

NORTH FRESNO ROTARY



BULLETIN FOR MEETING OF 08/14/14



Rotary Club of North Fresno

Chartered October 5, 1948

District 5230

northfresnorotary.org

91 Members

Upcoming Events:

- August 26th: **First Membership Mixer, 5:30 to 7:30 at Sambas at Fig Garden Village.**
August 29th: **Joint night at the Grizzly game with Figarden Rotary on Friday.**
September 18th: Field trip, new School of Pharmacy at the University of Health Sciences.

Following Weeks:

- August 21st: Carol Mills, Fresno Unified Trustee.
August 28th: Lynette Zelezney, Provost, Cal State University Fresno.
September 4th: Jamie White, new head coach for FSU women's Basketball.
September 11th: Bachitarr Singh with the Sikh Coalition.
September 18th: Field trip to School of Pharmacy/CA Univ. of Health Sciences.
September 25th: Mike Hamzy, Middle East issues and information.

For those responsible for the programs; Please review the above programs for accuracy and correctness of topics and presenters.

NFR Nite At The Grizzlies Baseball Game--- Friday, August 29, ballpark food (hamburgers, potato salad or baked beans, sliced melon, cookies, water, soft drinks), game ticket and fireworks after the game, all for \$25 per person. See President Ralph throw out the first pitch!! The 14th was the last day to sign up for the event but I am sure you can still go if you want to.

Meeting got underway with a bell and a hearty G'day by President **RALPH**.

JEFF PAPE, read a heartfelt invocation in memory of **Andre Shewan**, the son of **SCOTT** and **Celsa SHEWAN** who passed away unexpectedly earlier this week.

Flag Salute was led by **MARK SMITH**

STEFANIE KRAUSE was welcomed back with general acclamation as she resumed her duties as Sergeant at Arms.

The one visiting Rotarian and various guests were introduced by **TERI AMERINE**.

NICK SMALDINO was then called upon to announce an upcoming Grape Harvest event on Sunday August 17th. Pick grapes, perhaps do some crushing...hopefully some tasting of the end product will be involved. If you would like to go, please contact **NICK** for details. It is from 6ish to 11ish Sunday morning. Watch a certain episode of 'I Love Lucy' prior to going, just to brush up on wine crushing expertise...

DICK ELLSEWORTH then announced that this was the last week to sign up for the joint Fig Garden Rotary and NFR day at Chukchansi Park to watch a Grizzlies baseball game. The price of tickets is \$25, and includes food & beverages. Watching **President Ralph** throw out the first pitch....Priceless!

The speaker of the day was **Bruce Gibson**. He is the older brother of our very own **PAUL GIBSON**, who had the pleasure of introducing him. **PAUL** did manage to cause himself some considerable grief in forgetting to mention that his wife **Joan** had also spoken to our club.

Bruce is a geotechnical expert with a doctorate in some engineering specialty which I failed to grasp. He is also serving as a Supervisor for San Luis Obispo County. That is certainly a uniquely qualified expertise for the position; given the major impact Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant (Henceforth DCNPP) has and continues to have on San Luis Obispo.

Of course DCNPP was the subject of the talk. After a brief historical background, Bruce listed three main issues that affect the plant and the County. 1) The potential effects of seismic activity in the vicinity of DCNPP. 2) The economic impact of the plant to SLO County, and 3) Spent nuclear fuel storage on site.

A summary of these three issues as best I could understand them;

- 1) It was always known that the area was prone to seismic activity, but recent studies have discovered numerous additional fault lines, some less than 100 meters from the plant, that could potentially cause strong earthquakes, much higher potential than previously known.
- 2) As to economic impact, DCNPP is the largest private employer in SLO County, with over \$200MM in annual payroll and \$25MM in direct local taxes to the County. 1400 employees with an average salary of \$136,000. I am working for the wrong company....
- 3) The spent nuclear fuel is stored on site. It is not as well protected as the actual reactor cores. It is not clear if it will be contained properly if a major natural disaster or terrorist attack occurs. The example of the recent Fukushima disaster in Japan is very much fresh on everyone's mind.

Since the operating license for the two reactors at DCNPP expire in 2024 and 2025, these issues are coming to the forefront as PG&E begins the process of deciding whether to apply for new licenses. Expect more visible and vocal debate in the next 2-3 years.

There was some talk of building a plant in Fresno County...it was quickly quashed. Main point being that California has a moratorium on building nuclear power plants until a decision is made at the federal level for the long term storage of spent fuel. (Editor's note; can't we put them on top some rockets and shoot them to towards the sun? Isn't the sun one giant nuclear explosion anyway? Just a layman asking....)

In any case, after a much more intelligent Q & A, we were adjourned at 1:30 promptly.

Signing off from a (not yet glowing in the dark, Fresno)

Kevin O.