

Rotary

Club of Oakland 3



**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**

Rotary

Club Meeting

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?

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?

Live Oak

Next Club Meeting – July 24, 2025 – David Hunt – Prescott Circus Theatre

Robert Raburn announced that our keynote speaker will be David Hunt, the Executive and Artistic Director of the Prescott Circus Theatre. **Robert** said we're sure to learn about all the fun that adults and kids have when attending this action-packed Circus. So, bring a guest(s).



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 July 17, 2025

Call to Order

At 12:30 sharp and with great aplomb, **President Joe Goralka** started his first regular meeting. He reminded us that Club No. 3 was born in 1909 and that it excels in fostering the exchange ideas, good fellowship, and working together to do good in our community and the world.

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
RCOWeCareCommittee@gmail.com

The password is Rotary\$9453

2025 Annual Club Survey – Share Your Thoughts

All members received an email from Jesse Bowdle asking our help to shape the future of the Club.

Don't delay – if you can't find Jesse's email which contains the link, please contact him.

Deadline for information is August 2.

Birthday Greetings

Happy Birthday!

Celebrating are:

July

04 – Lois Corrin

05 – Iris Brody Lopez

08 – Allison Bliss

08 – Marc Lipsett



Meeting Sponsor – Dan Cardenas – The Oakland Hills Campus

Today's sponsor was The Oakland Hills Campus, the new name of the former Holy Names University, that was acquired by BH Properties. **Dan Cardenas**, the Director of Campus Operations, told us about the Campus' features, which include a 389-seat theater, spacious class and conference rooms, a library, a first-rate basketball gym, and other facilities. The Campus, which occupies 60 acres, is set in the midst of landscaped open spaces that blend well with the surrounding woods. Although the new owner wishes to carry on the academic tradition of Holy Names, **Dan** said that only a portion of the Campus has been leased so far by academic tenants. So, they're now in the hunt for non-academic tenants, and, in particular, film production companies that can put the Campus to good use for movie scenes. To learn more, **Dan** invited us to attend a reception that will take place at the Campus on August 14 from 5:00 to 8:00 pm. The Campus will also be hosting a pediatric cancer fund-raiser for Stanford Medical Center at its theater on September 14. The Campus is located at 3500 Mountain Blvd, close to the Redwood Road exit off of the Highway 13 Freeway.

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

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



You and your business too can be a meeting sponsor. **Pres. Joe** explained that this terrific marketing opportunity to promote business or an event can be had for a mere \$300!

Guests and Visiting Rotarians

Because of the many guests and visitors, including Martha Goralka, President of the Delta Antioch Club, **Pres. Joe** asked them to stand and receive a welcoming ovation.

Thought for the Day – Moya Robinson

For her inspiring Thought, **Moya Robinson** quoted Nelson Mandela's wise exhortation that "Everything is impossible, until it is done!"

Speaker for the Day—Patti Poppe

Sarah Chavez-Yoell introduced our speaker, Patti Poppe, the CEO of Pacific Gas & Electric Corporation. PG&E is one of the largest investor-owned utilities in the U.S. as shown by its workforce of 23,000 employees who carry out its primary business—the transmission and delivery of energy. The company provides natural gas and electric service to approximately 16 million people throughout a 70,000-square-mile service area in northern and central California.

Ms. Poppe's upbeat theme was the California is a front-runner in the clean energy revolution and that the best way to put a big dent in the global warming crisis is to electrify the economy as much as possible, which means maximizing demand for electricity and expanding the generation/distribution infrastructure. She reminded us that the cost of electricity was very high at the outset of the industry but declined as more homes were connected to the grid and more electric appliances were produced. The same is true today and the foreseeable future: As the demand for electricity rises by electrifying more cars and other appliances, including heavy volume uses for data

centers and AI, this rising scale will yield lower per customer retail costs while generating more revenue for financing grid and other infrastructure expansion. Ms. Poppe declared that this is happening now and will accelerate. Thus far in 2025 electric rates have been holding flat, and she is confident that they will remain stable through 2030 and may in fact decline. The upshot is that “we can save the planet and save money at the same time.”

PG&E has also been making headway with respect to safety. Ms. Poppe acknowledged that the company’s power line undergrounding project is costly, but that the cost of conventional vegetation management (i.e. tree trimming and dry undergrowth removal) is significantly higher even with the efficiencies of using drones and AI. The company’s upgrading initiatives have also made “brownout” rationing a thing of the past. Today, PG&E produces more power than we need. To illustrate her point, Ms. Poppe showed a picture of a large array of back-up storage batteries that occupy what used to be the Moss Landing natural gas driven power plant. More storage will become available when PG&E begins tapping into the excess power stored in electric car batteries. The company has also made significant progress in safeguarding its workers. When Ms. Poppe started in 2021, a work-related death occurred every few days. In contrast, there have been no fatalities over the last 896 days.

PG&E supports the continued reliance on nuclear power as a supplemental, carbon-free means of power generation. In fact, Ms. Poppe said that the Company is planning to apply for a new 20-year license for the Diablo Canyon plant.

Ms. Poppe received a loud ovation for her talk and was very grateful for the Polio-Plus donation that **Pres. Joe** said the Club will be making in her honor.



New Member Induction – Marissa Betts

Past President Jack McAboy sponsored and introduced our newest member, **Marissa Betts**, the granddaughter of members **Past President Carla Betts** and her late husband **Ken Betts** who together account for 83 years of club membership. **Jack** said **Marissa** is a star in the family business, having risen to the rank of Vice President of Ken Betts Inc. She has also starred as a Piedmont High School female rugby player and as a dazzling ballet dancer in Oakland Ballet's performance of the Nutcracker. With pleasure, **Pres. Joe** presented **Marissa** her new badge, pin, Four-Way Test, and other goodies including an Oakland Rotary cap. Welcome **Marissa**!

Joe's face beamed even brighter when the members (listed below) rang the bell in **Marissa's** honor.



Fourth of July Piedmont Parade

Past President Michael Bruck came to the podium to recap the Club's participation in this year's Piedmont July 4th Parade. Many Rotarians and their guests attended -- some on bikes, others driving their classic or otherwise used cars. The main contingent, including **Past President Carla Betts** (a former Parade Czar) and **Kathy Kelleher** (current Parade Czar), rode in a large truck from which they waved, hooted, and threw treats to the bystanders. **Pres. Joe Goralka** was the driver and managed to stay between the curbs on his first foray as a parade contestant. And our group walked away holding the coveted "Piedmont Highland Spoon Trophy" for service and creativity.

Rotary On The Run Medals

Pres. Joe presented shining Rotary on the Run medals to **Mark Rosen** for his successful leadership of our Piedmont 4th of July outing and to **Past Pres. Jack McAboy** for his sponsorship of **Marissa Betts**.

Bellringers

Alex Poulsen, Jack McAboy, Kathy Kelleher, Carla Betts, Joe Goralka, and Michael Bruck rang the bell for **Marissa Betts**.

Mary Rudser (2) rang the bell for **Marissa Betts** and former member Pat Young.

Rick Draper's (2) rang the bell for **Marissa Betts** as well as **Jack McAboy**.

Pam Claassen (2) rang the bell for **Marissa Betts** and Patti Poppe.

Shannon Hackley (2) rang the bell for **Marissa Betts** and **Mark Rosen**.

Adjournment

President Joe adjourned his first meeting at 1:29 pm, reminding everyone to “Look Out – Oakland Rotary is on the Run”.