

Rotary

Club of Oakland 3



Live Oak



Club Meetig

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.

Alex Garcia
Scouting America
District Executive
Pleasanton, CA

Sponsor: **Mary Geong**

Marissa Betts
Operations Manager
Corporate Membership
Ken Betts Inc.

Sponsor: **Jack McAboy**

Rodolf Ornelas
Ornelas Consulting Group
Founder
Oakland, CA
Sponsor: **Keith Uriarte**

Noah Gaiser
St. Mary's Center
Executive Director
Oakland, CA
Sponsor: **Allison Bliss**

Derek Barnes
East Bay Rental Housing Authority
CEO
Oakland, CA
Sponsor: **Fred Morse**

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

There is no meeting on July 3rd. Our next meeting on July 10th will celebrate the induction of **President Joe Goralka**, in the California Ballroom and on Zoom. **Please register in advance** on the club's Eventbrite site in order to help the Club prepare for this event.



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 June 19, 2025

Call to Order

The Ballroom was packed for the Demotion of **President Shannon Hackley**. Blue Hydrangea centerpieces were on the tables along with witch hats, and tiny broom pens and small graphic cards depicting **Pres. Shannon** front and center at Hogwarts. The Rotary Band entertained everyone during fellowship time. Anticipation filled the room as we waited for the Past Presidents to enter. At 12:30 pm **Past President Ed Jellen** called the meeting to order.

He wished everyone a Happy Juneteenth, commemorating the ending of slavery, an important day in the history of our country. He then welcomed everyone to the Demotion of Oakland Rotary's 116th President.

Need information about home care including equipment and supplies?
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 with:
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

Special Events

**Fourth of July
Parade – Piedmont**
July 4 -- 11 am – 3 pm

**Summer Business
Development Mixer**
August 20 – 5 – 8 pm
TNT Strength

Annual Club Picnic
August 28 – 5 – 8 pm
Lake Temescal

Weekly Meetings

July 10 – Induction of



Thought for the Day

Past President Mary Geong shared a quote about magic: "A true healer is not the one with magical powers, but the one who does everything in their power to help those in need."

President Joe Goralka

July 17 – Patti Poppe,
PG&E

July 24 – David Hunt,
Prescott Circus Theatre

July 30 – 3 – 5:30 pm
Oakland Airport Tour

Committee Meetings

Fun, Sport & Adventure
July 8 – 6 – 7:30 pm

**Karl F Stucki World
Community Service**
July 15 – 5 – 6:30 pm

Enterprise Institute
July 16 – 7 – 8 pm

Birthday Greetings

Happy Birthday!
Celebrating are:

July
04 – Lois Corrin
05 – Iris Brody Lopez
08 – Allison Bliss
08 – Marc Lipsett



Welcome of Guests and Setting the Stage

Ed Jellen introduced **President Shannon's** family, friends and employees who were both in the Ballroom and on Zoom.

He commented on the challenges **Shannon** faced and the accomplishments she delivered. Her theme for the year was "The Magic of Rotary". This was amazing similar to another magical leader, Harry Potter. He reminded everyone that Harry Potter faced curses, dark magic, evil doers and much more. Nevertheless, Harry Potter became an accomplished leader, demonstrated his magical abilities and defeated an evil wizard.

Demotion Procession

Attention turned to the back of the room. To the Magical Mystery Tour song by the Beatles, the Past Presidents, wearing witch hats and carrying brooms, ushered **Shannon** into the ballroom, with **Past Presidents Dudley Thompson** and **David Douglas** escorting **Shannon** to her seat on stage.

09 – Dave Cannon
 10 – Keri Butkevich
 13 – Ed Jellen
 14 – Allison Lindquist
 15 – Alex Kaffka
 21 – Wendy Howard
 24 – Rich Harrison
 24 – Jerry Wendt
 25 – Blase Bova
 25 – Cybele Gerachis
 26 – Angela Darby
 28 – Marta Grajeda
 30 – Julie Fox

Membership Anniversaries

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

July
 Dale Chamblin – 49 years
 Bob Peltz – 45 years
 Syd Saperstein – 40 years
 Marianne Robison – 32 years
 Jon Gresley – 30 years
 Linda Chew – 29 years
 Ralph Sklar – 29 years
 Ed Jellen – 28 years
 Phil Campbell – 26 years
 Gudrun Dybdal – 26 years
 C J Hirschfield – 22 years
 John Claassen – 21 years
 Bob Barth – 17 years
 Cristy Johnston-Limon – 13 years
 Marc Lipsett – 12 years
 Jim Boessenecker – 9 years
 Nancy O'Malley – 9 years
 Suzie Yokomizo – 7 years
 Kristine Watson – 6 years
 Pam Claassen – 5 years
 Lou Rigali – 5 years
 Shonda Scott – 5 years
 Jake Schoneker – 3 years
 Michael Houston – 1 year
 Ricka White-Soso – 1 year
]

Club Leaders



First Order of Business – A Special Libation

Past President Dudley Thompson proceeded to center stage where he delivered a special gin cocktail to **Shannon**. After some difficulty he was able to make it catch fire and smoke.

Celebrating the smoking success, **Past President Linda Chew** rang the magical chimes.

Past President's Pin

Past President David Douglas explained that Harry Potter received many special honors during his years at Hogwarts and the Club would also like to present gifts to **Shannon** in Hogwarts Fashion. Since Harry's owl, Hedwig, was unable to fly in for the ceremony, we have her trusted assistant. He welcomed **Past President Carla Betts** who was carrying Harris the Owl. After retrieving the gift from the owl, **David** presented **Shannon** with her Past President's Pin.

Past President's Badge

As the magical chimes rang again, **Past Presidents Lorna Padia Markus** and **John Protopappas** came to the lectern.

Lorna reminded everyone that **Shannon** had to overcome a number of significant challenges during the year including the curse of the missing heat.

John recalled that members were subjected to meeting after meeting without heat in the ballroom, which had to be the result of a wizard disabling the California Building boiler. Nevertheless, **Shannon** persevered until the evil wizard was defeated and the boiler came to life.

To commemorate this, **Carla** and Harris the Owl appeared with the next gift and **John** presented **Shannon** with her new Past President's Badge.

President's Gavel Plaque

To the ringing of the magical chimes, **Past President Mary Rudser** came to the lectern. Mary reminded everyone that Shannon also faced the curse of the misbehaving AV system. Apparently, another evil wizard caused the AV sound and visuals to malfunction during meetings and presentations by guest speakers.

At that moment Glinda the Good Witch, aka **Past President Linda Boessenecker**, wandered out from backstage and over to the lectern.

Not knowing who this was, **Mary** asked why she was interrupting the demotion. Glinda explained she is Glinda the Good Witch from **Gudrun Dybdal's** demotion in 2019 which had a "Wizard of Oz" theme. Glinda\Linda explained she's been backstage all this time waiting for her cue. In hearing the talk about wizards today she decided it was time to make an appearance. In meeting Harris the Owl, she observed Rotary should have hired a flying monkey instead. She picked up the Gavel Plaque and presented it to **Shannon**.



Exchanged Banners

Past President Charlie Adams joined **Mary Rudser** on stage. He indicated that the houses of Hogwarts had banners displaying the pride of honor of each house. Does Rotary have any banners? In fact,

members bring back banners from their travels to other clubs. **Mary** retrieved the banners from Harris and presented them to **Shannon**.

Proclamations

The magical chimes kept ringing. **Past Presidents Michael Bruck** and **Robert Kidd** were in charge of the official proclamation. **Michael** reminded everyone that Harry Potter never graduated from Hogwarts but given his significant service he should have received an honorary degree. Oakland Rotary would not make that mistake. He then read a special proclamation recognizing **Shannon** for her service to the club.

The Proclamation was from the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry recognizing **Shannon** for choosing The Magic of Rotary for her theme, for overcoming a number of significant challenges in the ballroom, for ringing her magical chimes to recognize the generosity of her fellow Rotarians and for closing many weekly meetings by encouraging everyone to go out into the world and make magic in their communities. To this end, Hogwarts bestowed upon her the title of HONORARY WITCH! With that, **Michael** handed **Shannon** the Proclamation.

Robert Kidd found another proclamation at the lectern. This one was the Oakland Mayoral Proclamation. He proceeded to read it in its entirety, asking the audience to assist him by shouting "Whereas" as he read each section. Upon completion, **Robert** gave **Shannon** the Oakland Mayoral Proclamation, naming June 19, 2025 as Shannon Hackley Day in the City of Oakland.



Shannon's Accomplishments

Past President David Stein had the honor of reciting the Club's accomplishments this year.

Financial successes: \$33,000 in bellringers, over \$67,000 from the ORE Campaign and \$85,000 netted from the Gala. **Past President Ces Butner** became our first \$250,000 contributor to ORE which ended the year with an endowment of over \$5 million.

The Club spent \$86,762 for Community Service, and \$158,786 toward youth services. Not including DDF matching funds of over \$60,000, we contributed \$55,000 to World Community Service projects for a total over \$300,000.

Community Service Days: PAL Camp Cleanup (Fall); St. Vincent de Paul (Easter), Tree Planting (Early Spring) and Alameda County Community Food Bank (Late Spring).

Community Service Committee: grants to 11 community organizations including Lotus Bloom Family Resource Center, Oakland Technical High School Auditorium Committee, and East Bay Center for Creative Reuse. The Feed the Hungry campaign contributed \$35,000 to six organizations: Operation Dignity, Alameda County Community Food Bank, Harbor House, St. Mary's Center, Oakland Catholic Worker, and St. Vincent DePaul.

The Karl F Stucki World Community Service Committee: funded a dozen projects on five continents. They were:

Ghana – funds for 35 wells and 295 micro-flush toilets impacting over 22,000 people.
Guatemala – medical equipment serving Mayan women and babies, with associated training to educate 16 nurses who will visit pregnant women in their homes.
Vietnam – gender-separated bathrooms for over 1,000 students.
Lebanon – refugee relief, providing bottled water, meals and medical supplies.
Rumania – cardiac monitors and a ventilator for a municipal hospital ICU.

The Rotary Foundation: members donated over \$100,000. In addition, **Joe and Martha Goralka** were recognized for reaching a cumulative total over \$250,000 in TRF contributions.

Exchange Student Program: a local high school student went to Fukuoka, Japan while Oakland Rotary welcomed a student from Fukuoka. The club also strengthened its relationship with the Fukuoka Japan Rotary Club.

WeCare Committee: provided meals, medical supplies as well as medication deliveries to several members in need. Cards expressing our concerns for their wellbeing were also sent.

Fun, Sports and Adventure: Members participated in cycling, birding, hiking and a winery event. Cultural events included the Dancing Moons Festival and Ballers baseball and Roots soccer games. There was a ski trip, bowling with the Oakland Rotary King Pins and Better Off Bowling League. Also a trip to the Alameda Pinball Museum.

Business Development: hosted a Halloween party, a holiday party, and a mixer event at Line 51.

Membership: hosted a mixer at Bocanova Restaurant and welcomed over 50 new members to the Club.

Lunch meetings: fun, fellowship and wonderful speakers including Federal Reserve President Mary Daly, Snap Judgment host Glenn Washington, former Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta, Journalist and author Bill Wong, Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir and Oakland Gay Men's Chorus.

Members enjoyed fun and fellowship at offsite meetings and the return of the Brown Bag Lunch featured 10 members opening their businesses to 86 Rotarians.

Oakland Scholarships: Awarded \$16,000 college scholarships each to five graduating high school seniors.

HOPE: mentored 4 middle and high school students and 5 college students who were awarded \$10,000 scholarships.

KinderPrep: 83 Trans Kindergarten teachers received \$250 gift cards for classroom supplies. Classroom furniture was purchased for six TK classrooms. Thirty-nine TK classes went on field trips to the Oakland Zoo, Children's Fairyland, Chabot Space and Science Center and the Bay Area Discovery Museum.

Enterprise Institute: Rotary hosted 74 high school juniors and seniors for a weekend retreat. The curriculum changed from an entrepreneurial format to a weekend filled with tips on networking, career choices and public speaking. Over 30 Rotarians attended to share their stories and show what networking looks like. The weekend included a talent show and roasted s'mores every night.

The Club's Gift

Past President Jack McAboy presented **President Shannon** with the Club's Gift in recognition of her extraordinary leadership. It was a gift certificate to the spa of her choice. He then invited her to the lectern for brief comments.

Shannon's Final Remarks

President Shannon surprised everyone by extending the one minute allotted to her. She produced a two-page script and proceeded to thank all her guests – family, friends and employees -- who attended, thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve and how she came to be president.

She concluded her remarks with the following:

"My message to our special tribe: I have said this before, we are here for all of your journey...You do not need to be active all the time, you don't have to write big checks all of the time, you can actually just be in this club for the friendships, and the picnics and the bike rides.

Paying your dues literally helps up to put on our lunches, gives us paid staff to help the volunteer army stay organized and manage the committees, the budgets, the grants and so much more.

Supporting our Endowment -- The Rotary Foundation is important and we will always remind and encourage....

Most of all, in this world of technology and isolation, we have a home....

Around you we have our friendships, human connections, our work. Rotary gives us a village, a place to gather, a cadence, and a landing pad. Get together with each other, do business with each other and nurture, coach and connect. We have work to do to make the world a better place and each and every one of you make a [difference. In](#) fact...we make MAGIC together.

Thank you for the hard work and I look forward to working with you all for years to come."



Adjournment

President Elect Joe Goralka made some brief announcements and skipped the traditional demotion words -- "this meeting is adjourned" - as he rang the bell to close the meeting at 1:16 pm.

