

# CORTLAND BREAKFAST ROTARY NEWS

*We Have Fun, And We Get Things Done!*



CORTLANDBREAKFASTROTARY.ORG



EDITED BY SOPHIE WELBURN



## President Mark Roberts

### Front Desk:

Jim Dempsey &  
Kurt Behrenfeld

### Thought for the Day:

Chuck Feiszli

### Raffle Winner:

Karen DeWitt

Attendance: 20

Zoom: 1

Guests: Pino Alarco Hernandez

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### \* Founder's Breakfast

February 18, 2026

Buffet breakfast; featuring Steve Cinquanti who will speak on the club's history.

### \* Rotary Leadership Institute

March 7, 2026

Held at Johnson City High School.

### \* District 17 Social Gathering

April 2, 2026

At Vesper Hills Golf Course in Tully, 5:30-8pm. **No Wed meeting that week.**

## Pino Alarco Hernandez Introducing Spain!

This week, Cortland Breakfast Rotary's current exchange student, Pino Alarco Hernandez, introduced her home country of Spain!

Located in the southwest of Europe, Spain is rich in culture and traditions. Throughout the year there are various fairs and festivals, some featuring residents in traditional clothing.

Pino described some of the popular foods such as paella, tapas, churros, and her favorite- Spanish omelette, which contains potatoes and onions.

Pino also explained some of the cultural differences between Spain and the U.S. In Spain, they eat lunch and dinner much later, with lunch taking place around 2 or 3 o'clock, often followed by a siesta or brief nap, and dinner falling as late as 9 or 10 o'clock.

The capital of Spain is Madrid, with other famous places including Barcelona in which the Sagrada Familia, a church undergoing continuous construction since 1882, is located. Pino thinks that the most beautiful place in Spain is Andalusia, which is located in the most southern part of the country. Spain features a variety of landscapes, with popular beaches and mountainous regions suitable for skiing.

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## Introducing Spain, Continued...

Pino lives near Santa Cruz located on Tenerife, the largest island in the Canary Islands. Featuring a tropical climate, the Canary Islands are a hot spot for tourism, and Pino loves that she can go to the black-sand beaches (created by volcanic activity) year-round.

Popular sports in Spain include soccer, tennis, basketball, and bullfighting. As for herself, Pino loves dancing!

During her time in the U.S., she has experienced snow for the first time, and has enjoyed foods like mac & cheese, and Reese's peanut butter cups!

We were so glad to learn more about you, Pino!



## Happy Dollars

**Sophie Welburn:** Happy to be back at Rotary after our break, although was spoiled by not having to do the newsletter!

**Conrad Janke:** Looking forward to hearing Pino speak; will be in Honolulu next week.

**Nick Lundberg:** For Pino, our speaker; for the dollar Steve C. gave for his daughter the week he was on Zoom.

**Mike Shafer:** Hoping Steve C. will be able to make it off Tug Hill for the Founder's Breakfast!

**Jeremy Boylan:** Loaves & Fishes food basket event was great; for Jim Dempsey, his Rotary sponsor.

**Jackie Burke:** Daughter from San Diego surprised her on Christmas.

**Karen DeWitt:** Family visiting from Florida; seeking suggestions for places for teens to go for District exchange student event.

**Jessie Farrell:** For everyone to have a great 2026!

**Mark Roberts:** For his sponsor, Tony Bonarti.



## January 7<sup>th</sup> Dorothy Fowler!

### Anniversaries

Jim Dempsey &  
Mark Roberts (1/4/1993)

### Doug Withey visits the Rotary Club of Bamberg, Germany



### Rotary Leadership Institute

RLI courses emphasize leadership skills and knowledge of Rotary around the world, and RLI believes that leadership education has a positive impact on membership retention by creating enthusiasm and furthering engagement for Rotary.

All course sessions are completely interactive. Learn more about at the courses at <https://rlinea.org/courses/>.