

NORTH FRESNO ROTARY

BULLETIN FOR MARCH 20, 2016

Rotary Club of North Fresno
Chartered: October 5, 1948
District: 5230
email: northfresnorotary.org
Current Members: 95



Upcoming Meeting Events:

March 17: Deby Hergenrader: Break the Barriers

March 24: Katie Siemens/Mike Grannis: Pancake Breakfast Update

March 31: Joseph Penberra: A View of World Economics

Future Club Events:

March 22: NFR Spring Mixer:

Location: Sam's Italian Deli, corner of First and Clinton

Time: 5:30PM-7:00PM

April 9: BOD Leadership FIESTA: 8:00AM-4:30PM

April 13: Monthly BOD Meeting: 7:00AM-8:15AM

SAVE THE DATE: Friday May 6, 2016 COG SOCIAL EVENT OF THE SPRING!

Details forthcoming

June 23: Demotion Luncheon for the Honorable BERNADETTE HANSEN.

No Guest Speaker scheduled, it will not be without a surprise!

June 24: DEMOTION PARTY FOR BERNADETTE HANSEN

Time: 7:00PM-11:00PM

Location to be determined, with details to follow

Future Regional Events:

May 13-14 2016: District 5230 Conference.

Location: Fresno Fairgrounds

Theme: Thank a Farmer

All are encouraged to attend, and many family oriented events are planned, so save the date on your calendars!!

Volunteer Bulletin Reporters for MARCH 2016:

March 17: Tony Akel: St Patrick's Day

March 24: Ted Marsella

If you are making arrangements for program, please verify the program/presenter are correct when you submit for publication.

Per standard operating procedure, RHONDA WESSELS opened the meeting by introducing our president, BERNADETTE HANSEN. President BERNADETTE, also per standard operating procedure, reminded us that we are a Gift to the World (the International theme), and to our Community (a North Fresno Rotary theme).

Invocation: NEAL HOWARD. This weeks invocation drew heavily upon the Rotary Four Way Test.

Raffle Ticket Sales: SY SIZEMORE. Before the meeting, raffles ticket sales were brisk, as the pot neared \$1,000 for the Ace of Spades, and the deck has shrunk to a much more manageable number. SY used his sales skills to increase the pot still further. Did we have a winner? Raffle results, as promised. MARK SMITH got the Queen of Hearts. Missed the Ace of Spades by one card. Ouch.

Flag Salute: TIM HENSLEIT

Greeter: ALAN DAVIS lucked out. Called upon to introduce the visiting Rotarians and guests, he announced that there were no visiting Rotarians (i.e., no illegible handwriting to read). There were, however, several guests of Rotarians, which was nice to see.

Announcements and Presidential musings:

Need used luggage for foster care facilities. Who doesn't have an extra suitcase laying around? Spearheaded by BERNADETTE.

Our YE student, LOULA, showed up in a very cool new T-shirt from Venice Beach. Said she was there 2 weeks ago. Remember LOULA if you have a trip she would appreciate.

STEFANIE KRAUSE announced Warrior Day this coming Friday, March 18th, between 1:00 and 2:30 pm at Lowell School. This is a really fun ceremony where the Rotarians bestow awards upon deserving young people who have done well academically, with citizenship and attendance. It's a big deal; usually several parents come out, and it's pretty special to the kids who are recognized. This ceremony is best when there are 2 or 3 Rotarians, so if you can join STEF, let her know. STEF is also looking for age-appropriate board games to donate to the school for rainy days and the like.

ARC Bowling, Part Deux, will be held at Rodeo Lanes this Saturday. **KEVIN OFLAZIAN** asked for more volunteers to cover Saturday morning, and **MIKE RABARA** responded that he is bringing 4 staff members who want to help out. Well done, **MIKE**, and well done, **KEVIN**.

RICHARD LORD from our Membership Committee announced that our March Mixer will be held at Sam's Deli, which was a winner last time. The date is Tuesday, March 22. Be sure to sign up, and bring someone who you think would benefit from being a Rotarian. After all, it's not just about building our club and benefitting ourselves—rather, Rotary is a benefit to those who join and participate.

Camp Royal alum **KATIE SIEMENS** is looking for volunteers to help interview the high school students who are applying for leadership training at Lake Sequoia Camp. The students sponsored by our club will be from Central High East and Fresno High. This sounds like a fun gig, so let **KATIE** know if you can help. We have several Camp Royal alumni in our club, and each would tell you it was a great experience to prepare them for a leadership role.

Pins. Pins, pins, pins. **BEA HENSLEIT**, **RALPH BOYAJIAN** and **SERGIO BALLI** all forgot to put theirs on for the meeting, and were “recognized” by President **BERNADETTE**. Of course, our sharp-eyed Sergeant at Arms, **RHONDA**, noticed that **BERNADETTE** happened to forget her pin too.....

More pins. On a more exalted note, Foundation Chair **PAUL MASQUELIER** presented two new Paul Harris Society pins to **RHONDA WESSELS** and **MIKE RABARA**. This is a big deal. **RHONDA** and **MIKE** join **BERNADETTE HANSEN**, **TED MARSELLA** and **DR. PAD** as our club's PH Society members. These individuals have pledged to donate \$1,000 every year to the Rotary Foundation. Talk about being a Gift to the World.....

District Conference is May 13-14. It's always fun to see what the other clubs in our district are doing, and to mingle with Rotarians from throughout District 5230. It's right here at the Fresno Fairgrounds, and promises to be "reasonably priced." Sign up and get a taste of the "bigger picture" in Rotary. Or, better yet, join PAUL GIBSON and this reporter at the Rotary International Convention in Seoul, Korea at the end of May. What else have you got going on?

CHARLIE WADHAMS introduced our guest speaker, Mike Hamzy, a local engineering contractor, a longtime member of the Rotary Club of Fresno, and a Druse sheik who traces his lineage back to the prophet Mohammed. Mr. Hamzy presented his unique perspective on the boiling cauldron that we call the Middle East. His perceptions were clearly informed by his leadership position in the Druse community and military. His presentation included some radically re-drawn maps of the Middle East, and dire warnings about our inaction there.

This normally verbose reporter would like to stop there. So I will.

--Scott Shewan

