

Meeting Date: Tuesday, May 14, 2024



The pledge started the meeting - **Karl Diekman** presided.



Followed by our own infamous singers giving a wonderful rendition of Rotary Grace sung by **Steve Venables** and **Dan Stroski**.

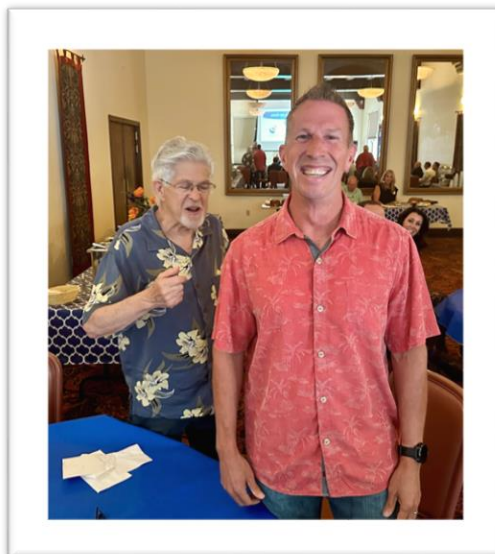


Guest Rotarians included Raylene **Duane Ewing** & **Denny Patrick** from Luna Vista.



Guests of Rotarians:

Brian Dwyer once again introduced **Angela Lynn** while **Steve Venables** introduced **Chris Stamm** to their final meetings as “guests” before becoming full members.



And in giving them full welcoming honors, **Yvette Roy** officially welcomed Lynn and Stamm as members to Rotary.





New Members

Angela I. Lynn

Sponsored by Brian Dwyer

Chris Stamm

Sponsored by Steve Venables



Announcements!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ▶ The Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary Club will lead a team for the sixth time to Guatemala from October 6 to 17. The team will include up to 15 team members made up of Rotarians, family members, and friends from clubs throughout the district. If you want to join the team:
- ▶ Contact Skip McGowan at 925-989-7677 or jackbmccowan@gmail.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ▶ \$10 raise in club dues for 2024/25, elevating dues from \$200 to \$210 per member - , Rotary International dues are slated to increase by \$5 per member, while our district (5160) is increasing \$3.50 per member. Additionally, there's now a \$99 annual fee for website access.
- ▶ Increase dinner tickets to \$70 each. To incentivize early commitment, we could offer a discount, pricing tickets at \$60 each for those purchased before August 1, 2024., amounting to \$240 for a set of four.

June 25th – Demotion Day – at Noon

July 2nd – NO MEETING.

July 9th – Bob Nakken as President begins his Presidency.

Next Tuesday

Next Week's Program



Brian Pakpour,
Attorney/Partner,
PakpourBanksLLP,
Davis; 'New Developments
in California Family Law';
<https://pakpourbanks.com/>



Let's Celebrate

BIRTHDAYS –

TOM LA BRIE – MAY 1
ERIC SHARP – MAY 2
DICK HOPPIN – MAY 6
LISA MARTINEZ DUNHAM – MAY 7
ERNIE HODGES – MAY 9
BLAIR VOELZ – MAY 10



Dick Hoppin celebrates 84 years with his twin sister while **Ernie Hodges** shared of his Tennessee roots going back 77 years in celebration.

Blair Voelz stated that he is 73 or 74 years and was born back in Lansing, Michigan which serves as the state capitol.



Inspirational Quote of the Day

Who said?

"Whatever you do, always give 100%.
Unless you are donating blood"

Bill Murray





Recognition of the week was hosted by **Dan Stroski** and **Gary Bunch** was his first recipient of a Mother's Day themed query.



Angela worked through a question regarding the Queen mother.



While **Chris** got to focus on our own "Queen mother", JFK's mother.



Reggie Powell knew the details of Princess Di while **Mark Ullrich** knew the grim details of Ma Baker and her Gang.



Peter Holmes was “game show” ready with his decisive knowledge of Laura Bush which inspired **Shawn Seyk** to share a happy fond memory about his mother-in-Law who had passed this past year in honor and dignity.



Gary Wegener didn’t miss a beat in connecting with Cher while **Chuck Maltese** fondly shared the virtues that Mother Teresa.



Kevin Haarberg shared in insight of Kate Hudson being the famed daughter of Goldie Hawn while **Marie Galbo** danced around Liza Minnelli's family and mother lineage.

Bob Nakken told tales of Giants' wins, and family seeing the newest granddaughter in baseball attire; **Wendy Casas-Raviotta** introduced the speaker.



Karl Diekman found time with **David Greenwald** before the meeting before he began his presentation sharing the mission and intent of “the Vanguard” - a digital publication with more than 30 interns while exposing Everyday Injustice.



Everyday Injustice

- The media focuses on extraordinary cases
 - The high profile crime
 - The Sensational trial
 - Murder
 - The Death Penalty
 - The conviction of an innocent man
 - A police killing of an unarmed Black man



THE PROBLEM

- The media lacks the resources to cover the courts
- Courts are the least Transparent branch of government
- Outside of a few high profile cases, the typical court case gets little coverage
- Newspapers are cutting back their operations
- This allows the police and prosecution to get away with misconduct
- Public is unaware of true nature of the system

To solve that problem... we created court watch

Interns

Monitor Court Case

Shine a light on injustice


But if you only look at massive injustices in the courts you miss the way that the courts create injustice on an everyday basis – or what we call everyday injustice



What should you look for???

- Bail – is the person being held pretrial?
- Speedy trial – have they been held in custody too long pretrial?
- Racial Inequities – Black and Brown people facing disproportionate punishment
- Gang charges – are they actually gang members or young people of color?
- Inhumanity – is the system treating people fairly?
- Motion to suppress – did the police violate rights?
- Use of force – did the police use force in making an arrest?
- Overcharging – does the punishment fit the crime?
- Acquittal or charges dropped – were they innocent?
- Prosecutorial misconduct – did the prosecution withhold or destroy evidence?

A man gets 378 years in prison in Yolo County for a crime he almost certainly did not commit



We have identified 14 people convicted in Yolo County of crimes they did not commit – only one in the 15 years of my doing this has been released

The homeless man accused of having a bomb breaks down crying

Shoplifter Body Slammed by Police in SF

In 2011 there was a death penalty case in Yolo County

- But one of the trials I covered was far more interesting...

Gang Case Falls Apart For Prosecutor Following Poor Eyewitness Identification Techniques

Posted by David Greenwood · Date: November 28, 2011 · in Court Watch · 000 Comments

Share:



On January 24, 2011, a white male in his twenties, musician in a band, was walking home from his summer's house on Sacramento Avenue (on West Sacramento) at 10:30 pm on a Monday night. He was wearing headphones when he was approached by a person in a Michael Jordan jersey, who asked where he was from.

When he responded that he lived right there, he was told, "You better get your ass there now". As he continued, a group of young individuals came towards him and one of them said, "You're here to check your pockets."

He would lose them his wallet and phone, described himself as punched and hit in the head over 30 times.

As soon as the attack happened he managed to flag down a police officer, who was responding to a call about a group of 5-6 Hispanic kids drinking. As the officer arrived, he saw two kids trying to jump the fence, spotted another walking towards him, and two others were across the street.

But they miss what happens everyday in the courtroom

98 percent of cases plead out before trial

Injustice takes many forms

Often the low profile cases have injustice!

Thank you, Preston Schaub, for keeping all the digital details flowing and accurate!!

