

Our American Girl



Ann Hively introduce our Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE) student, **Francesca Caniglia**. Because **Francesca** is from Italy, Ann gave her an Italian introduction. This is the second presentation that Francesca has made to the club; her first presentation was made soon after she arrived in Orangevale.

Francesca put on her bejeweled RYE jacket prior to beginning her talk, which was accompanied by favorite photos of her year. The jacket explains her exchange. She had to buy the jacket before her exchange began and a year later it is cover with pins that she collected from the other exchange students. She also attached items that held special memories for her such as her Disneyland ticket.



Francesca's Exchange Year

Francesca dreamt about going on an exchange for two years because she really wanted to go on one. Her parents were reluctant for her to leave for a year and an exchange to the United States made them nervous. When Francesca traveled to France, it was only two hours away while the USA was on the other side of the world!

Date	Friday, June 22, 2018
Speaker	Kristen Miller – with heart project
Greeters	David Paige and Mike McKibbin
Invocation	Dick Nadler
Prospector	Bud Walmer

One upon a time...

Francesca loves fairy tales and she thinks that life is very beautiful thing. She wants her live her life as a fairy tale and make it come true. Her exchange started on June 29, 2017, as a little girl with her jacket and badge...



Francesca cried the night before she left her home, but she didn't cry at the airport in front of her family. She arrived in Sacramento after 23 hours of travel and her first family met there along with Rotarians from the club.

When she went to Casa Roble High School, her new school, she met her counselor who she bonded with immediately. She loved her time at Casa but it was very hard to make friends. The people/teenagers had their own groups of friends and she was new to the school and shy.

At first Francesca didn't have friends. She decided she would have to walk up to people and introduce herself. Some didn't know how to react and just said, "OK". It was awkward at first. Eventually she made friends and many of them were seniors. Her first and best friends were the other inbound and outbound RYE students because it was easy to share their similar experiences.

At school, she experienced her first dance when she went to the prom and it was a great experience. She went to see the River Cats, which was the first time she went to a baseball game. She went to Yosemite and Six-Flags Park. And she went to the Senior Ball. All firsts.

Host families

Three host families hosted Francesca and two of them were at the meeting to hear her talk. The Regan family was her first family. Their son Collin is an outbound RYE student to Sweden and Francesca got to meet him before he went on his exchange. Her host mother, Debbie, a Biology teacher, is in Sweden right now visiting Collin. Francesca shared a passion for cooking with her host sister, Kira, and they cooked together all the time.

Francesca moved in with the Shepherd family at Christmas time. Early on in her stay she remembered going with the family to an Escape Room and the idea scared her until she realized it was just a room and a challenge to solve the puzzle and escape the room.

She will never forget the biggest Christmas tree she had ever seen and all of the gifts under the tree. They family went together to a tree lot to pick out a fresh cut tree. In Italy, her family has a small fake tree!

Now she is living with the Rew family. Host parents Sharon and Brian took her and host sister Rachel to visit the University of Washington. Because Francesca is a Harry Potter fan, she was so impressed with the library that reminder her of the school of Hogwarts. She loved visiting Seattle.

The first time she went to a beach in California was on a visit to Stinson Beach. When she packed for her trip to America, she thought she was going to sunny California and she didn't bring winter clothes.

She wanted to surf in the ocean but when she went in the water she was surprised to find out that the water was very cold.

San Francisco was one of her favorite cities and she likes a picture taken of her in the city. Her eyes are close and she looks like she is dreaming. On an RYE trip to San Francisco, she went to Alcatraz and thought it was fun.

Francesca toured the state capital and had her picture taken in her prom dress. She visited Lake Tahoe on New Years and it was the first time she saw snow and she got to try skiing.

Francesca was taken to a corn maze and she wondered on the way, what is a corn maze? She learned what it was when she got there and she had a fun time! She went on a trip to San Diego and spent time in beautiful Balboa Park.

When Francesca visited Disneyland, she loved it. Her favorite character is Daisy Duck and she was so happy that she got her picture take with Daisy!

The last RYE trip was a trip to Yosemite. The view from Glacier Point was beautiful. It was a good trip but sad. It was the last trip of the RYE year but it was fun.



More Adventures

Francesca found new passions. In her ceramics class, she made three sculptures. She had never worked with clay before and she loved it.

She never felt athletic but at Casa she was involved with several sports. She learned never to say No to anything. She was on the Golf team and she was a bad golfer but she will never forget when she made Par. On the swim team, she was never competitive. She came in last but eventually she won a heat! And she joined the soccer team!

Francesca was a participant in the Rotary speech contest and came in second. And she was awarded several honors at the Casa Roble award night.

Lesson Learned.

Francesca wasn't home sick. She learned that she didn't miss home; she missed her family. She can never say thank you enough to her family who let her go on this exchange.

She learned never to stop because it's hard. She learned to never give up. Stand by what you want, not what other want. She wasn't very confident when she arrived but she is 60% confident now.

Never say No – she tried three sports she had never played before and that is because she said yes! Don't be shy. She made friends when she decided not to be shy. Help others by sharing your experience. If I can do it, maybe they will try too.

*Make your life a dream,
and a dream a reality.*
- The Little Prince

Francesca is living her dream, a dream she built. Now she will go home and face a new reality.

Francesca has had many adventures and thanked her Italian family, her American host families, her counselor, and Rotary. Thank you for always being there for her. Thank you for everything and I'll miss you so much and I'll try not to cry.

President Tommy told Francesca that it was our pleasure to have her here. Thank you for sharing your year. He gave her an Orangevale Rotary coffee cup and a big hug.



Ann followed up Francesca's talk with a live auction with the proceeds to go to help fund Francesca's trips. First up was the "Old Lady in the Shoe" ceramic sculpture. It was sold for \$100 to Rob Auernig who gave it to Mairy Guthleben who started the bidding but kept getting out bid.



The second auction item was an Italian dinner prepared by Francesca and hosted by the Linda and Bryan Daniel. The people who signed up are Jeff Valtman, Bob Kurtz, Bud Walmer, Mairy Guthleben and the Daniels. It will be held on Tuesday, June 26 at 6pm.

Recap of the meeting – June 15, 2018

Visitors

- Lisa Smoley** – wife of President Tommy Peno
- Emily and Jonathan Shepherd** – Dave Shepherd's twins who just graduated from High School
- Francesca** – our Italian RYE student
- Brian Rew** – host-father of Francesca
- Maci Rew** – host-sister of Francesca



A Special PH Presentation

Adurey Smith-Wiberg joined **President Tommy Peno** at the podium for a presentation. A video began to play and on it were **PDG Russell deFuria** and wife **DG Dawn deFuria**. They made a Paul Harris recognition and tribute to a person who shares Rotary's ideals. A contribution to The Rotary Foundation and in the video, the couple announced that the Paul Harris Fellow was going to **Lisa Smoley**, the wife of President Tommy.

Lisa was Tommy guest today. He asked her to attend a meeting before the end of his Rotary year and so she did. She didn't expect to receive a Paul Harris Fellow and she was speechless!!

Tommy and Lisa made friends with Russell and Dawn when they attended the Rotary District Conference at Lake Tahoe in May. At the end of the video, the couple thanked Tommy for making this happen. It was a very special presentation to a special lady from her beloved husband.

Announcements

Ann Hively thanked the Rotarians for donations for the Relay for Life. The Rotary Club of Orangevale donated \$200. Next Wednesday, June 20, there will be a fundraiser at Panda Express.

If you purchase a meal at the restaurant, and mention the Interact Relay For Life Super Hero team, they will donate a portion of the proceeds to the team. Ann will send a reminder.

Ann sent an email to the members with two fundraisers to help fund **Francesca's** summer trips. Francesca made her homemade Tiramisu and there is a little serving for everyone to have a taste



Recently, Francesca sent two of the ceramic pieces she made in school, home to her family. They were heavy and it cost her \$219 in shipping fees!

Don Russell said the next Dine Around is at PizzaRev on Tuesday, June 19.

Bryan Daniel asking everyone to join him in a tradition from the southeastern United States. Fly you flag starting on Flag Day, June 14, through the 4th of July.

Tommy reminded the members that the club would be dark on June 29 and July 6th. Tommy invited everyone to join him at a makeup meeting at Roseville Rotary at 12noon on Thursday, June 28.

Jeff Valtman asked for volunteers to help pickup chairs at Greenback Rents at 8:30am on July 7, and deliver them to the Harris backyard. Volunteers are needed at 9am to help with the party setup.

Keep our dear friends in your prayers

Please remember **Dick Nadler** and his family in your prayers. His 38-year-old granddaughter died in a car accident. And keep former member **Bill Newton and his wife Joanne** in your thoughts and prayers. They lost their youngest daughter Barbara in a car accident while she was returning home from a Newton family reunion at Clear Lake.

Bill and Joanne Newton
5157 Mississippi Bar Drive
Orangevale, CA 95662

Dick and Jean Nadler
9400 Shumway Drive
Orangevale, CA 95662

Francesca's demo for the food class. How to make Tiramisu following her grandmother's recipe! Delicioso!!



What a unique experience for the Foods class and Francesca!!