

# Rotary

## Club of Oakland 3



Live Oak

### 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)  
The password is Rotary\$9453

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 16  
Bill Sokol

October 23  
Tami Mucahy

November 6  
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

### Next Club Meeting – October 16, 2025 – Bill Sokol – Issues of the Supreme Court

**Past President David Stein** announced next week's program will be NPR legal commentator, law professor and talk show host Bill Sokol. He will focus on "Issues of the Supreme Court" and provide his thoughts on the Roberts Supreme Court.

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 9, 2025

#### Call to Order

**President Joe Goralka**, aka "Coach Joe", called to order the regular meeting of the Rotary Club of Oakland, the 3<sup>rd</sup> oldest Rotary Club in the world, at 12:30 pm. **President Joe** welcomed members and guests to today's meeting held at the Oakstop Event Space at 1721 Broadway.



### 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 13

## Special Events

### District 5170 Avenues Of Service

October 16  
Columbo Club

### 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

### Business Development

Oct. 14 – 5 – 6 pm

### Karl Stucki World Community Service

Oct. 14 – 5 – 6:30 pm

### KinderPrep

Oct. 15 – 5:00 – 6:30 pm

### We Care

Oct. 16 – 5 – 6 pm

### Membership

Oct. 22 – 5 – 6 pm

### Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Oct. 27 – 5 – 6 pm

## Birthday Greetings

### Happy Birthday!

## Visiting Rotarians and Guests

Lacy joined us as a new resident of Oakland and former member of the **Rotary Club of Olympia, Washington** and is looking forward to becoming an active member of Oakland #3. Rotarian Manfredo Gonzales, a refugee from Caracas, Venezuela, is visiting family in Oakland. **Past Presidents Jon Gresley and Gudrun Dybdal** (arriving a bit late due to traffic!) honorary members of Oakland and active members of the Rotary Club of Truckee were also in attendance.

**Past President Shannon Hackley** introduced a very special guest, Jan Stucki, daughter of **Past President Karl Stucki** for whom the **Karl Stucki World Service Community Committee** is named in his memory. Many Rotarians rang the bell in honor of the work of **Karl**.

**Rotarians Pat Raburn, Gary Flaxman, Patricia Wells, and Michael Houston** introduced their guests. **Gary** also mentioned that long time **Rosemary Darden** was with us today.

**President Joe** reminded members and guests that a bell ringer is a generous \$100 donation to the Oakland Rotary Foundation.

## Thought for the Day – Kira Pascoe

**Kira Pascoe**, a new member inducted just last week, provided today's thought—a quote from award winning journalist and author Celeste Headley. "Every conversation is a chance to connect and make a difference." Today, we use our voices to encourage, support, and leave a positive mark, no matter how big or how small.



## New Member – Danny Wan

**Coach Joe** invited **Past President David Stein** to the podium to introduce a new member.

**Past President David** introduced **Danny Wan** who has a lifetime of public service, starting as a public-school teacher, being the first openly LGBTQ member of the Oakland City Council, and finally serving from 2019 to just earlier this year as the executive director of the Port of

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!

#### 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

Oakland.

Two interesting facts:

One, **Danny** is an "old" dad. Many may have seen his son, Kai, 2 years old, running around our picnic, and with **Danny's** husband, Oliver. Having a 2-year -old, **Danny's** going to stay young for years to come!

And the 2nd interesting fact is **Danny** sings with the Asian gay men's chorus.

**Coach/President Joe** presented **Danny** with his Rotary pin and other goodies and welcomed him as the newest member of Oakland Rotary #3.



**Coach Joe** then presented **Past President David Stein** with the "Rotary on the Run" medal for his multiple roles in Oakland Rotary – Speakers' Committee Chair, Membership Committee, President Special Committee to mention just a few. This prompted multiple bellringers in **David** and **Danny's** honor.





### Nominating Committee

**Past President and Club Secretary Michael Bruck** took the microphone to share the process for selecting the nominating committee members, new board members and the next president elect-elect. Nominations for members to serve as nominating committee members included:

**Sean Callum**  
**Catherine Coleman**  
**Bob Barth**  
**Wil Hobbs**  
**Ken Richardson**  
**Mark Rosen**  
**Susan Smith**  
**Linda Hamilton**  
**Linda Boessenecker**  
**Debra Barnes**  
**Carla Betts**  
**Allison Bliss**  
**John Holmgren**  
**CJ Hirschfield**

Election of nominating committee members will take place at the Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

### Announcements

- **Rotarian and Rotary Foundation Chairperson Ruth Stoup** took the microphone to announce the upcoming Rotary Foundation kickoff next Thursday at 11:30 am. She requested that members bring their “stories” of why they support The Rotary Foundation.
- **Rotarian Ed Brail** invited everyone to the annual Halloween Party at Chapel of the Chimes on October 30<sup>th</sup> from 5-8 pm. Prizes for the top three costumes!

- **Past President Shannon Hackley** followed with a reminder of the upcoming Avenues of Service event next Thursday at the Colombo Club. Let's have a great attendance to show District 5170 the strength of Oakland #3! Register through **Jesse**.
- **Past President Tom Limon** thanked the Rotarians who volunteered at last week's Oktoberfest and encouraged members to get involved in their community. He suggested if there is an event they'd like to have Rotarians help with to let him, **Joe** or **Shannon** know.
- **Past President Michael Bruck** announced the Pumpkin Contest at the October 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting. Rotarians will have the opportunity to guess the weight of the Great Rotary Pumpkin!
- **Dana Sack** is offering a sailing opportunity for six Rotarians to join him on his boat on Nov. 15. If you are interested call **Dana**.
- **President Joe** reviewed upcoming events on the calendar.

### Speaker for the Day — Ursula Jones Dickson

**Tricia Connors**, fresh off her trip to Portugal, introduced our speaker of the day, new member and Alameda County District Attorney, **Ursula Jones Dickson**.

Ms. Dixon is a dedicated and visionary leader committed to bringing justice with integrity, fairness, and transparency. With over two decades of legal experience, including her service as an Alameda County Superior Court Judge, and former Deputy District Attorney, D.A. Jones Dickson, brings a deep understanding of both the law and the communities it serves. Her appointment as District Attorney marks a return to principled prosecution rooted in accountability, public safety, and victim advocacy.

Since taking office, D.A. Jones Dickson has worked tirelessly to rebuild trust, enhance community engagement, and ensure that justice is applied equitably across Alameda County. Guided by compassion and driven by excellence, she is focused on smart reforms, strong partnerships with law enforcement, and a clear commitment to bringing and keeping our neighborhood safe while uplifting those most impacted by the justice system.

**Ursula Jones Dickson** sincerely thanked **President Joe** for inviting her and appreciated the warm introduction. She shared that today she intends to share a little bit about the DA's office and update the audience on the efforts to enhance community safety. She also wants to leave time for questions.

The DA began by sharing her mission. The mission is to ethically prosecute those who commit crimes. Uphold the rights of victims and provide them with compassionate support, as well as protect the communities that we serve. They also aim to collaborate with justice and community partners and foster policies that prioritize public safety and restore public trust. They'd like to reinforce innovative programs that provide opportunities for rehabilitation and reintegration, and to enhance the lives of the residents of Alameda County. The DA's office also has a mandate to represent the people of the State of California and always pursue the truth.

After a brief overview of the various branches and departments of the District Attorney's Office, Ms. Dickson provided a snapshot of accomplishments in her first 180 days in office.

- Focus on Survivors
  - We assisted 4,600 plus new victims, ensuring that survivors of crime had immediate access to counseling advocacy, as well as safety resources.

- We strengthened our community stakeholder engagement, so survivor voices were elevated through proactive outreach.
- Secured critical resources as grants were disappearing and dissipating from the federal and state levels.
- Advanced nonviolence and gun violence prevention, including AB 1344. A gun violence restraining order pilot program.
- Building a Stronger DA's Office
  - Restored Prosecutorial Capacity to Prosecutors
  - Deepened Community Engagement
  - Strengthened Infrastructure –filled leadership positions and managed budget process
  - Launched Organized Retail Theft Task Force
  - Reaffirmed Commitment to Fair and Equitable Justice
- What's Ahead – Fair Charging and Safer Communities
  - Initiate Hate Crimes Unit
  - Restore Human Trafficking Focus, Wage Theft & Labor Affairs
  - Expanding Victims Witness Services
  - Strengthening Partnerships with Faith & Nonprofit Partners

The total number of referrals received has increased significantly with misdemeanor referrals over 8,000 and felonies over 3,500. The DA continues to rebuild community trust through town halls, listening sessions and conversations with local leaders.

DA Jones Dickson then answered questions from members and invited members to contact her office with further questions as her time was limited.

**Question:** I applaud the office for the support to victims families. Is that support still in place?

**Answer:** yes.

**Question:** Is Alameda County, specifically Oakland, still the hub of the sex slave trade in CA.

**Answer:** Yes. International Boulevard and East 14<sup>th</sup> areas continue to be home to the sex trade. Need more tools to effectively deal with pimping and pandering as well as more officers.

**Question:** I've recently learned about Care Courts for the homeless population. What is the role of the DA's office? **Answer:** They do not have a role. They cannot refer to the Care Court. However, she does believe that it is a good resource.

**Question:** Casualties seem to be caused by guns in cars. Is there a role for gun checkpoints?

**Answer:** Officers are not allowed to search in cars as they need justification. What is needed is more officers.

**Coach Joe** thanked **Ursula** for spending time with us and for her becoming a Rotarian. A contribution to Polio Plus has been made in her honor.



### Bellringers

There were many bellringers made in honor of **Karl Stucki's** work on behalf of Rotary. Many bellringers also were made in honor of **David Stein** and **Danny Wan**.

### 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.

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