

# Rotary

## Club of Oakland 3



**UNITE  
FOR  
GOOD**



### Club Meeting

#### We Care Corner

The We Care Committee reaches out to members when help is needed for a variety of reasons.

Areas of expertise include:

Home care information  
including equipment & supplies  
Post surgery help  
Logging on to Zoom  
A ride to the weekly Club  
meeting  
Choosing a committee  
Some cheer during a rough  
time

Send a confidential email to the  
We Care Committee address  
[RCOWeCareCommittee@gmail.com](mailto:RCOWeCareCommittee@gmail.com)

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

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

#### Club Meetings

October 23  
Tami Mucahy

November 6

## Live Oak

### Next Club Meeting – October 23, 2025 – Tami Mulcahy – Plastic, Health, and What You Can Do

Our speaker will be Tami Mulcahy, a planet and music activist.  
Alarmed by what plastic is doing to our environment, she is Chair  
of the Planet Solutions Task Force of ESRAG (Environmental  
Sustainability Rotary Action Group).

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

For those joining on Zoom, use this link [Thursday Club Meeting](#)

### Rotary Meeting Highlights for October 16, 2025

#### Rotary Foundation Reception

Members who have contributed to the Rotary International  
Foundation enjoyed a pre-meeting reception with special snacks  
and beverages.

#### Call to Order

The weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Oakland was called to  
order by President Joe Goralka, aka "Coach Joe", promptly at  
12:30 pm. Joe welcomed members and guests attending in-person  
and online.

#### Visiting Rotarians and Guests

Members gave a big Oakland Rotary welcome to visiting Rotarian  
Jeannine Menger and guests Lily Wong, hosted by son-in-law  
Daniel Cheng and Theo Zarobell, hosted by Ralph Sklar and  
introduced by Past President Dudley Thompson.

Tim Gardner

November 13  
Shirley Grace

November 20  
Br.Guy Consolmagno SJ

## Service Projects

**Tree Planting Project  
With City of Oakland**  
November 1  
Prescott Market

**Food Insecurity Volunteer  
Tray-line Meal Assembly**  
Nov. 10 – 9:00 – 11:15 am  
SOS Meals on Wheels  
Second & Fourth Mondays  
Contact Karen Friedman to  
participate.

**St. Vincent DePaul  
Holiday Party**  
December 16

## Special Events

**Halloween Party**  
October 30  
Chapel of the Chimes

**Holiday Party**  
December 6  
Home of Fred Morse

**Rotary International  
Convention**  
June 13 – 17, 2026  
Taipei, Taiwan  
Register and pay in  
full by Dec 15, 2025  
for discount.

## Committee Meetings

**Membership**  
Oct. 22 – 5 – 6 pm

**Diversity, Equity and  
Inclusion**

### Thought for the Day – Angela Darby

Angela Darby reminded the crowd of the importance of "Service Above Self" with a quote from Eleanor Roosevelt - the heart of amenable life is contribution.

### Happy Diwali

In honor of the upcoming festival of Diwali, President Joe shared an explanation of the holiday's significance, highlighting its themes of light over darkness and the triumph of good over evil. Members and guests enjoyed Indian food for lunch.

### Rotary Road Map

Linda Hamilton, chair of the Member Engagement Committee, asked all new members to stand and be recognized. Linda introduced the brand new Rotary Road Map which was displayed on the stage. The steps on the road include orientation, attendance at Thursday meetings, joining a committee, attending a club event, giving a 3-minute self-introduction, participation in service activities, and donating to the Oakland Rotary Endowment and the Rotary Foundation. Linda gave special thanks to Jesse Schmidt for originating the Rotary Road Map concept. President Joe presented a Rotary on the Run medal to Linda in recognition of all her contributions to the club.

Oct. 27 – 5 – 6 pm

## Birthday Greetings

### Happy Birthday!

Celebrating are:

October

02 – Ruth Stroup

04 – Lorna Padia Markus

09 – Tommy Edwards

09 – Andrew Shaulata

09 – Pat Williams

10 – Pauline Fox

11 – Isaac Kos-Read

12 – Wise Allen

13 – Cristy Johnston-Limon

16 – Jason Wizelman

18 – Sean Marx

18 – Lou Rigali

19 – Ama Torrance

20 – Mike Melone

26 – Bob Lee

27 – Ed Brail

27 – Kristina Brouhard

28 – Maurice Arnold

29 – Shanna O'Hare

## Membership Anniversaries

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



### Rotary Foundation

Foundation Chair Ruth Stroup reported that Oakland Rotary has a long and generous history of foundation donations. The club has donated \$2.7 million to date. 131 members (over 50% of the club) are Paul Harris Fellows (\$1,000) and 35 members are major donors (\$10,000). Ruth recognized Rotary Foundation donors Keith Giron, Pat Williams, and Sean Callum who received pins. Ruth reminded everyone to "give until it feels good."

### Tree Planting Day

Environment Committee Chair Joel Parrott invited everyone to help make a lasting environmental impact on the City of Oakland by participating in the fifth club tree planting event on November 1st from 10:00 to noon. Sign up on Eventbrite. All you need to bring is a pair of gloves. Joel promised that the five Interact members who will be there will do all the digging.

### Halloween Party Time

Ed Brail encouraged members to attend the third annual Halloween party at Chapel of the Chimes on October 30th, 5:00-8:00 pm. There will be drinks, food, and prizes for the best costumes.

September

Leslie Hilger – 47 years

John Protopappas – 40 years

Eric Angstadt – 33 years

Ana Chretien – 25 years

Joe Goralka – 23 years

Stephanie Casenza – 15 years

Steve Nicholls – 15 years

Greg Annis – 7 years

Isa Chu – 4 years

Maren Amdal – 4 years

## Club Leaders



### Pumpkin Contest

President Joe, accompanied by the great Rotary pumpkin, provided pumpkin trivia including colors, varieties, nutrition, the number of seeds, and the largest pumpkin pie. Join the fun at the October 23rd meeting and try your luck at guessing the weight of the giant pumpkin. The winner gets to take home the pumpkin and a Four-Way Test coin.

### District Avenues of Service

Elida Scola reminded the audience of the District 5170 Avenues of Service event at Oakland's Colombo Club coming up a few hours after the meeting. She hoped that the spaghetti and meatballs would be as good as her mother's.

### Oakland Rotary Roster

President Joe thanked Alex Poulsen for producing the 2025 club roster. It is available for downloading, on Ignite and in print form. Alex received a Rotary on the Run medal in acknowledgement of his numerous efforts on behalf of the club.

### Speaker for the Day — Bill Sokol

Ann Brick introduced her law school classmate Bill Sokol. Bill is a union-side labor attorney, law instructor, and legal commentator. Most importantly, he is married to journalist Cynthia Gorney.

Mr. Sokol's presentation was called "The Supreme Court vs.

**Democracy." He discussed significant court cases in the areas of campaign spending, (Citizens United v. FEC), voting rights (Shelby v. Holder), gerrymandering (Rucho v. Common Cause), and "Trump as king" (Trump v. United States). He believes the U.S. is experiencing a "dual state" - the "normative state" and the "prerogative state." The normative state is based on law and predictable administrations. The prerogative state is based on arbitrary power, extra-legal authority, and punishes enemies. He predicted that future court decisions will:**

- Weaken a protection in the Voting Rights Act that helps prevent racially discriminatory practices
- Stop abortions, contraceptives, and same sex marriage

**Mr. Sokol suggested that everybody should "think globally and act locally" and supported Rotary's motto of "service above self."**



### **Bellringers**

**Wil Hobbs rang the bell for Bill Sokol**  
**Bob Barth rang the bell twice for Alex Poulsen.**  
**Lily Wong rang the bell for Daniel Cheng.**  
**Ken Richardson rang the bell for Alex Poulsen**  
**Joe Goralka rang the bell for Alex Poulsen**

## **Adjourn**

**Pres. Joe thanked those who helped put on today's meeting and adjourned the meeting at 1:30 pm. He reminded everyone that through Rotary world peace will come someday, and we will end polio too.**