



Be a gift to the world

Roto News

"Change to Grow With Rotary"

Martin Luther King Remembered

The Big Pig was away leaving us little piglets to the Mercy of Past President Bob Parker, who was filling in for Madam Prez. Bob informed us that he was given liberty to fine us at will,. To which we replied how great he looked behind the podium.

Rena Kay is attending the World Peace Conference, with what seems to be most of our club, since we only had about 30 people in attendance. Hopefully we will get a full report next week from Rena Kay.

Jean Watanabe led us in prayer by quoting some of Martin Luther King Jr.'s memorable quotes, Leaving us will lots of words of wisdom to ponder. Next Dan Urban led us in the flag salute.

Steve Gibbs led us in "My Country Tis of Thee", and I must say we sounded a whole lot better than last week., but apparently Bob didn't think so because he fined Steve \$109.

Jim Williams was asked to introduce visiting Rotarians. He reported that there were none and Bob complimented him on doing such a fine job.

Dave Bass introduced Ryan Dovell, who is a guest of the club. And Dave was fined \$15.00 for being disrespectful to the acting President.

Steve Gibbs was the only Rotarian with a birthday and as a special gift we didn't sign for him. There was also one spouse's birthday, Jann Williams. Jim told us that she was going to her favorite restaurants, Sorrella with 11 of her relatives. We were glad to heard that she was out and about.

PP Bob shared with us that The Plank Foundation had a check to present to the AIS Cancer center in the amount of \$5000, but Amanda Frank was absent so that will have to wait until next week. He also shared that Amanda is the newest member of the Plank Foundation Board and she is doing a great job.

Bob was going to skip the reading assignments, but Melinda Westfahl quickly jumped up and said she was ready to report on her reading assignment. The article was about a young girl who grow-up with Rotary, her father had joined when she was just a few months old. We all suggested that it was Melinda's own story, but she said this was a modern day version, but she was so inspired she is going to write her own article. We can look forward to that.

Carolyn Jackson was asked if she remembered the Ugly Jacket, which she had, She was instructed to give it to Danny Giordano for not being at last weeks meeting where he was supposed to fill-in for Sandi Schwartz and lead the flag salute. Bob

commented that the Jacket fit Danny the best and told him to add more Red and Gold.

Steve Richardson let us know that the Ethic Conference is on March 15th. This year they are looking for fewer Rotarians, (umm, not sure what that means), so he only needs 5 volunteers and a couple of back-ups. If you are interested let him know.

Pay the Pig:

Judge Susan Gill had good new and sad news to share. On Dec. 26th she got to swear her son into the bar Association, but sadly yesterday they lost their dog Sadie.

Christine Randell shared that she became a new Grandma (not Great Grandma as Bob suggested). Her daughter had a baby boy named Brody. We passed that hat and raised \$60.

Lourdes Arrubla paid for being late, but told us it was because she was doing a \$200,000 trade and reminded us that all smart investor know to buy when the market is down. It's on sale.

Bob Parker reminded us that last year he announced that he was done paying for college and that his daughter had graduated. He was pleased to announce today that she found full employment. They grow up so fast!!

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2015-2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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International Service
Amanda Frank
Rotary Foundation
Dan Giordano
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Bruce Keith & Steve Gibbs

**Programs Steve Gibbs
Roto News Michele
Brown**

**Bakersfield East Rotary
Club**
PO Box 2383
Bakersfield, CA 93303

Bob Hooper is a local Historian who teaches at Bakersfield High School. He did his undergraduate studies at Washington St, where he read a book “Let the Trumpet Sound” by Steven Oates about the life of Martin Luther King Jr. This sparked an interest in the civil rights movement. He said it is a great book and he highly recommends it.

Rosa Parks was the start of Modern day Civil Rights, but it started back in 1896 with Plessy v. Ferguson, a landmark Supreme Court decision upholding the constitutionality of state law requiring racial segregation in public facilities under the doctrine of “separate but equal”.

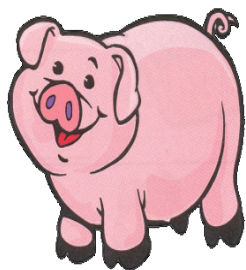
Closer to Bakersfield, back in the early 1900’s a boxer named Jack Johnson who lived in Bakersfield for a while, became the first African American heavyweight boxer. The term “Great White Hope” was coined while trying to find a White boxer that could beat him. He held the heavyweight title from 1908 to 1915. Other athletics who broke the color barrier were Jessie Owens in 1936 and Jackie Robinson in 1947. All of their stories were covered in the Bakersfield Californian.

The treatment of African Americans after WWII was also a big part of the Civil Rights Movement. Men like Charles Bussey, from Bakersfield, a decorated World War II veteran of the famed Tuskegee Airmen and later a hero in the Korean War, were still treated unfairly. Mr. Bussey was denied the Medal of Honor because of discrimination.

Another key event of the Civil Rights movement was know as the “Little Rock Nine”. Nine African American students enrolled at formerly all-white Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, in September 1957, testing the landmark 1954 US Supreme Court ruling that declared segregation in public schools unconstitutional, (Brown verses Brown, Signed by Earl Warren). On the first day of school . A white mob gathered in front of the school, led by the governor, Orval Faubus and the National Guard to prevent the students from entering. A team of NAACP lawyers, including Thurgood Marshall, won a federal injunction which prevented the governor from blocking the students. With the help of police escorts, the students successfully entered the school on September 23rd. Bakersfield did not have an segregated school at that time, however we did have many business that refused to serve African Americans.

In 1960 Martin Luther King Jr. was here in Bakersfield and spoke at the Harvey Auditorium, This was also covered by the Californian.

Finally Bob let us know what happened to the bus that Rosa Parks rode. After 23 years of service it was sold to a hoarder who did nothing with it for another 35 years. After his death his children sold It to the Henry Ford Museum, where it was refurbished. There was a picture of President Obama sitting in the seat that Rosa has sat so many years ago. Mr. Obama said “I couldn’t have been President without Rosa Park’s doing what she did.”



HELP WANTED

Need Programs - If you have anyone you would like to have speak at Rotary, please see Steve Gibbs





Danny looking good in that lovely jacket. Past President Bob and crew.

January Reading Assignments

Page 11—Gary Creott
Page 16—Wayne Kress
Page 42—Melinda Westfahl

Upcoming Events

Jan. 22nd—Bob Price—Bakersfield Sound
Jan. 24th—District Million Dollar Brunch -
Jan. 29th—Meet & Greet, Super Bowl
Feb. 6—Charter Night

	Greeter	Greeter	Flag Salute	Invocation	Visiting	Reception	Reception
Jan 15	Swatzell	Sullivan	Urban	Watanabe	Williams	Wilson	Womack
Jan 22	Aguirre	Amstutz	Auriemma	Bank	Bass	Begin	Biglin
Jan 29	Brazzell	Brown	Burger	Burch	Carpenter	Coffey	Colatruglio
Feb 5	DARK	DARK	DARK	DARK	DARK	DARK	DARK
Feb 12	Carpenter	Coffey	Colatruglio	Creott	Dierck	Franey	Frank
Feb 19	Gibbs	Gill	Giordano	Gresco	Jackson	Jung	Keith
Feb 26	Kress	Lifquist	Louey	Markovits	Maxwell	Moxley	Oberg
March 4	Parker	Pereyra	Powell	Ramsey	Randell	Richardson	Sabin

Club Directors & Committees

I. Club Service, Administration.....Director: **Steve Karcher**

- Attendance/Front Table.....: Tony Ansolabehere
- BERC Database & WEB.....: Tony Ansolabehere
- Roto News Publisher.....: Michele Brown
- Roto News Photographer.....: Brian Oberg
- BBQ.....: Steve Karcher/Rena Kay S.
- Holiday Lunch.....: Melinda Westfahl
- Charter Night.....: _____
- Gin Fizz.....: Gary Stanfill
- Venue/Food.....: Steve Karcher
- Historian.....: Rena Kay Schrader
- Programs.....: Steve Gibbs/John Wilson
- Public Relations.....: _____

II. Club Service, Membership.....Director: **Jimmie Soto**

- Classification.....:Tom Burch
- Evaluation.....: Wayne Kress
- Rotary Information.....: Dan Giordano
- Fireside/Assimilation.....: Jimmie Soto/Rena Kay
- Membership Development (Master of Fun).....: Steve Richardson
- Rotarian Magazine.....: Dan Giordano
- Membership Directory.....: Melinda Westfahl
- E-mail Blasts.....: Michele Brown
- Family of Rotary.....:Jenny Dierck/Steve Karcher, Christy S.

III. Vocational Service.....Director: **Mike Brazzell**

- Employee Recognition.....: Steve Richardson
- Business Person Of The Year.....: Mike Brazzell
- Craft Talks.....: Mike Brazzell
- Vocational Scholarships.....: Mike Brazzell & Aaron Markovits
- Officer Of The Year.....: Mike Brazzell

IV. Community Service-Youth Services.....Director: **Aaron Markovits / Day Smith**

- East High Interact.....:Tomeka Powell
- Highland High InterAct.....: Brian Oberg
- Garces High InterAct.....: Scarlett Sabin
- OLPH InterAct.....: Scarlett Sabin
- Joe Alexander Scholarship Foundation Liaison.....: Aaron Markovits
- RotarAct.....: Aaron Markovits
- Scholarships.....: Gary Creott & Bill Gresco
- RYLA.....: Day Smith/Sandi Schwartz
- Business & Ethics Conference.....: Steve Richardson
- Four Way Test.....: Aaron M. & Day S.

V. Community Service-Outreach.....Director: **Fernando Aguirre****Blood Bank Organ Donation**.....:Sandi Schwartz

A. Blood Bank Days

BGC & Children Outreach.....: Fernando Aguirre

A. Backpack Project.....: Tom Burch, Christy Swatzell & Fernando

B. Jamison Center.....: Tom Burch

Environment

A. Bike Path Maps.....: Terry Schroepfer

B. Rotary Park.....: Ron Biglin, Tom Burch & Jon Lifquist

C. Cleanup Projects.....: Fernando

Handicap/Poverty/Senior Citizens.....:**Other Community Service Outreach**

*Can Food Drive.....: Christy Swatzell

*Salvation Army Bell Ringing.....: Michelle Brown, Susan Leedy

*Youth Financial Literacy.....: Jim Williams & Roy Herrmann

A. Dictionary Project.....:

B. Listen to Readers.....: Julie Womack

*The Forgotten Initiative.....: Jenny Dierck

Veterans

A. Honor Flight.....: Tom Burch

B. Rebuilding Kern Together.....: Fernando Aguirre

VI. International Service.....Director: **Amanda Frank**

• Polio Plus.....: Dan Giordano

• Polio Plus Donations.....: Dan Giordano

• International Service Development/Grants.....: Christy Swatzell & Committee

• South of the Boarder/Education.....: Amanda & Sandi Schwartz

• Love Water.....: Amanda & Christine Randall

VII. BERC Foundation.....Director: **Dan Giordano**

• Vino Amore Chair.....: Tom Burch & Michelle Brown

• Vino Amore Sponsorships.....: Scott Begin

• Vino Amore Auction Items.....: Jenny Dierck / Dan Urban

• Vino Amore Treasurer.....: Bob Parker

• Vino Amore Tickets.....: Sandi Schwartz / Christine Randall

VIII. FUN Raisers

• Shooting Contest.....: _____

• Photo Calendar, Note Cards, Post Cards.....: _____

Updated 07.16.2015

