

# The Orange Peel

2024-2025 | President Catrina Womack | "Together We Thrive"

## Next Meeting Friday, Sep 20, 2024

**Speaker** - Sankalp -  
Pumpkin growing  
extraordinaire

**Greeters** - Don Glover  
and Jonathan Spangler

**Invocation** - Patty Wolff

**Vocation** - Deanna  
Maddox

**Prospector** - 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?

## RYE - Rotary Youth Exchange



Past President **Bob Kurtz** had the pleasure of introducing **Jeannie Sparks** who is the Rotary District's RYE Chairperson.

Jeannine's relationship with Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE) began when her daughter Allison applied for and was

selected to be the outbound RYE student for the Rotary Club of Elk Grove. It was the school year 2015-16 and she went to South Korea.

Jeannine became active with the students and Rotarians in the RYE program and she decided to join the Laguna Sunrise club. She went on to become the in-bound RYE coordinator for her club and eventually the RYE Chairperson for the District.

## Recap of the Meeting Sept 13, 2024

### Rotary Guests

**Jeannine Sparks** - Laguna Sunrise Rotary Club & RYE Chairperson

**Dean Hendricks** - Citrus Height Rotary Club

**Emma Minter** - former RYE student

**Bela Arney** - former RYE student

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

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

Many ask why go on an exchange? There are many answers around maturity, experiencing a new culture and the once in a lifetime experience that stays with you forever. Jeanine described RYE as one of Rotary's Crown Jewels. For local clubs it is an opportunity to promote peace in a real way. It is a recruiting tool which brings persons, like herself, into club membership.

Each year more than five thousand students participate in Rotary Youth Exchanges worldwide, so with each RYE participant usually lodging with three different families, it adds up to eight thousand families affected by the exchange experience. Students do not get to pick their host country or their families. That is done by the Rotary District. Among the challenges that the students face, the most fun part is working on their language skills. The average cost for an exchange is \$7875 per student.

Precautions that are taken to ensure the safety of the exchange students. Safety training as well as fingerprinting is mandatory for the club president, the youth protection officer, the youth exchange officer, the exchange counselors and the host families who encounter the exchange student. The Rotary District and the Rotary clubs work together to cover the costs of the exchange experiences.

The hardest task in the program is finding the three host families. The outbound RYE student and their family help to find families to become the inbound student's host families. It is a very rewarding experience to host a student from another country and lifetime bonds are formed.



Emma Minter (left) and Bela Arney

Jeannine introduced the two visitors who came with her. **Emma Minter** and **Bela Arney** were RYE students in 2019. Emma visited Belgium and Bela visited Bolivia. They each talked about their experiences. They said that they were grateful for the opportunity, how the experience increased their self-confidence and how it improved their language skills. They both agreed the it was a “lifetime in a year.”

For more information about the Rotary Youth Exchange program, visit [rye5180.org](http://rye5180.org)

When Jeannine finished her talk, President Catrina thanked her and presented her with a custom wooden pen made by Rotarian Bob Kurtz.

## Announcements

**President Cartrina Womack** read off the upcoming events to put on your calendar:

Sept 20 - Orangevale Summer Nights featuring Sunset River

Sept 28 - Bow Wow Days - 9am - 1pm at the Orangevale Community Park

Sept 28 - A mini Service Day at the Orangevale-Fair Oaks Food Bank - morning

Sept 29 - Food Bank and Farm Open House - 4pm to 7pm

Oct 12 - Community Food Drive @ Divine Savior

**Dennis Sarkisian** announced that our day at the Food Bank (first Friday of the month) we served 79 families (204 Folks). The Food bank needs staples such as peanut butter, cereal canned foods, pasta sauce and chili.

**Don Russell** said that today is International Chocolate Day. The recent Dine Around was on Tuesday. They went to California Fish and it was great food.

The Lobster Feed is on September 28; at Don Glover's house, 7701 Green Ridge Way. Don is looking for items for the event. He need chairs, Cooker pots, Burners and Propane tanks.

**Steve Blair** reminded everyone that he sent out an email with your invoice for the Club Dues. Check your email and pay up. The joe Surra football pool was passed around. The money will go to The Rotary Foundation.

**Deanna Maddock** passed around a clip board so that everyone can sign up to help. Here are the committees and their lead:

- Table setup and breakdown and cleanup - All Rotarians on Deck to Help
- Food and Servers - Jeff Valtman
- Bar Service - Catrina Womack
- Sponsorships - Dennis Sarkisian
- Raffle - Diana Newman
- Wristbands - Lorie Rheams
- Cake Dash cake pickup - Don Russell
- Cake Dash Setup - Don Russell
- Cake Dash envelopes and money counters - Don Russell
- Silent Auction - Item Hustlers
- Silent Auction - Set up Auction Items
- Live Auction - Spotters and Checkout
- Check In Table - Michelle Famstead
- Hors-Devours - Catherine
- Check Out Table - Steve Blair
- Tickets and seating - Russ Rheams
- Tech/OneCause - Brad Squires and Dave Shepherd
- Event Chair - Deanna Maddock

Deanna finished up by saying that she expects the Crab Feed to sell out in 24 hours.

**President Catrina** urged all to sign up to staff the Crab Feed. We particularly need folks to sign up to solicit and assemble gift baskets.

## **Vocational Talk**

Jonathan Spangler gave the vocational talk.



## **Prospector**

Audrey Smith-Wiberg is this month's prospector.



## **The Orange Ball**

The ticket winner was **Steve Blair** but no cigar.

## **The Thought for the Day**

Youth is a canvas upon which the masterpiece of tomorrow is painted.

## **Have Fun and Share Rotary!**