



THE ROTO NEWS



VOLUME 55, ISSUE 42

MAY 2, 2008

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Dave Haynes, Chair of the Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Committee, recognized his committee members, **Susan Gill** and BERC Vocational Service Director **Sandra Larson**. **Dave** then explained that this award has been given on the first Friday in May since 1998 to a patrol Officer who has provided exemplary performance during the year or during one event. It is BERC's way of showing our gratitude for the officers' dedication to their work and their protection of the public. The two officers honored on May 2, 2008, Bakersfield Police Department Officers John Billdt and Eric Littlefield, will receive a plaque of recognition donated by Raymond's Trophies, and a \$500 gift certificate to Second Amendment Sports. Dave introduced the 2008 honorees, John Billdt and Eric Littlefield, their wives and children, and other Bakersfield Police Officers on hand for the award: Chief Bill Rector, Officer Dennis

Eddy, Cpt. Lyle Martin, Cpt. Greg Williamson, and Sgt. Greg Terry.

John Billdt and Eric Littlefield have a history of exemplary performance since they began working for the Bakersfield Police Department. Both officers have received numerous commendations for the performance of their duties as well as their donation of time to worthy community causes.

John Billdt was hired as a patrol Officer for the Bakersfield Police Department in July, 2001. He has been a certified paramedic for 18 years, and he is an instructor in basic academy and advanced officer school. He is also assigned as a Field Training Officer for new officers. He has been married to Marcy Billdt for 17 years, and they have two children, Kennadee and Kaileigh.

Eric Littlefield spent nine years in the United



Officers John Bilt and Eric Littlefield with the Law Enforcement Committee Dave Haynes, Sandra Larson, Susan Gill and Pres.for the Day Kelly with Chief Rector

States Army as a medic, before joining the Bakersfield Police Department in July, 2006. He has been married to Karen Littlefield for 10 years, and they have two children, Rachel and Jerry.

On February 9, 2008 Officers John Billdt and Eric Littlefield were among the hundreds of officers who responded to the dreaded radio call of "Officer Down." Bakersfield Police Department Public Information Officer Sergeant Greg Terry set the scene for us by showing photographs of the area of the gun battle, playing the dispatch tape of the event,

OFFICERS

President: Ron Biglin

Secretary: Christine Randall

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Larson

New Generations: Steve Gibbs

Outreach: Carole Cohen

International Service: Michele Brown

Past President: Vernon Varner

President Elect: Susan Leedy

President '09-'10: Tom Burch

Upcoming Events at Bakersfield East Rotary Club:

May 9 - Gin Fizz— Home of Gary and Evie Stanfill (morning meeting)

May 9-11 Attn RV'ers - BERC Campout Quail Valley (1 hour North) \$30./nite. See Ron for details and to RSVP. Bar b q/potluck Saturday. Day campers welcomed.

May 17 - Pasta Feast

Worker Bees for 05.09.08

Flag Salute: Kay Schrader

Visiting Rotarians: Gary Stanfill

Invocation: Terry Schroepfer

Reception Table: Tony Ansolabehere, Steve Richardson

Greeters: Susan Leedy, George Palmer, Jack Spencer

Supper Club: 5.07.08

Lengthwise Brewery

6720 Schirra Court

6 p.m.

RSVP

Call Dave Haynes 393-7204

May reading assignments from The Rotarian

Page one (President's message) Tom Burch, page 54 - Susan Leedy, page 58 (Polio) Michelle Brown, page 31-53 Mike Griffin

(from page one)

and describing what transpired. BPD Officers Dennis Eddy and Joseph Cooley were chasing Leon Anderson, a parolee gang member in southeast Bakersfield on the night of February 9, 2008. Officer Eddy pulled out his Tazer gun to disable Anderson. However, Anderson hid behind a parked car and fired gun shots at Officer Eddy, hitting him in the chest. Fortunately, Officer Eddy was wearing a bulletproof vest. He discarded his tazer and fired his gun at the suspect. However, the suspect shot back and hit Officer Eddy in the leg, damaging an artery and causing massive bleeding. While BPD Officers Cooley and Mark Caughell exchanged shots with Leon Anderson and ultimately stopped him, Officers Billdt and Littlefield moved to where Officer Eddy lay. As the bullets flew around them and until the ambulance arrived, these officers administered life-saving first aid and comforted and reassured Officer Eddy. Chief Bill Rector noted how amazing it was that the two officers who reached Officer Eddy had extensive medical training and experience. Officer Dennis Eddy later expressed his appreciation for Officers Billdt's and Littlefield's actions on February 9, 2008: "These brave young officers most certainly saved my life by stopping the severe arterial bleeding to my right leg. Had these officers even hesitated, my children would be fatherless and my wife a widow."

Officers John Billdt and Eric Littlefield humbly and graciously accepted their plaques and gift certificates.



President for the Day Kelly with Ronces Labiano and her dad Juan



PDG Sally Adelblue receiving a check from Kelly, International Chair Michelle Brown and Sandi Schwartz for Polio Plus Partners



Just another silly picture of Wayne—it's so easy

This week's business:

Visiting Rotarians: Maria Berntson, Rotary Club of Ventura, Sally Adelblue, PDG, Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise

Guests: **Jack Saba** introduced his wife, **Elizabeth**. With prompting and a \$25 fine, **Jack Saba** also introduced Keith Bishop. **Jack Spencer** brought his bride, **Barbara**. Katherine Gillette joined us from Rotaract, **Jim Clark** was accompanied by his wife, **Debbie**. **Richard Schwartz** came to lunch with his bride, **Sandi**. **Rich Harger** introduced Paul Yanez, a CHP Officer stationed at Ft. Tejon. **Jane Lewis** was accompanied by **Bill**

Mike Cooper introduced birthday girl, **Ronces Labiano**, and her father, **Juan**, who flew in from Spain to surprise **Ronces** for her birthday

Birthdays: **Ronces Labiano** – 18 years old on uno de Mayo. **Kent Pryor** - May 2, **Melinda Griffin McKean Westphal** - May 4

Club Anniversaries: **Susan Gill** – 11 years, **Steve Gibbs** – 17 years

Fines: In a bold move, **PP and President for a Day Kelly Giblin** fined **President Ron Biglin** in absentia because **Susan Gill** did not know she was scheduled to be a greeter. (*Susan was mortified to find the postcard from **Jean Watanabe** buried in the mail on Susan's kitchen counter Saturday morning. Clearly an adjustment is in order.*) **Karen Skrable** remorsefully accepted her \$25 for failing to serve as a greeter or arrange for a replacement last week. **Dan Giordano** was fined \$25 for sleeping in when he should have been gardening at Rotary Park.

Larry Moxley incurred the wrath of **Kelly Giblin** by his unreportable comment uttered when **Kelly** moved on in the meeting before the introduction of guests was complete. **Larry** was sentenced to \$50 and silence for the remainder of the meeting. (Is that why he left before the program began?)

Getting into the groove of being President again, **Kelly Giblin** levied another fine against **President Ron** in absentia, for not wearing his Rotary pin in his appearance in a San Joaquin Bank television commercial and print advertisement. Calling upon San Joaquin Bank executive **Scott Begin** as a consultant, **Kelly** decided \$500 was an appropriate fine for this multiple offense.

Mike Burger was not at the meeting. **Wayne Kress** reported that **Mike** was in San Diego, but **Kelly** thought perhaps he was out looking at new roofs to replace the one that collapsed on his office this week. To keep **Mike** safe until a new roof is installed, **Kelly** asked **Wayne** to deliver a yellow hardhat to **Mike**.

Announcements: Rotaractor Katherine Gillette reported on their Water Purification Index Project (WAPI). Bakersfield Rotaract has made 400 Water Purification Indices, and they are sending them to Ghana to help the people there know when their water is safe for drinking and cooking.

Juan Labiano thanked all who have made his daughter, **Ronces**, feel at home in Bakersfield. **Jim Clark**, **Sandi Schwartz**, **Jack Spencer**, and PDG Sally Adelblue planted at Rotary Park on the Panorama Bluffs on Friday morning. All are encouraged to go enjoy the beauty.

Sandi Schwartz made a Polio Plus Presentation to PDG Sally Adelblue. District Governor Jane McClenehan asked every Rotarian in District 5240 to donate \$50 to Polio Plus Partners this year, and with the generosity of **Barbara Tarpley**, **Doug Amstutz** and other Rotarians, BERC contributed \$3,200. Sally Adelblue gladly accepted the check and spoke of the difference Rotary and its partners, The World Health Organization and Unicef, have made in eradicating polio from almost the entire world.

Area Meetings**MONDAY**

Bakersfield South-noon

Holiday Inn Select

Wasco- noon

Veteran's Hall on Poplar Ave.

TUESDAY

Bakersfield North- noon

Petroleum Club

Inyokern- 6 p.m.

Bernardino's

WEDNESDAY

Bakersfield West-noon

Stockdale Country Club

China Lake-noon

Heritage Inn

Shafter-6:30 a.m.

Shafter Vet's Hall

Bakersfield Breakfast-
6:45 am

Petroleum Club

Taft- noon

Jo's Restaurant

THURSDAY

Frazier Park- 5:30 PM

Los Pinos Restaurant

Bakersfield Downtown-
noon

Bakersfield Art Museum

Tehachapi- noon

Kelcy's Restaurant

Delano-noon

Kong's Dynasty

Kern River Valley - 6 pm

Ewings

FRIDAY

Bakersfield East - noon

EB Veteran's Hall



ROTARY CLUB OF
BAKERSFIELD EAST

P.O. Box 2383
Bakersfield, CA 93303

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

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“Courage is not the absence of fear, but rather the judgment that something else is more important than fear.”