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Charter Night 2009: A Red Heart Time for All



Masterful MC Larry Moxley
and friends

What a grand night to celebrate Bakersfield East Rotary Clubs 56 years since Charter !!! With over 100 persons in attendance, Masterful MC PP Larry Moxley called the celebrants to order. Melinda Westfahl gave the invocation, Charter Member Cy Wade led the Pledge of Allegiance and President Elect Nominee Steve Gibbs led us in song since our maestro George Palmer was home tending to his beautiful bride Nina.

Numerous guests to introduce, Larry shared that Cy Wade and one of BERC's precious widow Marcella Yoon were present at the first Charter Night for BERC. Larry recognized our own Judie Rolph and pledged to her our support and love for whatever she might need - just to call.

With introductions aside it was Foundation Chair Sandi Schwartz's turn at the microphone to talk for a moment on The Rotary Foundation and Paul Harris Fellowship. To date Bakersfield East Rotary has contributed \$4463,936.80. There have been 388 Paul Harris Fellows awarded thru the years from BERC, there are 54 benefactors and 10 Bequest Society Members. The Rotary Foundation continue to make a difference in lives foreign and domestic with the projects funded by Rotarian contribution.

Dan Giordano and David Coffey proceed to bestow the latest Paul Harris Fellows to the following: Matt Idoux, son in law of Tom Burch (Tom's 5th PHF),

Dakota Alane Holland, Hank and Marti Hinse's granddaughter (Hank's already a Major Donor), Mitchell Thomas Vyles (MTV) Jane and Bill Lewis's grandson (Jane's 2nd PHF). Finally to Noel and Sheryl Churchwell, BERC president Susan Leedy's parents (Susan's 3rd and 4th PHF). Susan's mom Sheryl unfortunately died before Charter Night last year and her PHF waited until Susan could present both to her dad.

Kelly Giblin honored her mother in law Betty Jo Giblin who could not be present with Kelly's 4th PHF, and Doug Amstutz presented PHF 8 and 9 to his brother and sister in law Gary and Mary Ann Amstutz who also could not be present. Those PHF's put Doug just shy of his major donor status for The Rotary Foundation. With literally \$100.00 to go to make major donor, Doug's friend Gary Creott (potential new member for BERC it's rumored) handed Sandi Schwartz the needed \$\$\$\$ to make it so. Congratulations Doug.

Also awarded was PHF #2 for Ann Braun from Greg. Those sustaining members of the Paul Harris Society (pledging \$1,000 annually) include Dan Giordano, Jarrod McNaughton, and Sandi Schwartz. Sandi awarded a PHF to her son Bryan Phillips but will present it to him at Mother's Day in Houston, Texas at the Houston Downtown Club(home club of Dick Willingham, husband of DGN Deepa Willingham)

The ceremonies adjourned (in record time I am sure) and the rest of the night was spent enjoying each other and dancing thru the night with the band.



Past Presidents Dan Giordano and Ron Biglin with Charter Member PP Cy Wade



Charter Night Chair Kelley Brown and her hubby Bryan. Wonderful night Kelley !!!



BERC's widow Marcella Yoon and Darlene Marsh Honeycutt with Darlene's husband Norman