



Woodland Sunrise Wake Up Call



Wake Up Call

WOODLAND SUNRISE ROTARY WHERE WE PUT SUNSHINE IN YOUR LIFE!

Notes by: **Jon Lindstrom**
January 23, 2025

Welcome with presiding **President Pomeroy**; flag Salute led by **Greg Stille**; **Sunrise Singers** with **Jim Hilliard** and company. Yes, the SINGETTES were just wonderful.



Guests: Visiting Rotarian Woodland Noon's **Ken Stroski**. This is straight from Mr. Microphone even though his name is **Dan**. Even I knew that one! I think we need to bring back the PowerPoint [this is Jon Lindstrom's opinion, FYI]. Also, **Woody Fridae** from the Rotary Club of Winters and District Governor Nominee, and **Dave Wilkinson**, our speaker today.

Speakers

January 30, 2025

[Lizette Navarette, President, Woodland Community College](#)
WCC - Updates and Progress

February 06, 2025

[Josh Flushman, senior Associate, Athletics Dir of Football](#)

UC Davis Football

February 13, 2025

[Ken Hiatt, City Manager, and Councilman Tom Stallard](#)
Woodlands High Tech Park

February 20, 2025

[Josh Pulley, Tiechert Construction](#)
West Sac to Davis I-80
Construction

Events

No Events found





PROGRAM: WOODLAND TREE FOUNDATION with Dave Wilkinson

Laurie Brignolo presented our speaker and introduced him to speak on the Woodland Tree Foundation.

Dave Wilkinson moved to Woodland in 1985. Professionally, Dave had a long career as an Economist and Community Development Specialist on historical things. He has authored a trilogy of books on Woodland and its culture. ***Crafting a Valley Jewel, Hollywood Comes to Woodland, Gertrude's Oaks,*** and finally he co-authored ***Explore Historic Woodland, a guidebook.***



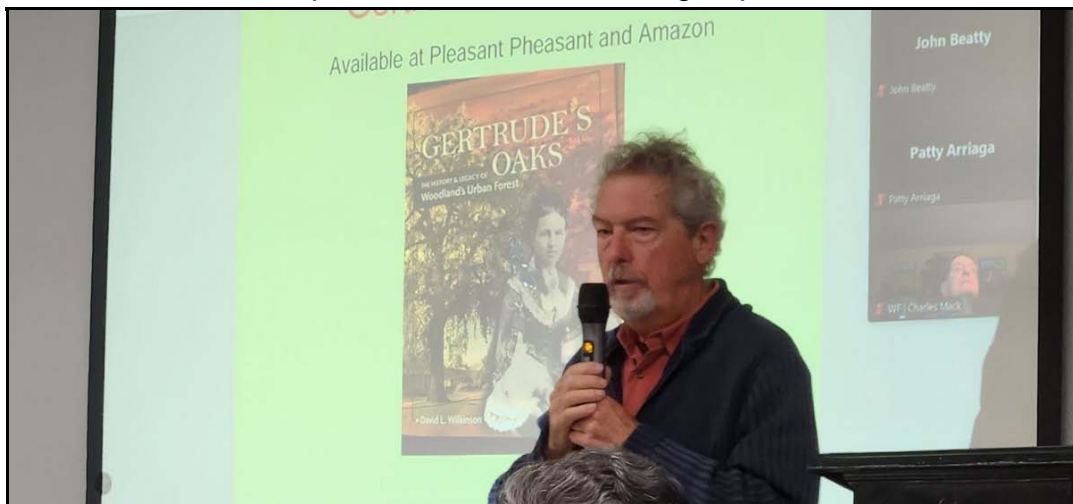
Jim Gillette is Dave's neighbor. I suppose you all wanted to know this. Mr. Wilkinson said that Woodland has such a history of oak trees as mentioned in his book *Gertrude's Oaks* mentioned here. During Woodland's formative years, entire oak woodlands surrounding what is today the old part of Woodland were scraped of its trees and other vegetation for farming. But some extraordinary trees survived. Now these trees are like nature's cathedrals, so awe-inspiring and utterly powerful. It really is a wonder how they managed to escape the proverbial woodpile of lesser oaks.

There are two giant king trees with a diameter of 7 feet and estimated to be 400 years old in Woodland. One of these primordial tree gods commands the sky at 304 Casa Linda Drive*. This tree is a stunning work of nature. Its specialness humbled the housing developer who instructed his civil engineer to route the street around instead of through it when Casa Linda Park was developed in the 1950s. Aside from the visionary work of engineer Mark Daniels to preserve as many oaks as possible in Beamer Park when he laid out that upscale enclave in 1913, moving a street in Woodland to preserve oaks was rare indeed.



100 years ago, we adopted the motto “City of Trees.” Woodland is not the only city of trees in California. The Tree Foundation was founded by a group of friends and neighbors 25 years ago, with the mission of planting and preserving trees around town.

The Foundation has performed a variety of projects over the years; the trees that line main streets and cross streets were planted by this group. At least 1000 trees have been planted as a result of this group's efforts.



If you need a shade tree, contact them. They will come out to deliver and plant for no charge. I am calling soon. I need some shade. Dave goes on to mention that they are “building community through canopy.”

The planting of trees is easy in Woodland, in part because the soil in Woodland is fantastic. These sandy soils have, over the years, been washed down from Cache Creek. Trees improve air quality, save energy and reduce urban heat. We need more trees in parking lots.

Dave said it takes 3 years to plant a tree, so if you order now, he said that it will be done in 3 years. I think this is from seed to 15-gallon size tree. Fact check me on this one. More info to come on this topic, read until the end please.

Also, the Foundation has gone

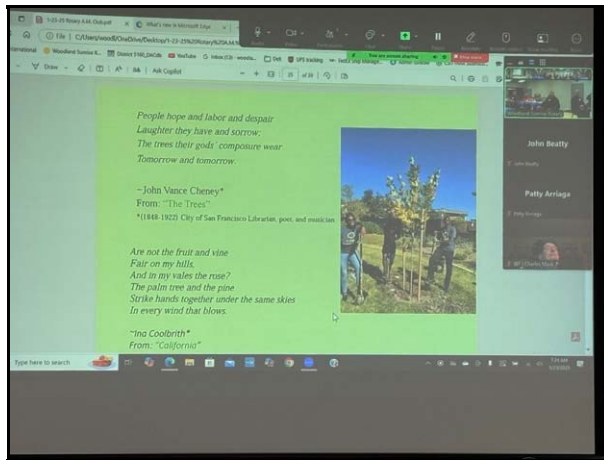


about the task of counting and mapping every oak over 12 inches in diameter in Woodland. There are only about 900 old growth oak trees left in the Woodland city limits. And homeowners have the right to remove trees. It is always a tragedy to lose an oak which took about 150 years to get to full maturity.

The tree at Casa Linda* was cut down, and it was discovered that that tree was approximately 300 years old. The Casa Linda oak dwarfed most trees by its sheer size and weight. Based upon its 81.8-inch diameter, 94-foot height, and extremely dense hardwood, Rolf Frankenbach of the Woodland Tree Foundation, using published data, calculated the specimen weighed 66.3 metric tons or 146,191 pounds. This is the equivalent of stacking up 47 Toyota Prius cars and weighing them. A tree this large has been storing carbon for centuries, which it extracts in the form of CO2 from Woodland's sky. Its woody biomass contains over 34,000 pounds of carbon, which means this single tree has absorbed in its lifetime 125,000 pounds of CO2, a greenhouse gas. With proper care, such a specimen could live another one hundred years.

Other Activities: The Foundation sponsors **Poetry under the Oaks** at City Park. Mr. Wilkinson ended his remarks with a couple of poems. Nicely worded.

People hope and labor and despair,
 Laughter, they have and sorrow,
 The trees their gods' composure wear,
 Tomorrow and tomorrow.

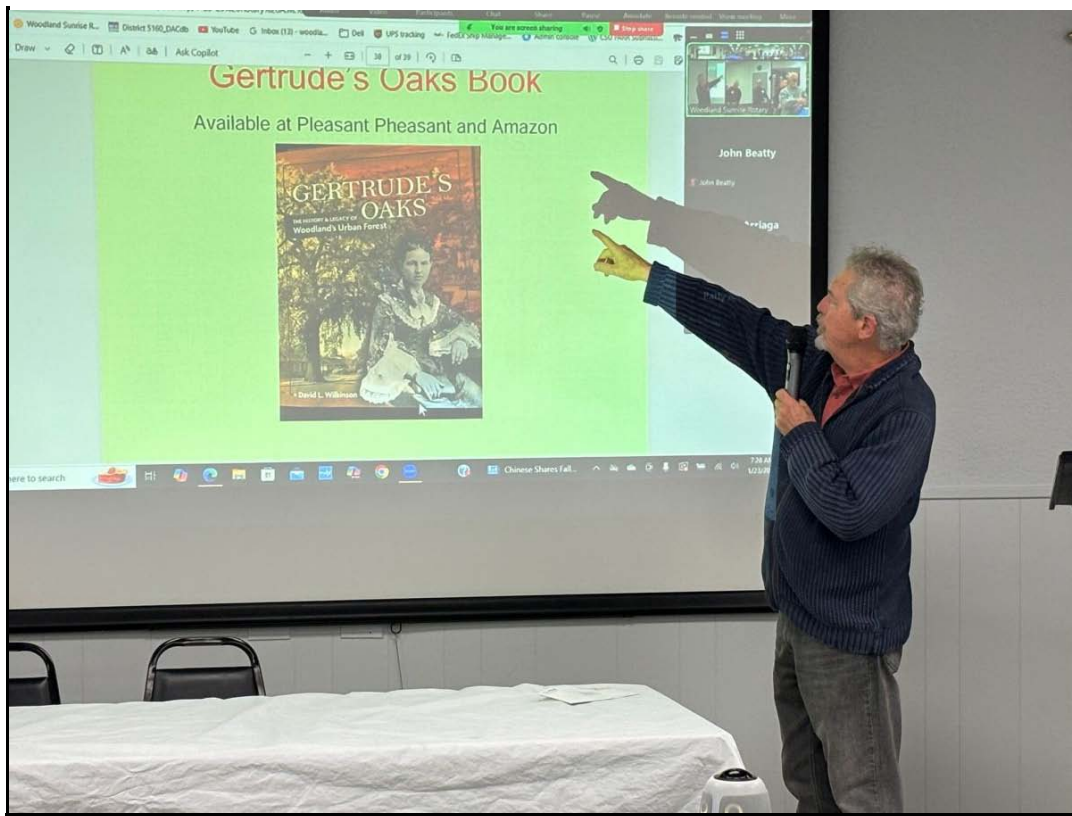


Also,

Are not the fruit and vine
 Fair on my hills,
 And in my vales the rose?
 The palm tree and the pine
 Strike hands together under the same skies
 In every wind that blows.

Just an FYI, **Gertrude's Oaks** is available at Pleasant Pheasant bookstore and on Amazon. What is the best time to order? Order now and you will have it by 4 am tomorrow from your friendly Amazon delivery person driving a Prius with his stereo blasting. Just a hunch.

The best time to plant a tree? Is 20 years ago. Now that was a good one



Questions? I suppose someone asked, “When is Arbor Day”? Arbor day, April 25th.

Greg Stille asked if Gertrude’s first choice was Oakland? There are lots of cities in California with tree names, that would be a good research topic, said Mr. Wilkinson.

President Pomeroy is bugging me right now; he wanted to make sure I got the “best time to plant a tree” duh... 20 years ago!

Robyn Drivon asked what effect is the drought having on oaks? She walks along Cache Creek and sees many dead trees. No answer yet. Kinda sounded like a politician.

Larry Peterson: We moved here in '75. For those young folks this means 1975, The Modesto Ash was in their yard. What happened to them? Answer: They seem to have gone away. Why? They were popular in the '50s, but now arborists just think there are better trees that could be planted. Again, it sounded a bit like a guy running for office. And there are hybrid trees becoming more and more common.

Keith Rode: He recalls planting trees when his daughter was little. Now he sees a tree that was planted 13 years ago regularly when taking her to school. Now that is a cool story! Mr. Wilkinson said that his group does manage to get some saplings to grow from acorns to trees. There are nurseries in Dixon and the Bay Area that they can purchase natives from in 15-gallon pots.

The life cycle of an Oak Tree:

Germination: Oak trees start as acorns and take weeks to germinate.

Sapling Stage: The sapling stage lasts several years, during which the tree grows and develops its roots and canopy.

Maturity: Once it reaches maturity, the oak tree continues to grow and produce acorns for hundreds of years.

Phil Marler asked about the oaks along Highway 113? The Woodland Tree Foundation has been planting trees there for years? Call Cal Trans. Start the bureaucratic red tape now. You could probably start planting a tree in 20 years.

Dennis Miller: When planting a

tree out front of your home, it is best to call the hotline USA Underground to make sure you don't have something running underground.

Byron MacConnell: Who was planting the legacy grove at the Community Center? The Woodland Tree Foundation has assisted loved ones who can buy a stone to honor city folks. I am not sure if that was a question, or Byron was just on his game today. There is also the project at Ferns Park where a grove is getting refurbished in the Northeast corner.



Thank you, David Wilkinson and book signing.

President Pomeroy invited Dan Stroski to speak about ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE.

Dan Stroski shared that the primary goal of Rotary Youth Exchange is to provide young people with opportunities to experience a cultural exchange and to develop as leaders who promote peace and justice around the world. To achieve this, everyone involved in an exchange, including students and volunteers — must be open-minded, tolerant, and supportive of one another.

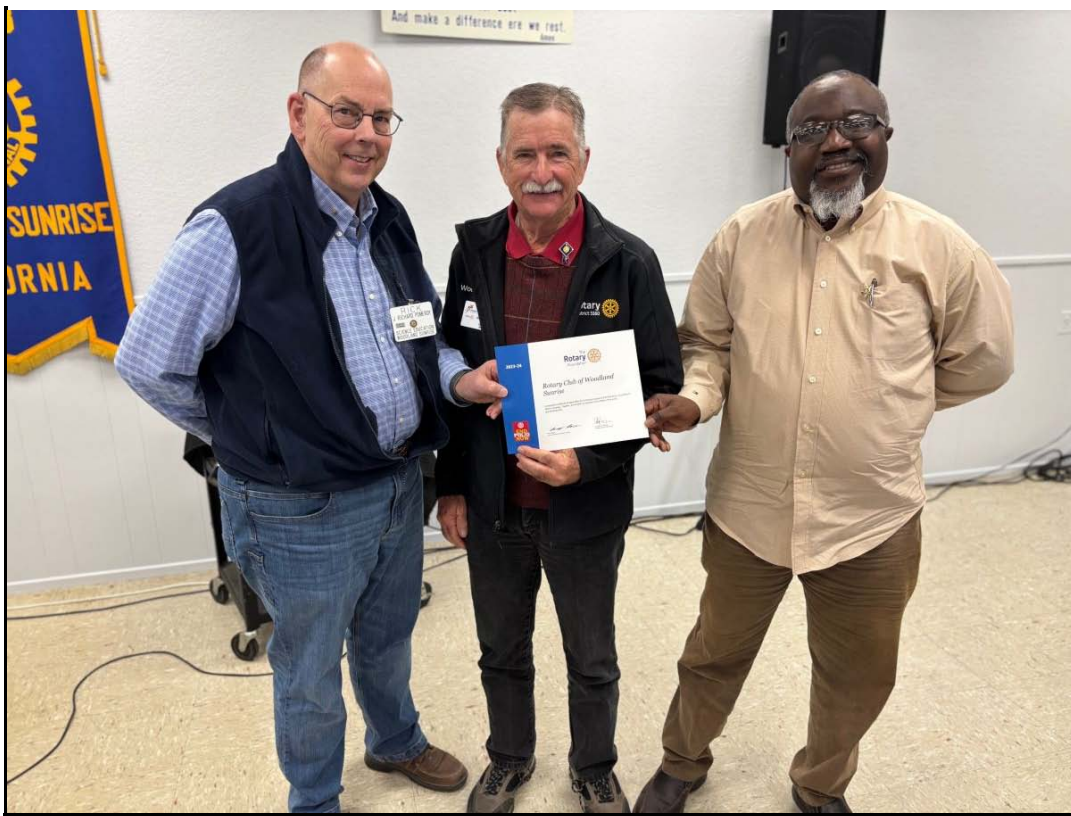


Dan shared that Jasmina was one student he remembered fondly. She came into his home as an exchange student from Germany and was so outgoing that she even gave a program of her own at Dan's Rotary club. During her exchange, Jasmina stayed about 9 months in all with the Stroski family. Rotary allows family stays from 3 months to 4.5 months; usually, two families per school year. Dan now owns a pair of Birkenstocks as a result of Jasmina's stay.



Dan shared the last paragraph of one of Jasmina's personal statements, "All I have to say is, if you are thinking about hosting a student, do it. You may not get the same exceptional bond that I have with them. I really do call them my parents, and they are not spared phone calls anytime I need advice or get homesick (because their house is my home and I miss it every day), but you will have an experience that will undoubtedly shape the way you look at life and other cultures." One way or another, Dan finished with a plea for WSR members to consider hosting or participating in Youth Exchange however that may be possible.

President Pomeroy shared that he saw **Bob Hulbert** doing trash pickup while wearing Rotarian at Work shirt. Good Role Model, Bob is!



President Pomeroy handed the microphone to **Woody Fridae**. Woody shared that he is always happy to visit Woodland Sunrise Rotary and today presented to our club on behalf of Polio Plus a certificate of commendation! We are in the top 10 percent of all clubs in the district. (That may be better than our attendance!?)

RAFFLE with Don Sharp

Don Sharp said that we need to get the raffle done; hey that's the main reason I show up! **Woody Fridae** drew the winning gold ticket which belonged to **Wayne Ginsburg**. **Wayne** won a free breakfast, so he is eating on the house next week. The pot is now almost \$1,000 – someone may be lucky next week.

Wayne Ginsburg led the 4-way test. BELL.

OUR MORAL COMPASS

FOUR-WAY TEST

of things we think, say, or do



Rotary



Is it the **TRUTH**?



Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?



Will it build **GOODWILL** & **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?



Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?



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