

# 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.

Corporate Membership  
Port of Oakland  
Executive Director - Kristi McKenney  
Chief Public Engagement Officer - Matt Davis  
Sponsor: **Merlin Edwards**

### 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 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?

## Stories

### Next Club Meeting – May 29, 2025 – Mary Daly – Navigating Economic Uncertainty

**Past President David Stein** announced that next week's meeting will be off-site at Alameda County Santa Rita Jail. The deadline has passed for obtaining clearance to attend the meeting.

On May 29, we will be back in the Ballroom. Our speaker is Mary Daly, President and CEO of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco. She will share her thoughts on navigating economic uncertainty. If you have questions for her, please send them in advance to **David Stein**.



Register on the Club's Eventbrite page to indicate you will attend.

The meeting will be in-person as well as on Zoom. For those joining on Zoom, use this link [Thursday Club Meeting](#)



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](mailto:RCOWeCareCommittee@gmail.com)

### Special Events

**"Spring Mixer"**  
**Business Development and New Member Mixer**  
 June 3 – 5 – 7 pm  
 Agave Uptown  
 2135 Franklin Street  
 Cover Charge -- \$20 for food and drinks  
 Sign up on Club Eventbrite

**Rotary at Mono Lake**  
 June 13 – 15  
 Lee Vining & Mono Lake  
 See flyer for details  
 Randy Arnold and Greg Knight are available to answer questions.

**Rotary International Convention**  
 June 21 – 25  
 Calgary, Canada

### Service Projects

**Lodestar High School Career Day**  
 May 28 – 9:00 am – 11:15 am  
 705 105<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Oakland  
 Rotarians needed to talk about career requirements, challenges and opportunities in their fields. Contact Catherine Coleman if you can participate.

### HOT Squad

Volunteer Service Projects serving the community as scheduled.

## Rotary Meeting Highlights for May 15, 2025

### Call to Order

**President Shannon Hackley** called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm, noting that we are the 3<sup>rd</sup> oldest Rotary Club in the world of 32,000 clubs in over 200 countries. She urged everyone to check in on social media and acknowledged Rotarians attending on Zoom. This meeting was held at College Hills Campus, site of the former Holy Names University.



### Thought for the Day – Daniel Cardenas

**Pres. Shannon** welcomed and thanked our host for the day, **Daniel Cardenas**, who updated us on the status of the Valley Center for the Performing Arts theater at the former site of Holy Names University. The ballet, Coppélia, will be presented this weekend by the Oakland Ballet School. Upcoming events include orchestra performances – the Oakland Hills will soon be alive with the sound of music!

He shared the following Thought for the Day attributed to Benjamin Franklin, "Do well by doing good."



## Committee Meetings

### **Public Relations**

May 19 – 10:15 – 10:45 am  
Contact Marie Sescon  
for meeting information.

### Birthday Greetings

#### **Happy Birthday!**

Celebrating are:

#### May

01 – Stephanie Casenza  
02 – Bill Dixon  
05 – Marianne Robison  
07 – Christy McAvoy  
09 – Kathy Kelleher  
11 – Emily Morgan  
11 – Courtney Morse  
14 – David Barron  
14 – Mary Geong  
14 – Kevin Hunter  
15 – Catherine Pinkas  
17 – David Kersten  
20 – Bob Spencer  
22 – Jake Schoneker  
24 – Sean Callum  
25 – Wayne Goodroe  
25 – Mark Rosen  
26 – Ralph Sklar  
27 – Mieko Hatano  
30 – Ces Butner  
31 – Megan Imperial

### Membership Anniversaries

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

#### May

Charlie Adams – 43 years  
Rick Draper – 35 years  
Dudley Thompson – 32 years  
Anne Bisagno – 23 years  
Julie Fox – 22 years  
Debra Barnes – 17 years  
Pat Williams – 10 years  
Tom Duryea – 7 years  
Kerry Hamill – 7 years  
Diane Schaffer – 7 years  
Sonja Fitz – 6 years  
Janice Brickley – 5 years  
Sarah Chavez-Yoell – 4 years  
Bill Purcell --- 3 years

## Meeting Sponsor – Keri Butkevich and GirlVentures

**Keri Butkevich** announced her new position as Executive Director for GirlVentures which inspires girls and gender expansive youth to lead through outdoor adventures and inner discovery. Starting at age 11, participants follow a leadership progression model, building confidence and leadership skills through backpacking, hiking, kayaking, and rock climbing in Northern California. To ensure accessibility for all, GirlVentures maintains an equipment library and provides everyone with backpacks and everything they need for outdoor adventures.

Volunteers are critical to their operations and young people's experience. Whether helping to mentor teens as a part of the Youth Advisory Board, providing skilled project based expertise and marketing, HR, business development, education, finance, Salesforce customization and website design, Engaging as a volunteer on a board committee or joining a dynamic and highly collaborative Board of Directors, **Keri** hopes you will contact her at [keri@girlventures.org](mailto:keri@girlventures.org). to support girls and gender expansive youth.



## Business Development Spring Mixer

**Jason Wizelman** invited us to the Business Development and New Member Spring Mixer at Agave Uptown, located at 2135 Franklin Street on June 3,

Cybele Gerachis – 2 years  
 Andrew Brown – 2 years  
 Lyz Luke – 2 years  
 Megan Imperial – 1 year

2025, at 5:00 pm. There will be a cover charge for appetizers and drinks. This is a great opportunity to network with like-minded professionals and get to meet new Rotarians. Register on the Club's Eventbrite page.

### **New Member Induction – Sam Davis**

**Isaac Kos-Read** introduced our new member, **Sam Davis**. **Sam** attended UC Berkeley in 1990 and met his wife while he was protesting tuition hikes. He is a former OUSD Board Member and served as Board President. He also taught at the Adult Education School.

**President Shannon** presented **Sam** with his Rotary pin, New Member Badge, a copy of the 4-Way Test and a membership roster. She also encouraged everyone to use the Ignite app. **Sam** was given a standing ovation by the Club. Welcome, **Sam!!**

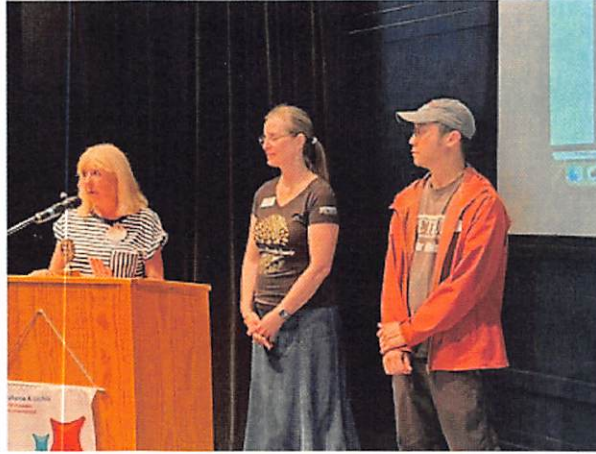


### **Community Service Grant Check Presentations**

**Catherine Coleman** introduced Chelsea Boniak, Director of Development and Finance from Children Rising and presented her with a \$5,000 check. Children Rising tutors children from 11 Oakland Title 1 schools. They will use the funds to purchase a heavy-duty printer for creating materials for students.

**Community Service Committee Co-Chair Teresa Weyand** welcomed Executive Director, Lara Calvert and Project Manager, Duke Hwang from Spectrum Community Services to the podium and presented them with a \$5,000 check for 7-9 computer tablets which they will use to streamline their delivery service of food to low-income seniors at three Oakland locations: Downtown Oakland Senior Center, Northgate Terrace and Palo Vista Gardens.





### Fellowship Moment

**President Shannon** invited us to take a fellowship moment and discuss our experience at today's venue. We are looking for a new location for our meetings because the California Ballroom will close at the end of her Presidential Year. As a group, we will innovate, motivate and try some interim solutions as we seek a new permanent place to meet. **Shannon** urged everyone to pay attention to the Club's communications, including emails and the Live Oak, in order to know where we will be meeting as we transition.



### Speaker for the Day – Daniel Levy

**C J Hirshfield** introduced our speaker for today, Daniel Levy from the Oakland Heritage Alliance. She mentioned that she was active with the organization before moving from Oakland to an island.

Daniel Levy gave an overview of topics pertaining to 16<sup>th</sup> Street Station which was closed after the Loma Prieta earthquake in 1989. Historically, it served as the entry point and terminus to Berkeley. It was designed in

a Beaux Arts style by Jarvis Hunt, a Midwest architect who also designed rail stations in Joliet, Illinois and Kansas City. Early trains were steam trains, but they were problematic because it was difficult to accelerate as well as deaccelerate. Later, electric trains were introduced.

During the Great Migration to Oakland, Pullman Porter jobs were available to African American men. Under the leadership of C.L. Dellums, a former Pullman Porter, the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters was established in 1925. This early activism in Civil Rights paved the way for the Black Panthers and other activist groups.

City Ventures purchased the property in the early 2000's. Plans have been put forward regarding housing. However, the Oakland Heritage Alliance would like to see plans that feature and use the 16<sup>th</sup> Street Station which was added to the National Register of Historic Places in January 2025 and is now eligible for a 20% tax credit. OHA is hoping to get 10,000 signatures on a ballot petition and encourage politicians to get involved with preserving this site. If you are interested in assisting, please check out [OaklandHeritage.org](https://OaklandHeritage.org).



**President Shannon** thanked our speaker and said a contribution in his name would be made to Polio Plus.

### **Bellrings**

**President-Elect Joe Goralka** rang the bell two times for: 1) **Daniel Cardenas** for making the site available for our meeting today, and 2) the New Venue