

BECAUSE OF AUTO-CORRECT, WE ARE "HOMELESS ROMANTICS"

# ROTARY NOTARY

EAST WICHITA ROTARY

JULY 15 2015

## PROGRAM: BLACK TOP NATIONALS

When not driving or photographing a car, you might find Jim Petty on a pit crew at a NASCAR race gassing a car. Jim and cars are inseparable, one of the reasons he became Executive Director of the six-year old Black Top Nationals Classic Car & Motorcycle Event Aug. 21-23 in Downtown Wichita.

The Black Top Nationals includes cars on display, beer gardens and food courts, live concerts, and a virtual drag race for those who think they can handle a computerized dragster at 200 MPH. "We have 20 things going on at one time," Jim said.

You might've purchased popcorn from Jim decades ago at

81 Speedway or you might've seen his car photography from 25 years working with **Ric Wolford** at Douglas Photographic Imaging. In fact, it was Ric who introduced Jim to the Black Top Nationals several years ago.

Now, the Nationals generate \$10 million annually for the Wichita economy and attract visitors from 25 states.

Jim said one of the most popular recent exhibits was a wrecked dragster. The driver reached 200 MPH on the Bonneville Salt Flats before losing control and flipping around 14 times. The driver was bruised and reluctantly brought the wreckage to Wichita



The Black Top Nationals are Aug. 21-23

where spectators were fascinated by the remains.

Jim said another project is to restore the Soap Box Derby program in Wichita. Jim helped his Grandson build a Soap Box car over six months. "I could've built it in two hours," Jim said, "but it was a precious time with him."

### JULY BIRTHDAYS

Marshall Millsap	17
Randy Strassburg	19
Ann Buckendahl	20
Scott Holder	20
Joe Sauer	20
Jon McConnell	22
Bob Hadley	24

### CALENDAR

- JULY 22-Doug Day, Dunkin' Donuts
- JULY 29-Wichita Mayor Jeff Longwell
- AUGUST 5-Jack Brand, Arthritis Foundation

IF YOU WANT TO JOIN OUR SCRABBLE CLUB,  
I CAN PUT IN A GOOD WORD FOR YOU

**Greeter-Richard Strunk**  
*Invocation, Flag Salute, 4-Way Test-Robin*

**McGonigle**

**Member News-Lynette**

**Murphy** has been named the Director of Major Gifts for Via Christi Health ef-

factive August 10. "I will be charged with growing Via Christi Health's major gifts program," Lynette said, "maintaining and developing relationships with individuals, corporations and foundations to

generate private funding for the health care system."

*There were so many elderly people on my flight to Florida I checked my ticket to make sure it didn't say "Heaven."*

## IF A WOMAN SPEAKS AND NO ONE IS LISTENING, CHANCES ARE GOOD HER NAME IS MOM

One of our grant recipients is Partners for Wichita, which includes the Filling the Gap program that provides meals for children and youth who may be at risk of hunger during school breaks. "It's a real honor to receive your grant," said Rev. Sally Fahrenthold, "because some kids worry where the next meal is going to come from." Sally said one kid dreaded spring break because he was concerned there wouldn't be enough food at home. A mother said that during school breaks, her kids literally eat her out of house and home. Thanks to the Filling the Gap program, the mother can now pay rent and purchase school supplies. The program will feed 750

kids per day, approximately 9000 meals in early August.

**Celeste Balog** introduced three of our scholarship recipients. Brandon



*Filling the Gap provides meals for kids*

Blehm graduated from Wichita State and begins Pharmacy School this fall at the University of Kansas School of Medicine in Wichita.

Haley Crowson will be a senior at WSU majoring in English Literature and minoring in Spanish and Women's Studies. Haley works for **Sarah Bagby** at Watermark Books & Café, and also works for KMW radio. Haley plans to begin grad school next year.

Wesley Crow graduated from Valley Center High and will attend Kansas State to study music. "I'm very, very thankful for your support," Wesley said, "and what you do for other organizations and the community."

## LEAD ME NOT INTO TEMPTATION, I ALREADY KNOW THE WAY

**Past President Chris Kibler** was in Chicago last week on business and fun, which included running a 5K in Chinatown with husband Scott. "He beat me," Chris said, "as usual. The original plan was that we would run together because we were so ex-

hausted from touring the city. But his competitive juices took over." Chris said they spent an "amazing" eight hours on an on-and-off trolley ride seeing the Navy Pier, the Ferris Wheel, the Taste of Chicago dining experience,

and a walk along the waterfront. Of course, the Kiblers had to try Chicago deep dish pizza, though it was the night before the 5K. The Kiblers also attended a Cubs-Cardinals game and saw Wrigley Field and Soldier Field during the run. Fun fact: Chris is a Kansas State fan while Scott loves KU, the World University games basketball champs.

*I decided to call the bathroom the Jim. I feel so much better saying I went to the Jim (gym) this morning*

## I DIDN'T MAKE IT TO THE GYM TODAY. THAT MAKES 1,500 DAYS IN A ROW

**Jim Crawford** and wife Barb recently vacationed in New Mexico where they played the spectacular Black Mesa Golf Course, which is framed by the mountains. Given the love of art in the area, it's no surprise that the course Website reads: "Every hole shaped by the surrounding landscape like an artist forming a delicate piece of pottery." Jim and

Barb shared a condo with 10 of their friends who also joined them on the golf course...Former professional baseball player **Deik Scram** will play for the Wichita Alumni Team on the National Baseball Congress



*Will it build goodwill and better friendships?*

Alumni night. "I've practiced only three times," Deik said. "I'm way out of shape." Deik played in the Detroit Tigers organization from 2006-2012.

*If you like someone, set them free. If they come back, it means nobody else liked them.*