



# The RotoNews

Of The Rotary Club of Bakersfield East

Published Weekly For The Edification And Enjoyment  
Of Our Members And Friends



This Edition

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The Meeting Of  
November 11,  
2005

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## Wise Emperor Wins Hearts

It was welcome...then silence...then Jesus. **The Emperor** did a Heckahaya and finally got everyone out of their nap as it was turkey, ham, stuffing and those great green beans along with the pumpkin pie! You missed a good one, yummmm. On a more serious note, **Honorary Member & Founding Father Dick Griffin** is hospitalized at Memorial, Room 156 with minor strokes. Daughter **Melinda** and son, **Mike** were with him this lunch hour. **Cy Wade, Charter Member** led us in a heartfelt prayer as he was happy that **The Emperor** started off the meeting with Jesus. **Mike Cooper** wasn't here for the flag salute, but asked the dressed in a white sweater with stars- **Karen Skrable** to lead the flag salute which she did and asked us to remember the Veteran's today. **Remlap & Sandra Larson** were both MIAs today, so **His Royalness** called on the hesitant **Ron Biglin** (he doth protestith too much!) who led us Acapulco to sing God Bless America. Then **Fernando Aguirre** was called on to give us the Visiting Rotarians, but before he could do so...**The Royal Emperor** said to **Karen Skrable**, "Where's the coat?" She says, "I forgot it." He then says that **Frank Colatruglio** lucked out as he just arrived and could have been given the prize possession. Then **Fernando** gets to introduce Lou Ziskind, PP of the West Club. Without more than a nod...**The King** beckons **Marv Denny** to assist with the introduction of guests and then notices that **Hank Hinse, PP** and other Sergeant at Arms is MIA today too. Heckahaya...they've all gone to the Veteran's Day Parade? **Marv** starts out by introducing his very own daughter- Korrine a teacher at Highland High. **Pam Mahan** brought her daughter today too- Marty Waite. Michael Westfahl introduces himself for the MIA **Melinda** and also his dad Mel Wesfahl. **Quon Louey** introduces for the last time Scott Bourelle and Scott's wife Janine. **Tom Burch** introduces for the last time Linda Wright and his wife Gail. **Jack Spencer, PDG** dressed in a black Chinese jacket and hat introduces wife Barbara. **Rich Harger** dressed likewise, (this is odd- first the naked beach breast thing, now this), introduces Gail Malouf who also has on a

beautiful red brocade jacket with matching red shoes. **Rich**, however, greets **The King** as "Hagesan," whatever that means and once again, spell check is terribly confused as we all are lately. **Mike Burger** brought his boys Brock, 9 and Neko, 11 (both of which I probably have murdered the spelling once again!) **Gary Stanfill** brought Evie.

**Dick Giles & Tom Burch** were thanked for being official greeters and so was **Rich Harger** who was standing in for the MIA **George Palmer**.

**The Emperor** then had a vision of both **Frank Colatruglio & Bob Parker** not being at the Reception Table and he was stunned...**Frank** was late and the MIA **Parker, PP** were nowhere to be found...Bingo- he had **Frank** twice offended and there was no jacket to pass on to him. **The Emperor** turned to **Karen Skrable** and chastised her for not bringing the jacket to which she retorted that she hadn't had time to add her touches of silliness to the jacket...now the truth comes out...4 Way Test...she just forgot the jacket? So- **The Eagleyed Emperor** said that she must like the jacket a lot and lost out at a chance to pass it on....Then it was on to Supper Club- **Marv Denny** says it will be at the Hush Puppy which is now another name that he couldn't pronounce and was on White Lane- bottom line...call him for RSVP...he says they have a nice bar so get there by 6:00.

Birthdays were noted for **Marv Denny** 11/28, **Kelly Giblin** 11/19, and **Susan Gill** 11/25.

A Wedding Anniversary for 24 big ones on the 14<sup>th</sup> was announced for **Jean Watanabe** and husband Steve.

Club Anniversaries were many with **Karen Skrable** 13 years, **Ray Chaffee** 2 years and **Dave Hashim** 3 years.

**Mike Henstra** was up next to talk about the Interact meeting that had 75 people, 25 were to be in Interact, 5 in Youth Act at OLPH. It seems that they will be launching soon.

**His Highness** thanked **Jane Lewis** and Western Kitchen for their work at and on the Lamb Feed. **Gary**

**Stanfill** was acknowledged for acquiring the lamb (which was mighty tasty).

Now for New Members... **The Emperor** dispelled with the Heckahaya and the headdress and got formal. Wow! He apparently thought it should be serious and not taken lightly- well- alright! First **Linda Wright** was introduced by **Tom Burch**. She was born at Great Lakes Navel Training Center and she has been on the road ever since. Her dad did 30 years in the US Navy and **Linda** went to 12 schools by the time she had graduated from high schools with tours in Bermuda, San Diego, China Lake and Midway Island included. She went to Purdue University and has been employed by the Girl Scouts for 28 years. Linda worked in Europe for five years with USA Girl Scouts Overseas. Living first in London, then Heidelberg, Germany she helped organize Girl Scout troops for children of American military families living outside the United States. She is the CEO of the Joshua Tree Council here in Bakersfield and this is the third council that she has been a CEO. She was in Amarillo, Texas for seven years and then Bloomington, Illinois for 5 years prior as CEO before moving to Bakersfield. **Linda** was pinned by Lou Ziskind, PP from West Club. **Susan Gill** gave her the package of goodies and then **Linda's** one minute came and she said that our club "felt like home." Apparently she had her first job with the Girl Scouts back in the 70's here in Bakersfield and now she's returned. Welcome Home!

**Scott Bourelle's** sponsor **Quon Louey** introduced him by letting us know that he was born in Meridian, Mississippi. He moved to Bakersfield with his mother, father and older brother when he was a one year old. He graduated from West High and on to graduate from CSUB. He's been married for 14 years to wife Janine who also graduated CSUB and is a Family Nurse Practitioner with Centennial Medical Group. They have two kids, daughter Taylor, 13 and Blake 8. **Scott** enjoys soccer and hockey games and traveling. To round out his house, they have 2 dogs. **Scott** is an avid golfer and supports the 19<sup>th</sup> Hole Foundation which raises money for the CSUB Golf Team. He is also a member of the Seven Oaks Country Club and serves on their membership committee. **Scott & Janine** own the Beach House in the Marketplace, which is a tanning salon and woman's swimsuit/clothing shop. If that's not enough, **Scott** owns his own Financial Advising business, Quest Capital Strategies, for about a year. He specializes in retirement planning and distributions. Prior to this he worked at UBS Financial. He is also a member of the Financial Planning Association of America. And today is his Birthday! What a Gift **Quon** gave **Scott** "that lasts forever." Janine pinned the Birthday Boy. **Susan Gill** repeated her package of goodies. To sum up the one fine free minute, **Scott** was happy to be at BERC as "he loves this town."

**Rich Harger, PP** and having returned from China and Bali and where ever else, approached the **Supreme Person** (say wasn't that a group in the 70's). **Rich** remember is dressed in a black satin Chinese top and a funny hat with a tail, also referred to the **Emperor of the Land**, who replied to Rich, "Cow tow to you too." (Forgive this

humble servants spelling of Chinese is worse than Chop Suey- fewy.) **Rich** came to bribe the **Emperor** as he was known today with a small red package. It appeared to have money, Chinese money in it. To show his appreciation, **The Emperor** said, "So it's worth about .30 cents?" **Jack Spencer** dressed like **Rich's** twin (boy is that scary) also was involved with the bribing thing and said, "We went all out for you, but no fire water nor opium." When **Rich** gets the mike, he just has to tell a story about a guide in Bali who told him about how Rotary Clubs saved their children by immunizing them. To this **Rich** almost cried as the guide did not know that he was a Rotarian. **The Emperor** taking this cue as an opportunity to use a hook to get him off the mike, says to remember that November is Foundation Month.

While the suck up gifts were aplenty- **Ron Biglin**, who missed the Lamb Feed, due to a cruise to Boston to look at fall foliage (awwww), gave **His Royalness** a shirt from the bar Cheers. The shirt is big enough for a grandson. One side says Cheers, the other says "I don't even know my name." This pleased **The Emperor** who said Huckahaya!

**Young Kim** who also has mike envy problems got another chance to speak about the Interact Meeting at East High. It seems that they had 26 students applying with another 6 possibly next week. Because she kept it short, **The Shorty Emperor** gave **Young** her blue badge. Now she is official.

**Mike Henstra** did a gobble-gobble announcement about the Kids Club Turkey sponsors sheets...sign up. Come to the Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> Saturday event from 2:00-4:00 to show your support and see what BERC's efforts are doing in East Bakersfield. Then it was noted that **John Wilson** was absent and had attended a meeting for Roteract where about 13 were present and Clay Huffman will take the lead.

Korrine Denny- **Marv Denny's** daughter got a few minutes to talk about her journalism class project at Highland High, which she teaches. They've got to self fund their paper each quarter to the tune of \$400.00 each. She passed out papers and asked BERC if they could advertise in the paper. The additional funds would allow them to send the students to a competition go to conferences and defray additional printings. A rate sheet was also passed out. If interested, see **Marv**.

Now **The King of Rocks, All Things Big & Small** started talking about rocks again. Yep. The Rotary Centennial Park. **Gary Stanfill** got the rock to the park. **Jim Clark** got the plaque on order and grew the trees from little acorns. It will be 100' across with benches. It will be planted with those trees by the time you read this.

Speaking of **Jim Clark, PP**, he gave BERC 2 UCLA vs Arizona at the Rosebowl, tickets to auction. Well it wasn't much of an auction...**Mike Berger** snagged them on the first try for \$250.00 which will go to BERF....Thanks to **Mike & Jim**.

If you need to know, **The Emperor of Rocks** let us know about a Poverty Conference on 11/19, Saturday in

Camarillo. Then the Christmas Party is schedule for Friday the 9<sup>th</sup>- Mark your calendars now.

**Vernon Varner, Soon to Be King of Trash** had an announcement about Copenhagen, the Rotary International Convention Site next year. On December 5<sup>th</sup> at his house, there will be a meeting with Rick Abbott, Governor Elect District 5240 along with dinner for those interested see **Vernon**.

Our program started with **Susan Gill** discussing how we are family and how we're suppose to forgive family...she was afraid they might have left someone out on the Veteran's Day Program. All that said, BERCC's members who served in various branches of the service got up one by one to speak. A beautiful program was put together by **Kelly Giblin & Susan Gill** to honor those that had submitted information, some of which could not be at the meeting today, but were remembered for their service to our country. The first to speak was **Tom Burch**, who was wearing a very nice patriotic shirt. He was known as "Tommy Boy" and then "Flash" as he was assigned in Vietnam in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Marine Division as a Combat Photographer. His most memorable moment had to do with Dr. Fall, who advised President LBJ. "Flash" took a picture of him just prior to his being killed. Dr. Fall had gotten off a helicopter didn't see the landmines that were very obviously exposed. This was published in Time magazine without his name as a by line, it just said Official US Marine Photographer, but it was his picture.

Next up was **Tom Larwood** who talked about his boxing career with 16oz gloves and his 3 for 3 wins. In 1944 he was told to keep his nose clean and don't volunteer for anything. So he manages to get into the Medic Corp. in California. He told a story about a quadraplegic which had no feeling from the neck down. They were in Guam and the guy rolls off a cliff and broke his neck...then **Tom** says "comedy, light, no legs, war is hell."

**Cy Wade** began to weave his story about WWII and being a lawyer in Kansas for about a year and was drafted. He thought that he would never get called as so many were ahead of him...surprise...they were all farmers and got exemptions. He was in the first draft round in 1940 and went to Corkrine (sp? Remember that forgive thing) AFB on the day Pearl Harbor was bombed. He was nominated for Officers Training at Camp Lee Virginia and then went on to Abilene, Texas where they had no record of him being assigned. The guy in charge of the Supply Company was a Sea Captain and was a bootlegger, hence he wasn't around much. There were 233 coal mines from Pennsylvania that were sending coal that needed to be put on trains. Coal was being shipped on to England. He was told he would then go from Abilene, Texas to be with the 14<sup>th</sup> Core at Brownswood, Texas. He got on the train, then put off the train and then sent to New Caledonia at Guadalcanal. The last minute thing was frustrating, but not as much as having wool undies in the tropical islands. His duty then became to learn along with 5 other officers to learn the beaches. Captains of ships patrolled and barges were off loaded. Cy's job was to get the stuff off the ships to the beach. He was promised many times that he would get to go

to New Zealand, but in 2 ½ years, he never made it. He finally got a leave to go back to the states and the war ended. His then girlfriend, Virginia waited for him for 5 ½ years and they finally got married at Denver, Colorado's Fort Logan. After 6 months there, he finally got discharged. The two of them went to Oakland to be with relatives and then on to LA, but on the way to LA Cy stopped to visit Col. Howard Nicoles at the Bakersfield Inn where he was talked into going into business with him building houses. Cy remained in the Reserve School for 5 years here in Bakersfield and just never left. Aren't we glad!

**Mike Brazzell** was in the USAF started as a ROTC at Tuskegee, Alabama as he was interested in being a part of the Tuskegee Airman Corp which were fighter pilots. Unfortunately, **Mike** was blind in one eye so they made him a security police officer. For 4 years he was watching over the B52 bombers that were loaded with nuclear warheads. His most embarrassing moment came when he was assigned to his post he greeted his officer by saying he was a Lieutenant. His commanding officer said, "Captain are you not aware of your rank."

**Dick Henderson** started out by trying to be funny, unfortunately it lost something in the translation (Remember that forgiving thing) 1812 Two Star General said take your medication and get started. In 1951 he didn't want to get drafted so he joins the air force because he didn't want to go to Korea. Within three months he's a map maker as he's blind in one eye too. (Two Rotarians- each blind in one eye, hmmm) He works photo recon with F86 fighters. He had to read the strikes and go back to their tents with wood floors which is -20 degrees in winter to 95 degrees in summer. They used jet fuel in the pot belly stoves. Then he went to Egland, AFB doing testing and worked with mathematicians, engineers and physicists. He had an 8-5 job and was able to go to Florida State and take accounting. He met his wife in June '57 where she got a PHT- Putting Hubby Through College Degree.

**Jack Saba** attended East Bakersfield High in 1950 and then entered the service in the Navy Reserve during the Korean War. He spent 8 years with the Reserves and they put him through college at Fresno State. He took education, science, social studies, and life sciences. He became a PE teacher at Washing Jr. High when it was on Baker Street. Before he could do that for 5 months, then he was drafted into the Army - Active Navy Reserve. He went to Long Beach and was a Personnel Yeoman. He went to Guam and was involved with CB's building housing. He met Dr. Bob Sheldon from Kern County on the golf course in Guam. He also had a classified clearance and went to Vietnam to clear land a build an air strip, before the Vietnam War began. At this point **Susan Gill** interrupts the story telling to move to the next speaker.

**Dick Giles** was next to tell us that he recruited **Jack Saba** for the PE teacher spot at Bakersfield High in his senior year. The Berlin airlift was taking place the year before he went into the Navy Reserve at the BC fire station in the summer of 1950 when Korea happened. He got through college, he was commissioned for two years to work with mine sweepers. For 18 months, only 1 night he got a good night's sleep. He toured Europe and signed on for

another 2 years and got to go to France. "It was the most exciting and adventurous time in my life."

Don Westfahl (Melinda's father in law) talked about being too young for Pearl Harbor to join as the draft ended in December 1942. He wanted to go to Aviation Cadets, but didn't have 2 years of college. So they sent him to college in 1943 to Texas basic training. He spent time at Santa Ana, CA for pre flight training, then to 29 Palms. He ended up at Minter field where he met his wife. A Cadet was King in Shafter, which was the old Minter Field. He could go out to highway 99 and get a ride anywhere. He remembers the fog, but never how he got to LA on buses or back to 29 Palms.

The meeting is at an end, ran over, and out of time. **The Emperor** couldn't buy anymore time, so said Welcome to **Scott & Linda**, thanked Korrine **Denny** and also said something to **Dick Henderson** about Seminoles and Bruins, but not everyone got it, including me. And, of course he had to get the last word with a joke about a 5 year old boy and girl on the subject of love. The girl puts on perfume, the boy shaving cream and they both smell each other. At least he's trying to clean it up!  
Until next week.~rks

**November Rotarian Magazine Assignment per Cy Wade...**

Page 28 Maria Berntson	Page 31 Mary Sue Franklin
Page 34 Dick Giles	Page 38 Debbie Moreno

**ROTARY SUPPER CLUB**

On Wednesday, November 9, the supper club will meet at Woody's on the corner of Truxtun and Mohawk. Woody's has a very nice bar so attitude adjustment will begin at 6PM. Dinner will follow at 6:30PM. Reservations are required to ensure adequate seating and service at the restaurant. Just reply to this message to make them or call David Haynes at 393-7204.

Coming up:

- 11/16 Wed. Le Corusse Rouge 4647 White Lane
- 11/23 Wed. DARK
- 11/30 Wed. Rosa's Italian Restaurant 2400 Columbus St.
- 12/7 Wed. Suggestions, anyone?

**Programs October/November 2005**

**Nov. 18 Let us entertain you!**

Noble's Drama Department visits BERC! Bring on the show! We will be honored with a special presentation from 10 drama students from Noble School. Joining them will be their teacher, Chris Lopez, as well as Juanita Sanchez and Kay Hall. Don't miss this opportunity to show your support for these young people and their hard work! BERC and Ray Chaffee will be making a special presentation. Thank you to RJ Chaffee for planning and introducing this program!

**NOV. 25 – DARK – Happy Thanksgiving!**

**Board Meetings**

BERC Board meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the office of Lloyd Plank and the BERF Board meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month at Griffin Communication.

# The RotoNews

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The Rotary Club of Bakersfield East  
P.O. Box 2383  
Bakersfield California 93303

## ***Attendance IS Important!***

### **Where To Make-Up:**

#### ***Mondays:***

Bakersfield South Rotary Club 12:00 noon, Holiday Inn Select  
The Rotary Club of Wasco 12:00 noon at Wasco Valley Rose Golf Course

#### ***Tuesdays:***

Bakersfield North Rotary Club 12:10 noon, Holiday Inn Select

#### ***Wednesdays:***

Bakersfield Breakfast Rotary, 6:45am 5060 California Ave., 12th Floor  
Bakersfield West Rotary Club, 12:00 noon, Stockdale Country Club  
Shafter Rotary Club 6:30 am, Shafter Veterans Hall, 309 California St  
The Rotary Club of Taft, 12:00 pm, Jo's Restaurant, 510 Kern St.

#### ***Thursdays:***

Bakersfield Rotary Club 12 noon, Bakersfield Art Museum, 1930 "R" St  
The Rotary Club of Delano, 12:00 pm Mary's Heavenly Bites, 1125 High St  
Frazier Park/Mountain Rotary Club 7:00 am, Dream Castle - Frazier Park