

Rotary Club of Visalia



January 8, 2025, General Meeting Francie's View with Diane's and Nevin's Pictures



Paul Harris Fellows



Pete Cowper received his Plus One Award; he had polio as a child and appreciates the work the Rotary Foundation does to stamp out polio! Receiving their first Paul Harris awards: **Brooke Carmen, Brittni Ellis, Alicia Lopez, Nathan Ortis, and Judy Gibson.**

Congratulations!
and
Thank you!

FYI: Our District will match our donations up to \$500 until February.

As a reminder: The Rotary Foundation awards a Paul Harris Fellow for every \$1,000 that is donated. The Visalia Rotary Community Foundation awards a Karl Weiss Fellow for every \$2,500 that is donated.



Poker

Bring your playing cards next week to play Beet the President's Poker Hand!

The Creative Center Foundation

February 9, 2025
Super Bowl Sprint

8 am near Arbor #3 in Mooney Grove Park

<http://www.thecreativecenterfoundation.org>



The Visalia Players Present

"A Night of Comedy"

A fundraiser to benefit the historic
Ice House Theater

Friday, January 24, 2025, 7 pm cocktail hour, 8 pm show
(PG-13)

Help the Theater and enjoy the comedy of Amy Shuklian, Tony Le, and Colton Irvine



She's B-a-a-a-k!
Welcome back Jennifer Welch-

Speakers

January 15, 2025

[College of the Sequoias- Giant Threads and Giant Marketplace](#)

January 22, 2025

[Captain Shawn O'Connor, Executive Officer of Naval Air Station Lemoore](#)

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](#)

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



Nicolson!!

Jennifer received a kidney from her brother. She stayed near the hospital for 30 days to overcome some unexpected challenges. Her brother's kidney had three arteries instead of the usual 2, and it "went to sleep" for a couple of days. Jennifer and her brother's kidney overcame the challenges, and she is happy to be back! Her brother is doing great! Jennifer, Our prayers have been answered!



Program

Michael Rabara
District Governor



Our District Governor, Michael Rabara, traveled a unique path to reach his position in Rotary. He attended Camp Royal in 1996 and the members of the Fresno Rotary Club went daily with a nurse to care for his grandparents. Rotarians brought his grandparents to his high school graduation. During the summer, he worked in a funeral home. He was interested in studying medicine, but found working in the embalming room was like being a doctor but no mal practice! He never contemplated joining Rotary until he was invited to a Rotary lunch. His fellow Rotary members were instrumental in helping him and his spouse adopt their foster son. He was a COVID president, and it was hard to keep his club together. Michael has an energetic way about him. He is all about Rotary. Join him for The District Million Dollar Masquerade is May 17th at one of the casinos (I missed which one! [sad face]). June 8 to 13 is Camp Royal and all Rotarians are invited to help clean up the camp during the previous week. The District Conference this year is a Royal Caribbean cruise with service projects in Mexico scheduled. Thank you, Michael! It was a treat to have you at our meeting!



Cameron Bledsoe
Rotary Foundation Chair



Dennis R. Forester
Sergeant-at-Arms



Ron Hellstern
Sergeant-at-Arms



Birthdays

- Bryce Harris
January 16th
- Byron W. Riegel
January 19th
- Michael D Damron
January 23rd
- Rene F Luna
January 26th
- Peter M. Cowper
January 28th
- Rosemary S Caso
January 30th
- Lisa Colburn
February 6th

Wedding Anniversaries

- Mary Jane Jennings
January 17th
- Fred LoBue
January 24th
- Nevin House
January 25th
- Stanley Shea Simpson
January 28th
- Robert Link
February 1st



Announcements!

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 13, 2025 - Visalia Rotary Community Foundation Blarney Bash, save the date!

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>

