

The Orange Peel

2023-2024 | President Don Morris | "Have Fun and Share Rotary"

Next Meeting Friday, Oct 28, 2023

Speaker -

Shelly Hollenbeck,
Loaves and Fishes

Greeters -

Lorie and Russ Rheams

Invocation -

Kirk Camunez

Vocation -

Russ Rheams

Prospector -

Mike McKibben

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?

A New Zoo in Elk Grove

President Don Morris introduced the speaker, Andrea Haverland, from the Sacramento Zoo. She is originally from Louisiana and has worked for the Zoo for 7-1/2 years. She is now the Zoo's Community Engagement Coordinator.

Andrea's job is to create excitement for the new Zoo project and she has talked to a lot of Rotary clubs in Rotary District 5180. Every group has been excited to learn about the plans for the new Zoo.



The Sacramento Zoo first opened in 1927 and originally sat on 4.2 acres. Today it covers 14.7 acres and unfortunately can't expand any further because it's landlocked. It's time to grow!

The Sacramento Zoo is a proud member of the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA). Only 238

**Recap of the Meeting
Oct 20, 2023**

Guests

Andrea Haveland -
Sacramento Zoo

**District 5180 Governor
Sidney Smith**

**District 5180 Theme
“ Go Meet Do”**

Saying Yes to our
fellowship means:

- We get to **Go** places we never would have gone!
- We **Meet** people we never would have met!
- We **Do** things we never would have done!

of the approximately 2,800 animal institutions in our country are AZA accredited. The Zoo currently has 392 animals from frogs to giraffes.

Over 500,000 visitors come to the zoo every year, but when compared to zoos in similar sized cities, the Zoo should be welcoming 1-2 million visitors annually.

So why have a Zoo?

•For **Education** purposes - The Zoo teaches through programs, advocacy, education and research.

•For **Connection** - The Zoo helps to preserve endangered species and introduces the community to a wide variety of animal species. It fosters an appreciation of the natural world. For example, the Sacramento Zoo has the the largest flock of Thick-Billed Parrots in captivity, which are an endangered species.

•And for **Recreation** - The Zoo provides safe, interactive, and unique learning experiences and opportunities for family fun.

How many times have you heard of plans for the Zoo? Do you remember when the old Arco Arena was proposed as a location to move the Zoo? The City of Sacramento wasn't able to come up with a viable plan. The **City of Elk Grove** stepped up and was eager to have a Zoo in their neighborhood.

The City Council voted to spend \$800,000 on a feasibility study before purchasing the land for the zoo. After reviewing the study, the city was in favor of having the Zoo and they purchased 100

acres located west of highway 99 and north of Kammerer Road.

The environmental impact study is complete and a budget for Phase I is being prepared. The cost could range from \$100-200 million. Elk Grove and the Zoo are looking for donors and partners.



The council will vote on the final zoo plan but before the vote takes place, the board has to see the master plan and the financing. They will listen to the public and take everything into account.

In Phase 2, the hippopotamus habitat will be built. Hippos are the Elk Grove mayor’s favorite animal, so she is anxious to get work started on the new Zoo.

Building the Zoo in several phases will take several years. The new Zoo will be the first zoo designed in the United States in 30 years. It’s exciting to get to start from scratch and to design the best habitats for the animals. Sixty-five acres will be used for the zoo when it’s fully built out. Ten acres will be dedicated to parking. As you know there is very little parking in Land Park near the Sacramento Zoo.

The City of Sacramento owns Land Park and when the Zoo vacates the park, it will remain a park. It won’t be replaced with housing or city buildings. Fairytale Town will remain in Land Park. Many of the trees and plants in the Zoo will be transplanted to the new Zoo.

The first building phase will be to create an African Savana habitat for the African species. The land has been cow pastures for years so lots of trees will have to be



planted. Andrea showed the zoo plans and described animal habitats planned for each phase. She showed an artist rendering of the Front Gate that will be included in the first phase.

The Savana will be an immersive experience with the giraffes and a mix of other species. It will look similar the San Diego Safari Park. There will be a high point for the lions so they can look out over their habitat. There will be two areas for groups of lions so that two prides can coexist.

The flamingos will not be outside in an open area. They are at risk of contracting Avian flu because the Sacramento valley is a migratory bird fly over. Therefore the new Zoo will have a walkthrough flamingo aviary to protect them.

Designers want the Zoo it to be a place where people will come back to, over and over again. There will be exciting additions to the Zoo, for example, a full service restaurant and bar which will be accessible to the public without a ticket. The restaurant will overlook the zoo.

There will be large event spaces - lawns and a beer garden - which can be reserved for weddings, birthdays, quinceanera, etc. The train, carousel and children’s play area will still an attraction to the Zoo. A new addition to the Zoo plan will be two public paths.

UC Davis Veterinary Medicine will continue to be a partner in the new Zoo’s Hospital and Nutrition Center. There will be a viewing area so visitors can



watch the meals being prepared and also any hospital procedures. There are more details of zoo design on the Sacramento Zoo web site. President Don thanked Andrea for her exciting talk about the new Zoo. He presented her with an Orangevale Rotary mug.

Vocational Talk

Mike McKibben started his vocational talk by saying that this week's events reminded him of his time in the Peace Corps.

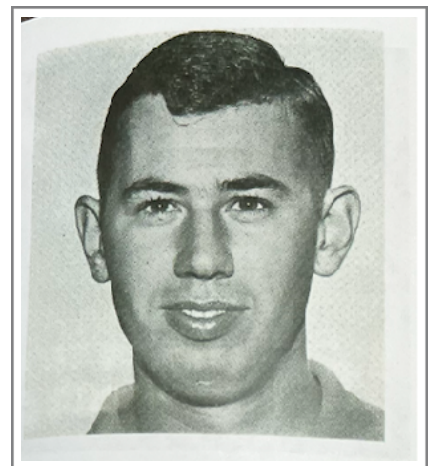
In September 2015, Mike helped to put together a booklet for the 50th anniversary reunion of the Peace Corps Indian 16th team. Mike left copies of the booklet on the tables for the members to review, starting with the pictures on page 137.



In 1965 Mike joined the Peace Corps as a volunteer and he went with other young volunteers to Maryland to be trained in the Hindu language and in how to raise chickens! They were going to be sent to India to teach the people how to raise unfertilized chicken eggs for food. Meanwhile, there was a similar training session for another group of volunteers at the UC Davis campus.

When the training was complete, the two groups traveled to New York City where they were scheduled to travel together to India. It was September 1965 and the Indian-Pakistan war broke out.

The US Government stopped all funding to India and Pakistan which included the Peace Corps funding of the India trip. So, the UC Davis volunteers were sent to Micronesia and Mike's group were sent to Israel to help refugees in Gaza.



It was decided that working in Gaza was not a good idea so they were sent to a Kibbutz instead.

Mike described the kibbutz as an agricultural home for 200-300 families. Mike was put to work in the fields and orchards picking oranges and bananas. It was the hardest physical labor he had ever performed. He weeded sugar beet fields and realized what stoop labor was all about - stooping over to pull weeds. In exchange, the Americans taught the residents about Halloween.

Eventually, the war ended and Mike was sent to India to fulfill his mission, which is another story for another day!

Announcements

Audrey Smith-Wiberg gave us an update from **Eileen Hernandez**. Eileen joined the Zoom meeting and we could see her smiling face up on the screen. Her message to Audrey was “Still nothing to report. I’m so ready to come home! I miss my kids terribly. Testing starts with a new doctor next week... I’m giving them three weeks. I’m ready to push the button on a flight home on November 13. I’m happy, healthy and feeling great.”

Audrey told the club that **Past-President Dennis Sakisian’s wife Robbie** lost her sister recently. Audrey passed around a sympathy card for everyone to sign.

Treasurer Steve Blair reminded everyone that he sent an invoice for meals for October to December of 2023. Please pay by check, credit card or Zelle. He can run your credit card at the meeting for your convenience. Please pay up!

Past President Dennis Sarkisian received a thank you note from HART, the Fair Oaks and Orangevale Homeless Assistance Resource Team and he read it out to the club.

“Dear Orangevale Rotary, Thank you for participating in the HART of Orangevale and Fair Oaks Backpack Drive for 2023. We appreciate your support in helping students experiencing homelessness in our community. It’s people like you who make a difference for good.

Thank you again,
HART of Orangevale and Fair Oaks

Food Bank Turkey Drive

Donation hours are 8:30am to 12:30pm Monday thru Friday. They are also accepting donations on Wednesday from 3:30pm thru 6:00pm.

Orangevale-Fair Oaks Food Bank
6483 Main Avenue in Orangevale
916-238-8868

Please consider donating one or more turkeys to help the Food Bank server those in need.

Deanna Maddock talked about the Crab Feed and she was excited to report that all the Crab Feed tickets sold out on the first day of sales! She set up a waiting list for the people who missed out. She is holding back tickets for sponsors if we get more sponsors.

Now everyone that hasn't paid for their tickets needs to get busy and pay for them. **Log into OVcrabfeed.com to make your payment.** Contact Deanna (916-223-8678) if you need help making your payment.

Speaking of the Crab Feed, **Bill Wagner** went through a fabulous list of travel packages for the live auction:

- 7-night stay at The Vidanta Grand Mayan - 3 locations
- An African Safari 5-day, all inclusive
- 7 nights at the luxurious Resort Los Cabos
- 7 nights - Taste of Tuscany for 2
- 5 nights at Thatch Cave Resort, Belize
- 7 nights at The Breeze Resort, Costa Rica

At last year's auction, the club sold one trip for \$1500. The auctioneer offered the same trip at the same price and seven more people put their hands up. It cost the club \$1000 for each trip and we made \$500 on each trip we sold.

Don Russell reminded everyone the next **Dine Around** will be Wednesday, 25-October, 5:50pm, at the Granite Bay Brewing Company, 8601 Auburn Folsom Rd, Granite Bay. (located near Dominick's Italian Deli) map:
(<http://maps.google.com/?q=8601+Auburn+Folsom+Rd+Granite+Bay+CA+USA>)

On Tuesday, 31-October, 6:30pm, Don will be hosting his annual **Halloweenie Bon Fire and Pumpkin Roast** in his front yard! His address is 5164 Mississippi Bar Drive, Orangevale. Bring a folding chair, something to nibble on and a beverage. Costume is optional but appreciated.

The name of the **Friendsgiving Party** has been changed to the “New Driveway Party” because Audrey’s driveway remodel is complete. Just kidding about the name change, but it will be held at Audrey’s home on Nov 16 located at 3960 Little Creek Court, Roseville.

Upcoming events: The **Christmas Party** will be held on Dec 9, the location is yet to be announced. In January or February, Diane Newton is hosting a **“Cocktails, Candles and Cotton Candy”** party at her home in Granite Bay.

Don recently donated his 122nd pint of blood at Vitalant. He passed around a clipboard with information on how you can help **Vitalant**. If you can’t donate blood you can volunteer to host a blood drive, make a financial gift, or share information about donating blood on your social media apps and spread the word to recruit others to give blood.

Don reminded us that November is Men’s Health awareness **“Mo-Vember”** where guys grow out their mustache’ ... however the Ladies are welcome to try or even wear a mustache in support of the Men.

Catrina Womack reminded everyone that Thursday, October 26th is the last Orangevale Farmers Market for the season. Be sure to get out there and enjoy the bounty, music and food one last time!

Janice Howarth has one opening at our table at The Rotary Foundation dinner on 18-November at 5:30pm. She needs one more person to join the table. Please see Janice for more information.

Janice passed around a clipboard with lists of basket items she is collecting for the Crab Feed silent auction. Sign up for an item or two that you can buy and give to Janice so she can build lovely baskets.

Janice has **Rotary Direct Forms** which members can be used for a one time contribution to Polio Plus or to set up a monthly donation to The Rotary Foundation. She also has the **Joe Surra Football Pool** signup if you want join in.

Prospector

Prospector Mike McKibben noted that Bert was late. As for her fine, he told her, let your conscience be your guide.

Mike has been assisting his son Mark who is writing a book on the Constitution and that gave him the idea to quiz the members on the 27 Amendments to the constitution. He went around the room, from person to person, starting with the first amendment, asking each person what was in the amendment. It was \$1 if you got it correct and \$2 if you got it wrong. The members were pretty smart and more than two thirds got their amendment correct. He collected a lot of dollar bills!

There were several Happy Fines. **Audrey** was happy because she and her husband Don have been married for 37 years. **Diane Newman** was happy because her roof was repaired. **Mairy Droese** was happy that it was he birthday and everyone sang their best version of the Orangevale Rotary Happy Birthday!



The Orange Ball

There were 2 balls and \$159 in the pot. **Janice Howarth** had the winning ticket. Looking away, she plunged her hand in to basket and pulled both balls out and then dropped on back in, leaving the orange ball in her hand... hmmmm... that's a different way to do it! Congratulations Janice!

The Thought for the Day

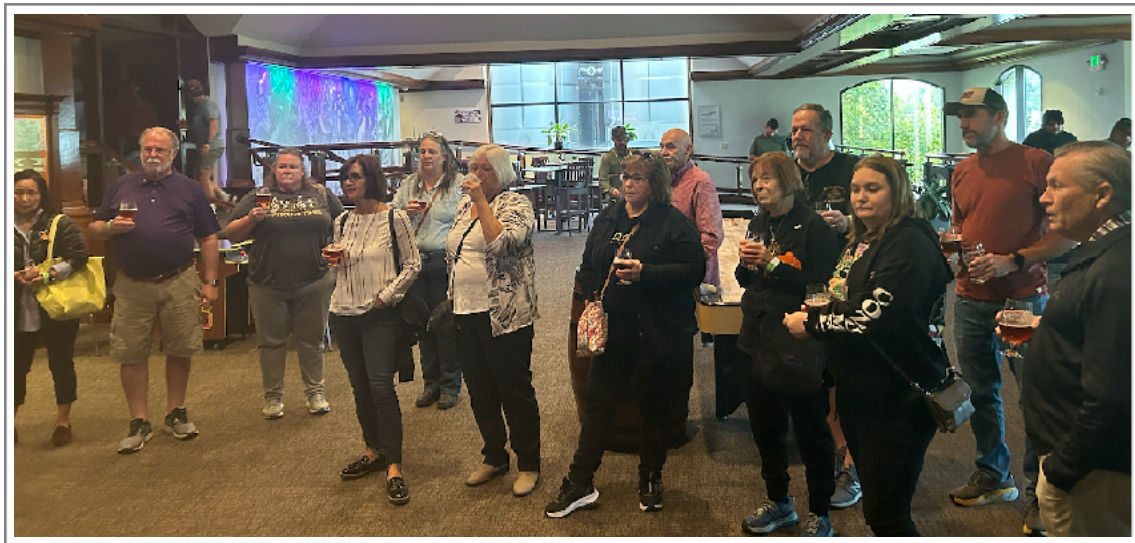
“Progress is impossible without change, and those who cannot change their mind cannot change anything.” -George Bernard Shaw

Fun Places and Faces

The Bike Trail Cleanup at Black Miners Bar State Park last Saturday morning, October 21st. Two Casa Roble High School students joined in, Savannah and Ely.



The vocational tour of Sierra Nevada Brewing took place Saturday, October 31st. Here is the evidence!



Have Fun and Share Rotary!