



Rotary Club of Auburn

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Website—www.auburncarotary.org



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THE ROTARY CLUB OF AUBURN BULLETIN

TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2013

AUBURN ROTARY WINS DISTRICT AND ZONE LITERACY AWARD



COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT: THE LEFEBVRE STADIUM ENTRY



ROTARY PROGRAM FOR TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2013
PLACER HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



*The Placer High School Class of 2012 at LeFebvre Stadium - June 9, 2012
 (Photo courtesy of the Auburn Journal)*

Sir Edward Elgar composed *Pomp and Circumstance* — the title comes from a line in Shakespeare’s Othello (“Pride, pomp, and circumstance of glorious war!”)—in 1901. But it wasn’t originally intended for graduations. Elgar’s march was used for the coronation of King Edward VII.

It first became associated with graduations in 1905, when it was played when Elgar received an honorary doctorate from Yale University in 1905, but it was played as a recessional, not as a processional, at the ceremony.

“After Yale used the tune, Princeton used it, the University of Chicago [and] Columbia, then eventually... everybody started using it. It just became the thing that you had to graduate to.”

As the Placer High School Class of 2013 marches in to LeFebvre Stadium this June, some of the graduates will have Auburn Rotary’s generous scholarships in their possessions to help finance their continued education at colleges and universities near and far.

AUBURN ROTARY “WORLD HEALTH PROGRAMS” BENEFIT RAFT TRIP
Saturday, August 24, 2013 (Deadline for sign-up is Tuesday, May 28)

This year we’re helping the Rotary Foundation’s “World Health Programs.” Our assistance aids in funding safe fresh water, wheelchairs to crippled persons, and also the elimination of Polio, plus many more needed programs. Together we will help enrich many lives that depend on us to make a difference.

Bob Santin and Bridget Powers are hosting this event along with many local “Rafters” donating their time, experience, equipment, and personal expense to make this fun day happen.

Thus we need your fairly firm commitment and \$85 deposit when signing up to join us (We’re somewhat flexible for emergency cancellations).

Children can also go but we should personally discuss their maturity level and age first. Friends, family, and non-Rotarians are welcome too.

Contact Bob Santin: 530-637-4007 cell: 530-906-7524 or



AUBURN JOURNAL WINS CNPA GENERAL EXCELLANCE AWARD (05/03/2013)

The Auburn Journal took home first and second place awards, including the top prize for general excellence, in a statewide newspaper competition.

The awards were announced at the annual Better Newspapers Contest held by the California Newspaper Publishers Association, a nonprofit trade association that represents more than 800 daily, weekly and campus newspapers.

The Journal won first place in the contest’s top category “General Excellence,” which judges a paper based on its overall content and layout. The Journal competed for the award against 23 daily newspapers in the 15,000 and under circulation category.

Our congratulations to Jenifer Gee who has guided the Auburn Journal successfully since she became the Editor in October 2011, replacing former Auburn Rotarian Deric Rothe. The awards won by the Auburn Journal in the latest contest by the CNPA demonstrates her skills as an editor and leader.



But . . . Jenifer Gee is headed to law school this fall to pursue a new career path. She said she is thankful for everyone in Rotary for being so warm and welcoming. She will miss being a part of the club, but said it’s not an end to her community service through Rotary – just a hiatus.

**ROTARY CLUB OF AUBURN'S 31st
THE SPIRIT OF AUBURN COMMUNITY BARBECUE - SEPTEMBER 20, 2013**



“This exciting event has become one of the year’s most anticipated events in our community with over 1,100 attendees in 2012. Neighbors, friends, and families take this opportunity to gather to have fun and reminisce while enjoying fantastic food. Proceeds from this even support the Rotary’s community projects and provide assistance to local non-profit groups. We are asking for your support as a Corporate Sponsor. As always, we have a special way of acknowledging our sponsors. All sponsors will be showcased on the “Walkway of Recognition” and on the placemats at each seat PLUS.”

CORPORATE LEVEL - \$2,500
GOOD NEIGHBOR LEVEL - \$1,000
FRIENDLY NEIGHBOR LEVEL - \$500
HELPFUL NEIGHBOR LEVEL - \$250
HELLO NEIGHBOR LEVEL - \$100

See Barbecue Chair: Betty Bennett to offer your business sponsorship!

**PROGRAM FOR TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 2013 BROUGHT TO YOU BY ERNIE STROBEL
JULIE RODRIGUEZ, SPECIAL OLYMPICS DIRECTOR OF SPORTS**

ALL AUBURN ROTARY CLUBS DO WELL AT THE DISTRICT CONFERENCE



*The Presidents of the three Auburn Rotary Clubs display their awards won at the Rotary District 5190 Conference in Sparks, Nevada May 16-19.
L to R: Keith Nesbitt, Gold Country, Bart O'Brien, and Steve Lease, Daybreak.*



Auburn Rotary Club was not only a Club of Excellence, but President Bart O'Brien also brought home awards for District & Zone Awards for Literacy; Public Image; Vocational Service Project; Membership Gain; New Generation; Rotarians at Work Day; Vocational Service Peace for Families; Community Service; Attendance Gain; International Service project of the year (HEART of Africa); Club Service; Community Service for the Stadium Entrance Project; and a Presidential Citation: Leading Club for awards. Auburn Rotary competed in the large club category.

THE WILD "BEEMERS" ON THE ROAD TRAVELS WITH BART, RON, AND JON

May 17, 2013

We rode into New Orleans this morning and found parking a couple blocks from Bourbon Street. What a dirty, trashy tourist trap that place is. I have no need to ever go back but at least I got a bowl of jambalaya and one of those deep fried donut-like things before we left that area and went to the WW II museum. Entry was \$24 but Jon and I got in for \$18 with our VA/military ID cards. a good museum but depressing because of the tragedy of such loss of life and the brutality of war. I guess the cause was right given the maligned efforts of Hitler, Mussolini and Hirohito.

Anyway, we blew town in rush hour traffic and got separated. Ron and I lost Jon but since we were headed to Biloxi, Mississippi we thought we might hook up down the road about 40 miles later we found Jon waiting for us alongside the road. Meanwhile Ron and I tried to Bluetooth our GPS units to our phones in case Jon tried to hook up with us by phone. We need to perfect this safety measure because we will surely have the same thing happen again in big city traffic.

So, after we got back together, we pulled off I-10 into Gulfport, MI and that is where we are ensconced for the night. We are headed to Mobile, AL in the morning and I think we will tour the US Alabama battleship before we head for Florida.

Today was a lovely day averaging about 86 F. The ambient temp is not so bad when one has wind in his face at 75 mph. Lots of bayous, lots of green vegetation. Most drivers here show good courtesy to guys on bikes, and that is good. Plus, the people are helpful and friendly. I find these people easily like able, Southern hospitality, I guess.

We covered only 151 miles today and some of that was running in circles trying to escape New Orleans.

That is the short story for today.

Bart

May 18, 2013

Just a few road miles today and actually staying in Pensacola, FL tonight. We made a late afternoon stop at a Beemer dealer for a new headlamp bulb for Jon's bike and then decided to hang here. Tomorrow morning we are headed to Panama City where we will meet friends vacationing there for lunch. After lunch we will motor south down the Gulf coast with no particular destination.

The people at the Beemer dealership were friendly as sheepdogs and envious of our travels. Aside from the headlight bulb we picked up, we watched a guy who purchased a new Beemer get on his bike and head out. No helmet law in Florida and true to form he rode off sans helmet. Dumb.

It was 86 degrees along the way today, and humid but bearable. Again, another great ride through a land lush with greenery, bayous, causeways over a lot of water, and friendly people. We live in an amazingly diverse country.

Much of the day was taken up with a long stop to explore the USS Alabama battleship and an adjacent aircraft museum. We skipped a submarine which was also available to explore because we had already been on our feet so long that we - or at least I - needed to get off my feet. The saddle on the bike was better!

I can hardly believe I have seen so many road kill armadillos... Maybe we will actually stop at some point to look at one.

Off to bed pretty soon,

Bart



ANNIVERSARIES

Valerie & Michael Harris
May 11, 1996 - 17 years

Jeff & Brandee Ambrosia
May 8, 1993 - 20 years

Phil & Susie Booker
May 15, 1983 - 30 years

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- May 28: Mark Smith & Dave Horsey
Placer High School Scholarships
- June 4: Ernie Strobel
Julie Rodriguez: Special Olympics
Director of Sports
- June 11: Steve Taylor/Randy Tooker
- June 18: Bart O'Brien
Year-End Awards
- June 25: New Members Meeting

COMING EVENTS

- Rotary Board Meeting
June 18, 2013: 7 AM Gold Rush Chevy
- Demotion of President Bart O'Brien
Saturday, June 29, 2013
- Auburn Rotary Barbecue
Friday, September 20, 2013

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This week: Bob Dunstan

May 21, 2013

Today we spent the entire day at the Kennedy Space Center and now at the end of the day we have returned to the same motel in Titusville, FL that we stayed at last night.

We rode to the space center this morning in good weather but then clouds periodically blew in and out and there were deluges of rain. We did not get wet because we were either in buildings or in the bus on our mega-tour. Along the way on that tour we saw a couple alligators loafing in drainage canals and we also saw one manatee. That's a sea cow and she was just loafing in one of the waterways. Speaking of wildlife, we have seen several species of birds, tropical birds, which I am not familiar with in the least.

Given that rocket launches are horrendously noisy, any wildlife too close to the launch site are doomed because the sound waves will kill them. NASA, it was said, attempts to scare off all wildlife within a mile or so of the launch pad. Fish jump out of the water and then dive deep. Alligators and sea cows dive to escape the noise. Small fish that take in kerosene ash from the rocket fuel die because their gills get plugged with the very fine ash particles. Larger fish survive, supposedly. NASA chases away birds by flying a helicopter around the area.

With the drenching rain it looked like most birds were soaked. Pelicans, gulls, herons, buzzards, etc. we're all perched with their wings spread to dry out when the rain had passed. I saw dozens of birds trying to dry their wings sufficiently so that they might again take to the air. It makes sense, but I have never before seen such behavior.

The tour of the space center was almost mind-boggling in terms of the science behind development of the various rockets and the shuttles. We heard so much detail on the tour that after a while it became hard to retain any of what was shared. I wanted to buy a book in the tourist trap souvenir shop but decided I could probably read all I wanted on the Internet if I was willing to take the time. I took pictures - point and shoot - which would shame a real photographer, until the battery on my camera failed.

We also saw an IMAX movie about the Hubble space telescope and the Apollo mission that was sent to repair it.

I think the neatest thing about the whole day was that it gave Jon pause to reflect on his work long ago with the Apollo program. His recall and knowledge added so much to our day, and he really lingered at the Apollo 14 capsule. His fingerprints are on some of the successes NASA achieved and few people could ever make such a claim. What an honor for Ron and me to tour that incredible place with someone with such depth of knowledge.

As day turns to dusk we are trying to sort out what tomorrow might bring. I think the Everglades may be going by the wayside and that we will scoot north. Weather might be a determining factor.

Enough chatter for today, but let me say this is one fine adventure. I am truly blessed to be in such good company.

I did touch bases with Tommy M., fellow Vietnam vet, formerly of Colfax, CA and recently relocated to Gainesville, FL. Tommy phoned me this morning and we had a good chat. Looks like we will not actually connect in person because we are likely going to scoot north to Daytona.

-Bart

May 22, 2013

We departed Titusville, FL this morning in good weather and headed for Gainesville, Georgia knowing that we would probably fall short of that destination because it was unrealistic to travel that far, close to 600 miles. As it is, we held up in Macon, Georgia which turned out to be 399 miles.

We were good for more but we drove into a torrential thunderstorm and bailed off the freeway right into a motel. After a while the rain quit and we walked a few blocks to a Chinese



Jon, Ron, & Bart "The Wild Beemers"



Apollo 14

smoggy for dinner, complete with the senior rate. Better yet, we made it back to the motel, still dry.

After we left Titusville we stopped in Daytona Beach to look at the Daytona International racetrack. The place offers a tour for \$23 but once we saw what the place was about, we aborted the thought of doing the tour. We climbed up into the stands to get a perspective on the layout and the track itself, and that left us with two observations: the banked turns are steep, 31 degrees, and the track is really pretty narrow. On Fridays and weekends one can actually drive the course in a Porsche or in a Ferrari, for big bucks, or for a little less, one can ride around the course with a professional driver at the wheel.

Earlier in the day we drove through maybe 50 miles of rain which was sometimes so heavy I do think we could see 200 feet. We had to flow with traffic in order to not get run over from behind. Trust me, the traffic was going too fast for conditions but altogether it was OK. Motorcycle tires have soft rubber compounds which makes for good rain tires? We got soaked before we could stop and put on our wet weather riding gear. No point to stop after already wet. All that rain occurred south and west of Jacksonville, FL. We stopped for gas and something to eat on the outskirts of Jacksonville and at that time pulled up weather radar on the iPhones to see how things looked in whatever direction. It appeared that we could go west and get away from some pretty heavy weather. That worked well and we got dried out riding along in 90 to 92 degree sunshine. Then, the Macon thunderstorm! Ha, as I speak it is raining again and there is a lot of thunder and lightning.

Never in my life did I expect to be in Macon, Georgia. Being here adds to the adventure and I am hoping somewhere along the way that we will meet some genuine Georgian hillbillies. I met such a person in the army and found him to be a very kind and thoughtful person even though he said the first pair of shoes he ever owned were those provided by the Army. His family, he said, made and ran moonshine, and that was how

they made their living.

The soil types have changed as we got further north into Georgia. So too have the vegetation types, and in some places it appears to be dry enough for the native grasses to be turning brown. Along with this we have seen sprinkler irrigation systems on numerous fields. The cereal grain crops look stunted but the seed heads look well developed and harvest time cannot be too far away. What we are seeing includes more cattle, more jip corn and more pastureland. There must be peanuts too but I have not identified any while riding along. Even with more conventional agriculture, there are still thousands of acres of pine plantations. I must sound like a broken record to be so fascinated with ag and forestry matters.

The desk clerk here at this motel told us it should be dry and 100 degrees, not wet, "like Florida." He was not happy with the weather.

Tomorrow we anticipate going on to Gainesville and then making our way north toward Robbinsville, NC to ride the famous "Tail of the Dragon" route. After that, we will go on to the Shenandoah Valley and make our way toward Washington, DC. Weather will probably dictate some of what we do or where we go.

May 24, 2013

I am not sure how many Wild Beemer diatribes I have sent. Is this # 8 or # 9? Whatever... The days are running together and that can happen when one is traveling.

Anyway, this morning we left Pigeon Forge, TN and rode into the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Its gateway city on the north side of the park is the city of Gatlinburg. The city was festooned with American flags to mark the Memorial Day weekend. Gatlinburg was fun to see and given the number of motels, I would assume they have millions of visitors per year. The place is a resort city that provides lodging for Park visitors and for an area ski resort. Anyway, we went through there too fast and headed for the Blue Ridge Parkway.

The Parkway has a 45 mph speed limit which seems to be well enforced by the Park Service cops. We did have some sport bike riders blow by us at speed, maybe even triple digits. The wind on the ridges was howling, and it was cold. At 6,000 feet the ambient temperature was 46 F. We may have touched 60 F today but for the most part it was in the 50s. The wind was really gusty, and Ron said the forecast called for 50 mph winds on the ridge tops on the Parkway. I believe it; the winds were fierce, a pressure gradient wind, I think. Think of CA north winds and you know what I am talking about.

While the Parkway is scenic with overlook views of the Smokey Mtns., it was evident at the higher elevations that Spring is just arriving. The azaleas were in bloom and there were some windflowers but many of the hardwoods were just leafing out. In some ways, if one sees a few miles of the Parkway, he has seen it all. That is a gross exaggeration because around every turn and at every turnout there is a new view. At some point, because the route is so slow, we realized it would take to 9:00 pm to reach Roanoke if we did not get off the Parkway and hit the Interstate freeways. In doing that we ended by seeing parts of Tennessee, North Carolina and Virginia today on our some 350 mile route. We bailed from the Parkway at Asheville, NC. The Interstate in NC was faster but much of it was posted with 60 mph speed limits and plenty of cops to go with it. We saw a lot of traffic stops, but mostly in Virginia where the state patrol and County units were out in force with radar. Cruise control on the bikes can keep one honest and free of distraction by the cops. The manager at a McDonalds where we stopped for a soda or coffee told

us cops would be out in force for the holiday weekend and that there would be little tolerance for speeding. We were near Bristol, TN when we made that stop. While the Bristol NASCAR race track was nearby, we decided to forget it and keep moving north.

Before we got to Roanoke, we hit a traffic slowdown due to lane closures for bridge construction. Two lanes funneled into one and I am sure it took an hour to go six miles, all the while stopping and going and having to slip the clutch on the bikes. Lane splitting is not permitted in Virginia so we were stuck just inching along. Actually, none of us are lane-splitters but if we were, today would have been the right time to go for it.

Along the way we have seen dozens, times ten, of churches, mostly Baptist, and even a license plate on a good ol boy's pickup truck, "WOW GOD." I have been more interested in seeing the farms. Today we saw cattle grazing in belly deep grass as well as on over-grazed pastures. It is also haying season so fields are being mowed. Along with cows we have also seen sheep, goats and horses.

We have motel reservations tomorrow evening in Scotland, Pennsylvania and I think we will be riding most of the day to get there. We will probably ride part of the way on the Blue Ridge Parkway and to make time will leave it at some point and join the pack on the freeways.

OK, time to think about bed.

Onward,

-Bart



Two Wild Beemers as other one takes photo!



*Pensacola Beach
and the
view they had
looking south
from their
room*