

After a few weeks of being away, our club reassembled to enjoy our favorite meeting of the month....OUR STUDENTS OF THE MONTH! As always, we were delighted to hear what these amazing students had to say about their dreams, goals, and accomplishments. And, this meeting also included the opportunity to meet our WTC scholarship applicants. So, without any further delay, let me share what I have learned.

From WTC (Withlacoochee Technical College) – we have awarded scholarships to David Rose and Brenden Yardy. These two were chosen out of 14 applications. David Rose is currently a Citrus High School student dually enrolled through a program that allows students to complete their high school diploma and work toward a technical certificate. He is a hard-working student with a 4.0 gpa who will be graduating this year, but will not have finished his certification in auto mechanics. While in school, his tuition was paid for; however, after graduation, he is on his own. To finish, he needed \$2500. His scholarship will get him much closer! He seems genuinely appreciative of the assistance. Brenden Yardy is here from Pinellas where he lived until his father died. Having to move and figure out what his next step should be, Brenden found his way to WTC to become an electrician. Brenden said that he was in a very dark and broken place trying to figure things out, but with the assistance of Ms. Calise, he now has an exceptional opportunity to become an Industrial Electrician/Technician. Ms. Dawna Boley, Assistant Director of WTC, was on hand for the awards, and she described how amazing this new program/opportunity is for not only Brenden, but other students interested in this field. Hats off to you, fellow Rotarians, for helping to raise the funds to support projects like this!

Students of the Month:

Inverness Middle School – Carmen Bryan and Anthony Hankey. Carmen is an artistic young lady and is heading to the Lecanto Arts Program next year. She also is focused on the environment and helped with the school beautification project. Anthony is a super reader, being the person everyone wants to beat in reading challenges. He is quiet, bright, and helpful with others, tutoring those that need help. He plans on being a residential architect.

Citrus High School - Kiera McCarrick(unable to attend) and Kyler Bishop. What an engaging and articulate young man! Kyler was our student of the month in 8th grade! He was very amazed to be selected again. His list of awards and participation included 3 years on the Academic Team (which he called the Super Nerds!), 4 years track (shot put), Boys State, Honors, AP, Dual Enrollment with an AA in Engineering, and is attending USF in Mechanical Engineering. Kyler would like to join either the Space Force (military) or NASA. Oh, and, by the way, in his 8th grade acceptance speech, he indicated he wanted to grow up to work at Legoland and become a master Lego builder! Well, maybe he will build something with Legos.....on the moon or Mars. And yes, friends, the sunglasses were handed out once again, because the future is so bright.....they have to wear shades!

Other News:

John Murphy Reported – Brewfest should bring in \$43,000. Strawberry Fest could earn us \$2,000. Good work everyone.

Special Thanks – to all the volunteers for the Brewfest, Strawberry Fest, and One Bag. And to those that made it a Trifecta.....you are the best!

NEXT WEEK – Abby Blocker to zoom in and give us an update on her Phd project and other activities (if all the technology obliges).

H/s - \$138

50/50 – (To someone other than Tom), Paul Perragaux \$20