

# Rotary



## Club of Merced

### Club Meeting

Merced  
Meets at Merced Elks Lodge  
1910 M Street  
Merced, CA 95340  
Time: Wednesday at 12:00 PM

### Club Leaders



Cyril L. Lawrence  
President



Barbara Ward  
President-Elect



Brenda J. Callahan-Johnson  
Secretary



Jorge Cisneros  
Treasurer



Clark Kellogg  
Sergeant-at-Arms



Susan Coston  
Youth Services Chair



James G. Marshall  
Rotary Foundation Chair



Laura Fong  
Membership Chair



David P. Spangler  
Attendance Secretary



Steve M. Tietjen  
iPast President

### Merced Rotary - Wednesday, June 4, 2025 - Adam Amaral, Merced County OES

Merced Rotary meets this Wednesday, June 4, 2025, at the Elks Lodge. We will have lunch at noon and some good fellowship with friends. Our speaker this week is Adam Amaral, Manager of the Merced County Office of Emergency Services. Come join us and bring a friend.

Adam Amaral began his career with the State of California in 2002 as a Firefighter with CAL FIRE. In 2008, Adam was promoted to a Company Officer with Madera, Mariposa, and Merced Unit. While working for CAL FIRE, Adam was a member of two Type 1, Incident Management Teams and a member of the Merced County Hazardous Materials team. In 2017 Adam obtained a position with Cal OES as a State Emergency Manager (ESC) in Region II Coastal Region. A year later, Adam was promoted to Senior State Emergency Manager (SESC) and temporarily filled the acting Deputy Regional Administrator position for Coastal Response Operations for one year. During his tenure with Cal OES, Adam was deployed to nine Federal declared disasters in the state.

Adam holds a Bachelor's degree in Public Administration, is an Emergency Management Specialist and a State/Federal instructor for Cal OES/CSTI/FEMA, teaching various Hazardous Materials and Emergency Management courses.

Adam was the Cal OES Region II Emergency Management training and exercise coordinator, which supported 12 Operational areas with training and exercise development. Adam currently sits on the State SEMS Advisory Committee as the lead subject matter expert to the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) working group and is the Region V SEMS Advisory Board Member.



### Last Week at Merced Rotary - May 28, 2025

Last week at Merced Rotary, President Cyril announced that we had 26 members and guests at Hi-Fi Wine for last month's evening social. A very nice social event, good time for everyone.

Recognitions and fines: Barb Ward, May 30 will be her 39th wedding anniversary; Bill Spriggs May 31 will be his 40th wedding anniversary. No fines given for anniversaries this week, very generous of our president.

The weekly quiz questions were 1) In May, what kind of cheese do they annually roll down Cooper's Hill in the UK - Brie cheese, Double Gloucester, or Carlsberg? Curtis Riggs was fined \$20 for two incorrect guesses, answer was Double Gloucester. 2) John Price was asked: What kind of medieval dance is held in May? He correctly answered the May Pole dance. 3) Neil Morse - What May horse race is run every year? He correctly answered the Kentucky Derby. 4) Matt Hoffman - what is the international distress call? Matt guessed SOS, but it is "May Day", which comes from the French phrase "m'aider," which translates to "help me", and has nothing to do with the month of May. 5) Clark Kellogg was fined \$35 for his new car, a Porsche Cayenne. He was asked what month has the greatest number of letters. May is the shortest with 3. Clark guessed December and was fined an additional \$20. The correct answer was September. Clark gave President Cyril a gift from Bucky's in Atlanta GA, Bacon and Cheese Crick-Ettes. His fine, surprisingly, was not increased.



Our speaker was Eric Serrato, Director of the Merced County Office of Workforce Development, which oversees WorkNet and other workforce programs. Eric grew up in Modesto and came back to be



## Events

June 27th

[Merced Rotary Kick Out](#)

## Speakers

**June 04, 2025**

[Adam Amaral](#)

Merced County Office of  
Emergency Services

**June 11, 2025**

[Steve Jacobs, MD](#)

Update on Rotary Polio Efforts

**June 18, 2025**

[Steve Teitjen](#)

Merced County Office of  
Education

**June 25, 2025**

[No Meeting Today](#)

**June 27, 2025**

[President Cyril Lawrence Kick Out  
Dinner](#)

## Birthdays

Joy Alexander

June 3rd

## Wedding Anniversaries

Laura Fong

June 7th

Rick Marchini

June 9th

Cyril L. Lawrence

June 15th

## Years of Service

Laura Fong

06-15-2023

2 Years

closer to family. From a workforce perspective Merced County is fascinating to look at and explore. What jobs do people have and how can we move them into higher-paying jobs? The

department gathers information to give employers, educators, and workers, and facilitates interaction between companies, their jobs and workers in our economy.

Erick presented several statistics on our county's job economy. Merced County's unemployment rate is currently 11%. The lowest recorded was 6% in Sept 2019 and Sept 2022, the highest was 26% in 1994. The years in between have seen the closure of Castle Air Force Base, the recession of 2008 and 2009, and the healing of our economy in the years after. The opening of UC Merced has been the catalyst to improve the employment opportunities for our workers. Our county is known as an Ag economy. Breaking it up into job sectors, from a workforce lens, Ag is 10% of all jobs, and the public sector including education is 17%. The number of jobs in Ag is declining because of automation. Today, UC Merced is our largest and fastest growing employer in the county. We are becoming a UC Merced county from a job sector standpoint. Other job sectors are Transportation 3%, Manufacturing 8%, and Healthcare 11%. The way to move our economy forward is manufacturing; to use the talent and skills we have and are developing to manufacture better, high value products.

Each year, we graduate roughly 4,000 high school students, plus 2,000 from Merced College and 2,000 from UC Merced. Merced County does not have enough jobs to absorb these graduates. We are seeing a greater number of college graduates staying in Merced and competing for jobs that require a high school diploma. An increase in engineering firms, technology firms, and manufacturing companies would help with this job compaction.

Our marble game ticket went to Barb Ward, but no marble this time. President Cyril recognized Kent Floro on his new grandson. Club members gifted \$166.00 for the start of a college fund.

---