

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

COUNTY OF FRESNO  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF PROCLAIMING 2016 AS ROTARY)  
CLUB OF FRESNO YEAR IN RECOGNITION FOR ITS )  
100 YEARS OF SERVICE )

RESOLUTION NO. 16-087

**WHEREAS**, The Rotary Club of Fresno was first organized as a provisional Rotary Club on December 13, 1915 and chartered on March 1, 1916 as the first Rotary Club in central California, as the ninth in the State of California and the 203<sup>rd</sup> in the World and will turn 100 years old on March 1, 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, The Rotary Club of Fresno was founded by the following 23 Fresno business leaders:

W.D. COATES, JR. - Architect	F.O. GARDINER - Business College
C.H. STAPLES - Stationer	W.L. MATLOCK - Oil Co.
R.W. POTTER - Pharmacy	ROY PULLMAN - Banker
GEO. H. POST - Fruit Packing	C.H. JASPER - Southern Pacific Railway
R.E. MCCABE - Hats	J.E. CARLSON
J. HERMAN REISS - Insurance	DR. J. HARVEY DEERE - Minister
L.A. MILLER - Lithographing	CHARLES H. ROSS - Insurance
H.E. WILKINSON - Optician	E.R. HODSHIRE
CHASE S. OSBORN, JR. - Newspaper	E.A. BERG - Furniture
JOHN S. COATES - Flour Mill	C.W. BARRETT - Hardware
W.D. EASTMAN	E.R. ARMSTRONG - Musical Instruments; and
GERALD F. THOMAS - Corrugated Culverts	

**WHEREAS**, The Rotary Club of Fresno members have met for 100 years in downtown Fresno beginning with its first meeting in the Hotel Fresno Ballroom; and

**WHEREAS**, The Rotary Club of Fresno hosted the first ever District Conference in Rotary in February 1916, a long step from the previous intercity meetings and the national and international conventions; and

**WHEREAS**, The Rotary Club of Fresno by 1919 was firmly established having planted 1,000 olive trees along the Golden State Highway, then known only as State Highway 99, as its first community project, organizing a city wide Boy Scout Council, holding Christmas parties at the county old folks home, helping many seeking college education and supporting the crippled children's society; and

**WHEREAS**, The Rotary Club of Fresno has supported hundreds of community projects and organizations in the local community including the Water Tower in downtown Fresno, the Rotary Amphitheater at Woodward Park, Storyland and Playland at Roeding Park, Boys & Girls Clubs, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, the Salvation Army, Elementary Schools, High Schools, Secondary Education, and Hospitals; and

**WHEREAS**, The Rotary Club of Fresno supported projects in the international community having delivered over 4,200 wheelchairs to third world countries, treated over 100,000 patients over 30 years of medical service to a village in Mexico, and delivered countless solar cookers and water treatment devices throughout the world; and

**WHEREAS**, The Rotary Club of Fresno has contributed over \$3.7 million dollars to the local and international projects (or over \$6.6 million in 2015 dollars) it supported as well as countless volunteer hours of time by its members; and

**WHEREAS**, The Rotary Club of Fresno has contributed over \$1.2 million dollars to the Rotary International Foundation in support of its worldwide humanitarian efforts of improving people's lives, including the eradication of polio; and

**WHEREAS**, The Rotary Club of Fresno is one of the largest Rotary Clubs in the world ranking in the top 100 in size among the over 35,000 clubs in the world; and

**WHEREAS**, The Rotary Club of Fresno has been the sponsor club, either directly or through a club sponsored by them, for 56 Rotary clubs from Madera to Bakersfield.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Fresno County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims 2016 as Rotary Club of Fresno Year in recognition for its 100 years of service to the City and County of Fresno and the world and hereby acknowledge them for their many accomplishments.

**THE FOREGOING** was passed and adopted by the following vote of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Fresno this 1st day of March, 2016, to-wit:

AYES: Supervisors Borgeas, Mendes, Pacheco, Perea, Poochigian  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None

Ernest B. M. M.  
CHAIRMAN, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:  
BERNICE E. SEIDEL  
Clerk, Board of Supervisors

By Susan Bishop  
Deputy