

Rotary Live Oak Newsletter

Club of Oakland #3

Proposed for Membership

An application has been received from the following individual. If no objection is received within five days, the application will be submitted to the Board of Directors for approval.

Maury McFadden
McFadden-Finch Holding Company
6114 La Salle Ave, # 401
Oakland, CA 94611
Sponsor: Membership Team

Southern California Wildfire Relief

If you would like to give a gift to support the wildfire relief efforts, go to:
<https://rotary5280.org/page/2025-wildfire-disaster-relief/>

We Care Corner

A confidential email has been set up for members to alert the We Care Committee to reach out to a member and connect.

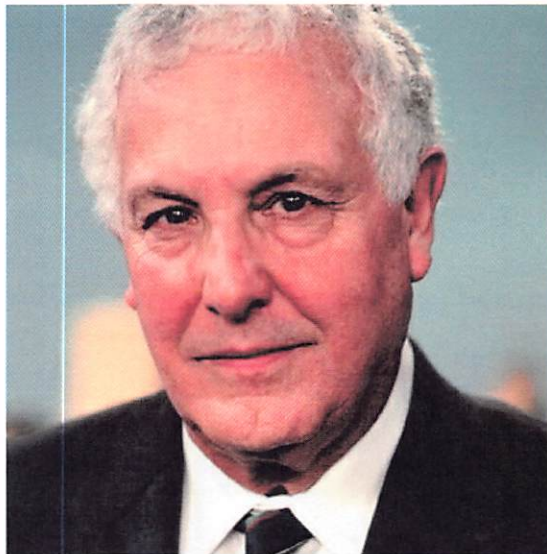
Home Care -- Shared Experience Corner

Need information about home care including equipment and supplies? There may be fellow Rotarians who can give helpful tips based on personal experience. Send a confidential email to the

Stories

Next Club Meeting – January 16 – Spencer Michels – News About The News

Past President Michael Bruck announced our speaker will be Spencer Michels. Mr. Michels has an award-winning career in print, television and radio media, and is a long-time reporter with KQED and NPR. With so much going on as the start of the new year, he will address what is happening with the news media.



If you are attending in person, please use Rotary Eventbrite to sign up so our team will make sure we have sufficient lunches and seats in the ballroom.

The meeting will be in-person as well as on Zoom.

Rotary Meeting Highlights for December 19, 2024

Call to Order

We Care Committee address (listed below) and we will provide you some information or one of us will get in touch.

Other Needs

Need help:

- Post surgery?
- Logging on to Zoom?
- A ride to the weekly Club meeting?
- Choosing a committee?
- Some cheer during a rough time?

We will reach out with sensitivity and be sure we offer the appropriate support.

Rotary is here for you. Let's stay close and connect!

The email is:

RCOWeCareCommittee@gmail.com

The password is Rotary\$9453

Special Events

Living Jazz Concert Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Jan 18 – evening
Paramount Theatre
Visit Living Jazz website
to buy tickets.

Birding at Oyster Bay

Jan. 19 – 10 am
Oyster Bay Regional
Shoreline
For details RSVP to:
randy.leland.arnold@gmail.com

BDC Mixer

Jan. 23 – 5 – 7 pm
The Terminal at
Line 51 Brewing Company
303 Castro Street
Register on Club
Eventbrite site

Lunar New Year Dinner

Feb. 13 – 5:30 – 8 pm
Peony Seafood Dinner
Register on Club
Eventbrite site

Rotary Night at Warriors

March 10

President Shannon Hackley called the first meeting of 2025 to order at 12:31 pm. **Shannon** greeted the large crowd in the California Ballroom and the many attendees on Zoom.

Guests

C J Hirschfield introduced Angela Howard, CEO of the Lotus Bloom Family Resource Center.

President Elect Nominee Merlin Edwards introduced Robert Harris.

Mandolin Kadera-Redmond introduced Kira Pascoe. **Casey Farmer** introduced her cousin, Mary Cuninghame, visiting from Ohio and speaker at three Ohio Rotary Clubs.

Nema Link introduced three guests, two of whom are colleagues at Becker Boards plus a neighbor of his.

There were no visiting Rotarians. However, **Pres. Shannon** displayed a flag from the Benicia Rotary Club given to her by **Alex Poulsen**.

Thought for the Day – David Stein

-

On this day of mourning for President Jimmy Carter, **Past President David Stein** shared two quotes from the former President. **David** also informed the crowd that President Carter was a member of the Plains, Georgia Lions Club and a Rotarian "in spirit." **David** also displayed his vintage 1976 Carter for President sign.

In Memoriam – Terry Moreland

-

Pres. Shannon announced that former Oakland Rotary member **Terry Moreland** died on December 27, 2024 and honored his memory with a moment of silence. **Terry** was a club member for 31 years.

Luise Roke – Bequest to ORE

-

Ruth Stroup, chair of The Rotary Foundation Committee, reported that late member **Luise Roke** left a \$10,000 gift to the Oakland Rotary Endowment. You too, can include the Rotary Foundation and/or the Oakland Rotary Endowment in your estate plan. Contact **Ruth** for details.

Southern California Fire Relief

-

President Shannon announced that all members will receive a text message from **Executive Administrator Jesse Bowdle** with a link for donations to the Rotary Wildfire Disaster Relief fund.

Chase Center, S.F.
Go to Club Calendar
on DACdb to register

Service Safari Annual Gala

Apr. 10
Lobby at
1111 Broadway
Details to Come

Service Projects

Food Distribution at Laney College

Every Wednesday during
the academic year
Two shifts: 10 – 11:30
and 11:30 am to 1 pm
Currently on hiatus due
to construction on the
Laney campus.
Contact Karen Friedman
for information on next
distribution date.

HOT Squad

Volunteer Service Projects
serving the community as
scheduled.

Committee Meetings

Public Relations

Jan.13 – 10:15 – 10:45 am
Also Jan. 20, 27
Contact Marie Sescon
for meeting information

Business Development

Jan. 14 – 5 pm
Contact David Kersten
for meeting information

Fun, Sport & Adventure

Jan. 14 – 6:00 – 7:15 pm
Contact Mark Rosen
for meeting information

Membership

Jan. 15 – 5:30 – 6:30 pm
Contact Keith Uriarte
for meeting information

Birthday Greetings

Happy Birthday!

Celebrating are:

Today's Birthdays

-

Garrett Riegg, celebrating his January 9th birthday, basked in the sounds of "Happy Birthday to You". Garrett got to wear the "ugly birthday hat" while everyone in the Ballroom enjoyed birthday cake. Later in the program, **President Shannon** congratulated **Past President Dudley Thompson** on his January 9th birthday as well and suggested he also get to wear the birthday hat for part of the program.

New Member Induction – Vera Hannush

-

-

President Shannon announced Alameda Health System Foundation as our new corporate member. She introduced and inducted new member **Vera Hannush**, Alameda Health System Foundation Director of Philanthropy. Two interesting facts: **Vera** has a master's degree from Berkeley in Latin and enjoys Armenian dancing. Welcome **Vera**!



Feed The Hungry Congratulations

-

President Shannon reported that last month's Feed the Hungry drive raised over \$30,000. She thanked **President-Elect Joe Goralka**, acting Santa **Rick Draper**, and **Past President Lorna Padia Markus** for their hard work in securing these funds. Editor's note: a list of all donors will be published in a future Live Oak. There were many members who donated as they left meeting, plus a group of non-member guests who were inspired by the program. Thank you to everyone for their generosity.

Gratitude Thursday

-

January

02 – Katie Hall
 02 – Peter Turner
 03 – Elida Scola
 04 – Ramona Chang
 04 – Cal Stanley
 05 – Maria Alvarez
 06 – Rick Draper
 07 – Stevan Alvarado
 08 – David Allen
 09 – Mark Epstein
 09 – Garrett Riegg
 09 – Dudley Thompson
 14 – Diane Schaffer
 16 – Tom Love
 19 – Gary Flaxman
 23 – Sonja Fitz
 26 – Davey Warner
 27 – Linda Hamilton
 27 – Randy Reed
 29 – Randy Arnold
 30 – Ed Silva
 31 – Marie Sescon

Membership
Anniversaries

Thank you for your years of service to Rotary Club of Oakland and the community!

January

Carla Betts – 37 years
 Dana Sack – 28 years
 Daniel Cheng – 27 years
 Greg Gilbert – 20 years
 Linda Boessenecker – 17 years
 Karen Friedman – 14 years
 Wil Hobbs – 12 years
 Kathy Dwyer – 12 years
 Gary Hall – 8 years
 Gabe Bruck – 6 years
 Katie Hall – 6 years
 John Malick – 5 years
 Jesse Bowdle – 4 years
 Greg Knight – 4 years
 Kevin Hunter – 3 years
 Jennifer Shanoski – 1 year
 Kathleen Uribe – 1 year

- **Mary Rudser** was grateful for former member Michael Valva and for Mary's 15-month-old granddaughter.
- **Past President Tom Limon** was grateful for Michael Valva.
- **President Elect Joe Goralka** was grateful for **Mark Rosen's** car donation.
- **Bonnie Prestridge** was grateful for her one-year anniversary in Oakland Rotary and for all her Rotary friends.
- **President Shannon Hackley** was grateful, in advance, for the ballroom boiler to get repaired.

Thank You from Lotus Bloom Family Resource Center

-

C J Hirschfield announced that the club made a \$5,000 grant to the Lotus Bloom Family Resource Center. She then introduced a video of Lotus Bloom executive director Angela Howard thanking Oakland Rotary for the donation.

Enterprise Institute

-

Enterprise Institute Committee co-chair Marie Sescon invited members to participate in the 2025 EI weekend taking place at Camp Monte Toyon, March 14-16. To date, 84 high school juniors have applied attend. The students will attend a variety of workshops focusing on life and career skills. Club members are needed to lead workshops, share ideas, conduct mock interviews, etc. Make sure you obtain your Youth Protection Certification before March. Contact **Marie, Trisha Connors**, or **Ana-Marie Jones** for more information.

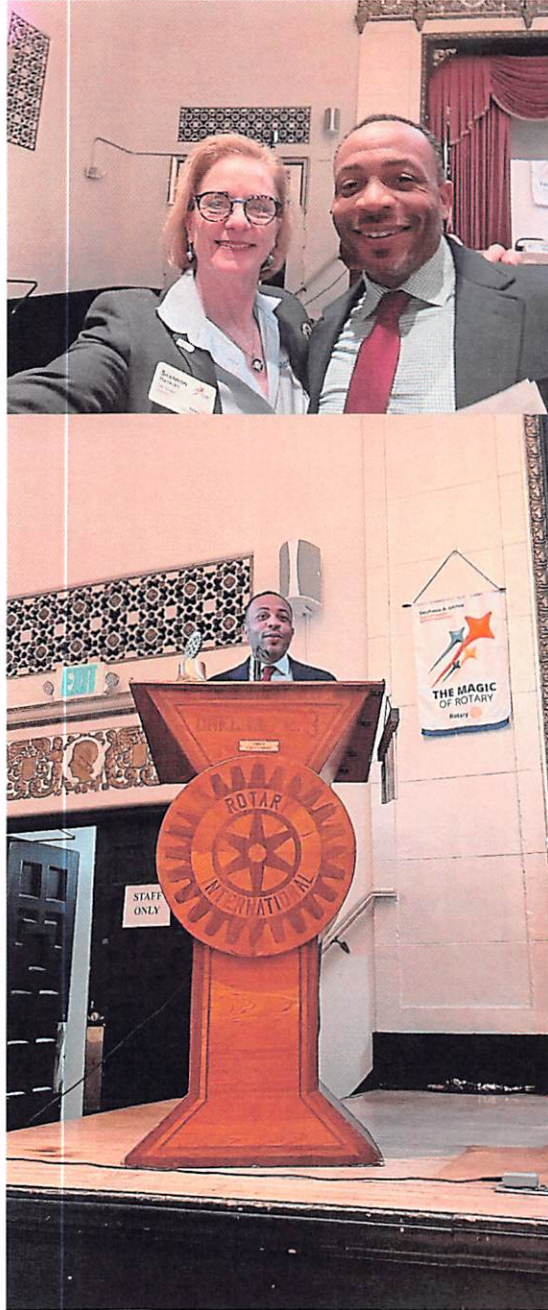
Program for the Day – Jestin Johnson

-

Isaac Kos-Read introduced Jestin Johnson, city administrator of the City of Oakland. Mr. Johnson served in government positions in Athens-Clarke County, Georgia and Bisbee and Tucson, Arizona. He is a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and a former Rotary Club member.

The City Administrator's office has three assistant and two deputy city administrators. Its mission is to support the mayor, city council, and community. A major challenge is to close the \$129 million budget deficit. The City is looking to neighboring jurisdictions for help in solving the budget issue. Although the City has "browned out" five fire stations, it sent 12 firefighters to assist in fighting the Los Angeles fires. Mr. Johnson is currently working to onboard the newly elected council members. He had these responses to audience questions:

- Oakland Police have increased patrols at Frank Ogawa Plaza to improve safety
- The City is engaging in a meet and confer process with labor so that city hall employees return to in-person work four days per week
- The City is waiting for Alameda County to take action with regard to the Oakland Coliseum.



[Business Development Mixer](#)

Jesse Schmidt invited members and guests to the Business Development and New Member Mixer on Thursday, January 23rd, 5:00-7:00 pm at Line 51 Brewing Company, [303 Castro Street, Oakland](#). This is an opportunity to invite prospective members and current members who are unable to attend Thursday lunch meetings. Sign up on the Club's Eventbrite page.

Bellringers

-

Tom Limon rang the bell for Michael Valva.
Guest Renia Webb rang the bell in recognition of her father's birthday.

Mary Rudser rang the bell for Michael Valva and for her 15-month-old granddaughter.

Joe Goralka rang the bell for **Mark Rosen's** car donation.

Thank You

President Shannon adjourned the meeting at 1:27 pm and encouraged everyone to go out into the world and make magic.

Enterprise Institute

-

The 2025 Enterprise Institute takes place March 14 – 16 at Camp Monte Toyon in Aptos.

Club members are needed to volunteer to work with the 80 high school juniors who will be attending. Students will attend a variety of workshops focusing on life and career skills.

A key component of this event is the opportunity for these students to get to know Rotarians and learn from them. The students will attend a variety of workshops focusing on life and career skills. Club members are needed to lead workshops, share ideas, conduct mock interviews, etc.

You will need to have your Rotary-required Youth Protection Certificate to participate. Members can attend for one day or the entire institute.

Contact co-chairs **Trisha Connors**, **Marie Sescon** or **Ana-Marie Jones** to get more information on the weekend institute and/or obtaining your Youth Protection Certification.

Rotary Magazine Revisited

-

When is the last time you perused "Rotary Magazine", which is sent to members of Rotary?

If you have been a Rotary member for a period of years, you'll agree that the content is very engaging, informative and brings the "Rotary World" right into our homes and businesses.

For instance, the January 2025 issue featured an article about a Rotarian who was abducted while on a Rotary Group Study exchange. Her story is a riveting description of the ordeal and how her life has been changed.

In the same issue are articles about Scam Alerts (everything from wrong-number texts to romance scams) and activities of all kinds involving clubs and their members. So, before you recycle your magazine into the trash bin, look inside it and be inspired.