ROTARY CLUB OF MENDOCINO

NOTES OF THE CLUB MEETING

HELD ON JANUARY 16, 2025

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The meeting, held in Preston Hall, was called to order at 12:00. We had a total attendance of 12, including President Margaret, members Jeff, Gary, John C, Matt, Sean, Brandt, Donna and guest/Oakland Rotarian Sue McKinney.

OPEN

We opened with the pledge and happy dollars, followed with a Paul Harris award ceremony for John Cottle, who has achieved the very high award of a pin with three not one or two, but three small rubies.

SPEAKER

We welcomed Sean Leland, who gave an talk on the California home and auto insurance that was well-documented, clearly presented and illuminating for all of us. Amongst others, he pointed out that the industry had been heavily regulated since Proposition 103 had been passed in 1988, as a result of which member companies had been operating at a loss. The review board established to advise on rates had a built-in incentive to delay action since they were paid for time spent on deliberations. California was the only one of the 50 states not to adopt a systematic basis for assessing fire and other risk. Various insurers were withdrawing from the market and Fair California would not have the resources needed to deal with the present crisis in LA. Unless appropriate action is taken, the insurance industry could collapse or at the other extreme Insurance rates could double. There was a lively discussion after which we thanked Sean for his excellent presentation.

OTHER BUSINESS

The President reminded all present of the need to get involved, and to volunteer for various Board and event positions. Retention of existing members is important as is recruiting new members. Margaret and Jeff will work on a flyer to be used for the purpose.

Donna described the experience of one of our RYLA participants now applying to be a member of the Eureka club. There were brief updates of Youth and International areas of service and a talk about the need to raise funds for disaster relief in both LA and Vanuatu, both of which have suffered massive destruction of city areas recently. We decided to invite the Interact Club to meet with us on February 27.

An updated schedule of speakers and events is attached. We will have a town meeting with Bernie Norvell, recently elected County Supervisor, talks by Karen Bowers, of the Mendocino Arts Council, David Latoof of the Mendocino Fire Department and Ryan Rhoades of MCCSD and then hopefully a Town Hall meeting with Ted Williams on April 10 or 24. There will be a club social in the home of Cathy Karabensh at 5:30 on January 23. Members, spouses and friends are invited. There will also be a Charter Night celebration at Susan Kellers, date TBD.

CLOSE

The meeting closed at 12:50.

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Prepared by Jeffry Stubbs, Secretary

November 22, 2024