

The Orange Peel

2026-2027 | President Steve Blair | Rotary Creates a Lasting Impact!

Next Meeting Friday, Aug 7, 2026

Speaker - Salwa Kasabian -
Folsom Hope

Greeters - Jim Buntin

Invocation - Phyllis
Macdonald

Vocation - Katrina Womack

Raffle tickets - Audrey
Smith-Wiberg

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?

Breathe California



Speaker-chair Licia Green introduced Jennifer Finton from Breathe California Sacramento Region. Jennifer has spent her entire career in the nonprofit sector and has a passion for environmental sustainability. Jennifer has a Bachelor's in Botany and Plant Sciences from UC Riverside and a Master's in Business Administration from UC Davis. She landed at Breathe

California after meeting her mentor in grad school. Today she is the CEO of the organization.

Breathe California Sacramento Region is a nonprofit dedicated to clean air, lung health, and tobacco-free communities in the Sacramento region. www.sacbreathe.org. The organization started by a nurse in 1917 as the Sacramento Society for the Prevention and Cure of Tuberculosis. Since then it has gone through seven name changes but the focus has always been on lung health.

The organization advocates for clean air, promoting lung health and supporting tobacco free initiatives through education, outreach and policy advocacy in Sacramento and surrounding counties.

The organization partners with schools and youth. For example, they teach the students what its like to have asthma or CPOD by having them breathe through a straw.

Recap of the Meeting May 15, 2026

Guests

Jennifer Finton - Breathe
California Sacramento Region

Visiting Rotarians

None

District 5180 Governor

Dave Veden
2026-2027

**Rotary International
President 2025-2026**
Olayinka Hakeem Babalola

**The 2025-2026 Rotary
International presidential
theme is "Create Lasting
Impact"**

While Sacramento has one of the lowest smoking rates in the country, there is still work to be done in prevention. Vaping has become very popular, especially with the youth and its very addictive. A law in California bans flavored caps which is how a lot of youth got into vaping, especially ages 14 to 19 years old.

Breathe California has a youth advisory board to inspire students to be environmental leaders and public health advocates. One study they worked on was the pervasive tobacco imagery on screen. They watched current movies, music videos and TV shows for tobacco and cannabis use. Jennifer played a video showing the results of the study and the statistics.

The students became very aware of this problem and began calling out movie producers to reduce or eliminate depicting tobacco/cannabis in entertainment.

Students also want to know about methane emissions and how they can help reduce green house gases. Education is provided about how to divert organic waste from landfill. The students learned how to be super sorters in school. Each lunch table has a leader and they reinforce the sorting activities.

Jennifer said that the schools must be compliant is diverting the organic material or they will be fined. The students take the sorting lessons home and that helps everyone.

Another effort of Breathe California is designing and retrofitting communities so that people can move around more easily to improve air quality. Having community car shares reduces the need for everyone to



own a car. For short trips like grocery shopping the community car can be rented for \$4 an hour. Some school districts can purchase electric school buses which helps the air quality.

Jennifer wrapped up her talk by inviting Rotarians to visit the website www.sacbreathe.org. President Steve thanked the Jennifer for her talk and presented her with a handcrafted pen made by member Bob Kurtz.

Announcements and Committee Reports

Jim Buntin started the meeting with an invocation that could be summed up with the words “my friend in Rotary...”. We are all blessed to be able to say that.

Bob Kurtz passed around a copy of the new club group photo that he will put in the frame that hangs on the wall of La Placita. In the frame are copies of the last few years of group photos. He passed them around so everyone could remember how young they once looked!

Janet Cahill, Community Chair said that the next American River Cleanup is on Saturday, August 1st. She handed out parking passes. Janet also reminded everyone that our next day to serve at the Food Bank is Friday, August 7.

Dave Shepard, the club secretary, sent out an invoice to everyone of \$187 for club dues. Next month he will send an invoice of \$131 which is for district dues and club runner. Please pay the invoice using your typical method. The invoice lists a new way to pay but please don't use that method because it will cost the club money to process. If you have questions, check with David.

Don Russell, Club chair, said that today is National Day. Don asked “How do dogs like to travel? - by a mutt-cycle.” “What do dogs put on pizza - mutt-arellano cheese”. The National Night Out will be on Tuesday, August 4 at Dairy Queen. Saturday, August 8, **Joni Cyr** will host a backyard party. Bring an appetizer and drinks. The next Dine Around is August 12.



Vocational Talk

Jim Buntin talked about his photo journey, showing examples of his work as he talked. He belongs to the Roseville Sun City Photo Club and he uses Photoshop to edit his photos. Some of the photos that Jim talked about were taking pictures of dogs, several dogs at once, and how tricky it is to get the dogs to look at him and his camera. Jim takes pictures of plants and flowers. He likes to take “painterly” flowers.

Jim got a lens for taking close up shots so he can better capture details and textures. He talked about “focus stacking” to get sharp images. Photo stacking is a technique that combines multiple images taken at different focus distances to create a single final photo. The example he showed was a cluster of pennies.

Jim goes out bird watching with the Sun City Roseville Birding Club. Jim showed pictures of the beautiful birds he saw. He also takes field trips with the photo club.

Jim talked about the “blue hour” photography that captures the deep blue tones of twilight right before sunrise and right after sunset. He showed some of his examples and the steps he took to capture the image.

A tip that Jim gave at the end of his talk is to have an eight second exposure when capturing fireworks. He ended his talk with photos the the July 4th fireworks.

Happy Fines

Bill Wagner is happy about his golf tournament and an upcoming lunch.

Patty Wolf is happy for the club.

Janet Cahill is happy about her recent birthday and excited about the high tea that **Jan Shepard** is putting on for her

Rob Auernig said that today is the 36th anniversary of starting his business!

Cindy Morris was happy to celebrate her grandson’s 6th birthday.

Bert Smith was happy with the work that Rob’s shop did to fix her car after a lady backed into her.

Lorie and Russ Rheams were happy to have a date with their granddaughter.

Katrina Womack was happy to celebrate 5 years with Rotary.

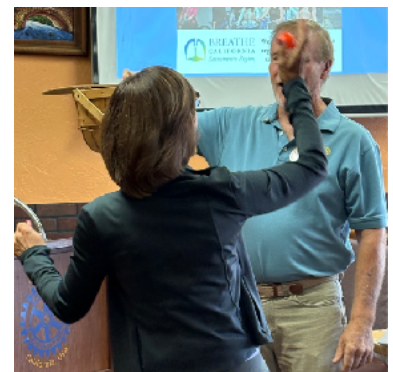
Mairy Droese celebrated completing a RV trip with her husband. They were on the road for 9 weeks driving to the east coast and Maine. They visited 27 states and drove over 8,000 miles.

The Orange Ball Raffle

This week there were seven golf balls and \$84. **Audrey Smith-Wiberg** had the winning ticket and she pulled the orange golf ball out of the basket! That means that Audrey will be selling tickets next week.

Thought for the day

“To breathe clean air is a basic humanity necessity, not a privilege.”



American River Cleanup photos on the next page.

