

## **President Jake's Rotary Continues to Zoom**



President Jake started the meeting with a picture of Paul Harris behind him. The words behind him, "I believe we can change the world one life at a time." Rotary does that for those that serve and those that receive. Pres Jake thanked all those responsible for making the Zoom meeting happen. Usually Wendy Dickens is involved in the production but she is now helping to fight forest fires.

First up was "honor to youth." James Alspech introduced Kaden representing the Boy Scouts of America. Not only has Kaden become an Eagle Scout he volunteers his time helping others in many ways. He has just about all the awards a Boy Scout can achieve.

Kaden exemplifies the words "Service Above Self." Congratulations Kaden for a job well done. No doubt you will be a success in anything you do in your work and life.



President Jake introduced Todd Davis for the feature "When I Became A Rotarian." Todd said he



always enjoyed Rotary serving as a Director and in many other ways. The service to the community and to the world always inspired Todd. It was Todd's wife Kristi who inspired him. While working with her he became a true Rotarian.

The sharing of Rotary projects and ideas has inspired Todd to become a Rotarian and not just a member in name. No doubt there is a moment for all of us when we realize we are truly a Rotarian.

## **Jake's Recognitions**

First up was Greg Balkovek. Greg had a wonderful trip up north to visit Kathleen Jordan in Canby, Oregon. From there Greg went to Washington State to visit relatives. A highlight during the trip was a drive by car show. Greg and Kathy had a great time. In fact it was worth \$100 to the club.

Next was Marjeanne Stone. A visit to see the grand kids is always worth \$100. Thanks Marjeanne. Glad you had a great time.

Jonathan Anderson seen with his friend Dr. John Sutherland are enjoying eating peppers. Jonathan said "eating peppers can and has become addictive. One of his favorites is the ghost pepper. After enjoying a couple of these delicacies, Jonathan mentioned it was difficult to speak and even breathe. One feels like they were gut shot. \$50 now and another \$50 when Pres Jake eats one.

Todd Jones is now in charge of Stillwater Park and all the businesses going in there. The sign says it all with Pace Engineering and Weaver Lumber ready to build there. Todd gave \$100 to the club.

Tony Giovaniello gave \$100 for a fantastic fishing trip on a river near the Grand Tetons.



Greg Balkovek visits Kathleen Jordan and family.



Jonathan Anderson eating peppers.



Marjeanne Stone visits the grand kids.



Todd Jones with big plans for the EDC.



Tony Giovaniello catches the biggest fish.

Next week, September 24th - Zoom 11:30. The program will be Team 5. The program will be Re-branding Shasta Regional Community Foundation. Speaker Kerry Carnaci, CFNS

## Today's Guest and Speaker Larry Olmstead "Equality"

Larry Olmstead is the president and CEO of The United Way of Northern California.



Larry's program mirrors that of the United Way, "Equality and Justice." Larry says he is dedicated to a call for action to bring equality and justice for all Americans.

Larry grew up in the Bronx, NY. He has lived in Washington D.C., Baltimore, Detroit, Miami, San Jose and Harare, Zimbabwe. He has been the Diversity Officer for a Fortune 1000 company. He has created and implemented diversity training programs for 15,000 employees.

Larry has taught and spoken on issues of equality for executive development programs at Harvard and Northwestern University.

Larry spoke about the racial issue that America faces today. He spoke of the events in the past and those that have occurred recently. The United Way has approved the following membership requirements for its 1,800 local United Ways: First adopt and post a statement opposing racism, second ensure staff and Board undergo diversity training on an annual basis, Third to ensure that issues of equity are considered in out community impact work, including grants to community organizations.

Larry mentioned that we cannot achieve meaningful progress in our core areas of education, health and financial stability without tackling social equity and injustice. He said that minorities struggle to make ends meet financially. That there was a big difference in the amount of money received by white school districts compared to those primarily serving people of color. Larry also said that Covid-19 has adversely affect people of color harder than other ethnic groups.

The North State key issues include, Lack of awareness of issues around diversity, equity and inclusion, economic opportunity and mobility, awareness, cultural sensitivity and respect for native American communities, policies treatment, services for the homeless and for people suffering from mental illness. To address these issue United Way has created the Equity Fund United Front. The United Way of Northern California, North Valley Community Foundation and Shasta Regional Community Foundation provided a total \$100,000 in seed money for the fund which is administered by the UNNC. The vision of the Equity fund is, strategic grants to agencies, programs and initiatives, future work to include sponsorship of public awareness and education events, speakers and public forums, the vision to include identifying and training community leaders, particularly those representing underserved populations.

The first north state grants are going to, African American Family and Cultural Center, Oroville, Hmong Cultural Center, Oroville, Latino Outreach of Tehama County, Native Roots Network, Redding, Shasta County Citizens Advocating for Respect and Stonewall Alliance of Chico.

Larry spoke of the Shasta Equal Justice Coalition. This group represents a group of organizations and individuals committed to working for fair and equal justice for all residents of Shasta County. Official member organizations include, ACLU, Shasta Beloved Community, SCCAR and the United Way of Northern California. The Redding Police Department, Anderson Police and the Sheriff's Office attended the inaugural meeting. The Redding Police Department has been very active with the SEJC in its training and all procedures.

The future for the Equal Justice Coalition is to conduct continued discussions with RPD Chief Schueller to lead to trust-building actions. Also to engage in dialogue with other law enforcement agencies. Also to broaden trust discussions to other sectors.

It is hoped that Rotary will ensure diversified leadership, continue to think diversely when recruiting new members, consider programs targeting underserved communities, ensure diversity when selecting scholarship recipients and looks for more diverse programs and speakers.

Thanks Larry for a very informative program. We thank the UWNC for what it does.





Disclaimer: Redding Rotary encourages our members to support our advertisers. The Rotary Club of Redding does not endorse any one company, business, organization or individual placing an ad in our newsletter.