

The Orange Peel

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

Next Meeting Friday, May 16, 2025

- Speaker** - - Jasmine Diaz
- Violet Wellness Spa
- Greeters** - Jim Buntin,
Audrey Smith-Wiberg
- Invocation** - Brad
Squires
- Vocation** - Brian Daniels
- Prospector** - Keith
Wright
- Raffle tickets** - Janet
Cahill

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?**

Best Buddies

**President
Catrina
Womack**
introduced
Jennie Allen
who is an
ambassador
for the
Sacramento
chapter of
Best Buddies
non-profit
organization.



Best Buddies offers One-to-One Friendship, Integrated Employment, and Leadership Development programs for individuals with and without intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) in California.

Jennie said that she is on the Autistic spectrum and has ADHD. She joined the organization three years ago and finds it a comfortable place for her. Best Buddies helps young people like herself and their families.

BESTBUDDIES.

Recap of the Meeting Apr 25, 2025

Guests

Jennie Allan - Best Buddies
Ernie Womack - guest of
President Catrina

Derek Maldonado - guest
of Deanna Maddock

Visiting Rotarians

Bob Deering - Past District
Governor, District Rotary
Foundation Chairperson

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

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

Best Buddies has five key mission pillars:

- One-to-One Friendships
- Integrated Employment
- Leadership Development
- Inclusive Living
- Family Support

The first pillar, **One-to-One Friendships**, focuses on building friendships between people with and without intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) and offering social interactions which are more inclusive. There are monthly outings such as game playing or going to the movies.

e-Buddies is a good way to develop friendships online using the e-Buddies social platform which is designed to expand friendships and shared experiences through virtual social events. Participants must be age 13 and older.

The second pillar is **Integrated Employment** which helps IDD people get jobs, earn income and support themselves. Best Buddies focuses on finding work that matches the job seeker's interests and talents.

Best Buddies developed partnerships with employers, assists with the hiring process and provides ongoing support to the employee and the employer.

The third pillar is **Leadership Development** which educates and empowers people with IDD to be leaders, public speakers and advocates. This helps to build self-esteem and confidence needed to successfully advocate for themselves, their peers and Best Buddies.

Jennie is an ambassador for Best Buddies and she has learned leadership and speaking skills which has helped her public speaking. She likes representing Best Buddies.

Jennie is attending American River College and she is starting a Best Buddies college chapter. Young adults with IDD historically have been isolated at home or in work environments. The Best Buddies Colleges program is changing this by providing the opportunity for people with IDD to be involved in their local campus and community life. The chapter will offer classroom training and help IDD students explore education options.



The fourth pillar is **Inclusive Living** by providing a vibrant, integrated living opportunity for people with and without IDD. Best Buddies Living locations are near school campuses – offering an environment that encourages the development of independent living skills, life-changing relationships, and educational pursuits in connection with college life. It is open to individuals over the age of 18 who are ready to embrace independent living. Residents are asked to participate in weekly group meals and activities, maintain employment or attend a higher education program.

The Sacramento inclusive living apartments are being built now and Jennie is excited about them. The apartments will foster an integrated experience for people with and without IDD to become active, contributing citizens who live independently in a dynamic environment where they can learn, grow, and thrive.

The fifth pillar is **Family Support** which supports and offers resources to raise a child with IDD. Parents who are experienced with raising an IDD child can be paired with parents that are learning how to raise an IDD child. Parents get emotional support at Best Buddies.

Every year, Best Buddies Friendship Walks are held around the United States. The walk is the leading event in the country to support inclusion for people with

intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Sacramento walk has been held every year since 2009 and the most recent walk was held in April at Natomas Park.

Prior to the walk there is a 10-to-12 week fundraising period and the members are encouraged to help raise money. It gets competitive to see which buddies can raise the most money. Last year Jennie was nominated to be an honor champion based on her fundraising success. After the walk there is a gala for the Best Buddies and she enjoys getting dressed up for the special party.

For more information about Best Buddies, visit their website BestBuddies.org

The Rotary Foundation

President Catrina introduced a second speaker for the meeting. Past District 5180 Governor **Bob Deering** is the Rotary District's chair for The Rotary Foundation (TRF) and he would give a talk about the monies that are collect and how they are used.



The Rotary Foundation was started in 1917 with the proceeds from a Rotary International Convention that was held that year. The starting amount was \$26.50 and today there is over \$1 billion in the foundation.

The Foundation is designed for positive change the world. Currently there are three area of focus at the Rotary International headquarters - increase membership, expand our public image and expand The Rotary Foundation.

What makes the Foundation so special is the projects it funds. Around the world there are Rotary District Grants and Global Grants making people's lives better. **The projects are 100% designed by and funded by Rotarians!** Since it was founded, the Foundation has spent more that \$4 billion on life-changing, sustainable projects.

There are three funds in the Foundation - the PolioPlus fund, the Annual Fund and the Endowment Fund.

Polio eradication is the number one priority for Rotary. In the 1980's, Rotary International decided to take on the massive effort to eliminate polio from the world. Bob joined Rotary in 1985 and remembers the early fundraising efforts. Last year there were 99 cases of Polio in the world, all in Pakistan and Afghanistan. So far this year there have been 10 cases reported. To declare Polio eradicated there has to be three-years in a row without any cases. October 24 is World Polio Day and clubs around the world hold special fundraising events.

The **PolioPlus Fund** is invested short-term and 100% of it is spent on the eradication of Polio. Bill Gates is the biggest partner and donor to the fund. Rotary International must raise \$50 million every year to obtain matching dollars from the Gates Foundation. Each dollar that Rotary raises will be matched by two dollars by the Gates Foundation. This means that there is \$150 million each year for Polio eradication.

The money donated to the the **Annual Fund** is invested for three years and the income made from the investment helps to pay for the administration costs of TRF. In the fourth year, 100% of the funds are used for Global Grants and District Grants.



In the fourth year fifty percent (50%) of the money donated by the Rotarians in each Rotary District comes back to their district. For example if District 5180 gives \$300,000 three years ago, \$150,000 comes back to the district in the fourth year. Half of that money (\$75,000) goes to the District for District Designated Funds (DDF) and the remaining half (\$75,000) goes to the World Fund for a Global Project.

The Sacramento Rotary Club is heading up a global project in Vietnam to combat human trafficking. The money will be used to educate 55,000 children. The WorldVision organization will put up \$400,000 and the Sacramento Rotary Club is trying to put together a matching \$400,00 in donations. Sacramento Rotary has put in \$50,000. Other clubs in the district are asked to donate their World funds. and they are asking other Rotary clubs in the district to help as well. Money in the World Fund will be used as well.

The Endowment Fund is made up of donations given by Rotarians now or in their will through bequests, life insurance policies, and estates. The fund also contains

endowments from our district. There are 10 endowments in our district and two are over \$2 million. The earning from those two endowments are designated for overseas education. Three students are going to Oxford this year.

Charity Navigator rates USA charities and for 16 years TRF has received 4-stars, their highest rating. For the last ten years TRF has received a 100% rating, the only charity to achieve that.

Bob went on to tell his personal story about TRF. Bob is classified as a Major donor four times over. (To be Major donor, you have to have given \$10,000 to TRF). He has designated money to TRF in his will and trust. In 2007, he traveled with Rotarians from this district (including Russ and Lorie Rheams), to Peru on a mission to hand out wheelchairs in Lima.

Working with the Lima Rotary club at a designated location, Bob's job was to be a greeter and to direct people to a grassy area where they would be fitted for their wheelchair. Bob used a wheelchair to move the person from the entrance and their family would come along.



Bob remembers this old Corolla car pulling up and eight people getting out of the car. A young man was carried out of the backseat. Bob helped the family wheel him to the fitting area and then Bob went back to the entrance.

Later the young man came out in his new wheelchair and wheeled up to Bob. He put his arms around Bob's knees and said "Garcia ". Bob didn't speak Spanish and the sister translated what her brother was saying to Bob. "Thank you for coming all the way from America to give me a wheelchair. Now I can go outside to see the sunshine and the stars at night without help." Bob saw how the money given to TRF made a difference in one person's life.

After Bob finished his talk, President Catrina asked both speakers, Bob and Jennie Allen, to come up to the podium. She gave a handmade wooden pen to each speaker and explain that Rotarian Bob Kurtz made the pen. Catrina thanked both guests for coming and talking to our club.

President Catrina talked about what the club is doing with the **Rotary District Designated Funds** this year. The first grant we received was used to purchase and install the Softball Snack Bar Shack located at the field near Beech and Oak for the baseball teams to use. The second grant is for a new stage at the Orangevale Grange. The ground has been broken and cement piers will be poured on Saturday morning.

Orangevale Foundation Chair **Bill Wagner** gave a status on our giving to the Foundation this year. We haven't meet our goal for annual giving this year. Proceeds from the Baseball Pool will help but think about making a donation before the end of Catrina's year.

Announcements

President Catrina had a list of upcoming events to sign up for and to put on your calendar.

The **Big Day of Service** is on Saturday, May 17. Joni Cyr sent out an invitation to help her with setting up for the kick off and to help make magic wands at a fun booth. Sweet up starts at 6:30am and finish at 9am.

Our Big Day of Service Project is working on the Pecan Dog Park. It's Project #2 on the Big Day of Service Web page where you can sign up to help. There will be painting, digging, weeding, etc.

On Friday, May 23, there won't be a Rotary meeting. (For new member's this is called a "**Dark Friday**".) It's the Friday before the three-day Memorial Day weekend. There will be a meeting On Friday, May 30.

On Saturday, May 31, there will be a work party for cleaning up the **Louis Pasteur Track**. For the new members, this is a walking/running track at the school that our Rotary club built and maintains. Bring rakes, shovels, clippers. David Shepard sent an invitation to help. Look for his April 30th email.

Monday, June 9, 6pm to 8pm - **Rotary District Awards and Recognition night** - will be handed at the Safety Center, aka Satety-ville on 3909 Bradshaw Road, Sacramento. Catrina is looking for volunteers to bring an appetizer and to help with the tear down.

The **Orangevale Summer Palooza** will run June 6-8. On Saturday, the **Red, White and Blue Parade** will be held in Orangevale. Our club will have a float in the parade. The **decorating party** will be on Friday, June 6 at Catrina's house.

President Catrina talked about the **Rotary District Grants**. The first grant money we received this year was used for the Softball Snack Bar Shack located at the ball field near Beech and Oak.

The second grant is for a stage at the Orangevale Grange. Ground has been broken. Cement piers are being poured on Saturday morning.

Don Russell, the club chairperson, said that today is Lost Sock Memorial Day. What is a single sock looking for? A soul mate! Why is the astronaut's favorite key on the computer keyboard? A space Key!

The next **Dine Around** will be Tuesday, May 13, 5:30pm at Brahman Bar and Gill located at 10239 Fair Oaks Blvd, in old Fair Oaks.

Dennis Sarkisian brought the rubber chicken back to the meeting. His wife Robbie crocheted a little outfit for the chicken. President Catrina asked him to keep the chicken another week.

Mairy Droese passed around a card for everyone to sign. It is for Janice Howarth, a member who recently moved to Texas. The card is a “welcome to your new home” card.

Big Day of Service

May 17 is the **Big Day of Service**.

The event schedule is as follows:

- 7:30 a.m. – Community Fair Opens at Bella Vista High School
- 7:30-8:30 a.m. – Check in, t-shirt pickup, and grab-n-go breakfast (pastries, fruit, etc.)
- 8:30-9:30 a.m. – Community Rally
- 9:30 a.m. – Meet with leaders and head to projects
- 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. - Project time!

Join our club in these two projects.

Rally Crew Needed.

Volunteers are needed for the welcome and logistics crew at Bella Vista High School! Help with event set up, t-shirt distribution, breakfast, and clean up after the rally. **Volunteers should arrive at 6:30 a.m. to set up.**

Dog Park Project.

Dog Park improvements at Pecan Park for Orangevale park goers and their furry friends. Improvement projects include:

- Install a new dog-wash station within the dog park so dogs can rinse-off after a hard day at play
- Install DG in low areas of the dog park to improve drainage and overall terrain
- Install a new bench
- Other general improvements will be made in and around the dog park
- weed the butterfly garden
- **Volunteers should arrive at 9:30 a.m.**

Be sure to sign up on both Big Day of Service Site and Rotary Club Runner

Dave sent invitation in emails he sent on April 7. That is the Club Runner sign up. Visit <https://www.bigdayofservice.us/> to sign up on the Big Day of Service website. Joni Cyr sent an invitation to help with setup. See her May 7th email.

Vocational Talk

Due to having two speakers today, there was no vocational speaker.

Prospector

This was supposed to be **Keith Wright's** job this month. **Deanna Maddock** filled in for him. She had lots of Mother's Day trivia questions.

When was Mother's Day officially recognized? **1914**

Who founded it? **Anna Jarvis**

What is the most popular flower to give on Mother's Day? **The carnation.**

What is the most popular month around the world for celebrating Mother's Day? **The month of May.**

On average, how many phone calls in the USA are made to mothers? **122 million**

What percentage of gifts are purchased within one week of Mother's Day? **60%**

Happy Fines

Audrey Smith-Wiberg is happy that Bill is helping to feed the participants of the Special Olympic event on Saturday.

Deanna said that a sweater was left at the Spring Fling. She auctioned the sweater off to **Mike McKibbin** for \$5. Apparently it was his wife Celeste's sweater!

The Orange Ball Raffle

There were 6 balls and \$104 in the pot. This week, **Janet Cahill** had the right ticket and she pulled out



the orange ball. She was in shock because it was the first time she won the Rotary raffle!! Besides winning the money, she have the honor of selling raffle tickets at the next meeting.

The Thought of the Day

President Catrina liked what Bob Deering said in his talk - "Rotary's tomorrow depends on what we do today". As we reflect on Bob's insights, consider these words "The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members." - Coretta Scott King.

Have a great week... and go out and share "The MAGIC OF ROTARY"