



**ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE**

Meeting Date: October 18th, 2017

The Beacon

Rotary Club of Bakersfield Breakfast
Over 35 years of Service to Bakersfield and the World

Greeters

Mary Jo Pasek
Adoree Roberson
Athena Collup

Call to Order

Pres. Denise Haynes

Invocation

Michelle Cooper

Flag Salute

Greg Desme

Song

*My Country Tis of Thee
& God Bless America*
(Led by Jerry Starr)

Guests

Scott Haynes
Kathy Anderson

Visiting Rotarians

DG John Weiss
Christine Weiss
ADG Anselmo Moreno

Brought to you today by *Neil Walker*

On a cloudy morning with our "Wine, Place and Show" annual fundraiser a mere 2 days away, not ONE, not TWO, but THREE greeters met the lively group of Rotarians trudging onto the twelfth floor to enjoy the morning festivities featuring District Governor, **John Weiss**, as the program. Those greeters were **Mary Jo Pasek**, **Adoree Roberson** and **Athena Collup** whose combined efforts raised \$140 in ticket sales.

Michelle Cooper led a very poignant and timely prayer asking blessings on those touched by the recent sad Las Vegas event, all military and first responders throughout the world, and our Rotary club which does a yeoman's work helping those less-fortunate throughout our community.

Greg "Wait'll-Next-Year-Giant-Lover-Dodger-Hater" Desme, in his usual humble but encouraging way, did double duty by leading our salute to OI' Glory and later in the program, assisting in the induction of a new member, **Brenda Nakanishi**. Following and fittingly, Charter Member and Past President, **Jerry Starr**, conducted the BBRC vocal maestros in patriotic versions of My Country 'Tis of Thee" that segued nicely into "God Bless America."



"Farmer Man", **Harry Bryant**, introduced Visiting Rotarians: **DG John Weiss** – RC of Morro Bay and **Anselmo Moreno** - Past President of RC of Bakersfield Twilight and current Assistant District Governor.



Guests at the meeting were Broken Yolk manager and Marine veteran, Kathy Anderson, hosted by **PP Craig Holland** and *First Man*, Scott Haynes. Poor Scott felt like the invisible man as his podium-ensconced wife, **President Denise Haynes**, almost "made a mistake" by failing to introduce him.

Prez Denise told us about an upcoming event, *World Polio Day*. **District Governor Elect, Sandi Schwartz** of RC of Bakersfield East, will be pedaling 100 miles and is taking pledges to support the event. BBRC will be supporting Sandi with pledges. **Susan Searey** will be collecting those pledges.

Cherryl and Bruce **Biggar** have interrupted their world travels to celebrate their 27th wedding anniversary at home here in B-Town.

FIT FOR ROTARY MOMENT: Throughout the ballroom, each table was bedecked with toy basketballs about the size of ping pong balls. The membership was asked to participate in a "Fit for Rotary Moment" by dribbling a ball a heart-stopping FIVE times. Afterward, as everyone felt invigorated and spent, they wiped the perspiration from their respective brows and sat again for the remainder of the program. Even though those sitting at this scribe's table were warned ahead of time that anything said at the table was "fair game" and might be printed in this newsletter, **President-Elect Ron Nelms** seemed not to worry as he whispered to his tablemates, "Those little basketballs are the appropriate size for Denise!" Ouch! That non-PC comment likely is gonna hurt, Ron!

The Four-Way Test

Of the things we think, say,
or do:

- 1) Is it the truth?
- 2) Is it fair to all concerned?
- 3) Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- 4) Will it be beneficial to all?



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Save the Dates

Wedding Anniversaries

Cherryl & Bruce Biggar (27 years)



Rotary Anniversaries

None



Birthdays

none



NEW MEMBER: Membership Director, **Pat Thompson**, was accompanied to the podium by **DG John Weiss, Greg Desme** and inductee, **Brenda Nakanishi**. What an honor to join such an elite organization and be welcomed by our great members AND the 5240 District Governor. Greg offered a brief biography on Brenda:



Works at Bank of the Sierra as a Branch Manager/ Business Development Officer. She has been in the banking industry for over 25 years.

Married to Glen for 35 years. Glen is the Director of Food and Beverage for the 4 Points Sheraton. They have one son, Christian, and his wife Amy. Christian is a Felony Adult Probation Officer for Kern County and Amy works for Global Communications.

Has one granddaughter, Kaden, who is 9 years old.

Has a Master's Degree in Theology. She is an Ordained Minister and works with hospice patients.

Likes to watch movies, go out for breakfast, lunch or dinner, and enjoys watching her granddaughter participate in various activities.

Enjoys volunteering for community events.

Welcome to the world of Rotary, Brenda, and to the best club anywhere!

PP Jerry Starr won the Paul Harris drawing for 100 points after his name was pulled from the basket by the Prez's imperceptible man, Scott Haynes. Then Scott drew **PP Neil Walker's** winning opportunity ticket worth \$70. Having been challenged ("threatened"??) by his sponsoree, **Jason "Print Man" Williamson**, Neil (*while tightly clutching his cash-starved, moth-infested retiree wallet*) asked Prez Denise to pass the cash to **DGE Sandi Schwartz** as part of BBRC's support for our World Polio Day pledge.



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Save the Dates



THE PROGRAM

District Governor, **John Weiss**, joined the Rotary Club of Morro Bay in 2001. He served as club president in 2009-2010.

During his Rotary service, he developed a passion for increasing membership and for youth service. John created and has presented district Membership seminars since 2010 and he has been an instructor at PETS on "Engaging Members" for the past four years. John has personally sponsored over fifty new members. In addition, John co-chartered the Rotary Club of Morro Bay-Eco (Charter Club President), the Morro Bay High School Interact Club, and the San Luis Obispo Rotaract Club.

John's wife Christine is a great partner who is a charter and current member of the Rotary Club of Morro Bay – Eco. Together they have 5 adult children: Paul, Melissa, Sophia, Stuart, and Jessica. They are also blessed with three wonderful grandchildren: Calvin (16), Jack (5), and Brandt (2).

John is a still-working Governor with retail and professional electronics stores in Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo, and Buellton. John founded his company with his father in 1978 and most of the staff has between twenty and thirty years of experience with his company and in the electronics industry.

In addition to his family, career and Rotary, John enjoys playing basketball, golf, and attending church in his local community.

During his presentation, after commenting on the large meeting turnout, John discussed with the membership the "Objectives of Rotary". He told us that "getting involved" and "developing friendships" are two primary reasons that people are attracted to Rotary. He praised BBRC for all of its hands-on work and involvement. He began by asking several members "why" they joined RI and to discuss various Community, Vocational, Youth and Club projects. The answers were entertaining and enlightening that John received from **PP Michael O'Doherty, Heather Ward, PP Jackie Maxwell, Michelle McClure, Ed O'Donnell, PP Jerry Starr and Adoree Roberson.**

Following the meeting, John met with the Board of Directors. John has many more clubs to visit during before the end of his term in July. A District Governor's calendar rarely has an open date.