



# THE ACORN

THE ROTARY CLUB OF FAIR OAKS



## SAN JUAN WATER DISTRICT



### The Rotary Club of Fair Oaks

Website: [www.RotaryFairOaks.org](http://www.RotaryFairOaks.org)  
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### Weekly Meetings

We Meet Almost Every Monday Evening  
Pre-Meeting Social 6:15 - 7:00 PM  
Dinner & Meeting 7:00 - 8:30 PM  
  
Location: Fair Oaks Community Clubhouse  
7997 California Avenue  
Fair Oaks  
  
Visitors are Welcome

# THE ACORN FOR SEPTEMBER 21, 2015

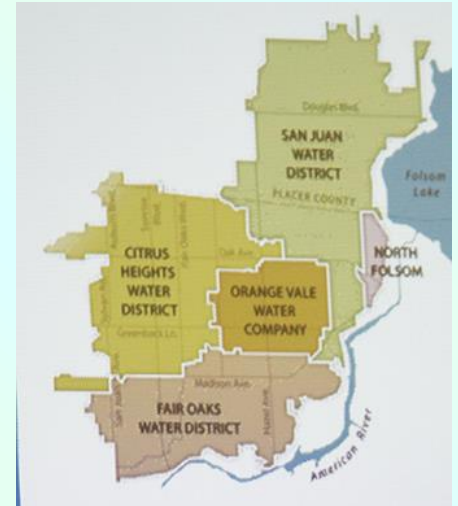


**Shauna Lorance**, General Manager of the San Juan Water District

In introducing our speaker, **Shauna Lorance**, General Manager of the San Juan Water District, Bob Walters quoted Mark Twain, “Whiskey is for drinking and water is for fighting over” and said that he would have specialized in water rights when he graduated from law school if he had thought about it. The ongoing California drought has made water issues more important than ever.

Here’s a description of the San Juan Water District from its website:

*San Juan Water District’s Wholesale division dates back to 1954 when voters approved our formation as a community services district. We provide water to San Juan Retail, Citrus Heights and Fair Oaks water districts, Orange Vale Water Company and the city of Folsom north of the American River.*



Shauna described the Endangered Species Act (“No species can ever go extinct”) and its impact on water levels in Folsom Lake: Species in the Sacramento River have some bad years recently, which make it necessary to keep cold water in Shasta Lake. (Ed note: This means that flows from Shasta have been reduced.) To keep salt water out the Sacramento San Joaquin Delta, flows from Folsom Lake were increased and Folsom now stores 156,000 acre feet of water, its lowest storage level ever. (Ed note 2: Lower flows from Shasta mandated higher flows from Folsom.)

Shauna said even though California is in a continued state of drought, positive efforts have been made to address this situation. Water conservation efforts are working. People are now more aware of the need to conserve water and have significantly reduced the amount of water they consume. In addition, flows from Folsom Lake have been reduced to make more water available for the customers of the San Juan Water District.

People are starting to understand the role Folsom Lake plays in the state’s water system. She said there was a statewide awareness of Folsom Lake water levels and the effects that low water levels could have locally and elsewhere in Northern California. Locally, if water levels in Folsom Lake become too low, the water districts served by the San Juan Water District will be forced to rely on well water and only indoor water usage will be allowed. Shauna mentioned limiting water consumption to 55 gallons per person per day if this happens. That is, the water districts are good for indoor usage, but if you want to irrigate your yard, pray for rain. With respect to statewide impacts, water released from Folsom helps prevent saltwater intrusion into the Sacramento-San Juan Delta. Saltwater intrusion, if it happens, could taint drinking water for millions of California residents.

Shauna travels throughout the state of California to meet senior water management officials in an effort to bring awareness of Folsom Lake’s water levels. A UC Davis Mechanical Engineering graduate and licensed Civil Engineer, she said meeting the officials in person made a major and positive impact on their attitudes about Folsom Lake, its water levels and the way in which water was released from Folsom.

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More talking points:

- The warmer weather that is being caused by the present El Nino in the Pacific Ocean translates into warm rain and less snow. Shauna said Northern California needs more snow because the snow pack in the Sierra Nevada Mountains is part of our water storage system.
- There is also the possibility that warmer conditions caused by global warming may increase rainfall and reduce snowfall in the mountains.
- This area has done a good job of managing its ground water, which means that ground-water supplies are available and adequate for meeting indoor needs for a long time.
- The merger between the San Juan Water District and the Sacramento Suburban Water District is stalled for political reasons.
- The water districts have no water rights to Lake Natoma and water cannot be pumped out of it – except maybe in an extreme emergency.
- The lakes in Southern California are full or nearly full because they were filled when adequate water was available.
- Right now, flows down the California Aqueduct are very low.
- We need to store more water in wet years, including recharging aquifers.

Elitas “Mazzy” Chirwa and Bruce Vincent

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Fair Oaks Uncorked

### Jeanne Maloney and Marlow Simonetto

Marlow (the Event Chair) reported that 15 restaurants and 12 wineries have agreed to participate – and several more of each are probable. If you are a member of a wine club for a local winery, please ask the winery if they would like to participate. Flyers, club brochures and other informational materials are available.

Jeanne is handling the recruitment of restaurants - and probably has something to do with winery recruitment as well. Jeanne says she has made a lot of new friends among the local restauranteurs.

Joedda Wick is coordinating the volunteers. Volunteers will not have to wear togas.



### Karen Romines and Lucy Martin

Karen and Lucy have been selling tickets to Uncorked, in costume, in front of establishments such as Trader Joe's.

### Event Information

Location: St Mel's at 4745 Pennsylvania Avenue, just west of Sunrise Avenue

Date: October 16, 2015

Time: 6:30 – 9:00 PM

Tickets: \$40 each

For more information contact: Marlow Simonetto at (916) 996-1767 or [marlowsimonetto@gmail.com](mailto:marlowsimonetto@gmail.com)

# THE MEETING



The meals at our meetings for the past few months have been excellent. Many thanks to our cook, **Angela Nokes** (center) and her assistants, **Shawn Ebernickel** and **Kelly Bennett**

Ed Note: Last Monday's vegetarian lasagna was the best I have ever eaten.



**Joe Scheimer**, our Assistant District Governor paid an official visit to the club. That's Joe on the left.

# THE MEETING



After they finish their stint as greeters, new members tend bar for a month or so.

New member's first assignment: greeters. **Drew Young** and **Faith Parks** greeted everyone at the door on Monday.



**Dan Smallhouse**

Dan has been elected President of the Board of the Fair Oaks Rotary Foundation.



**Don Reed and Diana Cralle**

Don had a chance to draw for the Ace of Spades and won a warm round of applause for not doing so. Diana will be Little Genius next month.

Diana is club Secretary this year. Diana has endless energy and, as this photo was being taken, she said 'Nothing is impossible for me'. While this might normally be considered hyperbole, in Diana's case it just might be true.



Longtime member **Bob Vogel** was accompanied by his "roommate" **Pat Vogel**.

# GUESTS



**Tom Gray**, General Manager of the Fair Oaks Water District, with retired landscape architects **Bob Vogel** and **Ralph Carhart**.



**Kirsten Chang** and her boyfriend **James Moore**



**Warren & Janet McWilliams**



**Nancy Lew** (on the left), was a guest of **Jeanne Maloney**

# CLUB HISTORIAN



**Ralph Carhart** is the Club Historian. Ralph narrated a short slide show on the development of the Fair Oaks Rotary Memorial Picnic Grove (including the flagpole) in Plaza Park in Fair Oaks Village. This community service project was completed in 1994.

The photos show that a typical community service project hasn't changed much since 1991. The process consists of two basic steps: the delivery of one or more truckloads of materials, followed by a considerable amount of manual labor. The dump truck is delivering a large quantity of decomposed granite, which, as it cures and compresses, turns into a hardpan-like surface layer. The decomposed granite is still there in the arbor, over a foot deep in places and becoming more and more like concrete every year. Those of us who have hand-dug trenches in and around the arbor have developed a profound dislike of the stuff.



