



Rotary Club of Orangevale  
District 5180  
November 17, 2023 Meeting

**GUESTS:**

Jeanne Hill - Sister of Jim Buntin  
Ernie Womack  
Colleen Auernig  
Susan Skinner - speaker

Eileen is back – Hurray! We all hope your feeling better. We all thanked Audrey Smith-Wiberg and Dennis Sarkasian for helping out in her absence.

**Happenings:**

Bob Kurtz and Joan Fecteau are both out with COVID, and we wish them a quick recovery. Bob will be going for more chemo starting December 6 until February, so keep him in your prayers.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**COMMUNITY SERVICE:**

Lorie Rheams requested we keep in mind that the Christmas Basket program is coming up and she will need more sponsoring families, as after Thanksgiving break, she'll start getting lots of requests about receiving families. Dennis reminds us that December 1 is our day at the foodbank from 9 am to 12:30 pm. Come for an hour or come for the morning. All help is welcome. Also, we have 16 applicants for classroom grants, and with our grant from Rotary, we should be able to fund most, maybe even all of them.

**CLUB SERVICE:**

Don Russell reminded us the Friendsgiving/Christen the Driveway at the Smith-Wiberg's on November 17, 2023, and our Christmas party is scheduled for December 10, 2023 at the McKibben's. FYI the Friendsgiving was damp (in a few cases VERY damp,) but a good time was had by all. And the Orangevale Canine Literary Society, had it's first meeting, headed by Rob's granddaughter Briana.





Don also said that Maggie Hoye from the Fair Oaks Club has told him they are having a mystery trip on November 26, and if you want to join in contact her. It's not at a winery, casino or Apple Hill, but other than that it's a mystery.

Candles and Cotton Candy will be at Diana Newman's in January or February, so save up your candle jars for a fun craft and a sweet time.

And don't forget: Donate Blood. Get a Cookie.

Janice Howarth is looking for money, not blood, for Big Giving Tuesday, November 28. She passed out flyers (as well as the Rotary Spare Change Can, but that's for the club.)

**CRAB FEED:**

Janice Howarth is also looking for auction items, if you have some that you haven't given her, please bring them in especially items for baskets. Speaking of baskets, she's still looking for large baskets to fill.

**VOCATIONAL SERVICE:**



Cindy Hill-Morris was our vocational speaker. She talked about growing up a military brat, since her father was in the Air Force. When she was little, he was transferred to Australia, and her Mom followed with their four kids, including Cindy. Why didn't she go with him, so they could both wrangle the littles? Because they forgot to get the four kids added to their passports. Cindy passed around some souvenirs they got there including a hunting boomerang and a war boomerang. She ran out of time to talk about the rest of her travels from Scott AFB in Illinois, to Wright Patterson in Ohio, where they stayed while her Dad went first to Vietnam and then the Philippines. On to Andrews AFB in Virginia, then to Hanscom AFB in Massachusetts, and while she was in college, back to Andrews.



**PROSPECTOR:**

Keith Wright gave blanket immunity for those who arrived late. (I wonder why?) Last week he laid down a challenge: if everyone ponied up to the prospector and we collected at least \$500, he would match the \$500. It worked! After the bowl was passed, we'd collected \$540, so our final number for Friday was \$1140 collected. The job was up for auction, and David Shepard bid \$20 for Brad Squires. Well, Brad wasn't having it, and after some spirited bidding, David Shepard is the prospector for December for \$100.



**SPEAKER**

Jim Buntin introduced our speaker, Susan Skinner, who is a journalist, photographer, singer and author. She currently writes for the Carmichael Times, but she's been working for the news since she was 16. Today, she was talking about our American River Family, the Orangevale Bald Eagles. She had pictures from when Mama Eagle was grooming a male just losing his juvenile feathers to replace her mate, and teaching him how to build a nest and hunt. She estimate's Mama Eagle is twice Papa Eagles' age. Apparently she wasn't impressed with his squirrel hunting skills, and taught him to catch fish. She had photos of them on their nest, raising chicks and just keeping an eye on their nest so other raptors don't steal it.

Pictures of their first babies, Peekaboo and Poppy showed their fuzzy little heads in the nest as their parents fed them. They've had several broods, some years two and a couple of years 3 chicks hatched. They've had a total of 22 successful fledglings. As the babies learn to fly and hunt, at first Mama and Papa will feed them after they leave the nest, but soon they go down river and the parents prepare for their next brood.

Bald Eagles eat solid food from birth. Their parents feed them morsels from the head of the prey down, so the babies don't choke on bones. They eat a lot. The babies hatch around valentines day, fledge at 10 weeks and leave the nest and "branch" for a week, then take their first flight after that. They don't get their completely white heads until their around 5.



Yes Bald Eagles can swim, and they love to bathe. They have 7 foot wing spans. In our area, they fish around Nimbus Lake to Watt Avenue. The older juveniles live down river, teaching the newest ones how to hunt. The kids grow up, find a partner and a suitable tree and start building a nest. It takes about a year to get a nest ready. They have a life span in the wild of about 26 years, if they make it out of childhood.

President Don thanked Susan with the Orangevale Mug.

**RAFFLE:**

The raffle was won by Sue Frost, but she the elusive orange ball escaped her grasp in the basket of 7, Better luck to the next winner.

Next meeting (December 1, don't forget November 24 is dark):

Greeters: Jeff Valtman

Michelle Famstead

Invocator: Sue Frost

Vocational speaker: Jeff Valtman

Speaker: Brad Squires

Thought for the day: "Red meat is not bad for you. Fuzzy green meat is bad for you."

As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words but to live by them." -- John F Kennedy

Have a great week and share Rotary!