



The Appleknocker

Sebastopol Rotary Club's Weekly Bulletin

Teacher Of The Year Awards



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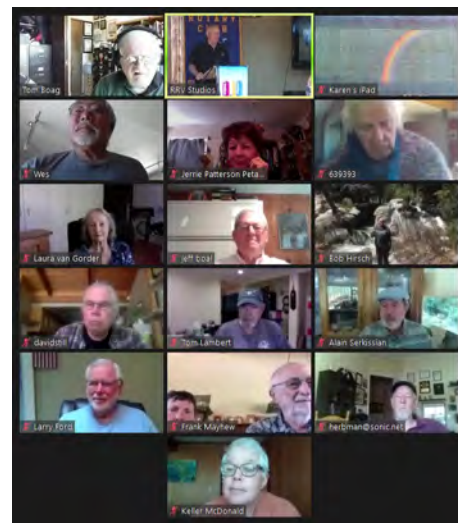


Rotary Opens Opportunities

"All the News that Fits We Print"



BEFORE THE BELL



Today was a special day in Rotary land. Today was the day we honored our Teachers of the Year. The crowd, both at Russian River Vineyards, and on Zoom, was quite robust.



Sonoma County YWCA Domestic Violence Hotline 707-546-1234

🍎 Future Programs 🍎

May 14, 2021

The Story of Mario Ramos

May 21, 2021

**James Alexander - From
Prison To Homeless To
Zimbabwe**

May 28, 2021

**Dr. Michael Krasny - A Life
On The Radio**

Coming Events

Adopt a Road

May 15, 2021

🍎 Miscellany 🍎

MAKEUP NOTIFICATIONS: scottbriggs50@yahoo.com

On-line Make-Ups:
www.RotaryEClubOne.org

Domestic Violence Hotline:
707-546-1234

sebastopolrotary.com

🍎 AT THE BELL 🍎



Wasting no time, **President Dan Rasmus** struck the hearty Roto-Bell at 12:15pm sharp. Sebastopol City Councilwoman and Vice-President of Sebastopol Rotary Education Foundation, **Diana Rich**, led us in the salute to Old Glory.

Past President **Jerry Warren** gave us the quote for the day.

"To damage the earth is to damage your children." Wendell Berry

🍎 VISITING ROTARIANS & GUESTS 🍎



We had Past District 5130 Governor Bruce Campbell. There were numerous guests who were joining us on zoom and in person at Russian River Vineyards.

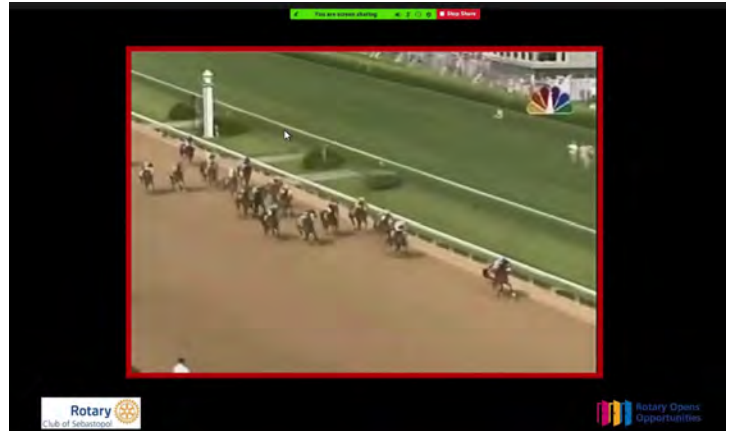


DERBY DAY FUNDRAISER



Medina Spirit may have been the big winner of the Kentucky Derby, but the biggest winner on May 1st was the Rotary Club of Sebastopol! Around 60 Rotarians and friends gathered at Russian River Vineyards on May 1st to watch the Kentucky Derby and to draw the winning raffle tickets. **Dan** gave a hearty thanks to everyone who donated the prizes: **Sally Ewald**, Turley Winery, Russian River Vineyards, Sebastopol Hardware, Harmony Farms, and Discount Alley.

Dan thanked all of our 2020-2021 sponsors. He then thanked some of the people behind the scenes who



helped make the Derby Day Raffle a success.

Fundraiser Logo: Jennifer Simpson

Ticket Design: Sean Madison

Website: **Robin Maybury**

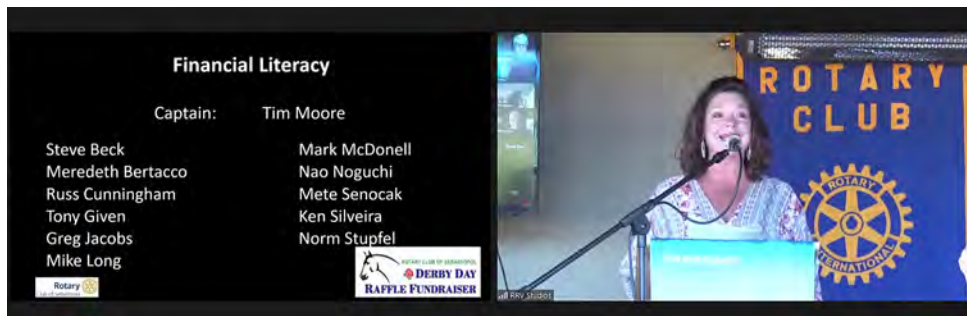
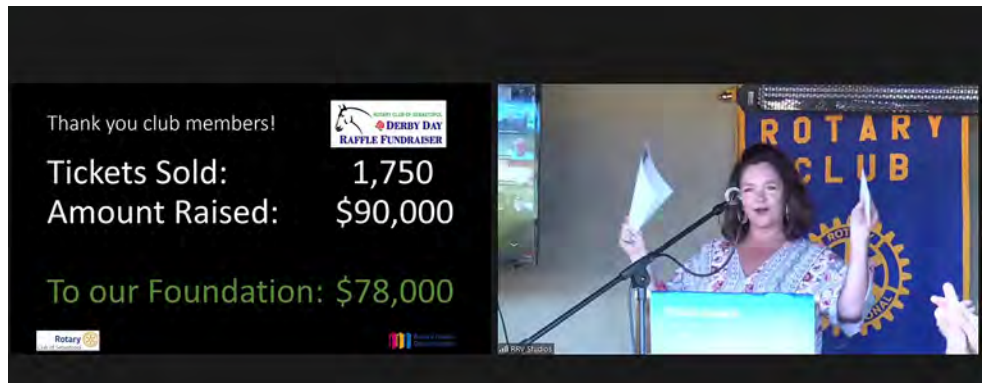
Derby Day Flyer: **David Schreiber**

Raffle Treasurer: **Aleia Coate**

Dan then thanked the team who made the Derby Day event on May 1st a success. He thanked Russian River Vineyards; Event Chairs **Edwin** and **Diana Wilson**; Event Treasurer **Meredith Bertacco**; our Caterer Mexico Lindo; our Emcee **John Blount**, our AV Team: **Paul Thielen**, **John Blount**, **Edwin Wilson**, **Jack Dunlap**, **Jack Blasco**, and **Steve Prandini**; and Zoom Master **Tom Boag**. **Dan** then thanked our Live Auction Chair, **Rick Wilson**, and his wonderful team: **Jack Blasco**, **Ann Hill**, **Keller McDonald**, **JT Martin**, **Pauline Pellini**, **Patti Blount**, **Greg Jacobs**, **Tim Moore**, and **Mete Senocak**. **Dan** then turned attention to our wonderful Horse Team Trainers: **Pauline Pellini** (Team Interact), **Jackie Moreira** (Team Youth Exchange), **Tim Moore** (Team Financial Literacy), **Patti Blount** (Team Learn With Me), **David Schreiber** (Team Overcoming Obstacles), **Mia Del Prete** (Team Community Grants), **Keller McDonald** (Team Excellence in West County Education), and **Amea Sas** (Team Cool Kids Camp). He thanked all of the trainers for motivating their teams to sell tickets.

Dan gave a huge thank you to our Derby Master Extraordinaire, **Aleia Coate**. Not only did she roll with so many punches and many, many changes, she did it with a smile and with such creativity. **Dan** handed the reins over to **Aleia**. She started by thanking **Dan** for all of his support and behind the scenes help. The Derby Day Winners were:

NYC Trip or \$5,000: **Alain Serkissian**



Kentucky Bourbon Trip: Ben Polley

Big Sky Montana Trip: Caroline Acker

Turley Wine Trip: Tate Birnie

Stocked Wine Cooler: Ann Harris

Sebastopol Hardware \$1,000 Gift Certificate: Jim Flack

Russian River Vineyards Party: Bob Cary

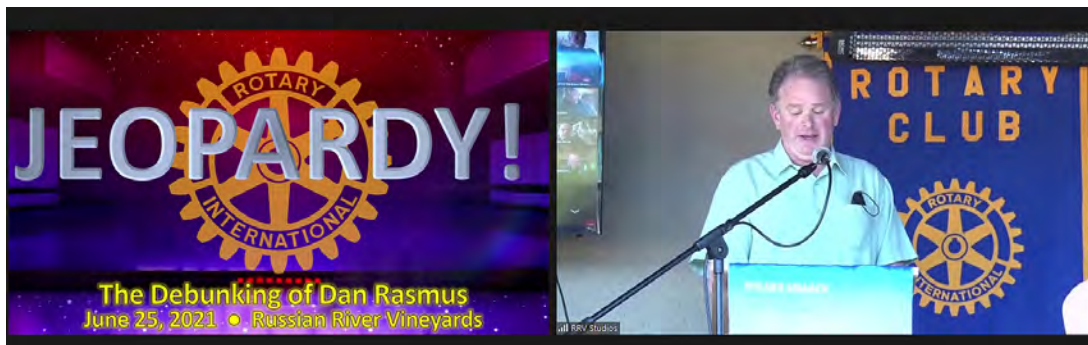
Harmony Farms \$1,200 Gift Certificate: **Tom Boag**.

Aleia gave us the final rundown of the final team results. Coming in third place was the Overcoming Obstacles team with 225 tickets sold. Second place went to the Financial Literacy team, who won by a hair with 226 tickets sold. First place

went to the Youth Exchange team, who sold 299 tickets. **Aleia** thanked everyone who visited their neighbors and friends to sell raffle tickets. There were a few out there who went above and beyond to sell tickets, which **Aleia** pointed out. Our top sellers were **Hal Kwalwasser** who sold 103 tickets, followed by **Steve Prandini** who sold 81 tickets, and **Jim Pacatte** who sold 60 tickets. **Aleia** also highlighted three additional people who sold more than 50 tickets: **Jim Passage** (55 tickets), **Richard Power** (55), and **Jackie Moreira** (54 tickets).

With 1,750 tickets sold, we raised over \$90,000! After a few expenses, we netted \$78,300 for the foundation! This will go a long way for helping our community in the coming year. Big congratulations to everyone!

ANNOUNCEMENTS



The Answer is: June 25, 2021. What is **President Dan's Debunking!** On June 25th, we're going to be playing Celebrity Jeopardy. Every answer, big and small, mundane and salacious, will all revolve around one person, **President Dan**. **Ken Jacobs** and his crack team of investigators have been

looking under every rock and dark alley for dirt on **Dan**. They've uncovered enough dirt to make Mister Clean walk away in defeat! So join us on Saturday, June 25th at Russian River Vineyards. All of the details will follow soon.

We received a wonderful letter from Lehia Irwin, Head Coach of the Sea Serpents. She thanked **Greg Jacobs** and **Rick Wilson** for stepping up to help raise \$15,000 for the Sea Serpents. This helped the Sea Serpents replace the loss of income from fireworks sales and enabled them to keep the team going. Great work, **Greg** and **Rick**!

We also received a thank you letter from Ceres Community Project CEO Cathryn Couch. She thanked us for the Community Grant. She expressed her gratefulness for the partnership with Rotary. The grant will go a long way to help Ceres deal with the elevated levels of meal production and delivery during the pandemic.

The Sebastopol Sunrise Club is having an online silent auction to fund all of their community projects. To see all the incredible items available, please visit: <https://event.auctria.com/4a0861bf-75d8-420e-baf9-8be1dbf4cdd7/>

Dan reminded everyone that the City of Sebastopol's Community Needs Summit is coming up on Wednesday, May 12th, at 4pm. For more details, visit: <https://www.ci.sebastopol.ca.us/Article/4-28-Sebastopol-Community-Needs-Summit-on-May-12t>



Dan turned the Roto-Spotlight on **Bob Rogers** who gave us an update on Polio Plus. **Bob** had two numbers for us: 98 and 124. 98 is the number of days since the Wild Polio virus was spotted in Pakistan. 124 is the number of days since the Wild Polio virus was spotted in Afghanistan. Those are the only two countries that have the Wild Polio virus, and since January 1st, there have only been two cases of Polio. Last year, there were 52 cases. We cannot stop here! To keep this going, **Bob** invited everyone to join the Polio Plus Society. If you join by May 31st, you can become a charter member of the Polio Plus Society. To join, email Bob, or donate on the Rotary 5130 website: <https://www.rotary5130.org/>

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

There were no birthdays or anniversaries this week. But, there was a big Rotary anniversary. **Jeff Boal** celebrated his 40th anniversary with our club! Also celebrating their anniversaries with the club were **Russ Cunningham**, **Michele Kimble**, **Aleia Coate**, and **Jordan Burns**.

Scott and **Sally Briggs** are parents again! They are the proud parents of Chloe, an 8-month-old purebred lab. Life is very different at the Briggs household.





THE PROGRAM



Dan handed everything over to **Diana Rich** to start the Sebastopol Rotary Education Foundation's 7th Annual Teacher of the Year Awards. It's been a challenging year for our teachers. Despite the obstacles, many of our teachers stepped up. This year, we received 25 nominations from 13 schools, and 48 people in the community. Nominations came from everyone, from administrators, teachers, parents,



and even students! We honored teachers in three areas: New Teacher, Career Teacher, and Innovative Teacher, which expanded to a team of teachers this year. The selection process was tough this year, as there were many teachers who were deserving of the awards.



Dana Moises delivered the New Teacher award to Jennifer Tsurumoto. Sara Gramm, the principal of Brookhaven School, introduced Jennifer to the crowd. Sara was Jennifer's second and third grade teacher (**Dana** was Sara's first grade teacher), and is now her administrator. Jennifer was hired last year, and jumped into the new teaching paradigm. She was driven to bring physical education online, and found the right formula



to get people up and moving, even on zoom! Jennifer gave thanks to Rotary and to Sara for their support. She said that it's been a blast to get her students smiling, and up and moving. Even some of the parents got involved in her classes. It's been a tough year for everyone, but she has been doing everything to keep it fun and light. Congratulations, Jennifer!



Scott Briggs delivered the Career Service Teacher award to Sergio Blanco from Hillcrest Middle School. Sergio has an amazing story. He was born in Spain, and got the desire to teach while working at a nature preserve. He eventually moved to Sonoma County and got a job teaching science at Hillcrest, where he's been now for ten years. **Scott** invited Principal Will Deeths to the lectern to introduce Sergio. He thanked Rotary for how the organization supports kids



and puts their money where their mouth is. He described Sergio as a teacher who connects with kids, makes learning fun, and knows that he's preparing them for the future. He's excited that his kids will have Sergio as a teacher next year. Sergio thanked everyone for the wonderful award, and thanked Rotary for all of their work in the community, Congratulations, Sergio!

Innovative Teachers of the Year

KORY VAN DYKE
BETH TRIVUNOVIC
SALLY REDFERN
KATE CRANDALL

Gravenstein
Elementary



Hal Kwalwasser introduced the Innovative teachers of the year. There was so much innovation going on with the challenges of distance learning. **Hal** and the committee recognized how there were groups of teachers working together to engage their students. What tougher audience than kindergarteners? The team of Kindergarten teachers from Gravenstein Elementary: Kory Van Dyke, Beth Trivunovic, Sally Redfern, and Kate Crandall, were the Innovative Teachers of the Year. They were all nominated by parents (satisfied customers!), who were very satisfied with how they

engaged their children, which is no easy feat. Principal Keri Pungo noted how the team worked together to develop a plan for students. They worked together to develop lessons and activities for the students. They developed creative ways to even allow virtual field trips, Valentines Day, and even trick or treating. **Hal** invited Gravenstein Union School District Superintendent Dave Rose up to introduce the teachers. He thanked Rotary for all of their support. He mentioned how proud he was of his teachers, who hit the ground running when distance learning started. This team went above and beyond with creative ways to engage the kids, and how they taught the kids how to go to school. Kory Van Dyke spoke for the group. She thanked Rotary for the tremendous honor. They were all shocked! She also thanked the school administrators for all of their support. She also spoke about how strong and amazing the team of kindergarten teachers is. They met the challenges, brought the kindergartners together, and kept them engaged and happy. Congratulations!



THE FINAL BELL

After an amazing meeting, **President Dan** struck the Roto-Bell at 1:15pm sharp. Join us next week as we profile an amazing Rotarian, **Mario Ramos**!



FUTURE PROGRAMS



May 14, 2021 - The Story of Mario Ramos - Jeff Boal



Mario Ramos became a member of our club in 2005, but his back story as well as his Rotary story start many years before. Only 20 % or so of our current membership were in the club at that time he joined so Jeff Boal will share his observations, perceptions and musings about this unique Rotarian's life and his lessons for us.

MAY 21, 2021 - From Prison To Homeless To Zimbabwe - James Alexander

MAY 28, 2021 - Life On The Radio - Michael Krasny



Dr. Michael Krasny was the host of the award winning KQED FORUM, a program discussing news and public affairs, current events, culture, health, business, and technology. He is also a veteran interviewer for the nationally broadcast City Arts and Lectures series. Focus magazine named him Best Bay Area Talk Show Host, and he was selected Best Talk Host and Best Interviewer by the editorial staff of San Francisco Weekly, as well as in their annual readers poll.

