



DISTRICT 5160

www.rotary5160.org

the SPLINTER

CLUB 470 - ORGANIZED APRIL 29, 1926

www.woodlandrotary.org

Meeting Date: January 14, 2025

Today's Meeting



President Bob Nakken welcomed us to the meeting on a bright, and less breezy day. Visiting Rotarian **Don Sharp** got us started on today's Pledge of Allegiance. Without having any lyrics to view on the overhead screen, **Dan Stroski** and **Steve Venables** still managed to get us through Rotary Grace.

President Bob thanked **Reggie Powell**, **Don Huff III** and **Tabb Randolph** for their set up work today, **Yvette Roy** for doing Meals on Wheels this week, as well as **Preston Schaub** handling today's technology, **Kris Kristensen** preparing the Splinter, and **David Pinto** taking pictures.



President Bob's Inspirational Quote



"I'm convinced of this: Good done anywhere is good done everywhere. For a change, start by speaking to people rather than walking by them like they're stones that don't matter. As long as you're breathing, it's never too late to do some good."

No one knew the author was **Maya Angelou**, American author, poet, performer and activist.

Birthdays & Anniversaries



None today.

Visiting Rotarians and Guests



Mike Chandler
reported Woodland
Sunrise Rotarians

Byron MacConnell and **Don Sharp**
were back visiting us today.



No Rotarians had any guests with them today.

Announcements



President Bob Nakken announced that Club meeting lunch prices will rise to \$23 per person starting the first meeting in February. This is due to an increase in lunch prices by the caterer and was anticipated as they took over last September. This price is expected to remain in effect through June 2026.

President Bob said he has received a few questions about Rotary's efforts to aid those displaced by the 2025 wildfires in the Los Angeles area. Rotary District



5280, the district encompassing the areas where these fires are being fought, has established a relief fund website which can be reached at:

<https://rotary5280.org/page/2025-wildfire-disaster-relief/> A link to this was also provided in a recent email by our Rotary District Governor **Dan Giraldi**. Donations to the fund can be made at this site.

President Bob reported the Club's **Grants and Services Committee** have received and vetted four suggestions from different community organizations late last year

for local community improvements. Of these, the Committee recommends two for **funding from the Club's 2025 Dinner Auction** (set for April 26th at Velocity Island Park) proceeds:

***YOLO FARM TO FORK** - Up to \$11,000 for construction of two large instructional gazebos for the outdoor edible gardens at Beamer Elementary and Gibson Elementary schools. Currently the gardens are not shaded and have no seating. Materials will be procured from local suppliers, individuals and firms for the construction. The structures will provide an outdoor classroom (shaded with seating) for teachers, staff, volunteers and students to learn about outdoor gardening. Construction is planned to be completed by August 2025. This is the first priority for Auction proceed funding.*

***WOODLAND HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION** - The balance of 2025 Dinner Auction proceeds, up to \$38,387, would be used to complete the purchase of state-of-the-art surgical tool to assist in orthopedic surgeries. The equipment is radio-graphic camera technology (x-ray machine) called the **C-Arm** (due to its shape) and is used in spinal, hip, knee and other orthopedic surgeries. Woodland Healthcare already has 4 C-Arms, but with demand for use all are in operation creating 30-minute or longer delays in some surgeries. The new machine will have updated technology including the ability to capture precise measurements and a map for surgeons to use. The new machine captures 3-D imaging allowing surgeons to view a multi plane image. The machine allows for precise confirmation and analysis of structures not currently available with the existing machines. The total cost of this C-Arm is \$399,467, and the Foundation has assembled all but the requested amount, \$38,387.*

President Bob explained this recommendation was approved for funding by the Woodland Rotary Endowment Board of Directors last week and is today being submitted for member approval. **President Bob** reminded us funding of these proposals depends on achieving the proceeds in our 2025 Dinner Auction. If the event proceeds fall short of what is proposed, it may require contributions from the Endowment's Community Fund, or from on the Woodland Healthcare Foundation to make up the difference. **Gena Bravo**, President/CEO of Woodland Memorial Hospital, said the request for the C-Arm originated from Dr. Meredith, the orthopedic surgeon at the Woodland Clinic who has assisted many local patients. **Gena** confirmed that additional funding for the device could probably to achieved through their Foundation if necessary.

After taking additional questions, **President Bob** asked for a show of hands of members who supported these beneficiary recommendations for the Club's 2025 Dinner Auction. **The vote in favor of the recommendations was unanimous.**

Recognition



Chuck Maltese oversaw today's Recognition. After taking happy time comments, **Chuck** asked respondents to provide either your resolutions for the new year, holiday travel stories, or recommendations on 'what do we need in Woodland'. **Chuck** volunteered his resolution was to lose 10lbs in the new year, and shared he now has only 14lbs left to go.



Ernie 'Redskin' Hodges was happy his Washington Commanders were the only victorious visiting team in this past weekend's NFL playoff games.

Don Huff III and **Dave Molinaro** both had fun trip to Texas over the holidays to hunt for sandhill cranes. Unfortunately, the cranes never got the memo and weren't there to hunt. **Dave** did enjoy a diner they found in Littlefield TX, otherwise they

never left their lodgings.

Chuck then fined both **Shawn Seyk** and **Eric Sharp**, who had given local



presentations (**Shawn** was last week's program speaker at the Club) on bitcoin recently,

because their presentations 'hurt his head'. **Shawn** said it set a bad precedence to fine our program speakers. **Eric** wondered when we will be allowed to pay our fines in bitcoins?





Christian Sherrill was Woodland needs a good Italian restaurant; an idea supported by a few others. **Kris Kristensen** suggested Woodland would benefit from a good steakhouse, to give Winters a little competition.

Ann Taylor had a full house over the holidays including her sons and their families, which she housed for three days. She was delighted, and happy when they left.



Kevin Haarberg reported our food server **Jordi** is currently in the hospital for tests on seizures.

Rags to Riches



After three draws **Dan Stroski** finally found a winning ticket. With the pot at **\$137** and 25 cards left, **Preston Schaub** drew a free lunch.

Today's Program



Martha Michel, President of the **Folklorico Latino de Woodland**, was our program speaker today giving us an overview of their organization.

Martha started with Folklorico in 1997 as a youth dancer and immersed herself in the group, earning the Marina Ramirez Scholarship in 2002. In 2004 she began attending Sacramento State, eventually receiving a master's degree in public health in 2022, while remaining connected to the group. In 2011 she became a Folklorico Board member and served as its President until 2016. Today she is a mother of



four children and, with a deep passion for Folklorico, **Martha** returned to the President's role last year.



Folklorico Latino de Woodland was founded in 1986 by James 'Fred' Harvey-Keith, Helena Ochoa and Marina Ramirez as a non-profit, 503c organization, devoted to promoting awareness of Mexican culture through dance, music, song, and folklore through performances and by participating in local community events. The group accomplishes this through performances of traditional Mexican dances from various regions of Mexico held during the year at both private functions as well as community events throughout Yolo and Sacramento Counties and culminating in our annual show at the end of the year.

Martha indicated there are 69 active families currently involved in Folklorico. Most are from Woodland as well as other communities in Yolo County. There are 84 dancers currently enrolled; 60 are ages 5-17, with 24 ages 18-61 years old. Most of the dancers are female. The dancers receive instruction from Folklorico's three instructors. Tuition is \$50 per student, with discounts being provided to families with multiple students. **Martha** emphasizes that Folklorico treats each other 'like family' with several family-oriented events like BBQs, and group trips like visiting the holiday ice rink last month at Freeman Park. Families also support scholarships for Folklorico members who graduate from high school to pursue college education, such as the one Martha herself benefitted from.

Instructors



Gloria Rodriguez

Artistic Director, instructor & choreographer

In 1986, Gloria "Glo" Rodriguez joined FLdW as the Assistant Instructor, before being promoted to Artistic Director in 1988. Her extensive experience in Folklorico includes performances with several prominent companies in Northern California, attendance at national folklorico conferences and workshops, and travels to Mexico to immerse herself in the art. For the past 36 years, Glo has committed herself to FLdW by participating in community events, paying attention to the finest details in costumes to preserve the culture's authenticity, and creating intricate footwork and choreography. FLdW is privileged to have an Artistic Director with such profound knowledge and expertise, and Glo is also proud of her three adult children, all members of FLdW.



Franchesca Rios

Instructor & Choreographer

A seasoned instructor in Folklorico for over 15 years, imparting her knowledge in various schools in the Woodland and Davis School districts, as well as Danzantes del Alma from UC Davis. She has 25 years of experience in the field; Sinaloa, Tamaulipas, and Yucatán regions - her absolute favorites!



Sara Rodriguez

Instructor & Choreographer

Since the age of three, Sarita has been devoted to dancing, particularly Folklorico. She has also mastered other dance styles, including Polynesian, Hip-Hop, Salsa, Bachata, and ballroom. Her love for dancing is so immense that she can't resist moving to any music that catches her ear. Not only is she an accomplished dancer, but she is also a dedicated teacher, inspiring others to pursue their passion.

The group rents a studio on 2nd Street in Woodland where most of Folklorico's instruction and activities take place. Many of the group's dancer costumes come from Veracruz, Mexico. **Martha** says fundraising helps pay the costs for rent and costumes, but the group has also benefitted from corporate sponsorships including one from Waste Management. **Martha** also explained that the community's awareness of Folklorico was impacted by the restrictions taking place during the COVID pandemic. She said the group is making an extra effort now to get the organization's name and activities back out to the local public.

More about Folkloric Latino de Woodland can be found at its website:

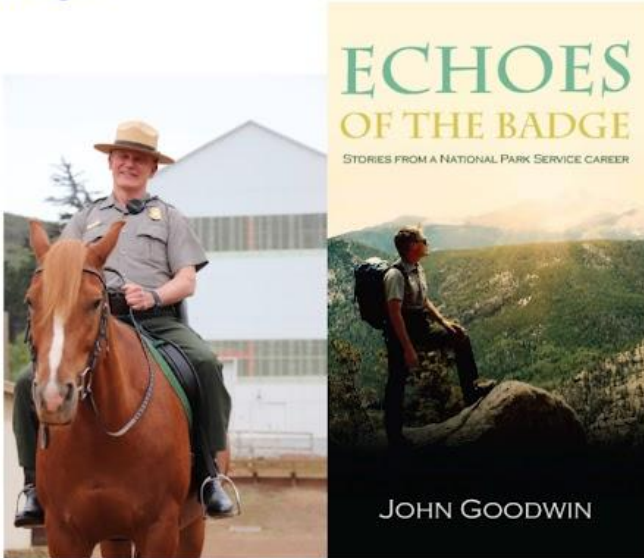
<http://www.folkloricolatinodewoodland.org/> Thanks to **Mark Ullrich** for arranging for and introducing today's program.

Upcoming Programs

January 2025

Disease Prevention and Treatment Month

21: **John Goodwin**, retired National Park Service Ranger & author; '**Reflections from 27 Years as a National Park Ranger**'



28: **Frits van der Hoek**, Acting Supervising Deputy District Attorney, Yolo County District Attorney's Office; '**Changes in the Law Regarding Prop 36**'; <https://cpoa.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Proposition-36-2024>



See more program listings on the Club's website at:
<http://www.woodlandrotary.org/Programs.cfm>