that *“in most countries the “Pledge of Allegiance” is given to the President or Royalty, but in our country the Pledge of Allegiance is to the flag, the symbol of our country”*. When you repeat the Pledge you should do so with the feeling that you have for our country, not like a 3rd grader that quietly mumbles the Pledge.



This was followed by Past District Governor **John Blount** providing us with the thought for the day and since today was the start of baseball season it had to do with baseball. *“Little League baseball is good for everyone because it keeps the parents off the streets.”* He followed this by reminding us of

a statement by the great Babe Ruth. *“Every strike brings me closer to the next homerun.”*



Future Programs

July 31

**Keller McDonald
Sonoma County Swifts
Now you see them, now you don't**

August 7

**CA Secretary of State
Alex Padilla
Election Integrity in California**

Miscellany

MAKEUP NOTIFICATIONS--scottbriggs50@yahoo.com

On-line Make-Ups:

www.RotaryEClubOne.org

Domestic Violence Hotline:

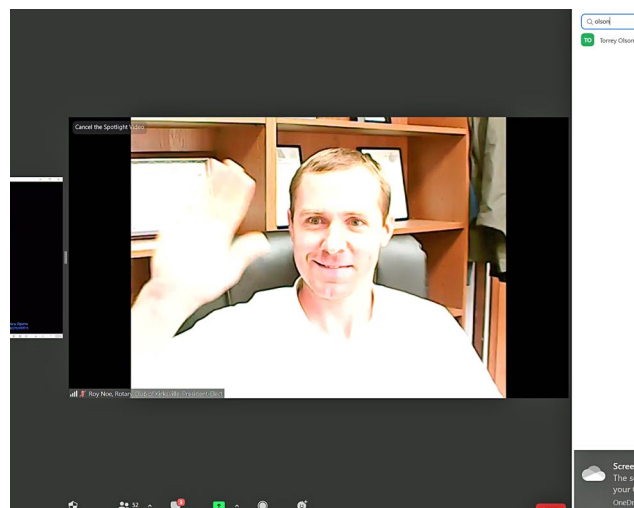
707-546-1234

sebastopolrotary.com

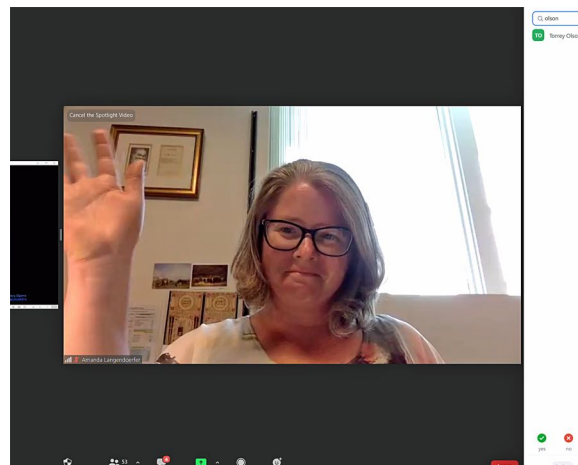
VISITING ROTARIANS & GUESTS

Sebastopol Rotary was fortunate to have five Rotarians from the Rotary Club in Kirksville Missouri zoom into our meeting.

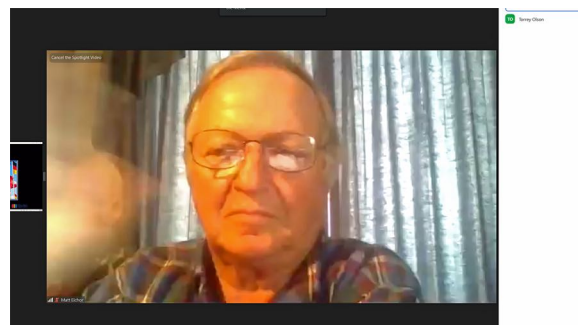
They were Roy Noe, President of the Kirksville Rotary Club,



Amanda Langendoerfer, President Elect,



Matt Eichor, PDG from Kirksville District,



Jeff Romine, from Kirksville District and



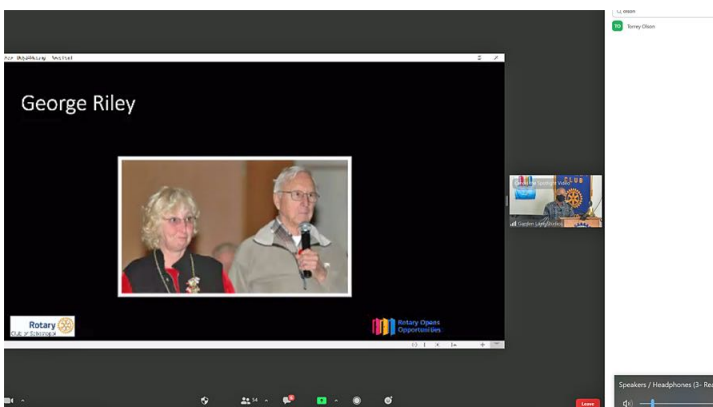
Ray Klinginsmith. Ray was Rotary International President from 2010-2011. Ray is an attorney and former General Council at Truman State University and a Professor and later Dean of Administration. Ray was initially a Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholar for a year 60 years ago (WOW)

Our club was no less fortunate to have former Sebastopol Rotarian and PDG Bruce Campbell visit our club



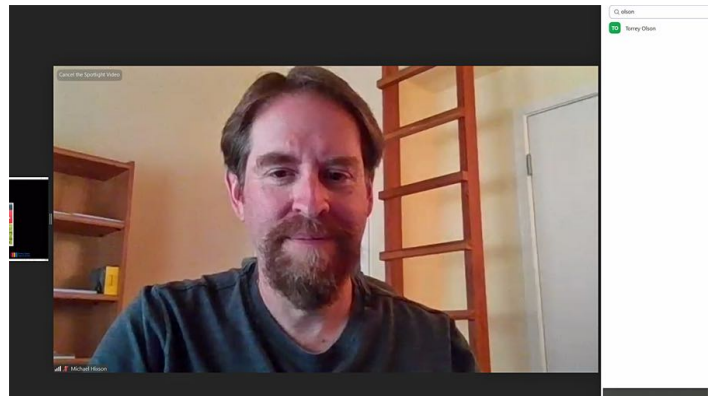
🍎 ANNOUNCEMENTS 🍎

There will be a SCARC (Sonoma County Association of Rotary Clubs) Zoom meeting on July 30 at 5:30 PM. For details contact **Scott Briggs**.



Prez Dan mentioned that former Sebastopol Rotarian, George Riley, passed away at age 92. George had been living in South Padre Island in Texas..

Michael Hixson, a hard working Rotarian for many years announced that he is continuing with his plan to move to Thailand. **Michael** thinks he can get a plane out sometime in August. **Michael** will be missed.

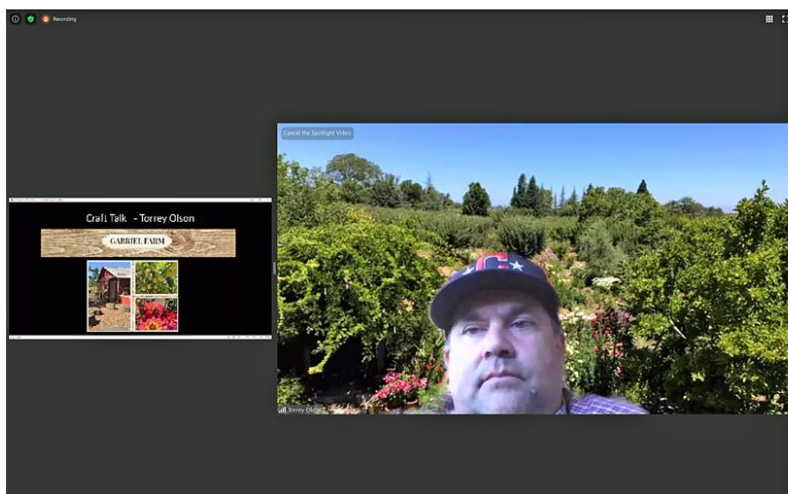


RINGING OF THE PEACE BELL: There will be a ringing of the Peace Bells on August 5th starting at 4:15pm in Hiroshima Japan and on August 8th at 7:02 in Nagasaki Japan to mark the 75th anniversary of the event. **Jim Passage** spoke and reminded us that it was just 75 years ago that United States dropped atomic bombs on these two cities. He said that there is no doubt that we have seen pictures of the devastation and that we know that hundreds of thousands of people died instantly or on the following days and weeks. He reminded us that Takeo Japan is our sister city. To mark this date in an appropriate manner in a time of “shelter in place” Sister Cities International has proposed a bell ringing event. People in Sister Cities across Japan and across the United States will be ringing bells. Bells may be rung in a front yard, in a driveway, on a hill top, in a field or orchard, public space—where ever convenient and in keeping with good health precautions. Jim said that he will be ringing a bell in his front driveway near his new Peace Pole.

Bells will be rung for 75 seconds or will ring for 75 peels whichever is most appropriate for the size of the bell. Bells will be rung in Japan and the United States at exactly the same time, exactly 75 years after impact. Sebastopol World Friends would like to know who participates and to have snap shots if possible. **Jim** said that he would convey this information so please tell him of your bell ringing experience..



🍎 CRAFT TALK 🍎



Torrey Olson and his wife bought Gabriel Farms from a retired couple nearly twenty years ago. They offer the opportunity for people to pick their own fruits, vegetables and even flowers. The crops that they offer are Apples, Asian Pears, Persimmons, Raspberries, Blackberries, Tomatoes, Flowers & Pineapple Guavas. Each year they offer a U-Pick CSA membership program where visitors are invited to pick their

own fruits June – November. They can be contacted at 707-829-0617. 3175 Sullivan Rd, Sebastopol, Ca.

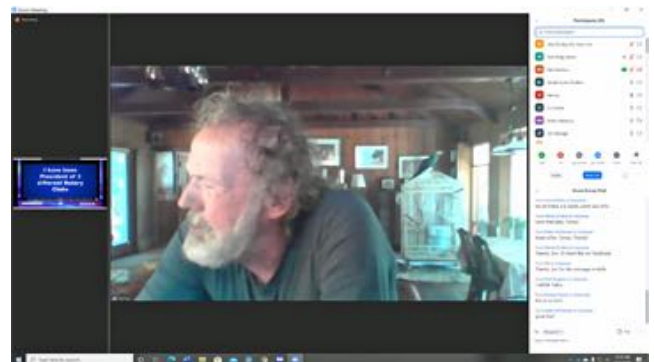
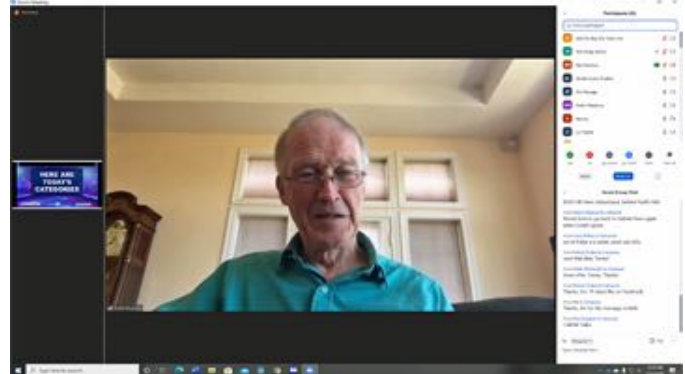
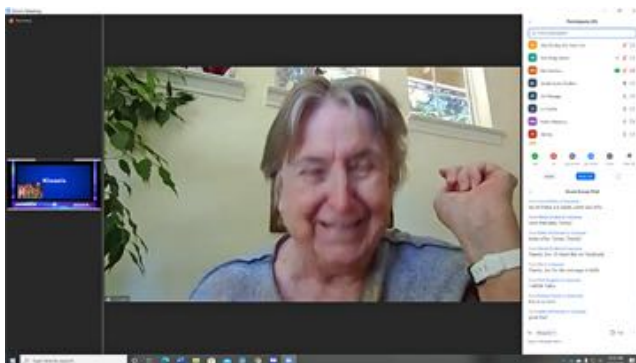
Torrey now has a special program where he is offering a 5 gallon bucket of flowers for \$40 and he will donate \$10 to our Rotary Club. Order at least 10 hours in advance and either pick them up at the Farm or have Torrey (and maybe a special guest) deliver them to you (no contact) being socially distant and safe! No charge for delivery! Deliver one to a Rotarian that you have not seen in a while—make their day.

RECOGNITIONS

: **JT Martin** and Wife Teresa enjoyed a lovely night out at John Ash enjoying a fine meal and festivities, while celebrating 32 years of wedded bliss on July 23.

THE RAFFLE

Prez Dan instituted a new and unique form of the Club raffle. He selected **Robin Maybury**, **Lu Fraser**, and **HH** to participate. We all sat back and watched *Rotary Jeopardy*. Since it was the initial offering, there were some mishaps including contestants not answering in the form of a question (don't they watch Jeopardy? Everybody watches Jeopardy). Although the categories had dollar values, no one collected any money. At any rate, someone won. Tune in next week and be ready – you might be called by **Dan (Alex Trebek) Rasmus** to compete.



THE PROGRAM

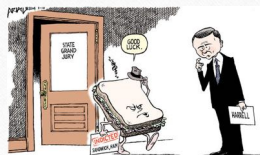
Pam Graber popped-up to introduce today's speaker, Dee Schweitzer. Dee is a trainer with California Grand Jury Association (www.cgja.org) traveling throughout the state training new civil grand jurors. She served on the Sonoma County Civil Grand Jury from July 2017-2018 term and as a Foreperson during the 2018-2019 term. In 2017-2018 term she was Chairperson of Cities and Special Districts Committee s and active on the Editorial Committee. Dee was born and raised in New York and moved to San Francisco North Bay Area with her husband and two children in 1980.

Dee explained the Civil Grand Jury in Sonoma County which is funded by Sonoma County. It is affiliated with the court system and consists of citizen-volunteers. These Grand Jurors choose an issue or a topic amongst themselves and have the power to investigate. They generally choose local government agencies to look into and ask questions about. Surely the local bureaucrats are often unhappy to see them coming as it means they have to answer lots of questions about their policies and procedures.

Some recent investigations have included the Coroners office, zoning laws, and other government entities. The Civil Grand Jury completes its investigation and issues a report of findings for the public to review. The agency being reviewed must make a written response for the public to review as well. Several Sebastopol Rotarians have served on the Civil Grand Jury including Pam Graber, Ellen Harrington and Henry Alker.

California Grand Jury System

- California constitution mandate since 1879. Article 1.23
- Penal Code 888 – 940 ~ what the grand jury MUST do and MUST NOT do
- Civil Grand Jury serves as investigator, prosecutor, defense and jury
- May also serve as criminal grand jury but not done in Sonoma County





THE FINAL BELL



President **Dan Rasmus** rang us off with the closing bell to end another great Rotary meeting.



AFTER THE FINAL BELL



Last week's AppleKnocker erroneously implied that President **Dan Rasmus** absent mindedly neglected the Pledge and Song. In fact, this was all part of his master plan. There was no mistake.

Accordingly, the Appleknocker plans to hold a mass groveling in abject humility as soon as Shelter in Place restrictions are lifted and a suitable venue can be secured. Everyone is invited.



FUTURE PROGRAMS



July 31: Keller McDonald, Sonoma County Swifts – Now you see them, now you don't!



Keller McDonald has been a Rotarian for nearly 35 years, but he has been a birder even longer. **Keller** started birding on a family camping trip to the Sierras when he was 12. His excitement at seeing his first Western Tanager prompted his dad to buy him a bird book and loan him the family's binoculars ... and he was hooked for life! Bird Study was the first merit badge he earned as a Boy Scout. In college, he took every bird-related class offered at UC Davis. He married a birder, and together they have traveled with binoculars and bird guides to birding spots across North, Central and South America; Scotland; Israel; and Japan. **Keller** says, "Birding, like Rotary, is something you can do every day wherever you are, anytime - day or night!" **Keller** has identified over 700 of North America's 914 bird species. His kids know his birding bent makes him a little strange, but they've learned to live with it. **Keller** will share the mysteries of the Vaux's Swift – one of Sonoma County's special winged treasures.