


The Appleknocker


Sebastopol Rotary Club's Weekly Bulletin



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

John Mathers - Climate Crisis

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President 2021/2022:	Ellen Harrington



“All the News that Fits We Print”

BEFORE THE BELL

Party at Nao's!

There was a Halloween Party at **Nao Nogouchi's** place on Thursday night. **Aldean Noethig** supplied a plethora of yummy snacks, everyone brought their favorite libation, some even dressed in some sort of costume. It was a warm pleasant evening with a lot of fun conversation. These informal gatherings are a great way to catch up on what your fellow Rotarians are up to and enjoy some inspiring conversation.



Nao not only provided a great venue for the party and made everyone feel welcome, but he also provided some amazing entertainment on the Taiko drum. Click [here](#) to see and hear the Taiko drum performance.

Friday meeting day: After three days of much needed rain, with some areas recording more than 15", Sebastopol was experiencing a gorgeous day of warmth and sunshine. Rotarians were enjoying the comradery and friendship that Rotary provides.

AT THE BELL



Sonoma County YWCA Domestic Violence Hotline 707-546-1234

🍎 Future Programs 🍎

November 5, 2021

**Argo Thompson and Left
Edge Theatre Cast – How
to Transcend a Happy
Marriage**

November 12, 2021

**Shugri Salh
The Last Nomad: One
Woman's Journey from the
Somali Desert to Santa
Rosa**

🍎 Miscellany 🍎

MAKEUP NOTIFICATIONS: scottbriggs50@yahoo.com

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

Domestic Violence Hotline:
707-546-1234

sebastopolrotary.com

Our fearless leader AKA **Prez Ellen** rang the 10/29/2021 meeting of the Rotary Club of Sebastopol to order exactly at 12:15.



Jack Dunlap started things off by honoring The Stars and Stripes.



Jack's better half, **Ruthie**, then gave us the Thought for the Day.

"Love is not like pie, divided up and served in a finite number of pieces.' "It is more like pi, infinite and irrational." A Friend.

"Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible."
Dalai Lama

Our very own opera caliber baritone, none other than **Keller** (the killer) **McDonald** led us in the song for the day, the 1940 Woodie Guthrie classic, "This Land is your Land."





VISITING ROTARIANS & GUESTS



Rick Wilson introduced our guest speaker for the day, John Mathers as well as his wife Peggy Mathers.



David Still introduced his better half, **Nan**.



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



Chris O'Neil, and his dearly beloved **Barbara Sattler**, celebrated 31 years of wedded bliss on October 25. We look forward to hearing from Chris about the celebration.



RECOGNITIONS



Cindy Carter was dinged \$5 for the trip she took to El Jebel Colorado to visit her grandson, Isaiah.



Jack Blasco took a trip back east to New York to visit family and old friends. **Jack** and his two best friends, when he was 16, met at the same place they were together when they were 16 years old. At that time, they had agreed to meet at that same place when they were all three in their seventies. Amazing, they did it. [Even more amazing, what 16-year-old even thinks about reaching 70 – **Ed**.] Nobody can say that **Jack** does not keep commitments. **Jack** was dinged for \$5.



Robin Maybury was slapped with a \$10 fine for the return of the computer chip necessary for his camera.



David Still took the lectern to describe his and Nan's recent three-week journey to France. It's a brand new Covid based world out there but with perseverance and adaptability, one can enjoy uncrowded venues and really good food.

France imposed a vaccine passport or "pas sanitaire" in early August shortly before the **Still's** trip. They were unable to secure one before travel but did the alternative which was to get a PCR test every 72 hours at a pharmacy. "Sante" in hand, they were able to enjoy

uncrowded sites in Paris, Normandy, and Lyon. At the halfway point, they finally received their official "Pas" and continued to enjoy the food and culture of France.



David said that the lack of crowds balanced the hassle of getting and showing proof of vaccination at every turn including cafes, bistros, trains, museums, and hotels. The French seem absolutely fine with the requirement as a tradeoff for knowing that they are surrounded by others who are vaccinated. The final PCR test came 72 hours before flying home and was checked over many times before boarding. Finally, they were able to fly back to the USA and to home.



THE WHEEL OF MISFORTUNE



Mario Ramus had the unlucky number and got to spin the Wheel of Misfortune. This time he came away with a whopping \$5. Don't spend in one place **Mario**.



THE PROGRAM



Rick Wilson introduced our speaker John Mathers, past president of San Francisco Rotary. John is currently speaking to Rotary Clubs about a new priority, *Taking Care of the Planet*. Planet Earth is on a trajectory of increasing average temperatures that will result in many areas becoming uninhabitable due to flooding, ever more violent storms, and sustained droughts. Rotary International has commissioned a Rotary Climate Action Team Network to help change this trajectory. It is time to take responsibility for our environment.

Unfortunately, there is no silver bullet to pull the earth back into balance. Service Above Self will mean clubs should take action to stop what appears to be a world fast unraveling into a climate crisis. Rotary has done big things before; by mobilizing. John suggests there is no more important task than taking action for change. He quoted incoming Rotary President Jennifer Jones: "The world needs Rotary now more than ever."

What is going on? The various ice caps are melting as the global temperature rises. Also melting are the glaciers and the permafrost. Forests all over the planet, due to

drought and higher temperatures, are igniting into giant forest fires. Those of us who have been evacuated over the years have experienced the effects firsthand. Also of note is the slowing of the Atlantic current. It's not visible but will result in additional sea level rise.

There is no simple solution but through action the climate can be changed. John said that using the formula of **Mitigate-Adapt-Restore**, meaningful change is possible. There are obvious mitigation strategies such as reducing use of fossil fuels which have an outsized impact on the problem. There are presently millions of dollars going to fossil fuel companies in government subsidies. The fossil fuel companies will try to take over any change agenda to ensure that the impact on their profits is slight. But it is essential that the world reduce the use of fossil fuel in order to change the climate trajectory. The Paris agreements challenge the world to bring down the temperature change to net zero by 2050.

Solutions may include creating a new model. Solar power, if harnessed, can provide the power we need. Wind power is still relatively untapped, especially in the United States. Nuclear power is available and with some engineering, could help us get off fossil fuels. And Fission? Well, it's a work in progress.

Rotarians can help. Read the Rotary Policy Statement. It's not long. John said to take the pledge. Why not? Advocate and support appropriate government action. Take action by doing projects. Plant a tree. Or two. John urged us to take a look at www.drawdown.org to review some possible club projects. And take a look at Bright action as well to see what you can do personally to adapt your lifestyle.

And while not mentioned in John's program, you can support The Rotary Club of Sebastopol's Environmental Sustainability Committee chaired by **Kathy Schwartz**. You might even join up. Finally, the Environment Area of Focus Policy Statement is appended at the end of this Appleknocker.

THE FINAL BELL

This Week's Pondering...

This Week's Pondering...



President Ellen Harrington closed the meeting at 1:30 pm.



FUTURE PROGRAMS



November 5, 2021: Argo Thompson and the Left Edge Theatre

You will be entertained by scenes from an exciting new play from Santa Rosa's Left Edge Theatre: "How to Transcend a Happy Marriage". It opens November 6.

Founded in 2015, Left Edge Theatre distinguishes itself by producing contemporary plays never produced in Sonoma County before - We endeavor to thrill, challenge and engage audiences in ideas that make us think, laugh and feel more

"At a dinner party in New Jersey, two couples discuss polyamory. Discussion turns to action and the exploration of unexplored desire turns animalistic. How to Transcend a Happy Marriage blurs the lines of monogamy and asks how deeply can friends, lovers, and strangers connect."

November 12, 2021: Shugri Salh

The Last Nomad: One Woman's Journey from the Somali Desert to Santa Rosa

ENVIRONMENT AREA OF FOCUS POLICY STATEMENT

Rotary International Board - September 2020

Rotary supports activities that strengthen the conservation and protection of natural resources, advance environmental sustainability, and foster harmony between people and the environment.

Area of Focus Statement of Purpose, Goals, and Parameters for Eligibility

The Rotary Foundation enables Rotary members to protect, preserve, and conserve the environment by:

1. Protecting and restoring land, coastal, marine, and freshwater resources

- a. Protecting and restoring terrestrial ecosystems and improving their resiliency through initiatives such as promoting reforestation, preventing deforestation, planting native vegetation, restoring habitats, and removing invasive plant and animal species
- b. Preserving biodiversity by protecting and restoring habitats, conserving native species, removing invasive plant and animal species, conserving and protecting endangered species, and preventing poaching and the illegal wildlife trade
- c. Supporting strategies and targeted initiatives to improve aquifer and groundwater recharging, water conservation, water quality, sanitation, and watershed management (adhering to the policy statements and guidelines for the water, sanitation, and hygiene area of focus)
- d. Protecting and restoring coastal, marine, and freshwater ecosystems through initiatives such as habitat restoration, protecting and propagating native plant and animal species, removing invasive plant and animal species, addressing overfishing, pollution, coastal erosion and ocean acidification

2. Enhancing the capacity of communities and local governments to support natural resource management and conservation

- a. Developing peacebuilding and conflict prevention initiatives related to the management and use of natural resources (adhering to the policy statements and guidelines for the peacebuilding and conflict prevention area of focus)
- b. Mitigating human-wildlife conflict through ecologically sound and peaceful resolutions
- c. Training and educating communities in conservation and resource management to preserve, protect, and sustainably use natural resources

3. Supporting agroecology and sustainable agriculture, fishing, and aquaculture practices to improve ecological health

- a. Creating awareness of and supporting ecologically viable agriculture through activities such as regenerative agriculture, conservation agriculture, managed grazing, silvopasture, and tree intercropping
- b. Supporting sustainable fisheries and ecologically sound aquaculture (adhering to the policy statements and guidelines for the community economic development area of

- focus)
- c. Promoting the use of traditional and Indigenous knowledge in agricultural, land, ocean, and natural resource management practices
 - d. Improving food security through sustainable agricultural, aquacultural, and fishing methods, enhanced local food production and consumption, reduction of food waste, and equitable access to high-quality food
- 4. Addressing the causes of climate change and climate disruption and supporting solutions to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases**
- a. Providing access **to locally sourced, renewable energy**, including solar, methane-capture, and small-scale wind and hydropower systems, as part of holistic interventions to mitigate climate change and disruption
 - b. Providing clean-cooking technologies as part of a holistic approach to reduce or eliminate the burning of biomass and fossil fuels that results in deforestation, degraded land, or increased air pollution
 - c. Supporting the transition to sustainable, energy- efficient transportation modes through holistic urban and regional planning, education, or infrastructure changes
- 5. Strengthening the resilience of ecosystems and communities affected by climate change and climate disruption**
- a. Supporting adaptation and resiliency strategies for ecosystems and communities affected by climate-related events, with an emphasis on vulnerable segments of the population
- 6. Supporting education to promote behaviors that protect the environment**
- a. Supporting environmental education programming in schools that aligns with local government curriculum (adhering to the policy statements and guidelines for the basic education and literacy area of focus)
 - b. Promoting community-based environmental education, environmental awareness and advocacy initiatives, and strategies to facilitate to facilitate engagement and behavior change to support environmentally sustainable living, environmental protection, and sustainable development
- 7. Advocating for the sustainable consumption of products and the environmentally sound management of byproducts to build a more resource-efficient economy**
- e. Supporting community planning efforts to strengthen circular economies through composting, recycling, upcycling, and repurposing programs (for solid waste management projects, adhering to the policy statements and guidelines for the water, sanitation, and hygiene area of focus)
 - f. Promoting efficient food consumption by reducing food waste by local businesses and households
- 8. Addressing environmental justice issues and environmental public health concerns**
- a. Addressing adverse environmental public health impacts in communities through education, outreach, and advocacy
 - b. Eliminating and reducing exposure to environmental toxins in homes, schools, and communities within vulnerable and marginalized populations

- c. Increasing equitable access to organic, healthy, and nutritious food for vulnerable and marginalized populations

Projects that do not seek to achieve a positive, measurable, and sustainable impact on the environment would not be eligible for global grant funding within the protecting the environment area of focus. A successful global grant project requires a comprehensive and holistic approach to resolving specific issues that have a harmful effect on the environment. The Rotary Foundation considers the following stand-alone activities to be outside the scope of the area of focus and not eligible for global grant funding:

1. Community beautification projects
2. Single-event training or education sessions
3. Single-event river, beach, or habitat clean-ups
4. Tree plantings that are not part of a larger ecological framework and strategy
holistic project design that aims to achieve specific and measurable positive environmental impacts
5. Nature therapy
6. Food distribution programs
7. Outdoor recreational activities
8. Projects that involve only building infrastructure, purchasing equipment, or training in how to use that equipment

Note: This list is not a complete list of ineligible activities. For more information on project design requirements, refer to the Environment Guidelines for Global Grant Funding.

Elements of Successful Humanitarian Projects and Vocational Training Teams

Environment global grants are:

1. **Sustainable** — Communities can continue to make progress in environmental protection and sustainability after the Rotary clubs or districts complete their work.
2. **Measurable** — Sponsors need to set targets and identify measurements to track project outcomes.
3. **Community-driven** — Projects meet the needs identified by the host community.

Elements of Successful Scholarships

Global grants support graduate-level scholarships for professionals interested in pursuing careers related to the environment. The Rotary Foundation considers the following when it evaluates global grant scholarship applications:

1. The applicant's previous work experience in environment-related fields
2. The academic program's alignment with the environment, such as natural resource management, environmental engineering, environmental health, environmental toxicology, forestry, conservation management, or environmental justice
3. The applicant's career plans as they relate to the environment