

President Jake Mangas hits a home run at Tiger Field



The weather was fantastic, the food was exceptional and the fellowship the best ever. Tiger Field was the place with Rick Bosetti sharing the beautiful 98 year old field with Redding Rotary.

The evening began with a social hour featuring almost any type of beverage a thirsty Rotarian could imagine. The dinner tables were ready and waiting complete with Cracker Jacks, peanuts and a large assortment of baseball items.

President Jake complete with a vintage baseball uniform worn by his grandfather mingled among the crowd. After so many virtual meetings it was good so see Jake in person and to feel the warmth of all the Redding Rotarians attending the demotion.



Somehow the word demotion doesn't seem right after President Jake's year. Celebration of his fantastic Rotary year seems more appropriate. Pres. Jake never faltered a minute under the adversities. He moved along using technology to keep the Redding Rotary Club functioning. Even with Covid-19, Redding Rotary gained members in 2020-2021. Folks undoubtedly heard there was an exceptional Redding Rotary president and wanted to join.

First Time Redding Rotary Demotion at Redding's Tiger Field



More Demotion Fellowship and Dinner



Pres Jake, rounds the bases while hearing of his years accomplishments. Each base has a duty to be performed. Once Pres Jake reaches home base he is surprised with the return of the Rotary Bell.



"Put me in coach, I'm ready to play!"

Thursday evening at Tiger Field was a night I'll remember for the rest of my life.

As I was called out onto the field on Thursday night to "take my medicine" as part of the demotion skit, I definitely felt like a rookie stepping up to the plate for my first at-bat. Then I saw the smiling faces of Pat Corey, Steve Westlake, Ed Rullman, Amelia Ward, John Dunlap and Mathena, and the rest of the past presidents and it hit me - I made it! In spite of the 5-6 (7?) shots of

Pendleton whiskey I was "forced" to drink in my circuitous journey around the bases, it was fun to hear the laughter coming from the bleachers along the 3rd baseline, even if it was at my expense. That comes with the territory. Fellowship is the number one reason Rotarians stay Rotarians. It was back in full force that evening. We need more of THAT.

As I reflect for the first time on the Rotary year, I'm filled with gratitude. I'm grateful for my dad sponsoring me into the club 13 years ago. I'm grateful for Amelia nominating me for the board years ago. I was very flattered to have been asked to be club president by Ed Rullman a couple years ago. I remember telling Ed, "2020 has a nice ring to it, and I know you will help me out along the way, I accept." Who could ever have imagined what the year would bring? Yet we all persevered. You all rolled with the countless Zoom meetings and alterations to long-standing programs and community projects. Our overall membership numbers held steady. We accomplished a lot in spite of what life threw at us. Thank you all so very much.

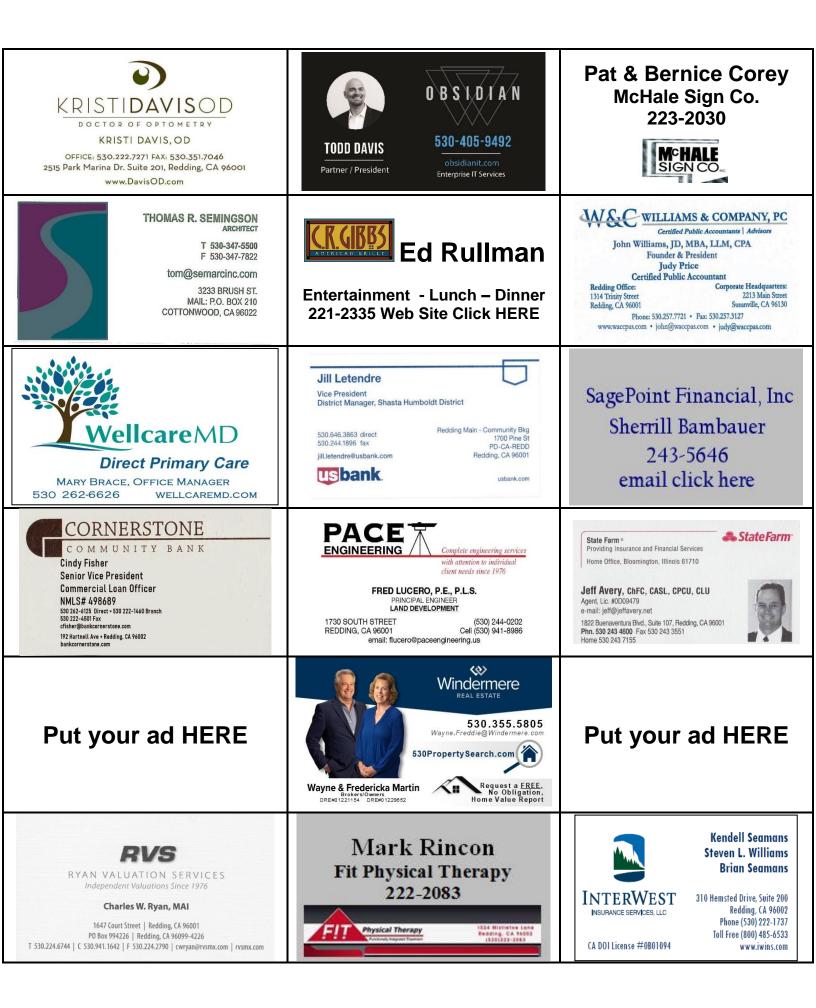
> I was joking with a few of the past presidents at the demotion on Thursday evening, saying that I'd understand if they chose to insert a double asterisk (**) by my name on the list of past presidents in next year's club directory. It might indicate "**only held one in-person, indoor meeting". They were gracious in their responses saying I'd earned my place on the list through the unforeseen challenges of the pandemic. The reality of being the Rotary president is that it is a flattering opportunity to get a more complete understanding of the club's impact locally, at the district level, and around the world, as well as a deeper appreciation for the dedication of the "people of action" in the club who make everything we do possible. You have all been so kind and patient with me through this unreal time in humanity's history. It has been my absolute honor to serve alongside you. You all proved that we truly are "stronger together". See you in July for the beginning of Joe Ayer's year. It's going to be fantastic!

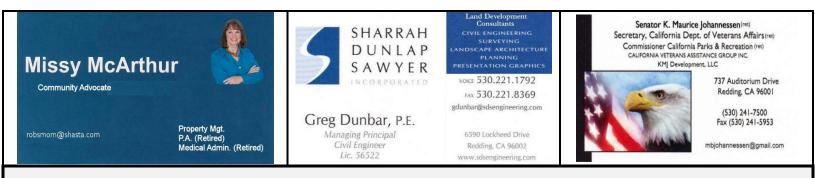
July 2021	
July 1st	Dark
July 8th	Joe Ayer Installation — Committee Chair meeting following regular the regular meeting. Will last 15 to 20 minutes.
July 15th	ТВА
July 22nd	ТВА











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