



**Rotary Club of Orangevale
District 5180
Jan. 19, 2024 Meeting**

I'm sorry for getting this out late...too many things this week.

Guests

--Mary Johnson & Sandy Parros from The Petal Connection

Announcements

--**Lorie**-- Winter Sanctuary went well. We had 15 guests. Special thanks to all worked in any way. This community outreach is vital to those we serve.

--**Dennis**-- Reminded us of upcoming service dates. Feb 2 is the Food Bank, Feb. 17 is Rotary House Clean Up. March 9 is the Bike Trail clean up.

--**Don**-- Shared that Feb 3 is Candles & Cocktails. Around 3 I believe and it is always fun.

--**Bryan** -- International Project funding. Our money was pooled into a grant which eventually grew to \$800K for a school in Guatemala. That is huge! Many thanks to Bryan and his efforts to manage the funds in such an outstanding way.

-- **Don R.** --Blood is always needed and Don is happy to show you the ropes!

Vocational

Keith shared his journey through life. He grew up poor and unloaded trucks at Target on the graveyard shift. He never believed he would be able to go to college. He eventually got a degree in City Planning. He and Monica built their home in Orangevale themselves and still live there. Looking for a change, he got a degree in Nursing (Monica is a Nurse Practitioner). While raising their boys, he volunteered one day a week driving the food truck for the food bank and eventually came to run the Orangevale/Fair Oaks Food Bank. Currently he works for City Net Homeless Services, a statewide outreach organization. They run 2 shelters in the area, along with providing many services.

Prospector

David decided to play the game, "Where's Waldo" only it really was "Where's Don Russell". Many got fined. I knew Texas, but that was not enough. Austin was the answer where Don received an award for his work with Kimberly Clark. Trivia was continued. Longest bridge in the US over water...Lake Pontchartrain in New Orleans – 25 miles across the lake. (I've been on it many times.) Happy/Sad fines...Mairy forgot to work in the kitchen for Winter Sanctuary. It was fun.

Speaker

Jennifer spoke of her love for her Grandmother who passed in 2012. She loved flowers. Hence, become a non-profit called The Petal Connection. They bring the outside in. Bringing beautiful bouquets to Hospice patients and others who are in nursing homes. The beaming smiles are all the thanks needed. The dream of providing flowers started in her garage and they outgrew it and now have access to a storefront, located at 151 N. Sunrise Blvd., Roseville. Flowers come from grocery stores and floral shops. In the 10 years of this endeavor, they have provided over 100,000 bouquets. They are sent out in a tin can wrapped in burlap with a ribbon tied around it.

NOTE: The club is collecting tin cans (14-16 ounce size), fabric and cloth ribbon to help. So save your cans and bring them to the meeting. Phyllis is collecting them and will get them to Roseville. Easy project!!! So be sure to ask friends and neighbors to save them for you as well!

Raffle

With 10 balls and \$44 in the pot **Joni** managed to find the...orange one.

Thought for the Day

"To know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived, This is to have succeeded."

---*Ralph Waldo Emerson*





