

Rotary

Club of Oakland



Live Oak

We Care Corner

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

Areas of expertise include:

Information about home care including equipment & supplies
Help with post surgery
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

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

September 18
Robert Rayburn and
Victor Flores

September 25
Julie Berge

October 2
Alexis Madrigal

Service Projects

Food Insecurity Volunteer Tray-line Meal Assembly
Sept. 22 – 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

Oakland Rotary Golf Club
October 8 at
Sequoia Country Club
Limit of 24 players, all skill levels welcome
Contact Dudley Thompson for more information.

Halloween Party

Next Club Meeting – September 18, 2025 – Victor Flores and Robert Raburn

There is no meeting in the Ballroom on September 11. Instead we will be meet at 5 pm at Children's Fairyland to celebrate its 75th Anniversary.

Past President David Stein announced our next meeting in the Ballroom at noon will be September 18 when our speakers will be BART Directors **Victor Flores** and **Robert Raburn**. They will talk about vision, policy and the future of Bay Area mobility.

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

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

The graphic features a large blue gear-like shape on the right side. Inside the gear, there's a yellow square with the text "BART" in black and "ba" in blue. Below this, there are two circular portraits of men. At the bottom left of the gear, there's a small blue square with the word "zoom" and the text "OPTION AVAILABLE". To the right of the gear, there's text that reads: "Rotary Club of Oakland - # 3", "OAKLAND ROTARY THURSDAY CLUB MEETING", "CALIFORNIA BALLROOM", "1736 FRANKLIN ST, 2ND FLR, OAKLAND", "BART Directors", "Victor Flores & Robert Raburn", "Thursday, September 18, 2025", "Networking: 12:00 PM", "Meeting: 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM". There's also a small "UNITE FOR GOOD" logo.

Rotary Meeting Highlights for September 4, 2025

Call to Order

President Goralka, affectionately known as Coach Joe, opened the meeting by reminding us that we are the 3rd Rotary out of over 45,000 clubs.

Rotarians had a great time with family and friends at our picnic at Lake Temescal. Coach Joe thanked our two superstars, **Past President Tom Limon** and **Mark Rosen** for coordinating yet another fabulous event.

Visiting Rotarians and Guests

Thanks to all Rotarians who brought visitors to the meeting. It's a great way to spread the word about Rotary.

Thought for the Day – Rick Baskin

Rick Baskin (himself a blues guitarist) gave two Thoughts for the Day centering on art and music. Quoting Pablo Picasso: "All children are artists; the problem is to remain an artist when you grow up". **Rick** surprised us with a few bars on his harmonica and ended by saying, "Music brings joy to life"

In Memoriam – Hung Wei

On a sad note, **President Joe** announced the passing of past District 5170 Governor **Hung Wei** from lung cancer. Rotarians had a moment of silence in her memory.

In Memoriam – Jerry Wendt

Past President Jerry Wendt passed away recently as well. **Past President Michael Bruck** gave a tribute to **Jerry** who was

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

Karl Stucki World Community Service
August 12 – 5 – 6 pm

Business Development
August 12 – 5 – 6 pm

Fun, Sport & Adventure
August 12 – 6:00 – 7:15 pm

Enterprise Institute
August 20 – 6:00 – 8:30 pm

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
August 25 – 5 – 6 pm

Birthday Greetings

Happy Birthday!
Celebrating are:

September
05 – Syd Saperstein
06 – Vera Hannush
07 – Nikki Lowy
08 – Dominique Enriquez
08 – Carey Clausen
10 – Nancy O'Malley
11 – Elle Fersan
13 – Gabe Bruck
17 – Janice Brickley
17 – Susan Smith
19 – Leslie Hilger
20 – Fred Mose
21 – Greg Gilbert
22 – Pat McMillan
22 – Trisha Connors
32 – Adam Tobin
24 – Erich Harris
24 – Will Hobbs Jr
25 – Sam Davis
27 – Ricka White
29 – Jesse Schmidt

our club President from 1986-1987. His tenure was marked by the induction of the first six women to join our club. **Jerry** had a rich life, he was a child actor, Cal Alum and Real Estate professional and he co-founded the Orinda Community Center. **Jerry** was a family man with 3 children and 8 grands. He will be missed.

Meeting Sponsor – Alexandra (Ali) Medina

Our meeting sponsor today was **Alexandria (Ali) Medina**, Executive Director of the Oakland Public Education Fund since 2020. The Oakland Public Education Fund (OPEF) has partnered with OUSD for over 20 years. They have raised over \$257 million for schools and programs to help students thrive. Their mission is to provide resources to improve Public Education in Oakland. During Covid they provided 27000 computers and 10,000 laptops to students.

Their many services include giving Supply Grants to new teachers, teacher training, funding field trips and providing emergency funds. There are many volunteer opportunities. They range from participating in a one-time event to having a regularly scheduled volunteer opportunity.

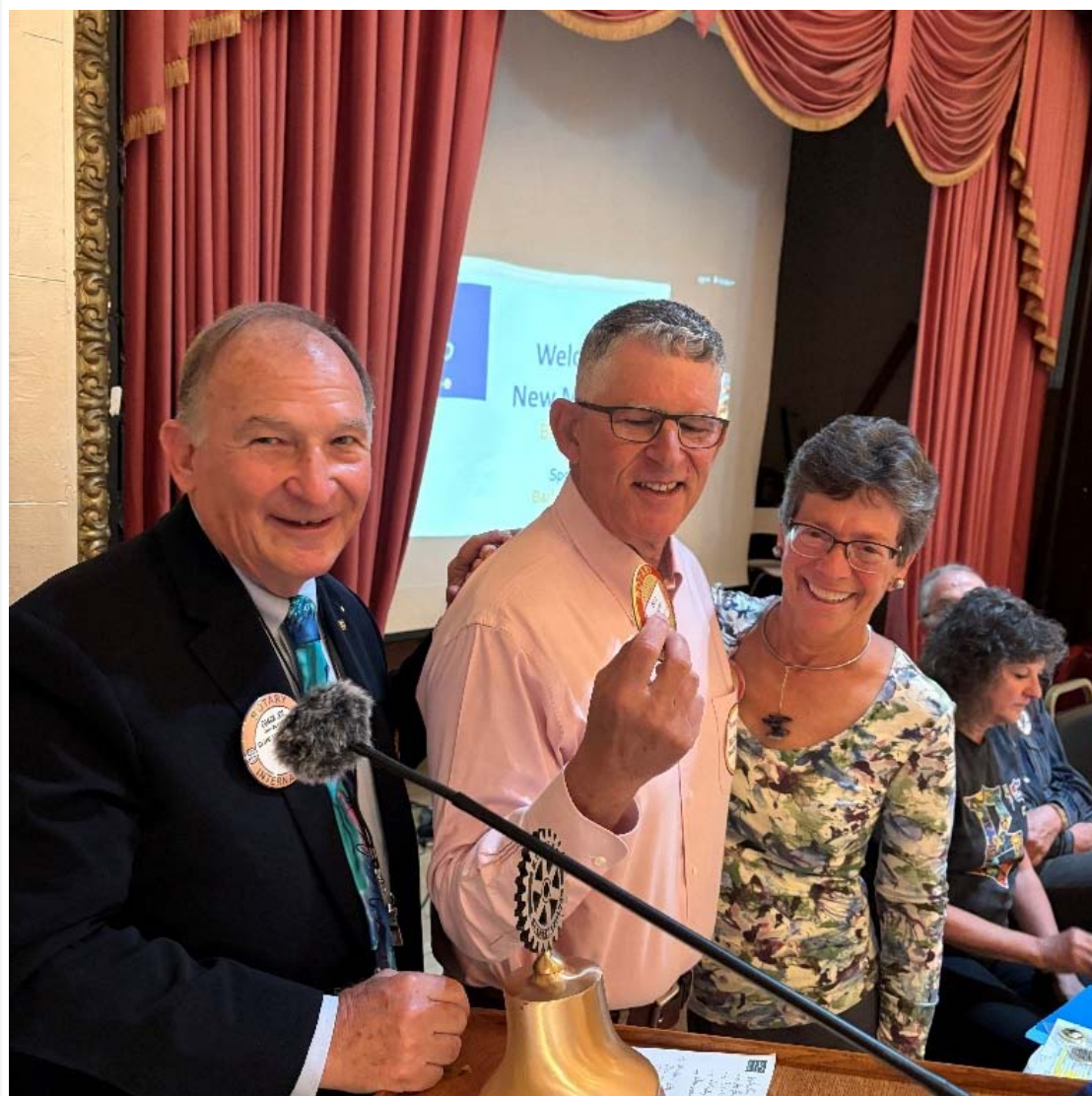
OPEF's upcoming fundraiser, The Oakland Grown Festival is on October 18th. They are looking for sponsors and volunteers. If you would like more information, contact **Ali** at alexandria@oaklandfund.org.

Self Introduction – Marie Alderete

New member **Marie Alderete** gave her three-minute introduction. **Marie** and her husband owned Luka's Taproom in Oakland for over 18 years. During Shelter in Place, they started a program to feed the unhoused. Their new nonprofit, Community Kitchen, was born from this. Their mission is to ensure everyone in Oakland has access to a hot, nutritious meal every day. **Marie** joined Rotary to find ways to give young adults the same opportunities she has had.

New Member Induction – Bill Swartz

Barbary Beery introduced new member **Bill Swartz**. **Bill** spent his last 38 years working in the video game industry. At the time of his retirement, he was President of a video game company. **Bill** has lived in many places including Japan and Africa. He will be working with our club to revive our Speech Contest. Welcome **Bill**!



World Community Service & International Projects

Barbara Beery of the World Service Committee shared with us the many travel opportunities Rotarians have by working on

our international projects. We have had our club members participate in projects in Medellin, Columbia, Nepal, Guatemala, and Tanzania. To see a list of available projects to work on go to the RI website. **Barbara** can also put you in touch with contacts for various projects.

President Joe presented **Barbara Beery** and **Dana Sack** with Rotary on the Run Medals. **Barbara's** medal was in appreciation for all of her Rotary work. **Dana's** medal was for helping provide two cars for the Fourth of July parade.

Event Announcements

Kymberly Miller invited us to the 75th Anniversary of Children's Fairland on September 11th at 5 pm.



Off-site Meeting
Children's Fairyland Turns 75
Celebrate 75 years of magic and imagination at Oakland's beloved Children's Fairyland.
Thursday, September 11, 2025
🕒 5:00 PM 📍 699 Bellevue Ave, Oakland
Rotary Club of Oakland - #3
UNITE FOR GOOD

Past President Tom Limon is looking for volunteers to man our booth at Oaktoberfest on October 4th and 5th. Volunteer shifts are 4 hours. You can choose either Saturday or Sunday or volunteer both days. An added benefit is that you will be able to sample the many Craft Beers that will be on hand.

Speaker for the Day — David Gans

C J Hirshfield took the podium to introduce David Gans, the ultimate expert on all things about the Grateful Dead.

If you're a Dead Head, you certainly enjoyed hearing from David Gans. David is a musician, songwriter and music journalist and spent many years travelling with the band. He is co-author of the book *Playing in the Band, An Oral History of the Grateful Dead*. He is also working on a second book. David also hosts a weekly syndicated show, *The Grateful Dead Hour*. A fun fact – David shared is that the Grateful Dead was known for changing up their music at their Live Concerts. This is compared to many other groups who play the same music the same way at each concert. This is what made them unique.



Bellringers

Joe Goralka, Ruth Stroup, Ces Butner, Mary Geong, and Dudley Thompson rang the bell in memory of Hung Wei.

Michael Bruck, Joe Goralka, Ken Thompson, Shannon Hackley, Ces Butner, Rick Draper and Dudley Thompson rang the bell in memory of **Jerry Wendt**.

Adjournment

President Joe adjourned the meeting at 1:29 pm, reminding everyone that through Rotary world peace will come someday and we will end Polio too. "Look Out – Oakland Rotary is on the Run".