



The Appleknocker

Sebastopol Rotary Club's Weekly Bulletin

Oak Dowling – Ruth Bader Ginsburg



Date: March 5, 2021

Volume: 2020/21—Issue E19-32

Scribe: Tony Given

Photog. R. Maybury, D. Schreibman, J. Dunlap, HH

Editors: D.Still, J. Blasco, J. Dunlap, J. Holst, T. Boag, HH

President 2020/2021: Dan Rasmus



Rotary Opens Opportunities

"All the News that Fits We Print"

🍏 BEFORE THE BELL 🍏

Your humble scribe dropped into the 49th zoomified meeting (one year's worth) of the Rotary Club of Sebastopol a little before noon. As usual there were several fellow Rotarians chatting and discussing the affairs of the day, laughing and enjoying each others company. There was a corresponding group enjoying the comradery at *Russian River Vineyards*— also probably enjoying a glass of Sonoma County's finest. At 12:08 our technological whiz kid, **Tom Boag** broke us off into breakout rooms.

🍏 AT THE BELL 🍏



Our fearless leader **President Dan Rasmus** was not in the house.

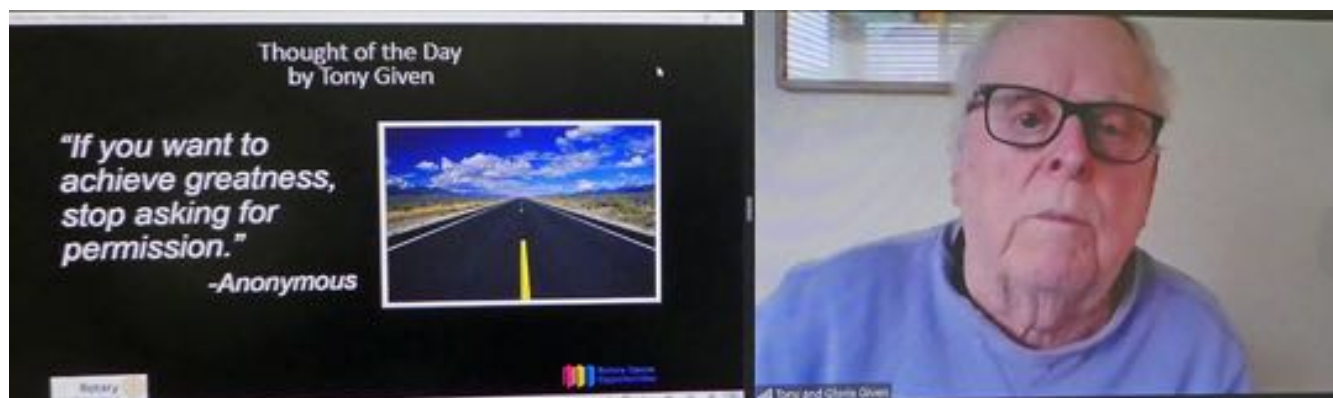
We were fortunate to have the one and only PP, PDG, and PRIE **John Blount** fill in for him. Being retired for a couple of years **John** was a little challenged initially but did manage to bring the hammer down on the Roto Bell at approx. 12:17. Not bad for a last minute stand in.



Scott Briggs led us in honoring Old Glory.

This was followed by your scribe, **Tony Given** giving us two thoughts for the day:

If you want to achieve greatness, stop asking for permission.



Things work out best for those who make the best of how things work out. John Wooden.



Future Programs



March 12, 2021

Fire Chief Contreras

New Ideas in Fire Science

March 19, 2021

Glenn Waring

***Questions and Waiting for
Answers***

March 26, 2021

The Hon. Robert Boyd

***The History of the Electoral
College***

Coming Attractions

Debunking

June 25, 2021



Miscellany



MAKEUP NOTIFICATIONS: scottbriggs50@yahoo.com

On-line Make-Ups:

www.RotaryEClubOne.org

Domestic Violence Hotline:

707-546-1234

sebastopolrotary.com



VISITING ROTARIANS & GUESTS



Substitute President for the day **John** recognized two of our favorite visiting Rotarians, Past President Gary Kimes, and Past Rotary President and PDG Bruce Campbell. Still think that one of these two is going to get the Dr. Dan Bornstein Award one of these days.

There were no guests of Rotarians.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Ken Jacobs got up and announced the Debunking of **President Dan Rasmus**. It will held on June 25, 2021. It will be held out of doors at a secret location and it will be live, no zoom.

All **protocols in place at the time will be observed**. You will finally get a chance to mix with other Rotarians – a long time comin'.

There will be lots more information about the Debunking coming soon.

Acting President for the Day John Blount

reminded us that Russian River Vineyards not only works with us on setting up the venue at this facility but also provides discounts of up to 40% on many of their fine wines. *Let's Shop Local*. And- they are an official sponsor of the Rotary Club of Sebastopol.

Speaking of Sponsors, **President-Elect Ellen Harrington** took the floor and mentioned that our club is always looking for sponsors.

Presently we have 10 contributing sponsors who contribute anywhere from \$500 to \$2500 annually.

Our Sponsors include (1) **Pacatte** Construction, (2) BHM Certified Public Accounts, (3) ECI Eye Care, (4) Exchange Bank, (5) Pacific Market, (6) Weeks Drilling (7) North Coast, (8) Russian River Vineyards, (9) **Mark McDonnell** (10) **Dick Zimmer**.



Ellen mentioned a video short on our website and gave a shout out to **Patrick Dirden** for all of his help.

Substitute President John Blount, who is on the debunking committee, asked if anybody has the “goods on **Dan**?” There seemed to be some mystery surrounding exactly where **President Dan** is today and what he actually does for a living. **Substitute President John** asked if anyone really knew **Dan** and if so, what does **Dan** do all day? There were many observations from the Zoomers and the Floor. Knowing that **Dan** is an avid reader of this newsletter – *Your AppleKnocker* – we will not go in to what sort of topics were discussed but suffice it to say that someone noted that “no one has ever seen **President Dan Rasmus** and Vladimir Putin in the same room”, with or without shirts on???

Remember – The Debunking of Dan Rasmus – Live and in Person June 25, 2021. Maybe we will get to the bottom of these questions.

BIG FUNDRAISER

Did we say BIG? Oh – it’s gonna be BIG.

Aleia Coate stepped to the mic and announced that we will be having our major fund raiser on Saturday May 1 and it will be called **Derby Day** to coincide with the Kentucky Derby. There will be a drawing for several exciting prizes. Tickets will be \$50. Each Rotarian will be asked to sell 20 \$50 tickets. Easy No? But don’t stop there. Sell those tickets.



Prizes will be between \$1000 and \$5000. Winner of the \$5000 prize will have the option of taking a trip to New York City and attending a Jimmy Fallon or Steven Colbert TV show.

Grand Prize!

\$5,000 Cash or Watch Your Favorite New York Late Night Show IN PERSON!



*3 Nights Accommodations in NYC
2 Tickets to either Fallon or Colbert*







There was a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the completion of the Libby Park playground rehabilitation project on Thursday March 4. **President Dan Rasmus** represented our club with the Tamale King Michael McGlothlin (pay no attention to the incorrect spelling of his name in the recent issue of Sonoma West – we get things right here at the AppleKnocker.) He representing the Sebastopol Sunrise Club. Remember all those Tamales? Michael and our own **Mario Ramos** organized a fantastic community project, raised tons of money, and here was the result.



🍎 RECOGNITIONS 🍎

PP AND PDG **Bob Rogers** turned 79 on May 2. **Bob** is looking good, must be all that bike riding. **Michele Kimble** had a March 5 but was not present—must be out celebrating. Happy BD **Michele**. **Bob** was dinged \$5.

AP **John** dinged **Richard Power** \$5 for coming in second place in the 1981 Catalina Island to Marina Del Rey rowing and paddling contest. That's a long way as I recall. Twenty-six miles across the sea or something like that. Richard probably still remembers the tune.



But could he play it again?

Steve Prandini, **Paul Theilen**, and **Frank Mayhew** parted with \$5 for who knows what. It really doesn't matter – **Sub Pres John** was making some dough.

Acting President John recognized **Jackie Moreira**, **Alain Serkissian**, **Patrick Dirden**, **Nancy Dwyer**, **Gail Gijzen** for their years of Rotary service.



🍎 THE PROGRAM 🍎

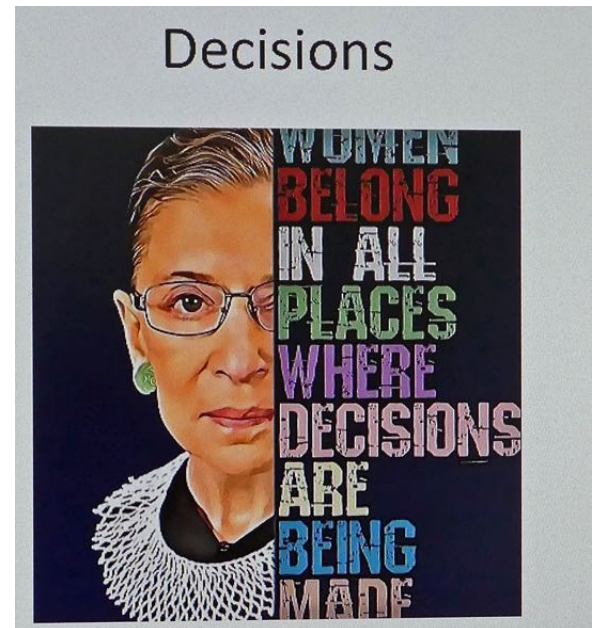
Past President **Rick Wilson** introduced our speaker Mr. Oak Dowling, JD. He is a retired attorney with 43 years of practice, including 31 years in San Rafael. He's a graduate of the University of Wisconsin – Madison Law School and a native of Chicago. He has lived in Marin County for over 47 years and for over 25 years he was a part-time Instructor of Law at College of Marin.



On the topic of Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Mr. Dowling started at the beginning. She graduated first in her class from Columbia Law school and, being a woman, got no job offers. She decided to teach. Along the way, she had a dream of representing

America's women in court on issues of inequality. Similar to Thurgood Marshall, another civil rights lawyer who ended up on the Nation's Highest Court, she was determined to take lots of cases representing lots of different types of discrimination. In winning them over and over, it became very clear that system was stacked against women in many ways. She co-founded the Women's Rights Project in the ACLU in 1972.

Mr Dowling described one case wherein a female officer in the United States Air Force was denied a housing allowance routinely paid to male officers for one reason – her gender. Women were denied other benefits routinely granted to men in housing, credit and finance. She even took on the tradition of “Ladies Day” at the ballpark, not because it was horrible but because it was discriminatory. She was successful in getting the Supreme Court to extend the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment to women.



Ruth Bader Ginsburg was appointed to the Supreme Court in 1993. She became close friends with Justice Antonin Scalia who had diametrically opposing views on most areas of law. But this did not come between them or their friendship. This inspiring program was a perfect for this Women's History Month.

🍏 THE FINAL BELL 🍏

Acting President for the Day John Blount rang the final bell at 1:15 PM.

🍏 AFTER THE FINAL BELL 🍏

Here is an editorial comment courtesy of your Editor:

Do you like the AppleKnocker?

Do you like the Zoom meetings?

Do you like a bunch of other stuff this club does?

Then you should thank this man next time you see him.
Tom Boag keeps the wheels turning in more ways than you know.



FUTURE PROGRAMS

March 12, 2021

New Ideas in Fire Science.

This program will feature two giants in the field of Fire Science discussing new ideas in Fire Science and Fire Science Training.



Chief Garrett Contreras promoted through the ranks at the Hayward Fire Department holding ranks of Firefighter/Paramedic, Captain, Battalion Chief, Deputy Fire Chief and now Fire Chief .



Tommy L. Abercrombie Ph.D. is a retired firefighter and internationally known public safety training facility design expert from Fort Worth, Texas. He retired from the Fort Worth Fire Department in 2019 with over 29 years of professional experience in the fire service.

March 19, 2021

Glenn Waring

Questions and Awaiting Answers

In the room where it happens:

Ever wonder how effective leaders make decisions?

What are the powerful questions they find most challenging?

If you could ask only two focus questions, what would they be?

March 26, 2021

Judge Bob Boyd

The Electoral College



