

Rotary Notary



East Wichita Rotary Club: Counting the days until we get Faith

CALENDAR

- * June 22-Charitable donations presentation
- * June 29-President Noel's last meeting
- * July 6-No meeting
- * July 13-President Faith's first meeting (Shoes and teeth optional)

BIRTHDAYS

ROBERT BRILL	7/13
MARSHALL MILLSAP	7/17
RANDY STRASSBURG	7/19
ROBERT HADLEY	7/24
CRAIG BURNS	7/27
TIM NORTON	7/29
STEVEN TAYLOR	7/29

Speaker: Brigadier General Vic Braden on Afghanistan

If between Wichita and Augusta was a 12,000' mountain and the only way to negotiate the terrain was with a cart and your feet, it's likely Augustans wouldn't visit Wichita too often. That's the type of landscape confronting the Afghan people, who are isolated and insulated from the world due to the land and poverty.

Kansas National Guard Brigadier General Vic Braden, who spent a year in Afghanistan, said someone once said that the Afghan people are ungovernable.

Also, Vic is chief of the criminal litigation division for the Kansas Attorney General's office.

From late 2009 to early 2010, Vic advised General Zazai, the command-

ing general of the Afghan army forces in southern Afghanistan, "the Taliban spiritual heartland."

Vic said southern Afghanistan is a sea of sand. It's the size of Kansas and has approximately the same population.

The main crop is wheat, though poppies for opium represent a substantial portion of the economy.

Almost all of the women are illiterate and 10% of the men are literate.

"There is little national identity," Vic said. The people first identify with their faith, then their tribe, then their country.

Vic compared some of the key Afghan military relationships to "Sarah Palin and Barack Obama in the same room."

Because of the dislike between the top Afghan generals and those generals disliked their British counterparts, Vic had to employ the "Colombo effect." He'd scratch his head, pretend he



didn't understand, and have the parties explain the war plan to him.

Vic said patience is a requirement in

Vic, in the middle pictured above, is promoted to Brigadier General in the Kansas National Guard

Afghanistan.

More from General Braden

Vic said it's not unusual for the Afghan army to take extended breaks to drink hot tea called Chai.

To show respect, he rode the poor quality and poorly maintained vehicles and airplanes with the Afghans. During

one plan ride, he sat on a bench, not a comfortable seat, next to an exposed fuel tank.

Corruption is prominent. If you want to be a Brigade Commander, you might need to pay the right person \$10,000.

Afterwards, the new Brigade Commander will then keep a large portion of the payroll intended for his troops. He'll then use that wealth to buy a promotion, which leads to more troops under his command, a bigger payroll, and more money in his pocket.

What's the speed of dark?

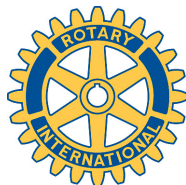
Greeter-Dave Mason

Prayer-Britt Fulmer

Announcements-Lisa Callahan said **Scott Hampel** attended the Wichita Art Museum awards ceremony...**Susan Addington**

and **President Noel** attended the American Red Cross annual meeting...**Barbara Waite** was drinking...**Tom Morris**

was featured in the newspaper discussing his



Will it build goodwill and better friendships

business, Downing-Lahey Mortuary.

Karen Norton introduced three of our scholarship students. Josie Black will graduate this year from the University of Kansas. Josie has a double major, French and Linguistics. She's a member of the National Honor Society and French Club. Josie is considering a Masters degree in which she can study for one year in France.

Raymond Zheng is a Wichita Northwest High graduate. He

qualified for the national debate tournament in his junior and senior years and was a member of the National Honor Society. Raymond plans to attend the University of Kansas to study Political Science and, eventually, law. His parents are Chinese immigrants who don't speak English.

Brandon Bleahm is the first recipient of the George Fahnestock scholarship, awarded to a student who plans to attend Wichita State. Brandon graduated from Wichita Northwest and is a bowler. He plans to study Pre-Pharmacy and become a pharmacist.

WORD DUH JOUR

Meretricious

(adjective)

[mer-i-TRISH-ahs]

Alluring with vulgar or gaudy attractions

How would you treat someone who is addicted to therapy?

Paul Harris Fellow-Bill Lusk was recognized today for his third Paul Harris Fellowship contribution. Each is \$1000.

He's IBM and he's ADK Past President **Andy Anderson**, a former 31-year IBM employee, joined other IBMers tonight to celebrate IBM's 100th anniversary. **Will Momsen** asked if Andy was one of the original employees.

Thanks from a Wichita Children's Home kiddo-Janet Pack introduced Danny, a Wichita Children's Home resident. "Thank you for the support," Danny said. "We are very pleased to have so many people in the community to help us."

"I started to realize that this place (The Wichita Children's Home) is good

for me. Everything I was doing before was not good for me. When I entered this program, good things started happening to me and people cared." Danny will graduate in ceremonies Thursday night at 5002 E Douglas. Danny said he's recently unemployed and plans to attend Butler County Community College in Andover in the fall.

Movie Review: Super 8

I think two of the most difficult tasks in movies are: create a unique, believable, scary monster; and have child actors carry a film.

Those were the two key elements in *Super 8*, produced by Steven Spielberg.

I'm not a fan of too much child acting in a movie. I

have nothing against children...I was one once...though scenes with only

kids usually lack dialogue and depth, two things I enjoy in a flick.

Super 8 is the story of



an alien inadvertently unleashed on a small town.

You see only glimpses of the alien until the end then you see all. Without revealing too much, if you saw *Cloverfield*, you'll recognize this alien.

The alien is actually a distraction for the message in the movie, a familiar Spielberg theme of a kid without both parents who struggles to grow closer to the remaining parent.