

## **Bears Brew Back**

"The first Black Bear Diner opened in 1995 in Mt. Shasta by two guys who really just wanted to feed their family and friends," went the introduction by President Greg Dunbar. Rotarian Bruce Dean

proceeded to share his company's endeavor to provide assistance to Nicaraguan coffee growers through a program their calling, "Bears Brew Back".

According to their website, "Bears Brew Back is a philanthropic partnership with Java City Coffee Roasters and is an ongoing, long-term commitment to improve the lives of the people of Nicaragua." Jolisa Johnson is a VP in Marketing for Black Bear Diner. She joined us to share a little bit of background on Nicaragua and it's people. She went on to explain how Black Bear Diner is purchasing their coffee from this single source, empowering women owned companies located there and helping the local community to better their situations.



Bruce Dean



Jolisa Johnson

Jolisa explained that Black Bear Diner receives credits for the type of purchasing their doing, and have taken those credits and put the money back into the towns and communities the coffee comes from. They gave their effort the name "Bears Brew Back" and introduced it to their management teams from all 120 Black Bear Diners. The program was so popular when announced, that staff members began spontaneously pledging donations towards the effort!

Their first project in Nicaragua is well underway and includes the installation of a well pump to provide the business owners and residents fresh clean water daily without the necessity for (literally) back-

breaking hand-cranked pumps. According to their website, "this system will allow for more accessible water and bring running water to the homes in Mancotal, a community where many of our beans are grown."

Bears Brew Back is making a positive impact in the Nicaraguan community where the beans are grown. Their water pump project is just the first of many, and the owners and employees of Black Bear Diner seem proud to share this tremendous effort! Thank you, Black Bear Diner, for being a living example of Rotary's motto: "Service Above Self."



## This Week's Meeting

This meeting was brought to you by Team 2 captained by Mary Brace and Mike Warren. Greeters were Karen Stovall, Rush Lenroot, and Tom Semingson. They were joined by Keyway Greeters Lindsay Meyers and Levi Knight. The Plinko tickets were sold by Jessica Whitlow and pre-meeting music was played on the piano by Marjeanne Stone. The pledge was lead by Tom Stovall; the invocation was given by Mike Mangas; the Sergeant-at-arms were Mike Warren and Judy Price. Finally, PP Dave Gerard introduced our visiting Rotarians and guests. Thank you to everyone for working together for a great meeting!

## **President Greg's Recognitions**

President Greg recognized several Rotarians this. Here are the lucky recognized Rotarians and their gifts to the club:

Mary Brace was recognized for the amazing recent accomplishments of both of her daughters. They spent last week in Florida at the National Baton Competition. Both daughters placed high with the older placing in first and moving forward to represent the US in France next summer for the International Cup. Mary gave \$100 for each daughter toward the club.

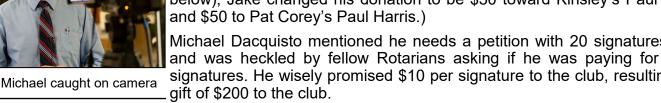
Randy Tate went on a vacation to Saigon with his wife Ashlee. They enjoyed the trip immensely, even the over priced coconuts! Randy said he would gladly share details with anyone who wanted to know more because he had such a good time. He gave \$100 to the club.

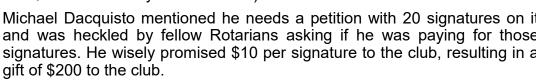
Jake Mangas took a fishing trip in Brookings Oregon with Pat Corey and... well let's just say that he didn't plan for the impact the rough waters would

have on his "morning-after" stomach. He did much better on day 2 of the trip and came home with some

freshly caught lingcod. He gave \$100 to get away with the incriminating story. (Update: after Gary Burks' announced his granddaughter's birth (see below). Jake changed his donation to be \$50 toward Kinsley's Paul Harris

Michael Dacquisto mentioned he needs a petition with 20 signatures on it and was heckled by fellow Rotarians asking if he was paying for those signatures. He wisely promised \$10 per signature to the club, resulting in a





("Recognitions" Continued on page 3)

## **Welcome New Member!**



New Rotarian Anna Tracy (with sponsors Greg Balkovek & Jean King)

Our club inducted a new members this week! Anna Tracy is the Library Director of the Shasta Public Libraries (since July 2017). She is Redding native and Shasta High graduate who holds a Bachelor of Arts from Sonoma State University. Did we mention her parents and grandparents live in Redding too?!

Welcome to the club Anna!



Randy, Ashlee, &

Coconuts



Gary & Kinsley

Gary Burks shared his first granddaughter: Kinsley Harper Lynn Burks. She was born Monday night in Red Bluff and was released from the hospital the morning of the club meeting. Kinsley was 7lb 12oz 21.5" long at birth with really long legs. Gary says his son is excited for his future volleyball player! Gary gave \$100 for her Paul Harris that he started previously.

John Dunlap was recognized for his trip to Florida which was unexpectedly extended by a few weeks (29 days total) due to health reasons. John was anxious to get out of the proverbial spotlight and quickly offered \$100 to the club to pass the mic to someone else.

Thank you all for your generosity!

## **Trip to Rotary International**



A few of our fellow Rotary Club of Redding members were able to attend the Rotary International conference in Toronto this year. Amelia Ward, Kathy Anderson, Jeanne Jelke, Tiger and Susie Michiels all enjoyed their trip and encouraged other Rotarians to attend next year's conference in Germany.

They didn't come home empty handed, and President Greg reaped a whirlwind of benefits due to their generosity! All of them brought him back rain ponchos... he wore several of them at one time to show off their gifts. Amelia brought him back several pamphlets on Rotary International, Kathy

brought him back an empty wine bottle (customs MADE her drink it at the gate),

Jeanne sent Greg a "Rotary International" canvas bag to hold all his new goodies in, Tiger and Susie brought him empty Rotary beer cans (again, customs...) and a heart-shaped cookie on a string that read, "Hamburg 2019".

Greg had a huge smile on his face as he showed off his goodies to the rest of the club! Of course, that could have been a grimace as apparently all of those ponchos can make one rather hot in our local Redding temperatures.



Amelia, Greg, Kathy, Susie, & Tiger...
And Greg's gifts!

Greg showing off his goodies.

Thanks for representing our club so well all those who made the journey, and thanks for being such a good sport President Greg!

## **PLINKO**

This year's Plinko game is fun to watch and even better to play. "Congratulations" to this week's winner, Kathy Malaine! Every player wins, so don't forget to buy your tickets each week this year.





## **Keyway Social**



This year's Keyway Committee held their first Social of the year at C.R. Gibbs on July 18th. The results?... "Keyway Social for Redding Rotary was a blast!", says Jess Whitlow via her Facebook page. "I was honored to win a 'Rotary Spirit Award'".

PP Ed Rullman said it was an, "Awesome Social...great way to start off the year. [It] was 112° so we had to move from my house to Gibbs, but it turned out perfect." Ed encourages any and all Rotarians to join in when the next one is announced.

Thank you to Keyway Co-chairs Jill Letendre and Lindsay Myers and all the participating Past Presidents for a terrific start to this new Rotary year.

## **Rotary at Shasta Youth Leadership Camp**



Shasta Youth Leadership Camp (SYLC) is an annual summer event in Shasta County, jointly sponsored by various law enforcement, drug prevention agencies and the Youth Violence Prevention Council. SYLC brings together students from schools throughout the

county, develops their leadership potential, and encourages their commitment to a drug-free life. Our goal is to have each student be a positive influence at school, among friends, and to encourage others in living a drug, gang, bully and violence free lifestyle.

Our club has supported this efforts for years by serving dinner on the last night of camp. This year was no different. Thank you to the Rotarians who gave of their time to help support this excellent annual event! A few of them are pictured here (from left to right: Dee Potter, Greg Balkovek, Bob Allen, Tim Thomas, and Tom Stovall).



Rotarians at work!

## **Next Week at Rotary**



We don't often make a big deal about the upcoming week's program, but we're making an exception for this one.

Jonathan Horton will be our speaker on July 26th. He was a 7-time USA national champion, Olympic medalist and team captain, and a regular finalist on the popular TV show American Ninja Warrior.

Jonathan will be sharing his experiences with our club and talking about the upcoming Redding Ninja Warrior. Don't miss it!

Calendar	
July 26th	Olympic Medalist Jonathan Horton
August 2nd	Lane Carlson: California Heritage Youth Build Academy
August 9th	DARK—NO MEETING. Please attend the social at Water Works on 8/10
August 16th	Aaron Hayes: Catalyst Mentoring



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mbjohannessen@gmail.com

# missymcarthur@gmail.com

### KRISTY LANHAM

North Sierra Community Relations Manager

P.O. Box 496028 Redding, CA 96049-6028

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