

The Orange Peel

2024-2025 | President Catrina Womack | "Share Rotary"

Next Meeting Friday, Oct 25, 2024

Speaker - Vicky Hart,
Orangevale Grange
Garden Club President
Greeters - Bill Wagner,
Steve Blair
Invocation - Bert Smith
Vocation - Joni Cyr
Prospector - Rob
Auernig

The Four-Way Test

Is it the TRUTH?

Is it FAIR to All
Concerned?

Will it build GOOD
WILL and BETTER
FRIENDSHIPS?

Will it be BENEFICIAL
to all concerned?



Empowering Girls Project

President Catrina Womack introduced two visiting Rotarians from the Laguna Sunrise Rotary Club - **Karen Cendro**, Past District Governor and **Jeannine Sparks**, RYE District Chairperson.

Before beginning their talk, Karen thanked **Don Russell** and club members for donating blood. Three years ago she needed two blood transfusions and they saved her life.

Recap of the Meeting Oct 18, 2024

Rotary Guests

Karen Cendro - Past District Governor, Laguna Sunrise Rotary Club

Jeannine Sparks - RYE District Chairperson, Laguna Sunrise Rotary Club

Robbie Sarkisian - Dennis Sarkisian's wife

Ernie Womack - The president's husband

**District 5180 Governor
Steve Turner
2024-2025**

The 2024-2025 Rotary International presidential theme is "The Magic of Rotary"

Women and young teenagers menstruate every month. In some countries, they stay home during this time because they don't have access to menstrual supplies. As a consequence, they may miss out on up to seven days of school and/or work.

And what if those ladies don't receive any education about their body, their menstrual cycles or pregnancy? They live with myths and taboos.

Today 500 million women live in period poverty. They don't understand how babies are made and they get pregnant at a very young age. There are lots of children under the age of 18 years.

When Karen was training to become a District Governor, she became close friends with the incoming District Governor Nela Bettencourt. Her district, District 9210 covers four countries in southeast Africa - Mozambique, Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

With Nela, Karen had a vision of creating a project for the school girls of Mozambique. A joint project between District 5180 and District 9210 and involving The Rotary Clubs of Chimolo and Chimolo Planaito in Mozambique. Four clubs in District 5180 raised \$10,000 for the international project.

Stepping back, Mozambique was a Portuguese colony until 1975. After two years of independence, it descended into a civil war from 1977 to 1992. In 1994, it held its first elections and has remained a presidential republic ever since. It remains one of the poorest and most underdeveloped country in the world. Only 1% of the homes have electricity.

Karen and fellow rotarian Jeannine Sparks looked for a project and learned about an organization named “**Days for Girls**” which deals with solutions for Period Poverty by providing menstrual kits for young girls which help them stay in school all year long. The organization is located in Rocklin and Karen and Jeannine went there to learn how to make the kits.

The kits are cute and colorful and contain a care-and-use sheet along with panties, waterproof shields, absorbent liners, soap, a washcloth and a carry pouch for washing and storing. All the items are put together in a drawstring bag.

Karen and Jeannie taught 6-10 people how to sew the kits. Then they organized a sew-a-thon in Carmichael. There were 20 stations set up with instructions for how to make one of the components for the kits. Ten Rotary clubs and 40 people attended. The goal was to make 150 kits. By the end of the day only 13 were finished.



Karen had to think of other ways to get the kits made efficiently. Here is where a local hero helper comes in. **Rotarian Dennis Sarkisian’s wife Robbie** took on the task of making 600 pads! Using her serger sewing machine she completed the giant assignment. (Robbie was in the audience today and everyone gave her an applause.)

Karen planned smaller events such as asking the Girl Scouts to make the backpacks. Eventually, there were enough ingredients to hold a Pack-a-thon and the 150 menstrual kits were complete!

Karen and Jeannine packed the kits into huge suitcases and purchased airline tickets. It was a long trip to Mozambique with long layovers. They both suffered jet lag and slept whenever they could. Karen told several stories about their trip.

For example, when they were in customs, they were told they had to pay a tax for the commercial items in the luggage. Karen couldn't produce a receipt for the kits in their luggage. The Portuguese language is difficult and Karen had a hard time explaining that they made the kits themselves. Finally, Karen made gestures of placing a pad between her legs and suddenly she didn't have to pay any tax!!!

When the ladies finally arrived at the school, the students came out and sang to them and welcomed them with open arms. Karen played a video of the singers and it was a wonderful reception. The boys and girls went to separate classrooms for training.

The kits were given to the girls and with the help of a translator, Celena, they were taught how to use them. They were also taught about puberty and menstruation. The girls were excited to receive the supplies.

The boys were given pairs of shorts and they received training on how to be a strong man. It is not by hitting women but by being a leader.

There were sewing machines at the school and the girls could learn how to sew more kits. It was Sister Brenda that taught the students how to sew but she left. It was decided that the school could hire a tailor to teach the students. But he needed to be paid for his time. The local Rotarians raised the money to pay him.

When Karen and Jeannine finished their time in Chimolo, they went to the capital Maputo. After a day of shopping, Karen checked her Facebook account and discovered that she had an invitation to speak to the US Ambassador to Mozambique. And she had only two hours to prepare!

Ambassador Peter Vrooman turned out to have been a Rotaracter and an Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar. He is a Rotarian with the Rotary Club of Maputo Metro English. His club is a new club and they were looking for an International project. His club is looking at supplying fabric for menstrual kits.

Today there are 20 treadle sewing machines between two schools and 200 hundred students. They are learning to sew menstrual kits. Not only are the girls learning to sew but so are the boys!

Karen is done with sewing for now so there won't be any more sewing days in District 5180. Karen fell in love with the students and the people of Chimolo, Mozambique. Karen is trying to figure to what project to do next. The children don't get enough protein so rising chickens might be a good project.

President Catrina thanked Karen and Jeannine for speaking to the club about this amazing international project.

Catrina presented them both with wooden pen made by Rotarian Bob Kurtz.



Announcements

President Cartrina Womack reminded everyone about the upcoming Turkey Bowl on Thursday, November 7.

Bill Wagner reminded the club that Polio Day is coming up on October 24 and last year 18 members signed a pledge to donate \$100 every year until Polio is eradicated. Please contact him if you want help making your annual pledge.

Steve Blair said that the **Rotary House cleanup** will be Saturday, Oct 19 from 9am to 11am and eight people are signed up to help. He attended a recent Rotary House board meeting and learned that the house will be repainted by a local Orangevale business.

David Shepherd said that a Joe Surra track clean up will be scheduled next month. The snack shack for the American River Baseball field will be delivered soon. There will be a work party for landscaping around the shack. More details to come.

Dennis Sarkisian said he has pledges and money from the sponsors for the Crab Feed! Donations are needed for the silent and live auction. **Bill Wagner** has been working on getting vacation packages for the live auction.

Don Russell said that today is National Mashed Potato Day. What do you get when you cross potato plants with squash plants? Mashed Potatoes! The last Dine Around was held at Tano's on Tuesday - it was Taco Tuesday. On October 31, Don is having a bonfire party in his front yard. at his home. Costumes are optional.

Don encouraged people to give blood for Halloween. He has little "peeps" for anyone who is afraid to give blood.

Vocational Talk

The Vocational speaker was **Bill Wagner**. Up through his junior year of high school, his GPA was only 1.8 but then he became fascinated with the world of finance and from then on he got straight A's right up through his graduation from college.

Bill got a job with Ingersoll Rand, a drilling and mining company. He worked for them on the west coast for a year and then was sent to work in Europe. During his four years in Europe he became an audit manager for Europe and Africa. He visited 105 countries during that time.

Bill returned to the USA and worked in the head office in New Jersey. He was transferred to Japan and that is where he met a Japanese co-worker named Eriko who became his wife! They have been married for 42 years and have a daughter named Rebecca who is a licensed family and marriage counselor in Humboldt county.

Bill got a CPA license and in 1999 he became an investment advisor for with Edward Jones. He stayed with them for ten years and then he became an independent financial advisor for Raymond James for ten years.



Today Bill is a certified financial planner. He can review a portfolio and if he finds a problem that you don't know about, he can suggest a solution to that problem.

Prospector

Rob Auernig is this month's prospector and he started off by fining anyone who wasn't wearing their badge and Rotary pin. Rob fined **David Shepherd** for his awkward job of introducing his District Governor. **Mairy Droese** asked that the club not sing for her upcoming birthday - she donated \$250 to Joe Scheimer's Polio bike ride and \$100 to Polio to fulfill her \$100/year pledge until Polio is eradicated.

Rob moved onto asking TV trivia questions from the golden era of TV - the 1970s. He read a quote from a TV show and he asked who said the quote and what TV show it was it from. He started at the table in the back of the room and went around table by table asking the for answers.

"Book 'em Danno!!" - Steve McGarrett played by Jack Lord in the original "Hawaii Five-O" 1968-1980.

"De plane" - Tattoo played by Herve' Villechaize in "Fantasy Island", 1977-1984.

"Here comes the judge" - Sammy Davis Jr on "Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In" - 1968-1973.

"What you see is what you get" - Geraldine Jones played by Flip Wilson on "The Flip Wilson Show" - 1970-1974.

"Up your nose with a rubber hose" - Vinnie Barbarino played by John Travolta in "Welcome back, Kotter" - 1975-1979.

"You big dummy" - Fred Sanford played by Red Foxx in "Sanford & Sons" - 1972-1977.

"Marsha, Marsha, Marsha" - Jan Brady played by Eve Plumb in "The Brady Bunch" - 1969-1974.

Happy Fines

Bill Wagner is happy because it's his daughter's birthday (36 years old).

Diana Newman wished every on a Happy Jewish New Year - Rosh Hashanah.

Bob Kurtz was happy that his friends helped him build a shed in his back yard.

Steve Blair was happy that his sister is 7 years cancer free.

The Orange Ball

There were 4 balls and \$117 in the pot. This week, **Kirk Camunez** had the right ticket and he pulled out the orange ball. Winner, winner, chicken dinner!!

The Thought for the Day

“If your actions create a legacy that inspires others to dream more, learn more, do more, and become more, then you are an excellent leader.”



Enjoy your weekend...go out and SHARE ROTARY with your favorite people.

The Rotary House Cleanup Crew

