



Rotary Club of Orangevale
District 5180
March 14, 2025 Meeting

Guests: Roger Spencer with HART
Jean Shurman and Gale Ledbetter with Jakes Journey Home
featuring Derek Maldonado
and Earnie the FmoOVR

Hello to those on Zoom: Mairy Droese

I hope you all enjoyed our president Catrina W's version of the chicken dance, with props.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Fair Oaks Rotary is having a special dance presentation with our own president, Catrina Womack, teaching us to belly dance.

Deanna Maddock: was a PETS last week and ready with what she learned on communication, vision and cooperation for her upcoming presidential year.

Rob A reminds us that our vocational trip to the Sacramento Gun Range is today, and they have (had) one more space available.

Don R reminds us that our next dine around is at Iron Horse (in the Palladio in Folsom) on April 8, and after the great turnout at Pitch and Fiddle, he expects another full house.

David S. Needs some 2nd shift volunteers for Saturday at the American River Softball opening day to monitor bounce house and help clean out the storage unit.(to be rescheduled due to field conditions TBA.) Growing Pst Today has been taken over by Christian Brothers other than our cotton candy concierge (thanks Diana)

Big Day of Service is May 17th where we'll be helping with enhancements at Pecan park. Sign up soon.

Roger Hart wanted to thank us for our help with the shower thank Rob A for the wrap. Due to the popularity of the trainer, they are considering extending hours.

Vocational Speaker: After the mesmerizing introduction to the club by our present, David Shepard was our vocational speaker, who chose to discuss our club's history and the chicken mascot from days gone by. David S told us about how 35 years ago the 8 members of the club decided to continue the club and to encourage attendance, introduced a chicken to take care of, to be passed on to the next su... member at the next meeting. They got perfect attendance at the next meeting. He then introduced our new chicken mascot (this time not a live one) and sent her home with a member to remember Rotary. By years end, that chicken should be very familiar with Orangevale and surrounding areas.



He then discussed what he's doing in retirement, including more time for Rotary, fly fishing, duck hunting, having more time with his mom, and going back to school. This term he's taking a wine class at the Placerville Campus of Folsom Lake College. He's learning about where the vines grow and what kind of soil and climate produces what kinds of wine. He's discovered red wine smells and tastes different from white wine! Good job David! We'll expect your connoisseur opinion at our next wine tasting.

PROSPECTOR: Deanna was full of St. Patrick's day trivia, including the fact that St. Patrick's Day is the anniversary of his death, that he was not Irish and that the Irish don't have parties but go to church for the Feast of St. Patrick. The Americans started the green beer tradition. The first St. Patrick's Day parade was in New York in 1762.



SPEAKER: Brad introduced our speaker Jean Shurman and Gale Ledbetter with Jakes Journey Home, whom he met at a chat center discussion.

Jakes Journey Home was established in honor of Jean's son, who was a Navy Seabee. She began by making totes and other things to raise money for veterans. Eventually, she expanded to helping veterans with benefits, basic needs such as DMV help food and clothing. In 2024, 15809 services were delivered including getting homeless veterans basic needs and helping them move on to housing. She helped veterans get jobs, services from the va and social security, some of which requires a lot of care and understanding of their problems. She tried to help Jake's brother Joey with his trauma, getting him mental health help and to move him into her program, but tragically before she could do so, he died from fentanyl poisoning. She now fights to get veterans into the program that doesn't stop at one accomplishment but moves them towards self sufficiency with check ins and support.

JJH now has a mobile trailer for stand downs, a bike and trailer program for providing vets with transportation, and will supply necessities and fix broken items to help them on their journeys. They have a triage center and are opening a temporary housing property in Jackson. She is



trying to put together a mobile medical unit to help the vets with health problems they can't afford to have taken care of. She carries, narcan, and fentanyl test strips and is a 211 resource with Sacramento and Placer County.

JJH has social media with facebook, instagram and venmo (JakesJourneyHome35)

She expressed her opinion that the money the county got to fight homelessness was wasted because office workers don't understand the problem. To help the homeless requires a holistic approach to address rehab needs, transitional housing and job permanence. JJH received \$5000 and she used it for helping the vets with all of these needs. She believes the "success" the county reports in dropping homeless count from 9000 to 6000 is due to the "counters" not looking very hard for the homeless. The trends show that they need to revamp and reopen mental health hospitals and remove the stigma of a mental health diagnosis.

After many questions by the members, they provided small tokens to remember Jake and what they do. We of course provided them with our traditional Kurtz special hand made pen.



RAFFLE: Stever B. got his ticket called but, sorry no win for him. He pulled a white ball from the bucket.

REMINDERS:

District Assembly is coming up on March 29. Sign up and learn about the district and its programs.

The dine around is the second Tuesday of next month.

We got a text from Don G, saying "hey"

Thought for the week: "Changing lives isn't about grand gestures, its about showing up."

Our next speaker is from Powerhouse ministries.

Next week our greeters will be David S and Kirk C.

Invocation will be Patty.

Have a great week and share Rotary!