

EARLY BIRD WEEKLY



And the White Tape Award goes to... Dave Miller! WOOOO!

Dave stepped up to fill the role of Rotary Foundation Chair when it was vacated last year. And he set the bar for future [Color] Tape Award Recipients. *(This is our club's goofy way of acknowledgment personalized with the day's recipient written on masking tape)*

President Casey's Moment on Rotary's Seven Areas of Focus - 7 of 7, Economic and Community Development: Instead of filling newsletter real estate with need and action, take a quick peak at [Rotary International's page](#) on this Focus area.

Mayor Bill Rosacker was our speaker last week with his Classification Talk.

People often recall their first Rotary experience before joining our club. In Bill's case, he had been invited to a McMinnville meeting a while ago. For one, there were only men. Then, he got a vibe that everyone was there with fists-full of dollars where they would be tested, fail and pay.

Editor's Note: perception is reality, right?

Bill led with an invitation to join him at 8:15, the second Sunday of every month, to pray for our community.

Growing up, he attended St. Peter's Catholic School here in Newberg, which is now been re-purposed as apartments.

He was raised on a ten acre farm up on Coral Creek Rd. One year, he raised a market hog that took Reserve Grand Champion at the Yamhill County Fair.

This was also an experience in business and finance for Bill. You see, the hog auctioned just before his fetched \$2.00 per pound. His, its equal or superior 200 lb hog, fetched 32¢ per pound.

Newberg's US Bank became the new owner (they were the only bidder). There was more behind the story of only having one

bidder but I wasn't scribbling fast enough. Anyway, the bank graciously sold the hog back to Bill for 16¢ per pound.

The \$32 difference he made back was plenty enough for bubble gum cigars for his Mable Rush Elementary classmates.

Bill talked up Gibbs School (1886-1947), now known as Newberg Rifle and Pistol Club, as a complement to his Army career on the Fort Bliss, TX, Shooting Team.

He also holds patches from the National Rifle Association for 50 ft. Marksman and Marksman First Class.

On the home front Bill has a daughter, Courtney (sp?), an RN in Phoenix working toward her Masters to qualify for Nurse Practitioner. Son Kyle is a software engineer.

"I always wanted my kids to make more than me." Adding, with a chuckle, "I just didn't think it would be with their first paychecks."

In 2006 he borrowed \$1.2 Million and finished a condominium at Newport Beach. Then the rules changed on how it had to be occupied, then the crash of 2008 happened.

He had no job, and no living.

He bought a truck and drove for May Trucking and spent the next couple years with himself.

It was a really tough time.

He started construction again doing framing work for high end homes.

Things looked much better for the next dozen years ... until COVID.

He managed to keep his core crew busy for most of it but then employees started drifting away to other opportunities. He was down to just himself and his lead guy.

He kept trying to hire, but the new blood had, what one might consider, a very different work ethic.

Being community minded, Bill was involved in local politics and recalls then-mayor, Rick Rogers, as, "what's car camping?"

Bill and Rick had a conversation later over a cup of coffee. By this

time Rick was familiar with the term and its meaning. Bill said permitting it was not a good idea. "If people made it easy on me, I might not be here today."

For example. Bill let a tree trimmer stay in his shop (where he himself lived while building his home) for a while so he could save up and get back on his feet.

After a year, Bill finally had to get the man out. The goal had been to let the man save up for a leg up. After a year, the man was nowhere closer to that goal than when he had moved in.

Next up, Emily Garrick-Stenson, Advancement Manager for A Family Place here in Newberg. She submitted a grant request to move them toward their \$50,000 playground for "the knee high people" at [A Family Place](#) (trying to keep kids with their families and out of foster care).

The Foundation chipped in \$25,000.

