



## Rotary Club of Santa Monica

### RotaMonica

Club Office: (310) 917-3313

Wednesday, November 16, 2011

[Club Web Site](#)

**Editor:** Suzan Allbritton  
If you have any comments or questions, email the editor.

#### Welcome to our new web and newsletter

We are migrating to ClubRunner for our web and RotaMonica newsletter platform which also supports a secure online directory for our members. More information will follow in upcoming weeks on how to access the member directory and update your information, and we will continue to enhance the web and newsletters.

#### Future Speakers

**Nov 18 2011**

School Color Day  
"USC-UCLA too"

**Nov 25 2011**

Dark - Thanksgiving  
Holiday Weekend

**Dec 2 2011**

Brandon Lewis - Mayan  
Calendar - 2012

**Dec 16 2011**

Holiday Program and the  
Carlthorp Singers

#### This week at Rotary - School Colors Day

It's Rivalry Week in college football. We are combining with the Westwood Village club to get fired up for the big games. While our program will focus on the USC-UCLA rivalry, wear your school colors, no matter what they are and enjoy some ribbing about LA's cross-town rivals.

Representing USC will be Willie Brown. A former USC varsity athlete in football and baseball, Willie was a member of the 1962 USC National Championship Football team and captained the 1963 National Championship baseball team. He was an assistant coach during OJ Simpson's senior year in 1968 and coached for the National Championship baseball team in 1968. Willie was also a member of the coaching staff for the National championship football teams of 1972 and 1974. He coached with two Hall of Fame coaches — Rod Dedeaux (baseball) and John McKay (football). In 2004, Willie was inducted into the USC Hall of Fame. After earning his Bachelor's Degree in Public Administration from USC, Willie joined the USC football and baseball coaching staffs from 1968-1975. From 1984-1991, Willie was the owner and operator of seven Wendy's restaurants in the Los Angeles area. Born in Alabama, Willie was raised in Long Beach, CA.

#### Upcoming Events

Healthy Living - Introductory  
Iyengar Yoga Class  
Dec 3 2011

Holiday Party  
Dec 17 2011

Representing UCLA on the dais will be Donn Moomaw. Donn played center and linebacker from 1950-1952 and went on to play professional football before retiring to join the presbyterian ministry. Moomaw later gave the invocation and benediction at Reagan's 1981 presidential inauguration. Each year UCLA gives out the Donn Moomaw Award for Outstanding Defensive Player against USC.

#### News

Wine & Jazz Festival Supports  
Community and International  
Projects

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#### November 11th at Rotary with Scott Sale and Arthur White for New Directions, Inc.

##### Meeting Cast

Ron Davis offered the invocation, new member Nick Goehner sat next to President David Bohn. Scott Wagenseller introduced our speaker, Scott Sale. Judy Neveau introduced our visiting Rotarians and our guests. Irene Passos, Rob Kohn and Lisa Alexander greeted us at the door. Ken Waltzer accompanied our song leader, Herb Roney.



##### Visiting Guests

We had no visiting Rotarians today, but lots of guests of members: Norton Wyner hosted by his wife, Jean McNeil Wyner; Steve Senfp, guest of Con Oyler; Arthur White, New Directions graduate, who was a co-presenter with our speaker; Maria Ferguson, wife of member Scott Ferguson; Autumn Hill, daughter of member Alonzo Hill; Christine Cassiano, guest of Avo Guerboian; and David Rosenfeld, guest of Donna Byrd.

##### Announcements



- Frank Lavac announced that Red Kettle Day is Dec 9. The counting party will be at the YMCA on the second floor (courtesy of Jean McNeil Wyner), and Myles Pritchard will be coordinating signups for bell ringing.
- The Santa Monica Jaycees are having a canned food drive over the next month. We'll have a collection box available at the next few meetings. Please bring in canned goods to support the Jaycees and their incoming President, our own Savi Labensart.
- Bret Carter reported on the Rotary International Foundation Paul Harris Celebration at Circus Vargas. We had good attendance, and raised 6% more money that last year with the lottery tickets.
- The birthday committee is looking for promotional items to add to its birthday gift stash. See Laurel Rosen if you have something to donate.
- Third Thursday Breakfast is coming up November 17. Come by between 7:30am-9:00am at Le Pain Quotidian, 13050 San Vicente, Brentwood (just east of 26th Street).
- Santa Monica History Museum's Gala Tribute Dinner was held on Sunday, November 6, at Casa Del Mar to recognize the city's service clubs. Iao Katagiri made us shine at the event with her PowerPoint presentation – go Iao! Prez David accepted the award on behalf of Rotary with remarks that sounded as though he'd been practicing for weeks instead of minutes – quick thinking, David!

##### Fines

We had no time for fines today... some of you got off lucky. :-)

**Selling Coffee for a Cause** [http://www.rotary.org/en/MediaAndNews/News/Pages/111110\\_news\\_alumdaf.aspx](http://www.rotary.org/en/MediaAndNews/News/Pages/111110_news_alumdaf.aspx)

By selling fair trade coffee to Rotary clubs throughout the United States, a former Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholar is helping to raise money to fund worldwide clean water initiatives.

**Five for Water**, a project started by Bill Prost, Rotary Club of Cape Girardeau, Missouri, finances a Rotary Foundation donor advised fund for water projects in coffee-producing countries. After forming a partnership with Green Mountain Coffee, Prost invited clubs to purchase the organic coffee and sell it in their community. Funds generated from the sales would go toward water projects throughout Africa, Central and South America, and Indonesia.

A village in Bolivia now has access to clean water as the result of a project supported by The Rotary Foundation's Clean Water for Coffee Growing Countries Donor Advised Fund. Photo courtesy of Five for Water



A pump provides water to a village in Tanzania -- part of a project made possible by the Foundation's donor advised fund. Water and sanitation is one of Rotary's areas of focus under the Future Vision Plan. Photo courtesy of Five for Water

"I wanted to create a year-round project that's fit for any size club," says Prost, who studied in England as a 1979-80 Rotary Scholar. "Any club, no matter how large or small, can help be a part of this. It's a really simple project."

#### Coffee sales

Even though the project was launched only a year ago, more than 300 clubs in the United States are already selling the coffee. Their efforts have netted nearly \$184,000, providing more than 50,000 people in 10 countries with access to clean water.

An estimated two million people die every year from waterborne diseases, and more than one billion lack access to clean water, according to the World Health Organization. "I told myself that, as a Rotarian, it was my responsibility to do something about [that]," Prost says.

After the money is raised, clubs seek an international partnership with another club and apply for a Rotary Foundation Matching Grant. A big focus of Five for Water has been funding the installation of wells to serve schools, orphanages, and medical clinics -- but, according to Prost, the project's scope goes beyond that.

#### Wells in Bolivia

Recently, Five for Water installed eight wells in Bolivia and pump stations near a reservoir in Sumatra. Prost has also partnered with a club in Missouri and Engineers Without Borders to create a pipeline in Honduras that supplies water from an existing well and a water tower. The project's goal is to provide more than 300 families with clean drinking water.

#### Presentation

Scott Sale, M.D., is a board member and Program Committee Chair for New Directions, Inc. New Directions is an agency serving veterans who are struggling with homelessness, mental illness and physical disabilities, and substance abuse. Scott shared some statistics about our homeless population and the portion of it that is made up of veterans. The latest numbers show that 18 percent of the homeless population are veterans as opposed to only eight percent of the general population. Among homeless veterans, 75 percent are dealing with substance abuse issues that compound their medical, emotional, and financial problems. New Directions was founded in 1992 in Mar Vista. It now occupies five buildings on the Veterans Administration campus in West LA. Some of the programs they offer include anger management, help in obtaining high school GED, job placement, and family reunification. The program can last between six and 18 months, is very rigorous, and requires significant personal commitment by the veterans who sign up for it. They also have an a cappella choir that was on America's Got Talent -- you can see the on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b5z-h92h6Ks>. The choir performs regularly around Los Angeles, especially in support of other nonprofit social service agencies.



Arthur White, a graduate of New Directions, spoke about how much New Directions changed his life. He entered the program with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), which led to drug and alcohol problems. Too many programs do not treat the whole person - and this is where ND is different. Arthur said, "If you have two hands on fire and you only put it out on one hand, you have not really addressed the problem." ND provides the opportunity to make changes -- but every individual must step up to the plate and make their own choice to move forward. Arthur did this and is now employed as a financial supervisor by LA County and is looking forward to a promotion on Monday!

#### Thought for the Day (TFTD)

President John F. Kennedy said on Veterans' Day, "As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."

#### October 28th at Rotary and Craft Talks

#### Meeting Cast

Mary Ann Powell gave a moving invocation. Craft Talker #1, Roxana Janka sat next to President David Bohn. Charlie Follette, who chaired the program, sat next to Craft Talker #2, John Dravillas. Donna Bryd introduced our visiting Rotarians and our guests. Carol Jackson skillfully and vigorously pounded the keyboards while Tom Larmore attempted to lead us by example in song.



#### Visiting Rotarians and Guests

Our only visiting Rotarian was John Clay, from Oxnard. Ed Morrison was a guest of Russ Warner, Steve Senft was John Clay's guest, and Christine

Cassiano joined us again – introduced in the past by Avo.

### Birthdays!

We celebrated two months' worth of birthdays. Our September babies are: Ron Davis, Grace Cheng Braun, Msgr. Lloyd Torgerson, Avo Guerboian, Carol Follette, Steve Eorio, Lisa Alexander, Vince Muselli, George Pickell, Jim Dyer, Len Lanzi, Jim Westbrook, Rex Minter, Joe Metoyer, Fred Rafeedie, and Bill Werner.

October brought us: Bill Wood, Diane Margolin, Bret Carter, Karim Jaude, Jeff Moskin, Tom Loo, Allan Young, George Collins, Hal Quigley, Nicole Ryan, Janie Yuguchi Gates, Scott Wagenseller, David Bohn, Greg Hargrave, Bill Buxton, John Rucci, Paul Leoni, Dick Rice, and Iao Katagiri.



### Announcements

- \* Healthy Living Committee announced **Step Aerobics** at the YWCA on Saturday, November 19 at 8:30. The YWCA is located at Pico and 14th Street. RSVP to Judy Neveau. Brunch at Judy's afterwards.
- \* Suzan Allbritton will be leading another **Upward Bound House Apartment makeover** on Saturday, October 29. Let her know if you'd like to be part of the fun
- \* **First Tuesday** is coming up next week, and we'll be meeting at The Galley at 2442 Main Street. We'll see you there this Tuesday, November 1, at 5:30.



### Fines

David Snow was fined for being awarded almost \$6,000 for Upward Bound House at the Westside Shelter & Hunger Coalitions Celebrate Success breakfast event. John Pacheco was fined for an "appearance" on KPCC about disaster preparedness.



### Craft Talks!

**Roxana Janka** started off our Craft Talks program by telling us three things no one ever believes about her: 1) She's never been arrested; 2) she's gifted; and 3) she's a princess. Roxana was born in Tehran, Iran, and has three sisters. As a sixth generation descendant of Kaykavos Mirzah, son of Fatall, Shah of the Qajar Dynasty, she is, technically, a princess. In 1979, when she was still just a little girl, Roxana and her family fled the revolution in Iran. After a little time in Los Angeles, the family moved to Orlando when Roxana was five years old. There, she won the fifth grade spelling bee – with the word "pasteurize" (i.e., gifted).

Roxana went to work in the PR business, and after making a splash by arranging for a bull to be herded down city streets to publicize the Silver Spurs Rodeo (you'll have to have her tell you the story), she was on her way. She met her husband, Chris, at the Gap. They moved to Barcelona and then to New York. When Chris was transferred to Los Angeles, he proposed marriage, Roxana accepted, and they moved once again. She feels that she's finally found her home in Santa Monica. Roxana is passionate about community service, passionate and honored to be member of our Rotary Club, and, by the way, completely proud to be a Bohn Girl (one of several women members sponsored by that Debonair Devil, John Bohn). Roxana says she has a lucky star and a very happy life. Roxana, the club feels pretty lucky to have you!



**John Dravillas** tells us his story in his own words: I was born in Chicago on June 30 to Pat and Paul Dravillas. Both my parents are children of Greek immigrants. Before I started school I thought everyone was Greek, but once I arrived I realized that nobody else was Greek (until he found Spyros, of course)!

I was born 10 months after my parents married. Three years later I was joined by my brother, Mark, and five years after that came Paul. Family life was uneventful. Dad was originally in sales and then started his own business. Eventually he sold his part of the business and went into teaching and writing. Mom was very religious. We spent a lot of time in church, and there was always an emphasis on acceptance and inclusivity, and on taking the high moral road regardless of the situation. Our family made Ozzie and Harriet seem like Ozzie Osborne.

Until I hit puberty, I was a terrible athlete and did poorly in sports, but I did well in school and good grades came easily. Growing up on the south side of Chicago, I would have given anything to trade those two qualities. As a teenager, I was a decent offensive lineman in football and guard or forward in basketball. Although I kept going to church and listening to Mom, I transformed the beliefs she taught me into a personal outlook of secular/spiritual/organic peace and love. Not too different from the 4-Way Test.

I knew by my mid-teens what I wanted to do for the rest of my life – something that combined health care with athletics. I realized physical therapy was the perfect fit for me. About 17 years ago, I left my job as a staff therapist and went out on my own, first seeing patients in their homes and

ultimately moving to an office and gym. I started a wellness program about 10 years ago, which was simply pilates and yoga at the time. Today, we have what we call a "bridge program" to progress people in an integrated manner from injury recovery to an independent wellness program. I met my wife, Anna, sixteen years ago while working at USC County Medical Center. We celebrated our 12th wedding anniversary just a couple of weeks ago.

**Thought for the Day (TFTD)**

"I don't know that there are real ghosts and goblins, but there are always more trick-or-treaters than neighborhood kids."

**ROTARY CLUB OF SANTA MONICA**

Service Since 1922 - Meets Noon Most Fridays  
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