

# ROTARY CLUB OF BAKERSFIELD

## THE SPOKE

MAY 26, 2016  
Colleen A. McGauley, Editor

### NEXT MEETING: JUNE 2, 2016

#### Chris Hunsicker – The Ford Consumer Experience Round II

Ford Motor Company Consumer Experience Global Field Mentor returns to the Rotary Club of Bakersfield for another incredible talk. Don't miss this amazing experience!

#### UPCOMING MEETINGS

- June 9 History Day
- June 16 TBD
- June 23 Luigi's After Hours
- June 30 DEMOTION!

### KEY HIGHLIGHTS FROM MAY 26<sup>TH</sup> PROGRAM

- Actress Molly Ringwald was introduced as a surprise guest, greeted by most of the membership, but alas, she was a no show!
- Program: Chief Williamson, of Bakersfield Police Department. He has a BS and MPA, and he is involved in many organizations and is a fellow Rotarian. He is a North High graduate, an "a good ol' Oildale boy". The chief's family has a long relationship with law enforcement and public service in our community.

*His discussion topics were:*

Marijuana Shops in Bakersfield. We have 60 Medical Marijuana clinics. He thinks there is an uptick in crime around these facilities. He stated that there are several propositions on the ballot regarding Marijuana. BPD deals with this issue civilly.

Community Relations: Despite the national and state news, the Bakersfield Police Department enjoys a good relationship with the community for the most part. He stated that good news doesn't normally hit the media channels, so he invited us to go to the BPD website.

AB109 (Release of nonviolent predators into the community). Kern has had over 2,000 people released from state prisons. Crime figures were not originally increasing as anticipated, but trends are now going up.

Prop 47 Safe Neighborhoods and School Act?. The act eliminated numerous felony crimes. BPD gets to give many criminals a ticket rather than arresting and taking the person to jail

Jail Population: The population has decreased at Lerdo Facility, but there are folks staying at Lerdo for longer sentences.

(continued)

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#### ROTARY OFFICE

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#### AREA MEETINGS

Monday @ noon..... *Bakersfield South*  
 at the Petroleum Club  
 Tuesday @ noon..... *Bakersfield North*  
 at the Petroleum Club  
 Wednesday @ noon..... *Bakersfield West*  
 at the Stockdale Country Club  
 Wednesday @ 6:45 AM..... *Bak. Breakfast*  
 at the Petroleum Club  
 Wednesday @ 6 PM..... *Bak. Twilight*  
 at the Bell Tower Club  
 Thursday @ noon..... *Bak. Downtown*  
 at the Museum of Art  
 Friday @ noon..... *Bakersfield East*  
 at Stars Theater



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## *(Key Highlights continued)*

- Chief Williamson stated that through outside consultants looking at many areas of BPD functioning, response times have decreased. Community outreaches have increased with the focus on building trust. Crime has reversed its downward trend as is increasing in our community. Chief Williamson is an advocate for body cameras. There is not currently enough dollars available per the city manager and the city council.
- The BPD is available to speak at community events. Chief Williamson ended his program encouraging us all to read the fine print on ballot measures.

## **GOOD NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Bob Burdette announced his new grandson – Wesley Groves – who weighed in at 9 lbs, 13 oz. and 22.5 inches
- Sean Kelly announced that his dad Judge John Kelly is now a great grandfather
- Paul Harris Fellowship is a part of Rotary International. The Bakersfield Rotary Club is a 100% membership club. A Paul Harris Fellow awarded to: John Sampson
- Thank you Jim Damian for rendering assistance to the technologically challenged Spoke editor!



Check out our Facebook Site! [www.facebook.com/BakersfieldRotary](http://www.facebook.com/BakersfieldRotary)

