



The Appleknocker

Sebastopol Rotary Club's Weekly Bulletin

Speech Contest plus the Fundraiser!

 <p>SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES</p>	Date:	May 6, 2022	
	Volume:	2021/22—Issue E20-41	
	Scribe:	David Still	
	Photog:	HH, David Schreibman	
	Editors:	J. Dunlap, D. Rasmus, J. Blasco, D. Still, P. Dirden	
	President 2021/2022:	Ellen Harrington	

“All the News that Fits We Print”

BEFORE THE BELL

Lots of excitement and new faces today. It is the annual speech contest which has been on vacation (hiatus, postponed, pandemicked?) Whichever, it's back after three years. The Rotarians are ready, the judges are ready. Are the students ready?

AT THE BELL



President Ellen Harrington rang the starting bell to begin the Friday meeting of the Rotary Club of Sebastopol.


She called on **Dick Zimmer** to lead the pledge of allegiance. She called on **Dick Zimmer**. Paging **Dick Zimmer**. Finally, **Dick Zimmer** was located in the lunch line and he quickly led the Pledge. Hope he didn't lose his place in line.



President Ellen supplied the Thoughts for the Day, African proverbs in honor of the big Out of Africa fundraiser this weekend.

African proverbs

- Only a fool tests the depth of a river with both feet”
- Do not look where you feel, but where you slipped”
- The best way to eat an elephant in your path is to cut him up into little pieces”



Future Programs

May 13, 2022

**Brian Bauer – Turning
Plastics into Fuel**

May 20, 2022

**SREF – Teacher of the Year
Recognitions**

May 27, 2022

**Frank Mayhew – Update on
Kakira Project**

Coming Events

June 17, Debunking

Miscellany

MAKEUP NOTIFICATIONS: scottbriggs50@yahoo.com

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

Domestic Violence Hotline:
707-546-1234

sebastopolrotary.com

Also in honor of the fundraiser, **Keller McDonald** led the group in a version of “*The Lion Sleeps Tonight*”. **Keller** was in fine voice as always, maybe a little better. The rest of us....Oh Well.



VISITING ROTARIANS & GUESTS

Due to the packed agenda, **President Ellen** went straight to Visiting Rotarians and Guests. No visiting Rotarians in the house though.

Linda Johnson introduced her guest, husband Greg Reynolds. Greg was heard to say “*From guest to pest.*” Not so Greg.

Kathy Hicks introduced her great friend Michealine Lee

Frank Mayhew introduced his guest, Judy.



Pauline Pellini introduced returning guest Mario Balistrieri. Hello again Mario.





ANNOUNCEMENTS



President Ellen Harrington showed a slide of the local Brookhaven Interact Club leading the Apple Blossom Parade on April 23.



PAUL HARRIS AWARDS



There is always time to recognize Paul Harris Fellows and **Dorothy Rodella** took the microphone to do just that. Thanks to all the new and old fellows (old fellows?). They included..

Kathy Hicks – PHF

Les Crawford – PHF +2

Steve Prandini – PHF + 5

Jim Passage – PHF + 7

[Is Steve Prandini camera shy – never, but did not make this photo – **Ed.**]



Dorothy noted that this club has donated ... Wait for it... \$106,000 to the Rotary Foundation this year alone. That's a lot. We just set a goal and then blow by it. Great job Rotary Club.



THE WHEEL OF MISFORTUNE



Gene Nelson was surprised to be picked to spin the Wheel of Misfortune. At least he looked surprised. He was even more surprised when the wheel landed on Paul Harris and **Gene** was informed that he just won the opportunity to donate \$1000 to the Rotary Foundation.

Just as he was getting his check book out, **President Ellen** told him that it was a free spin day, and he was eligible to spin again. This time he hit the \$15 jackpot. Now that was a surprise.



OUT OF AFRICA FUNDRAISER



Keller McDonald took the lectern for one last promotion of the Out of Africa fundraiser Saturday May 7 from 5 to 9 PM. When you read this, it will be in the rear-view mirror but as of the May 6 club meeting the work was feverish and all signs point to great success. Including a Sell Out.

Yes – the raffle drawing will be on May 7 also. All the ticket holders are standing by. Need not be present to win. Will you win a safari? Why not.

Keller thanked the five team captains for their tireless work closing the raffle ticket sales.

Mia Del Prete – LIONS
Myriah Volk - TIGERS
Harry Polley - GIRAFFES
Richard Petersen – ZEBRAS
Kathy Hicks - ELEPHANTS

[See a brief photo recap of this very fun event in the “After the Bell” section. More to come next week **-Ed.**]



THE PROGRAM



Larry Ford was called on to serve as Emcee for today’s speech contest. Six local students volunteered to speak on the topic “*How can we use kindness to reunite our country*”

Each six-minute speech was to be judged on clarity, content, expression- physical and vocal, and overall impact. The judges were spread through the audience and **Larry** asked that applause and appreciation be held until the end so as not to influence the judges. Prizes included \$350 for first, \$225 for second, \$125 for third, and \$75 for honorable mention.

The students each gave well organized and thoughtful speeches on a difficult topic. They mused on the deep divisions that are apparent in our body politic. Each believed that more kindness on all levels could begin healing these divisions. Clearly there is no easy solution to the deep rifts that plague us, but these students provided their ideas with clarity and optimism. They were all also remarkably poised and articulate. **Larry Ford** later mused that this level of public speaking was beyond him at that age. I think we can all agree with **Larry** on that.

The judges judged and the winners were announced.

First place went to Sakina Woods.



Second place to Emerson Reynolds.



There was a third place tie between Allison Fry



and Priscilla Murillo.



Honorable mention awards went to Ella Weiss



and Aidan Padilla.

[Photo of Aidan not included because we could not confirm he had not opted out of photos by press time - Ed.]



THIS WEEKS PONDERING



Quicksand works slowly


THE
FINAL

BELL



With that pearl of ponder, **Ellen** tapped the sacred Rotary bell at precisely 1:30 PM.



AFTER THE FINAL BELL



Was it a party? Was it a Fundraiser?

We won't know whether it was a fundraiser until the financial results are tabulated, but it was without doubt a great party. Great venue, beautiful table decorations, fine wines from Balletto, music by the Reminiscing band, and the West County High School choir. All together it made for a great party atmosphere and fun night.

There were Raffle tickets and winners, plus a Heads or Tails contest which your **Ed**. flunked out of quickly. In all fairness, attrition was quick as the MC tossed five straight "Tails," or was it four? At any rate luck was on the side of those who kept their hands down.

The party organizers are assembling the extensive list of helpers which will be known a little later but for now, here are some memorable photos curated by the **Ed**. Curated sounds like a lot of work, but the same effort goes into looking at all the amazing photos and just picking some that reflect the mood of the party.

Great venue, great music, fine wines.



A chance to make some money for next year's projects while having fun with Heads or Tails, raffle prizes, Live, and Silent Auctions.



Raffle Prize Winners

1. African Safari for two: David Hover
2. Progressive dinner for 8: Harry Polley
3. Big Sky Montana: Rob Oliver
4. \$1000 Shopping spree at Sebastopol Hardware: Ann Lowing
5. Instant wine cellar: Drucilla Ramey

Meeting old and new friends. Catching up and remembering.

