

# 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

### Merced Rotary - Friday, June 27, 2025 - Kick Out

Merced Rotary will Kick Out our 2024-2025 president, Cyril Lawrence, this Friday, June 27, 2025, at the home of IPP Steve Tietjen. Come for dinner and fellowship as we have fun looking back at President Cyril's year.

What: ROTARY KICK OUT

Where: Steve and Becky Tietjen's Home  
5972 Phoenician Ct, Merced, CA

When: June 27, 2025, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

Early arrivals can help with set up.

RSVP with number of guests to Barb Ward, text 209-617-7592.

No Wednesday Noon Meeting this week or next week.



### Last Week at Merced Rotary - June 18

Merced Rotary met last week at the Elk's Lodge, had a wonderful lunch and some fun with our outgoing president. In his last meeting of the year, President Cyril Lawrence led the club through his binder full of notable events and puzzlers to stump members. Supposedly, this was only one of several binders accumulated over the year. Many club members wondered where the binders were stored and who would receive them after his reign was over.

Meeting Notes: Visiting Rotarian Bud Gantney from Merced Sunrise gave us an update on Danica, she started a new job working in Stanislaus County. Bud was fined \$20 for a story about a dog dropped on his doorstep. Brenda Callahan-Johnson brought a gift back from Harvard, a water bottle for President Cyril. Mary passed out the programs for 2025-2026 Rotary year. Please let her know when you book your speaker, and also if you want to switch dates on your program. Laura Fong was recognized for a 28 year wedding anniversary, . John Price was recognized for years of service, for 32 years.

Questions to stump club members: Don Bragonier was asked when the June tennis tournament in England was established. He was close at 1890, but it was 1877, in Wimbledon, \$20 fine. Laura Fong was questioned what was the name of the Roman goddess from which June was named. She correctly answered Juno, no fine. Mary Camper was asked what woman was fined for voting in the US Presidential Election on June 6, 1872. She correctly answered Susan B. Anthony, no fine. David Dunham was asked which patriot in June 1775 said: "I only regret that I have but one life to give for my country." David's incorrect answer was Patrick Henry, \$15 fine. Nathan Hale was correct, answered by our "student of history" Steve Tietjen. Clark Kellogg was asked what hotel was raided on June 17, 1972, while Richard Nixon was president. Clark correctly answered "Watergate" for no fine.



iPast  
President

## Events

June 27th  
[Merced Rotary Kick Out](#)

## Speakers

June 25, 2025  
[No Meeting Today](#)

June 27, 2025  
[President Cyril Lawrence Kick Out Dinner](#)

## Birthdays

Thomas J. Wilkins  
June 26th

## Wedding Anniversaries

David P Spangler  
July 3rd

## Years of Service

John E. Price CR,  
UDCP, LEED AP  
06-30-2000  
25 Years  
Jennifer Carter  
07-01-2024  
1 Year

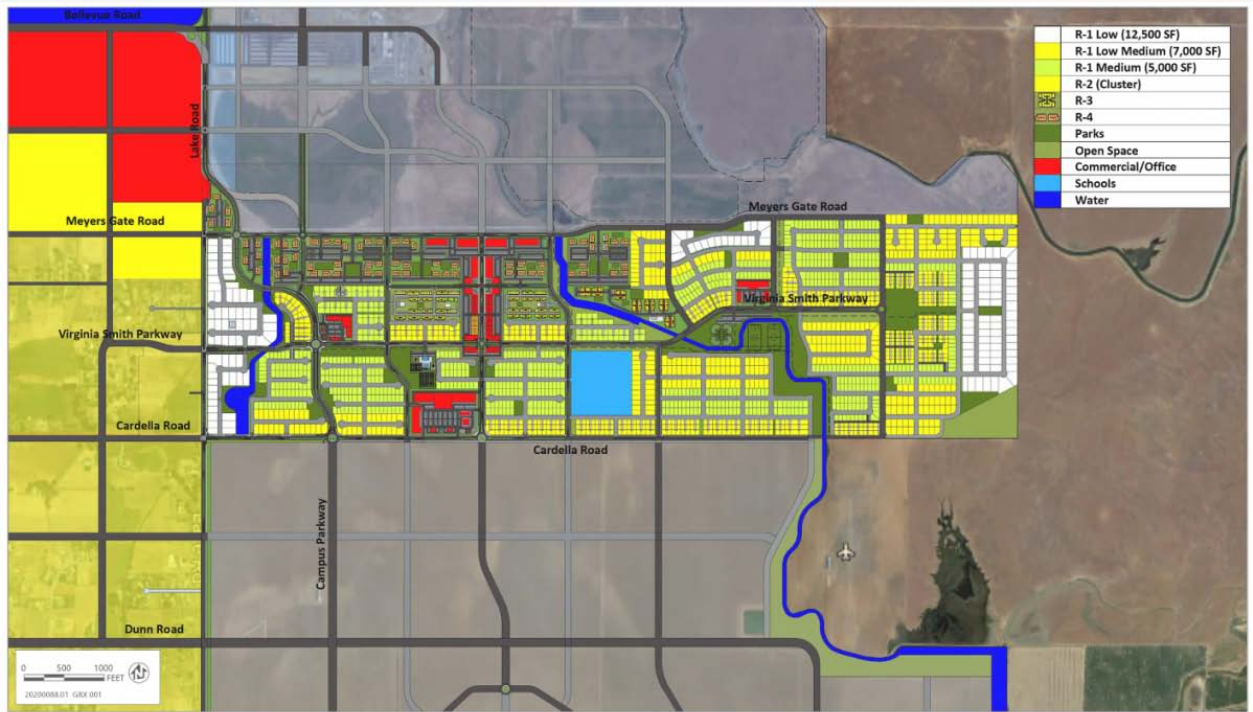


Figure 2 VST Specific Plan Land Use Diagram

Rotarian Steve Tietjen, Merced County Superintendent of Schools, gave a report on the Virginia Smith Trust (VST). Virginia Smith was the granddaughter of Cyril Smith, a prominent landowner in Merced County. She granted her inherited land to the students of Merced County. The land was put up as part of the plan to induce the new UC to come to Merced. In the trade of turning over the land to the UC, the county schools received 600 acres to develop. The goal is to have \$100 million in the bank for VST to use to grant scholarships to Merced County students. The county is willing to be the land bank and develop the land in phases. The first 80 acres will involve the completion of the sewer/water connections and the Campus Parkway, and will include mixed-use buildings, single-family and multifamily houses. VST is now in the selection phase of choosing a master developer.

## Merced Rotary - District Award for Top Fundraising Club



Merced Rotary was recognized by Rotary District 5220 Past District Governor Waqar Rizvi at the recent District Business Meeting on June 7, 2025. Receiving the award are President-Elect Barb Ward and Secretary Brenda Callahan-Johnson. The club had the highest per member giving of \$426.00 for the Rotary Foundation.

Thanks to all for your support of the Rotary Foundation. The club had its annual wine auction in November plus some large donor gifts this year.

Every gift makes a difference, and all are appreciated.

