



# The Appleknocker

## Sebastopol Rotary Club's Weekly Bulletin

### Keller McDonald – The Vaux's Swift



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**President 2020/2021:** Dan Rasmus



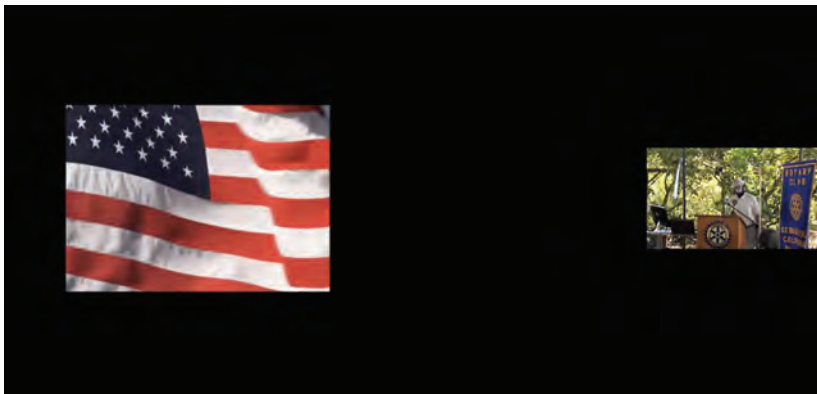
"All the News that Fits We Print"



While the doors of the Roto-Palace remain shuttered because of COVID-19, the heartbeat of the Rotary Club of Sebastopol remains strong. Thanks to Zoom, and our temporary home at Garden Lane Studios, the Roto-family can still gather together. On this beautiful Friday, the Roto-team at Garden Lane moved the meeting out to the Grove. Members of the family gathered (while abiding by social distancing), under the redwoods, while others Zoomed in from their offices, bedrooms, and backyards.

### 🍎 AT THE BELL 🍎

**President Dan "The Man" Rasmus** struck the hearty Roto-Bell at 12:15pm sharp. He started with a shout out to the stalwart crew of this fine publication. He thanked the scribes, editors, and photographers for keeping the publication going. Neither rain, nor flood, nor sleet, nor snow, nor wildfire, or nor COVID-19, will stop the AppleKnocker from coming through!



Lock your doors, the **Pooch** is back from Idaho! **Ron Puccinelli**, live and in person, led the flock in the salute to Old Glory.



## Future Programs

**August 7**

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

**August 14**

**Dr. Evian Gordon  
Need Help Remembering?**

**August 21**

**District Governor  
Doug Johnson**

## 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)**

**Lu Frazier** gave us a two for one Thought for the Day, from two leading authorities on Rotary, Arch Klumph and Paul Harris.

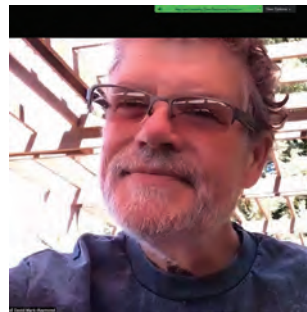
“Money alone does little good. Individual service is helpless without money. The two together can be a godsend to civilization.” Arch Klumph

“This is a changing world: we must be prepared to change with it. The story of Rotary will have to be written again and again.” Paul Harris



## VISITING ROTARIANS & GUESTS

**Dan** introduced David Mark Raymond and Jerry Meshulam, both from the Sebastopol Sunrise club. **Dan** also introduced Sharon Daviero, our first lady Fran Rasmus, friend of Rotary, and **Ron's** better half, **Lynda Puccinelli**.



## PAUL HARRIS FELLOWS

**President Dan** introduced Past-President, Past R.I Director, and Past Dentist, **John Blount**, who took the microphone and promptly broke the camera. The live video – and audio - from our Garden Lane studios was lost. **John Blount** at the podium with no audio and no video...after all these years our prayers finally answered! Not really....well, maybe just a little. Soon audio was restored and **President Dan** was able to show a Rotary Foundation video highlighting the wonderful work the Foundation is doing in Italy fighting COVID-19.

With still no live video, our President highlighted....



## 🍎 RECOGNITIONS 🍎

Birthdays....**Ken Silveira**, July 31. Not present, so no song, but still \$5!

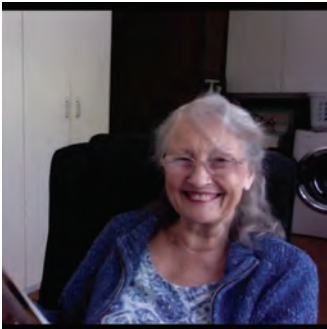
Anniversaries...**Torrey** and **Lucy Olson**, July 27.

Rotary Anniversary....**Barbara Beedon** – 24 years in Rotary, and former President of the Santa Rosa Downtown club.

Congratulations All!!!

## 🍎 MORE PAUL HARRIS FELLOWS 🍎

And then, wonder of wonders, video restored! **John** returned to the podium. He pointed to the video as an illustration both of the good work the Foundation is doing worldwide and of how quickly the Foundation can respond to a crisis, anywhere, anytime, through a new program – Disaster Recovery Grants. He then made the following Paul Harris presentations:



First Paul Harris Award: **Laura Victor Van Gorder**. Her audio was malfunctioning, but the Foundation's Polio eradication program has been very important to her.



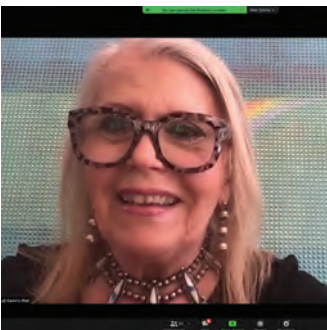
Paul Harris +4 – **Harry Simms**. **Harry** spoke of Rotary's worldwide, compassionate outreach as something he remains extremely grateful for.



Paul Harris +5 – **Nao Noguchi**. He suggested that his clock on this earth is ticking and giving to the Foundation helps him to make this earth a little better place than when he first entered.

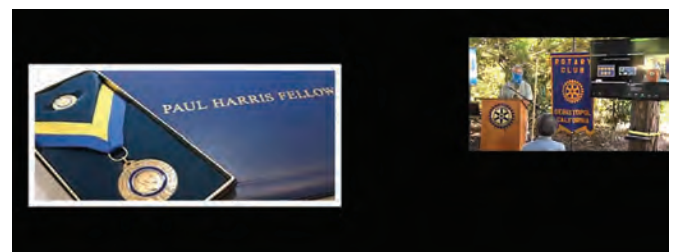


Paul Harris +5 – **Ron Puccinelli**. Echoing **Nao**, he spoke of how important it is to do what he can to improve our world. The Foundation enables him to do just that.



Paul Harris +6 - **Karen Daniels**. **Karen** said how much Rotary inspires her, how when she gives to the Foundation she feels she is truly making difference.

Paul Harris +6 – **Greg Jacobs**. **Greg** spoke of his two granddaughters and how giving to the Foundation enables him to leave a positive legacy for them and indeed for all our children.





Paul Harris +7 – **David Schreiberman**. **David** said he supported the Foundation for many of the reasons already shared, but also because he knows that the money he gives will go directly to where it is most needed.



Paul Harris +7 – **Edwin Wilson**. **Edwin** spoke of leverage – Foundation money provides leverage for doing good and it can go places and help where he personally cannot go.



Paul Harris +8 - **Ruthie Dunlap**. She spoke of the Foundation as being the best charitable organization in the world and of her admiration for all its good work.

Thanks to all for your generosity, your caring and your dedication to Rotary. Yes, you DO make a difference!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Committee Interest Forms have been sent out. Please indicate the committees on which you would like to serve and return the forms.

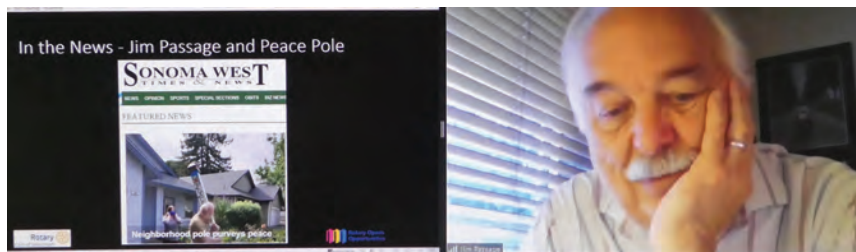
Yes, dues are due. Please respond promptly. If dues are currently beyond your reach financially, contact **President Dan** or **Treasurer Ken Jacobs**. Alternatives are available.

Next Friday, Aug. 7, Zoom break out rooms will be available before the regular meeting. It will be the opportunity for small groups of Rotarians to talk together and get to know each other a little better. If you are interested, log in at noon.

Pandemic bouquets. **Torrey Olson** of Gabriel Farms is offering beautiful floral bouquets for \$40, \$10 of each sale will be donated to Sebastopol Rotary. Several club members have taken advantage of this offer and the reviews are great!

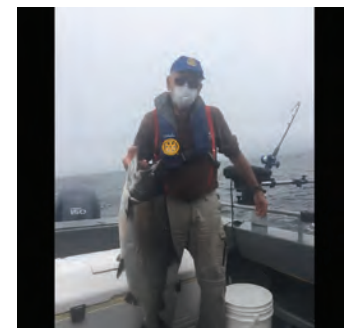


## MORE RECOGNITIONS



Kudos to **Jim Passage** for his Peace Pole write up in the local newspaper. Yet another Rotarian making a difference.

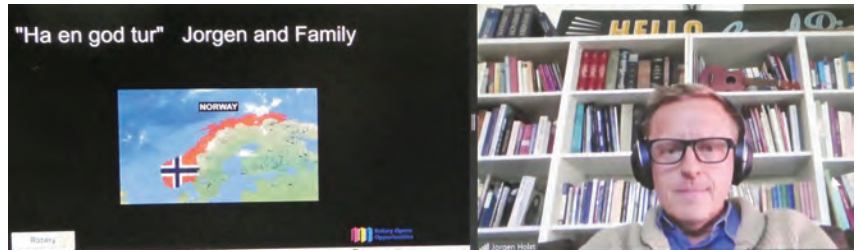
**Bob Rogers** paid \$5.00 for a 26 lb. king salmon caught on a recent fishing trip, all while wearing a Rotary life vest – **Bob**, not the salmon. Not sure when we will be invited over for the BBQ, but nice to know that Rotary can keep you afloat even in stormy seas.





**Tom Dilley**...my goodness what have we here? I have seen a house fly, a fire fly, even a horse fly, but **Tom** with a pony tail? I did not think it was possible to use the words **Tom Dilley** and pony tail in the same sentence! \$5 for the peek.

On the move...this coming Tuesday, **Jorgen Holst** and his family are moving to Norway. He will be working there until at least January, but the plan is to return to Sebastopol...probably to thaw out. We wish you the best, **Jorgen**. You have done so much for our club and you will be missed. We look forward to your return. Oh, by the way...he has a six-month-old Lab that could use a loving home for a few months. Let him know if you can help out with a temporary adoption.



Editor's Note: **Jorgen**, thank you so much for all of your hard work and contributions to the AppleKnocker. You WILL be missed!

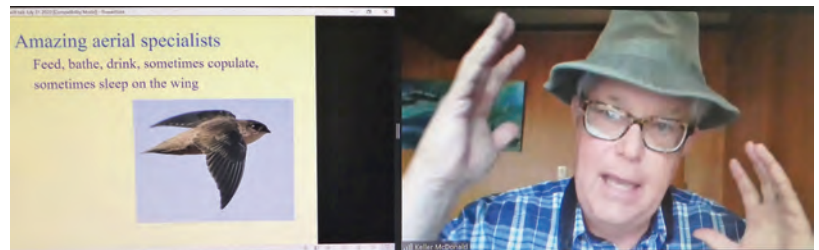
## 🍎 THE PROGRAM 🍎



Sonoma County Swifts, presented by our resident “Birdman of Sebastopol”, **Keller McDonald**.

**Keller** informed us that there are two varieties of Swifts found in our county – the Vaux’s Swift, and the White-throated Swift. His program focused on the Vaux’s – a mysterious bird because it is so very difficult to study. These birds do almost everything while in flight: feed, drink, sleep and perhaps even make little swifts, often at very high altitude. They eat only tiny flying insects. It is hard to find one sitting still. **Keller** described swifts as looking like “flying cigars” with swept back wings. They have short legs with sharp claws which enable them to cling to vertical surfaces, such as hollow trees or even brick chimneys – a favorite haunt. They actually glue their nests to such surfaces, using salivary cement. This cement is what makes bird’s nest soup appealing to some palates. Try matching a wine with that! Usually 4-5 eggs are laid and both parents help incubate the eggs. But their nests remain very difficult to locate.

The Vaux’s Swift is found on the west coasts of North, Central and South America. They winter in the south and then fly north to breed and have their young. Not many nest in Sonoma County, but nesting pairs have been seen at Salmon Creek, and for a number of years at the Hallberg Butterfly Farm.



Their fall migration can be spectacular, as thousands of birds concentrate in old brick industrial chimneys. Such concentrations can be found at the McNear Brickworks in San Rafael, and closer to home at the Rio Linda Adventist Academy in Healdsburg. During peak times, September 10-20 most years, right at sunset, thousands of birds can be seen swarming around the old Academy chimney. And then, as if on cue, they fly inside. Clearly claustrophobia is not a problem for swifts. This year, during the pandemic, it might be possible to view this migration from within automobiles.

While the Vaux’s swift is not endangered, they are threatened by habitat loss, as both dead hollow trees and brick chimneys are removed.

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Thank you, **Birdman Keller**, for such an enlightening program. The time went by very “swiftly.”

## 🍎 THE FINAL BELL 🍎

**President Dan** then adjourned our meeting at 1:15, but many remained on zoom with questions for **Keller**. Don’t forget the Zoom break-out sessions next Friday. Our guest speaker will be the California Secretary of State, Alex Padilla, who will talk about the state of elections in California.



## FUTURE PROGRAMS

### **August 7: California Secretary of State Alex Padilla – Election Integrity in California**



Alex Padilla is the California Secretary of State. He is focused on modernizing the office, increasing voter registration and participation, and strengthening voting rights. He sponsored legislation in 2015 to establish vote centers, expand early voting, and implement same-day conditional voter registration through the Voter's Choice Act. In 2018, he launched the California Motor Voter program, which automatically registers eligible Californians to vote when they obtain or renew their state ID or driver's license. The program registered one million new voters in its first year alone.

Secretary Padilla oversaw the state's historic General Election in 2018 where 64.5 percent of registered voters cast a ballot. This represented the highest turnout for a Gubernatorial Election since 1982. In February of 2020, California reached a record of more than 20.6 million registered voters.

Previously, he served two terms in the San Fernando Valley in the California State Senate and represented the east San Fernando Valley on the Los Angeles City Council. He grew up in the San Fernando Valley, attended local public schools, and graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology with a degree in mechanical engineering.