

Rotary



Club of Visalia

October 16, 2019 General Meeting

It was a very busy meeting, so President **Paul Hurley** cut things a little short at the beginning (and we still finished a little late!). But it was a pleasure to have **Ed Sullivan** lead the club in prayer and have District Governor-nominee **Bruce Mackey** from the **Hanford Rotary** lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Thanks also to past-president **Gerry Schneider**, who saluted guests, visitors and milestones.

New member: Rotary Club of Visalia welcomed its newest member, **Jeff Winey**, who was sponsored by **Marilynn Mitchell**. Great to have Jeff officially aboard. He has been an unofficial member for several years as the husband of past president and assistant district governor "**Her Majesty**" **Susan Winey**.

Fun fact: The daughter of **Laura Whitehouse** (Fresno Rotary), our guest speaker today, is the granddaughter of **Vicki Whitehouse**. Woo-hoo! More on Laura later.



Pints against Polio: **Susan Winey** stepped up and volunteered as sponsor for the **Pints v Polio** event at Pita Kabob on Oct. 24. Also sponsoring: **Gary Herbst** and **Gerry Schneider**. Tickets are \$30 and available at the door on Oct. 24 at Pita Kabob.

Road trip: The Oct. 23 meeting will be at **Kaweah Oaks Preserve** at noon. Those who wish to car-pool should gather at the **Marriott** parking lot at 11:40 a.m. on Wednesday. Box lunches from the Marriott will be provided. The folks at **Sequoia Riverlands Trust** will prepare a program. Tours will be available. Everyone should remember to wear comfortable walking shoes.



Road rash: Dr. **Bill Winn** had just returned from a trip to South Dakota, the Black Hills, **Mt.**

Speakers

October 23, 2019

[Soapy Mulholland](#)

We will not be at the Marriott! We will be at the Kaweah Oaks Preserve. Wear shoes for an outdoor walk.

October 28, 2019

[Doug Berg](#)

The Ukraine

October 30, 2019

[Nick Vargas](#)

The Source LGBT+ Center

November 06, 2019

[Steve Nelsen](#)

Steve will present an update on downtown Visalia, including events and activities, business mix, and work being done to upgrade/repair downtown buildings, including buildings damaged by a recent fire.

Birthdays

David H. Nash
October 21st

Erica Tootle
October 25th

David E. Miller
October 27th

Charles D. Sanford
November 1st

Randolf R Smith
November 1st

Bill W. Whitlatch
November 2nd

Fred LoBue
November 4th

Gilbert A Noriega
November 6th

Mark T Atkins
November 11th

JR Shannon
November 19th

Club Meeting

Visalia

Meets at Marriott Hotel -
Downtown

300 South Court
Visalia, CA

Rushmore and a traditional Indian pow-wow featuring more than 800 dancers.

Bill presented President Paul with a T-shirt from the 33rd Annual Black Hills Powwow ("He Sapa Wacipi Na Oskate" 2019), a sage wand (for marking one's enemies in combat) and a photo of the Devil's Tower. Very exotic gifts, Bill.

Club photographer **Dave Miller** returned from his four-month excursion across the West that brought him to Pendleton, Oregon; the Southwest desert; Tulsa, Oklahoma; Dinosaur National Monument; Great Sand Dunes National Monument; and lots of other places. Dave's slide show presented 200 images at the rate of one slide per second (he took more than 3,000 images). It was breakneck all the way. Great trip, Dave, who volunteered to join the President's Club.

Hail to the Chief: Also stepping up to join the **President's Club** was **Past President** (2000-2001) **Don Estes**. Don said that he had just joined the club of that other president, Mr. Trump, although it was a \$500 donation. President Paul told Don that, at \$250, he was getting more bang for his buck (hmm ... risky choice of words) with his donation to the Rotary Club of Visalia. President Paul also noted that he has been told by longtime members that Don was "the best president this club ever had," and that he had no reason to challenge that assertion. Thanks, Don.

Crafty: **Mike Paim** presented his craft talk, and it was indeed a compelling tale ♦ Starting with his days of dealing cards at Visalia/Tulare's legendary roadhouse "Crazy Delbert's," into his days of starting his business by buying one tow truck (financed by **Delbert Moran** himself), continuing with his partnership with fellow club member **Lisa Colbrun**, his expansion of the business by connecting with AAA, and bringing it up to date with his purchase of a monster towing vehicle, "**The Rotator**," which can take an overturned vehicle as large as a semi-truck tractor trailer and right it, to his intention to buy a second Rotator, (it costs \$600k) because business has been so brisk. Mike also told members about his daughter, who, having come one semester shy of graduating from Arizona State, decided she would like to pursue a career in the U.S. Air Force. She is working as a mechanic in the Air Force maintaining F-35 fighter jets and has her eye on getting her stripes as an officer.

President Paul was delighted to present Mike with his **blue badge**.



Rollin', rollin' ... **Laura Whitehouse** of the **Fresno Rotary** was the guest speaker. She arrived using a scooter, explaining that she had torn tendons in her foot in March, necessitating surgery. So between her scooter and President Paul's wheelchair, there was more or less a demolition derby going on in the middle of the floor. We had asked Laura to address our club and update members on the progress of establishing the **Fresno State Kremen School of Business at College of the Sequoias**. It is going well, BTW, and COS President Brent Calvin confirmed that. But Laura had other ideas: She brought dozens of slides to talk about her 2017 to **Zimbabwe** with the Fresno Rotary do deliver about 100 wheelchairs to a hospital there. Zimbabwe is among the most unstable places in Africa. But Laura said that, thanks to her bodyguard and the planning and support from Rotary, she did not feel threatened. Her talk was a vivid description of the people, children, education and health systems and culture of Zimbabwe. As a bonus, Laura shared some slides of her visit last year to Heilongjiang region of China, one of the northernmost, and coldest, areas of China. The slides proved it: The annual ice festival in Harbin is a showcase of some of the world's most beautiful, massive and elaborate ice sculptures. Laura was there for the wedding of her son to a Chinese girl. They are both studying at Harvard as they work toward their Ph.d. Great presentation, Laura.

And yes, that's it.

Time: Wednesday at
12:00 PM

