

Rotary Club of Visalia



January 22, 2025, General Meeting
Francie's View
Pictures by
Diane and Nevin



Member Anniversary

Congratulations,
Duane Scott
 a member for
 51 years!



The Board of directors have made the decision that the board will be 5 members instead of 8 members. The president-elect must serve as president. The president can appoint (I think he said 2) two board members with a one-year term. This change takes effect with Michael Damron's term as president.



Congratulations, Susan Winey

She received her Paul Harris plus 2 (or was it 3?)
 She signed up to have a certain amount contributed
 each month and she doesn't even miss it! She is racking up
 the plusses!



Traveling Rotarian

Michael Damron returned from a trade

Speakers

January 29, 2025

[Tim Holzem](#) regarding [Lake Kaweah Terminus Dam](#)
 Water levels, snow pack data, etc.

February 05, 2025

[Gary Herbst](#), CEO of Kaweah Health
 Update on Kaweah Health

February 12, 2025

[Belinda Daguio](#)
 Rotary District 5230 Polio Chair

February 19, 2025

[Hold- College of the Sequoias](#)

Club Meeting

Visalia

Meets at
 Marriott
 Hotel -
 Downtown

300 South
 Court
 Visalia, CA

Time:
 Wednesday
 at 12:00
 PM



Club Leaders



[Marc Mertz](#)
 President



[Michael D. Damron](#)
 President-Elect



[Michael D. Brown](#)
 Youth Services Chair



[Peter M. Cowper](#)
 Club Service Chair



[Nevin House](#)
 Club Director



[Judy L. Gibson](#)
 Membership Chair



[Greg Hagopian](#)
 iPast President



[Mary Jane Jennings](#)
 Secretary

[Wayne Yada](#)
 Treasurer



show in Las Vegas and gifted President Marc with the last \$10 he had... President Marc donated it to the Poker Pot! ... which is held by Michael Damron ... is that safe? (just joking!)



1960's Vegas Casino Night

Mark your Calendar:
March 28th - Our major fundraiser!

Annual Fundraiser bills will be going out soon from our club foundation. The tickets are mandatory whether you attend or not. You can give your ticket to someone else. \$200 per member or \$100 per member and 2 tickets per member? Whatever, ... plan to be assessed for tickets!



Grants

The Board awarded grants to Green Acres Little Theater, \$200; Leadership Visalia, \$1,500; The Creative Foundation \$1,000 (Your fundraiser ticket money at work!)



Program

Captain Shawn O'Connor
Executive Officer
Lemoore Naval Air Station
(LNAS)



It's good to see Captain O'Connor again. His update included news about four lanes bringing Visalia closer to LNAS. His job is to operate the base and support the fleet fighters and their families. Jet aircraft are awful neighbors, but LNAS has plenty of fields and open space to distance the communities from the noise. The pilots are able to train at the base and the cows don't mind. The base has 15,000 people a day. It's half the size of Lemoore. 40% of those who work on the base also live on the base. He calls himself a farmer, although he leases the land to farmers. The goal is to plant fields so birds can't see rodents scampering about on the ground. Birds and aircraft don't mix. (Anyone see "Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade"?) There are usually two wings in residence and there 16 deployable fleet squadrons. The aircraft carriers don't store the aircraft. The air national guard out of Fresno protects our coast. The national guard protects us domestically while the LNAS squadrons protect us outside of American soil. In 2026, the Blue Angels are scheduled to provide an air show. Keep a lookout and mark your calendars! Thanks for the program, Captain! It's always a pleasure!



[Cameron Bledsoe](#)
Rotary Foundation Chair



[Dennis R. Forester](#)
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Ron Hellstern](#)
Sergeant-at-Arms

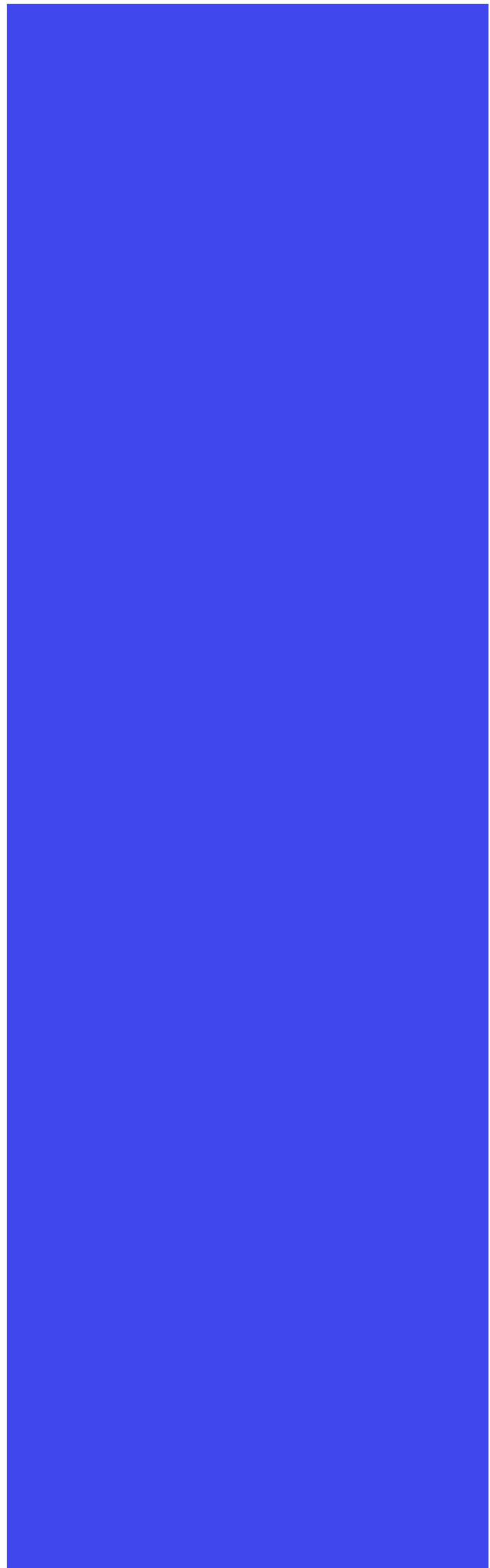


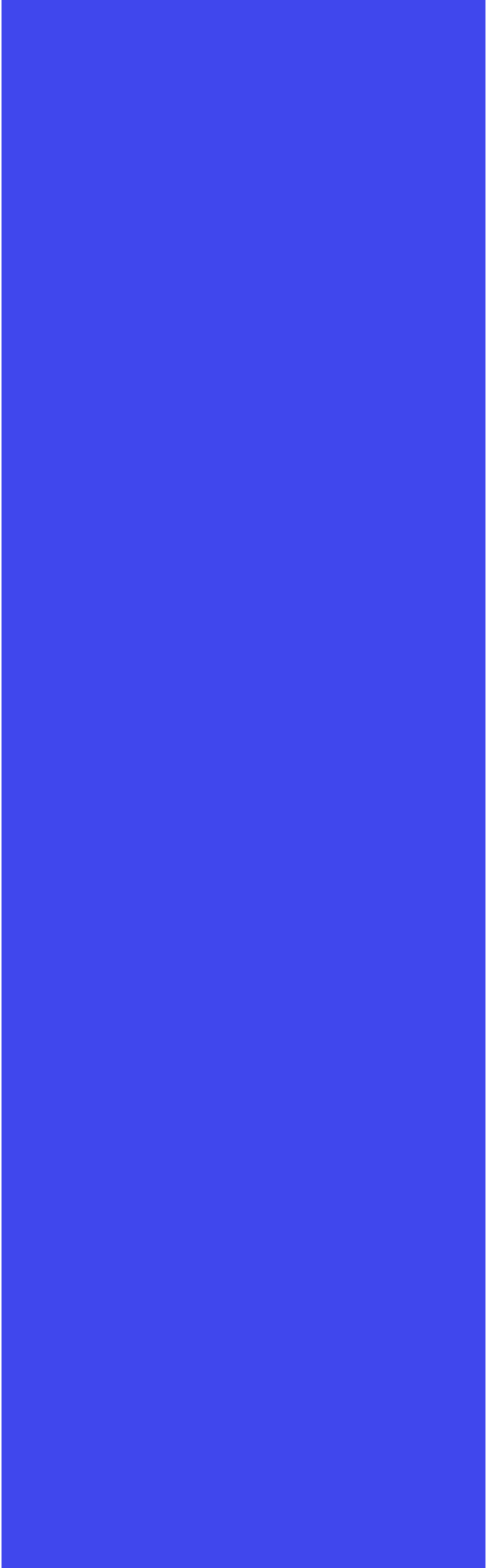
Birthdays

Michael D Damron
January 23rd
Rene F Luna
January 26th
Peter M. Cowper
January 28th
Rosemary S Caso
January 30th
Lisa Colburn
February 6th
Jason Hutton
February 11th
Jeffery W. Moyer
February 20th

Wedding Anniversaries

Fred LoBue
January 24th
Nevin House
January 25th
Stanley Shea Simpson
January 28th
Robert Link
February 1st
Eric Shannon
February 14th
Richard E. Strid
February 20th







Announcements!

February 9, 2025 - 13th Annual Super Bowl Sprint; 8 am near arbor #3 at Mooney Grove Park; \$30 entry fee; sponsorships available; for more information: [The Creative Center Foundation](#)

March 1, 2025 - ProYouth Color Run. 5krun/walk & 2 mile color run. Mooney Grove Park, 9 am, proceeds benefit local after school programs. <https://runsignup.com/Race/CA/Visalia/ProYouth5kand2mileColorRun>

March 28, 2025 - Our Club Fundraiser - save the date!

Rotary Merchandise: SHOW YOUR CLUB SPIRIT! Go to our club website and click on "Merchandise." You can now order quality Rotary Merchandise; our club receives a portion of the proceeds from these sales.

PLEASE BUY SOME STUFF! Go to <https://stores.inksoft.com/rotary/shop/home>