



Mark Rogo, member of the Westwood Village Club,
and a young child receiving a wheelchair in Colombia.

Photographer unknown.

From Governor Elsa...

February is designated as World Understanding Month – it is a chance for every club to pause, plan and promote the Fourth Avenue of Service – Rotary’s continued quest for goodwill, peace and understanding among peoples of the world.

District 5280 is promoting world understanding through humanitarian service and fellowship. February 5 through February 9, 120 Rotarians from 34 clubs in our District will be in Guatemala delivering six global grant projects totaling \$435,887. These global grants address the promotion of peace, fighting diseases, providing clean water, saving mothers and children, supporting education, and community development through gainful employment. We will meet our Rotary partners from District 4250 as they showcase their country and culture during our project visits and fellowship events. Lifetime friendships and fellowship among members of the clubs in our District are formed during these humanitarian trips. A huge “Thank You” to Chair Richard Ham and his outstanding committee for their generosity of time and talent in getting all global grants approved and funded. They have worked countless hours in planning and preparing an unforgettable trip with plenty of opportunities for everyone to have a Rotary “aha” moment. A big happy clap for the clubs who participated in the global grants as well as the 120 Rotarians going on the trip.

We are also promoting world understanding through our Friendship Exchange program. On February 15 through February 21, a group from our District will be hosted by Rotarians in District 3010 New Delhi, India and in return they will host the representatives of District 3010 in May. Representing our District are President Shirley Giltzow of Lawndale Rotary Club and her daughter Denise, Judge Lance Ito and Margaret York

from LA5 Rotary Club, Richard Strayer from Downey Rotary Club and his wife Gloria, and Tore Knos from Playa Venice Sunrise Rotary Club and his wife Michele. Thank you Chair Makiko Nakasone and your terrific committee for making the Rotary Friendship Exchange program a reality.

A powerful way to promote global understanding and peace is through our Rotary Youth Exchange program, which provides our young students an opportunity to meet people from other countries and to experience new cultures, planting the seeds for a lifetime of international understanding. If you know of a high school student interested in the Rotary Youth Exchange program, either long term or short term, or if you and your club are interested in hosting a Youth Exchange student, please contact District Youth Exchange Chair Warren Bobrow.

Rotary celebrates its 110th birthday on February 23rd. Chairs Alex and Ginny Brideaux has prepared a week long program utilizing Facebook to post Rotary stories, projects and selfies to Light Up Rotary via social media. Check our website, weekly newsletter and Facebook to see how you can participate.

We wish District Governor Elect DJ Sun and his Presidents a successful and effective Presidents Elect Training Seminar on February 20-22 at the LAX Marriott, to create leaders by training Presidents Elect on effective ways of leading their clubs.



Governor Elsa, husband Larry (member of Wilshire Club), and Assistant Governor Rica Viola (member of San Pedro Club) at a club meeting.

It is clear our clubs are working hard on the “R” in VIBRANT – Reaching out to recruit and retain members. Congratulations to the 37 clubs who have net gains in membership for the period July 1, 2014 to January 31, 2015. With a net gain of 91 members to date, my hair is beginning to show a little shade of shocking pink. ●

*Light Up Rotary
and Be Vibrant!
Elsa Gillham*

ROTARY RELEASES \$34.8 MILLION FOR POLIO IMMUNIZATION ACTIVITIES WORLDWIDE

BY ARNOLD R. GRAHL | ROTARY NEWS | 23-JAN-2015



Female polio health workers providing the polio vaccine during the National Immunization Days in Kano Northern Nigeria.

Photo Credit: Diego Ibarra Sánchez

Rotary International released an additional \$34.8 million in grants to support polio immunization activities in 10 countries, including Afghanistan, Nigeria, and Pakistan, the three countries where the disease has never been stopped. The funds, whose release was announced 20 January, will be used by the World Health Organization and UNICEF for polio immunization and surveillance activities in the 10 countries, as well as to provide technical assistance in several other countries in Africa.

The grants include \$8.1 million for Nigeria to support its final push to eradicate the disease. Nigeria experienced a nearly 90 percent reduction in cases in 2014 compared with the previous year, and hasn't registered a new case of polio in the last six months. "Nigeria has managed an incredible feat," says Dr. Tunji Funsho, Rotary's PolioPlus chair for Nigeria. "However, now we must be more vigilant than ever, as our progress is fragile." Commitment to polio eradication from all levels of the Nigerian government has proved crucial to the country's recent progress. Disease experts are urging political leaders to maintain this focus as national elections approach next month.

The Global Polio Eradication Initiative, in which Rotary is a partner, made significant progress against polio in 2014 in most places. More than half of the world's cases in 2013 were the result of outbreaks in previously polio-free countries, largely caused by instability and conflict in countries including Syria, Iraq, and Somalia.

The outbreaks appear to have been stopped last year following special vaccination efforts in 11 countries that reached more than 56 million children. "We are encouraged to see the tangible progress made against this disease in 2014," says Mike McGovern, chair of Rotary's International PolioPlus

Committee. "However, until we eliminate polio from its final reservoirs, children everywhere are at risk from this disease. Rotary -- along with our partners -- will work hard to ensure that the world's most vulnerable children are kept safe from polio."

One less promising spot in the polio eradication fight has been Pakistan, which saw an explosive outbreak totaling more than 300 cases in 2014, the most there in more than a decade. As a result, Pakistan accounted for almost 90 percent of the world's cases last year. Pakistan will receive \$1.1 million of the funds that Rotary is releasing to support eradication efforts there. In addition, the grants include \$6.7 million in Afghanistan, \$7 million in Somalia, \$3.3 million in Democratic Republic of Congo, \$2.8 million in Niger, \$2.5 million in Chad, \$1.6 million in Cameroon, \$1.1 million in Ethiopia, and \$250,000 in Kenya. A total of \$321,000 will provide technical assistance in Africa.

To date, Rotary has contributed more than \$1.3 billion to fight polio. Through 2018, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation will match 2-to-1 every dollar that Rotary commits to polio eradication (up to \$35 million a year). In 2014, there were only 350 confirmed polio cases in the world, down from about 350,000 a year when the initiative began in 1988.



**John Kenny
Trustee Chair 2014-15**

In his inaugural address, U.S. President John F. Kennedy made this often quoted exhortation: "Ask not what your country can do for you – ask what you can do for your country."

The same sentiments could be applied to the membership of Rotary. Whether Rotary will survive or whether it will falter, whether our service will mean much to many or little to few, whether Rotary is known with respect or seen as a relic of days gone by, will be up to each and every Rotarian. There is so much to be done in our world – to educate the illiterate, feed the hungry, provide shelter to the homeless. Our world is still ill divided, and the gap is not shrinking between the haves and the have-nots. But to whom much has been given, much is expected.

John Kenny December 2014

Interview with Jose Antonio Salazar

By Wilson Benitez
Member of the Del-Amo Torrance Club



Jose Antonio Salazar and wife Myriam

Wilson Benitez: The Rotary theme for February is World Understanding. As you know our district has organized many district-wide trips to Latin America. Why is it important for Rotarians from District 5280 to get involved in international service projects?

Jose Antonio Salazar: Rotary International as the name implies, is an international movement. We are present in more than 180 countries and regions. It is our hope that in all of them our image of service and friendship is reflected in a positive way. Clubs in District 5280 are in a great position to partner with Rotary clubs in other countries where the need to serve challenged communities is tremendous. It becomes a joint venture when clubs from District 5280 join clubs in other countries to organize resources and assistance for communities in distress. February being World Understanding month, we must take advantage of opportunities to promote international understanding and good will.

Wilson Benitez: Do the efforts in international service by our clubs help to promote the mission of The Rotary Foundation?

Jose Antonio Salazar: Certainly, the mission of The Rotary Foundation is to build friendships amongst countries and people. Your members accomplish this when they participate in international service trips. Great contacts and friendships are created by Rotarians working together shoulder to shoulder. This helps build bridges in friendship and make the reality of a better world come true. As Rotarians we should also be international ambassadors.

Who better to learn from about this month's Rotary theme than Jose Antonio Salazar? He is a Past RI Director and a Past Rotary Foundation Trustee. Jose Antonio is keenly aware of the highly successful district-wide humanitarian trips organized each year by Rotarians from District 5280. He is a member of the Rotary Club of Bogota Occidente in Bogota, Colombia.

Wilson Benitez: How should we measure the results of our work in international service projects?

Jose Antonio Salazar: All service projects in foreign countries, including in Latin America, have a positive impact regardless of their scope. Projects must be measured not by the monetary amount but rather by the betterment of the lives of members in a community. Frequently projects considered small, such as in education and water, end up having major benefits for a community. New technologies in education and sources of clean water benefit children and adults in positive and life changing ways. The children and adults served live healthier, live longer, live happier, and are more productive. We all win.

Wilson Benitez: How can Rotarians become more involved in international service?

Jose Antonio Salazar: International Project Fairs, initiated first by Guatemala and now followed by other countries, are opportunities for Rotarians from other countries to visit and learn first-hand the many projects available to support and participate in. Colombia will have its first International Project Fair in February 2016. There are many ways to support and become involved in international service. You have programs such as Youth Exchange, Rotary Friendship Exchange, Ambassadorial Scholars, and Global Grants, just to name a few. With Rotarians involved, we can bring solutions to many problems faced by communities around the world. It is more about uniting synergies amongst various people and less about exporting solutions.



Wilson Benitez and wife Amada

THINK...AND GROW ROTARY!

By Greg O'Brien, DGN

It is a great time to be a Rotarian! Since July, Rotary Zone 26 grew by 838 members, making us first in the U.S. and ninth in the world in membership growth. During the same period District 5280 grew by 76 members. We are well on track to achieving DG Elsa's District goal of a net equivalent of two new members per club.

Our District membership seminar last August was very well received. Those who attended will recall that after a mock-Rotary club meeting, we heard from three membership experts from Zone 26. Several club presidents have inquired whether our District would replicate it later this year for the benefit of those who missed the first one. I have discussed this request with Zone leaders, who report that the "New Focus" seminar continues to be a work-in-progress, and that we should not attempt to duplicate last August's event until trainers in our District have been properly trained.

Something that was not mentioned in last August's seminar was the new emphasis on "club extension," which I learned about for the first time at recent Zone training for Rotary leaders. Club extension involves the creation of new Rotary clubs in areas where population, demographic and economic trends suggest that the community could be better served by two or more clubs operating at different times of day. Whereas noon clubs cater to local businesses and residents, sunrise and sunset clubs are able to attract a commuter population of local residents whose jobs are geographically incompatible with a noon meeting in their home community. Club extension is also recommended for minority communities whose business interests, customs, associations and even first languages may weigh in favor of joining an ethnically comfortable Rotary club.



Greg O'Brien, DGN and SAG for Membership, and wife Carolyn. Member of the Palos Verdes Peninsula Club

While we continue to welcome all groups into traditional clubs, Rotary is determined to create opportunities for club expansion. I am therefore pleased to report that District 5280 has two prospective clubs in formation, including a noon Rotary club in Little Tokyo and a sunset club in Chatsworth. Kudos to Makiko Nakasone (Glendale Noon) and Barbara Pampalone (Greater Van Nuys) for their work in organizing these new clubs.

Within the next few months, you will hear about a Zone program called "visioning." It is so new, that I am uncertain of what it involves. The title, however, is suggestive of Napoleon Hill, whose book *Think and Grow Rich* has sold more than 70 million copies since it was first published in 1937. While we wait to learn more, it is never too early to get together with a few of your fellow members and imagine a bigger, better, bolder Rotary club. What improvements would it take to attract and retain members? Think...and grow Rotary!

Rotarians: What makes us different?

Our distinct point of view and approach gives us unique advantages:

We see differently: Our multidisciplinary perspective helps us see challenges in unique ways.

We think differently: We apply leadership and expertise to social issues—and find unique solutions.

We act responsibly: Our passion and perseverance create lasting change.

We make a difference at home and around the world.

We can be found in many communities and across the globe.



GLOBAL GRANTS FOR GUATEMALA 2015

By Richard Ham

Lake Atitlan Renewal Program \$160,000 GG

Lake Atitlan, situated in the volcanic hills in the highlands is one of the most beautiful lakes in the world, but it is very close to being a dead lake due to pollution both in the water and air from the surrounding population. This rotary grant is to focus on improving the environmental - air of the Lake Atitlan basin and living condition of lakeside indigent families by providing 1,000 energy efficient stoves with smoke venting outside the home. The project will improve the productivity of the families because it will reduce the respiratory diseases caused by smoke build up in the homes, improve the air quality of Lake Atitlan basin by using 70% less firewood burning eco-stoves and reduce the deforestation of the trees. Rotary just recently completed projects at the lake for clothes washing stations and toilets that eliminate the runoff into the lake. All projects enjoyed successful outcomes and positive measurable effect of the water quality of Lake Atitlan.

Club Contributors: Beverly Hills, Glendale Sunrise, LA5, Santa Clarita Sunrise.

Moore Pediatric Surgical Center \$42,288 GG

The indigenous people living outside Guatemala's major cities are the most wonderful people you can meet but also the poorest in our hemisphere. The population is expanding faster than the general services they require for education, health and general infrastructure, such as clean water. The Rotary Clubs of District 5280, along with the Rotary Clubs of Guatemala have collaborated on six Global Grant projects to help the Guatemalans living in the countryside. The humanitarian trip attendees will experience first-hand the wonderful achievements from our generous donations. Trip headquarters will be in the former colonial capital of Central America, Antigua. Antigua is protected as a UNESCO city heritage site.



----- Chair Richard Ham, member of the Manhattan Beach Club

The Moore Pediatric Center was born in March 2011 with a vision of giving surgical attention to the poor and disadvantaged children of the country. Doctors from Guatemala and all over the world come here to perform operations for free to the children of poor background. The Moore Center started with 5 mission trips and grew to 9 trips in 2012. In 2013 they closed the year with 15 mission trips, which means more than 1,000 surgeries and more than a 1,600 children attended during the year. All this growth has caused an increase of work in the same facilities. They are asking for Rotary support in order to continue the efficient work they have delivered to date.

Club Contributors: Carson, Del Amo-Torrance, Glendale noon, Greater Van Nuys, Inglewood, LA5, Woodland Hills.

Community Youth Leadership Training \$39,873 GG

Alianza Joven (AJ) is a Guatemalan organization focused on crime and violence prevention. The organization proposes to address four cities surrounding Guatemala City to transform individuals and create "agents of change". The communities and their population are the following:

- Mixco: 491,619
- Santa Caterina Pinula: 94,410
- Santa Fe: 35,000
- Villa Nueva: 552,535

All the above cities have critical conditions relating to health, education, housing, and sports and recreational infrastructure.

Criminal activity is common and usually related to gangs and drug dealing and consumption. They do have neighborhood groups working for the welfare and development of the communities. Based on this social foundation that is already established, AJ is proposing to use their broad experience in working with social projects, and they also have experience in these cities. AJ is locally and nationally recognized for the work and success it has achieved in the past.

Club Contributors: Greater Van Nuys, Lomita Torrance, Manhattan Beach, Pacific Palisades, Santa Monica, Rancho Park, Wilshire.

Joya Verde Water Treatment Plant \$77,500 GG

The town Joya Verde, located in the hills above Guatemala City, is in need of a sewage and water drainage system for the town. The city was founded in 1979. Its accessibility is somewhat limited, as people must walk 1.5 K on foot to reach the main road and then take a bus. The population is about 160 families and growing. The people from the village have been asking the municipality to install a sewage and rain water drainage system for many years. However, because of financial constraints it has not been implemented.

Club Contributors: Bellflower, Culver City, Greater Van Nuys, Inglewood, Playa Venice, Redondo Beach, Santa Monica, Westchester, Wilshire. ↘

Pediatric Wheelchairs for Persons with Special Needs – \$36,222 GG

Wheelchairs will be distributed through a network of institutions associated with Hope Haven. They will refer each one of the individuals who will benefit from this project. Boys and girls diagnosed with brain palsy, sequels of spina bifida, or pathologies affecting the neuro-motor functions related to ambulatory incapacity.

Club Contributors: Historic Filipinotown, Hollywood, Inglewood, Santa Monica.

Guatemala Literacy Project - \$80,000 GG

Guatemala has one of the lowest literacy rates in the Western Hemisphere. In some regions, nearly two out of every three adults cannot read or write. A contributing factor to Guatemala's literacy crisis is the near absence of reading materials. Over 90% of schools lack textbooks and library books, and most have no computers. Guatemalan school children graduate without the skills needed to get good jobs to break the cycle of poverty.

Club Contributors: Crenshaw-Watts, Hawthorne-LAX-Lennox, Manhattan Beach, Santa Monica, Westwood Village, Wilmington.

(More detail information on the Guatemala projects can be found on the district web site.)•

SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

By Drew Frohlich, PDG,
member of the Granada Hills Club

As a reminder, the deadline for submittals of the Significant Achievement Award entry form to the District 5280 Awards Chair, PDG Drew Frohlich is 1 March. The Significant Achievement Award recognizes Rotary clubs for outstanding community service projects. To be eligible, projects must:

- address a significant problem or need in the local community
- involve most or all of the club members in personal rather than monetary service
- be commensurate with the club's size and resources
- be capable of emulation by other Rotary clubs
- be currently active or reach a conclusion during the Rotary year for which the award is given
- be carried out by a single Rotary club

No club may receive the award more than once for the same project. Clubs must submit their project to the District Awards chair by March 1, 2015 for consideration. The District Governor may select one outstanding project from the district and forward one nomination to RI for consideration, to arrive at RI no later than 15 March 2015. Multiple nominations from a single district will not be considered. Please submit your nominations in a timely manner to enable our District Governor time to evaluate the entries and to meet this deadline.

Please visit the district web site for information and the nomination form. We wish to recognize an outstanding club in our district for its significant achievement in community service. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.



Drew Frohlich, PDG
AFrohlich@aol.com
(818)790-6643

Rotary Goes Viral

February 21, 2015

By **Ginny Brideau, Co-Chair for Social Media and member of the Downtown LA Club**

Everyone plan for Viral Day. You'll want to catch this virus!

Join in on Rotary District 5280 "Viral Day" February 21, 2015, as we paint Facebook with Rotary, and pull the curtain back on who's a Rotarian! Visit <http://tinyurl.com/rotaryvirus> for directions on how to help plan, participate, and celebrate!

Starting on Tuesday, February 17, we are asking that Rotarians temporarily change their Facebook Profile picture to the gold Rotary, located here: <http://fullertonrotary.org/images/RotaryWheel.jpg> AND change their Facebook cover to <http://tinyurl.com/rotaryheader>

Spend the week following the District's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/RotaryDistrict5280>), and share all of the Rotary Moment postings, along with your own - and please include #Rotarians so that we can track participation!

Get your postings ready, as each day will have a theme:

#TransformationTuesday: post about a project that you felt had some element of transformation. Even if the transformation is merely transforming an empty food pantry to something more, please post. Transformation can take on many shapes and sizes.

#WellnessWednesday: Looking for projects that focus on health and welfare. You might have a couple of those. >wink<

#ThrowbackThursday: post your oldest Rotary Picture, post one from last week! You have a silly picture of a past president? How about your pictures from District Conferences from the 80's?

#FridayFriday: Post your favorite funny Rotarian story.

#SelfieSaturday: Usually reserved for Sunday, but on Saturday, please post a picture of yourself with your best Rotary garb. Just a pin? Just a scarf? Just a cowboy hat? Just a massive tattoo across your shoulder blades? Just don't forget the hashtag!

Help us plan for this large event by visiting: <http://tinyurl.com/rotaryvirus> and click to attend and participate in the event. Looking forward to seeing Facebook turn Rotary!!!



Co-Chairs Ginny and Alex Brideau with daughter Lolani.

Rotary Day 3-2-1 End Polio Race & Picnic

Get your WALKING SHOES ON!!!

We are going to do a 5K/10K WALK TO END POLIO on March 21, 2015.

SAVE THE DATE.

The walk will be at Crystal Springs in Griffith Park. After you walk and earn your lunch there will be a big family picnic.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, March 21, 2015



Co-Chairs Jim Beardsley and Wendy Clifford, members of the South Bay Sunrise and Wilshire Clubs respectively

ART, DANCE, MUSIC, and SPEECH CONTESTS

By Ken Chong, SAG for Vocational Service



Ken Chong, member of the LA5 Club, and wife Heidi

Once again we are planning for another wonderful Vocational Service event for high school youth. The Art, Dance, Music, and Speech Contests will be held on Saturday, March 28, 2015, at

Loyola Marymount University (LMU). LMU has graciously offered to host this event again. Thank you to Judy Delavigne of the Westchester Club for making this happen! All of the documents are posted on the district website. PLEASE CONTACT ME IF YOU WANT TO FIND OUT HOW TO USE THIS EVENT AS A MEMBERSHIP EVENT. The club contests are a great way to invite the community into your club by having guest VIP judges. Think of asking local professors, entertainment executives, and politicians, to be judges. Proud parents love to see their children perform. Bring new blood and energy into your club. Below are the names of the contest chairs and their contact information.

ART

Bob Smith, Chair
resmith@earthlink.net or ph: 310-493-3835

DANCE

Cozette Vergari, DGND, Chair
cozette@laxlawyers.com or ph: 310-410-4014

MUSIC

Debbie Wehbe, Chair
debbie.wehbe@gmail.com or ph: 323-573-1950

SPEECH

Lance Miller, Chair
lance@lancemillerspeaker.com or ph: 818-400-8999

District Calendar

February | World Understanding

- 5-9 Humanitarian Trip Guatemala
- 20-22 PETS
- 21 Rotary Goes Viral

March | Literacy Month

- 21 Rotary Day—3-2-1 End Polio Race & Picnic
- 28 District Art, Dance, Music and Speech Contests at LMU
- 31 District Breakfast

April | Magazine Month

- 11 Rotary Day of Service
- 11 Rotaract Ethics Forum at LMU

April | Cont.

- 16-19 Fellowship Trip Cuba
- 24-26 RYLA
- 30 Presidents' Fellowship

May | Promote Int. Convention

- 14-17 District Conference at Lowes Coronado

June | Rotary Fellowships

- 6-9 Rotary Intl Convention-Sao Paulo
- 20 District Assembly

**APPLICATIONS FOR
GLOBAL GRANT
SCHOLARS DUE
FEBRUARY 13, 2015**

By Robert Ryan

The Global Grant Scholar Program is designed to award college graduate students \$30,000 to study abroad. Our hope is to provide an enriching experience of study and humanitarian service, encouraging students to adopt Rotary International's motto of "Service Above Self" as a lifestyle.

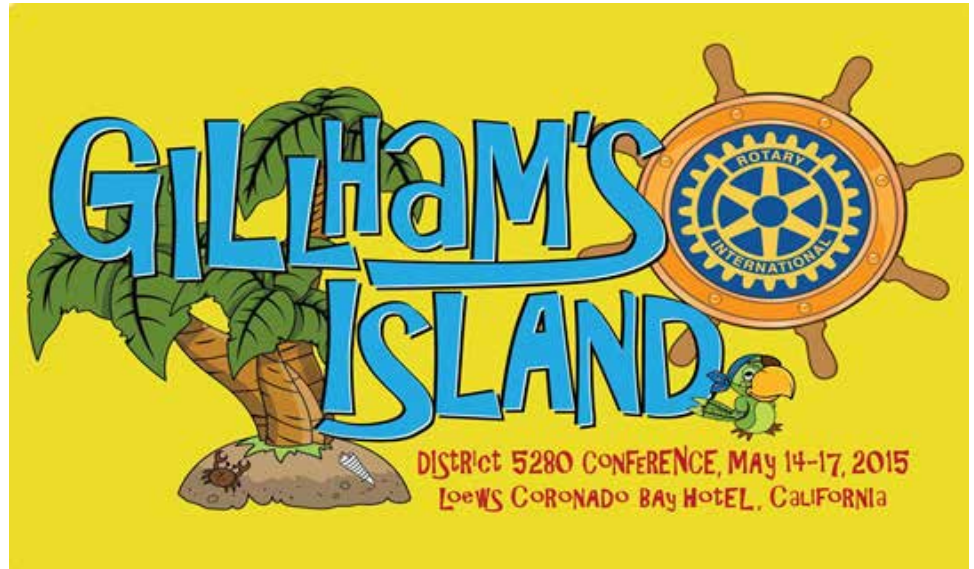
Application Process:

1. Potential scholars complete the application and submit it to a local Rotary Club with a Global Grant Scholar selection committee.
2. Clubs interview the candidate and submit applications electronically to the District Office no later than 5:00pm on Friday, February 13, 2015.
3. The District Scholarship Committee will review applications.
4. The District Scholarship will invite selected applicants to an interview on March 14, 2015.
5. Final selections will be made after interviews and successful applicants will be invited to complete the process.

For full details and application, visit the Global Grant Scholar section on the district web site, or contact Chair Robert Ryans below



Robert Ryans, Global Grants Scholar Chair, and wife Olivia. Member of the Crenshaw-Watts Club .



WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?
Reservations are now open for the District Conference and Lowes Coronado Bay Hotel. Go to the district web site and complete the forms. It will only take a few minutes. It's that quick and simple!



Chair Arturo Velasquez, member of the Woodland Hills Club, and wife Sandra

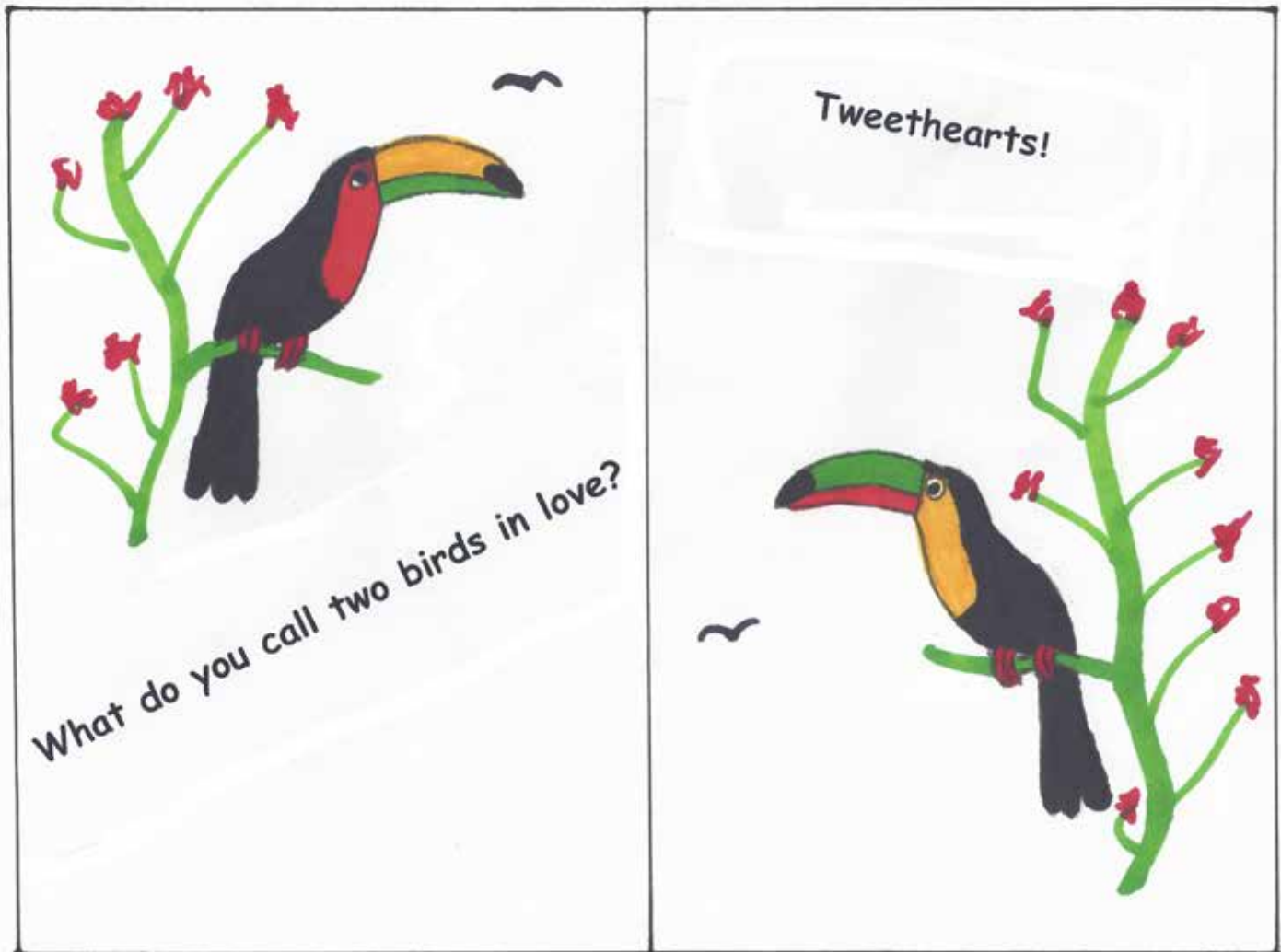


Cuba: Experience the Culture and Discover Its People

Join this unique and exciting trip. You will see the diversity of the Cuban people, from Old Havana to the countryside of the Viñales valley. Experience Cuban culture the most authentic way possible— through its people. See Cuba in the old, before fast-changing developments bring the masses and modern-day resorts.

April 15-21, 2015

For information contact Val Velasco at vvelasco@aol.com.



Redondo Beach Rotary 90th Anniversary Celebration | January 10

By Suzanne Lucas, member of the Redondo Beach Club

Happy Birthday to Redondo Beach Rotary! A celebration of 90 years of superb service to others was held on Saturday, January 10th at the Crowne Plaza Hotel Redondo Beach. The club was organized November 7, 1924. We could not wait another moment to celebrate! President Rolando Andrade introduced many distinguished attendees including Rotary District Governor Elsa Gillham. Visitors from Japan, Past President of the Kaizuka Rotary Club Ted Terada and exchange student, Chie Mitsui, were welcomed with the Japanese national anthem, followed by the Star Spangled Banner, and a spirited rendition of Happy Birthday. Redondo Beach mayor Steve Aspel presented a Proclamation thanking the club for service to the area and the world.

The real secret to Redondo Beach Rotary long term success can be summed up as involvement. Nearly half the room stood up when president Rolando invited prior club presidents to stand. Also, five former District Governors are members.

Main speaker, PRID Bob Menconi, who “doesn’t write speeches,” never the less gave a great one about his experiences in Rotary. He says that “what happens, happens here,” citing the world polio eradication effort sponsored by Rotary International as now successful in all but three countries with a few scattered cases. “Who thought a humanitarian organization could even have such an impact.” He finished with the following. “Rotary is not only a world force, Rotary is a world family.” We all agree.

A band completed the evening with great songs and much dancing.



Members of club being recognized



Governor Elsa and Rolando Andrade, president of club



Suzanne Lucas

District Breakfast | January 13



Rotarians enjoyed a great program by Patrick McClenahan, President and CEO of 2015 Special Olympics World Games, at the recent District Breakfast.