



# The Rotary Club GOOD NEWS

Volume 13 Number 9

September 2012

The Rotary Club of Menifee meets Thursdays at 12:10 p.m., Menifee Lakes Country Club, 29875 Menifee Lakes Drive, Menifee, CA 92584  
Voted BEST local non-profit by Menifee Chamber of Commerce

## Two important dates coming up for Rotary Club of Menifee

Two large Menifee city-wide events sponsored by the Rotary Club of Menifee are coming up in late September and Mid-October.

Saturday night, September 29th, the **5th Annual Mayor's Ball** is scheduled 6-10 pm at the *Marion Ashley Community Center* on Briggs Road across Highway 74 from Heritage High School. Then, two weeks later, October 13th, the annual **Menifee Motor Madness** car show will be held 9-2pm at *Mt. San Jacinto College*, off I-215 at either Scott Road or Newport Road. Both events are co-sponsored by the City of Menifee.

Both are principal fund raisers for the Club, with the proceeds used for local projects such as scholarships and dictionaries for each third grade student in the area; plus contributions from the Club individually and through the Rotary Foundation for world-wide efforts to wipe out polio and ensure clean water supplies.

Rotary Club of Menifee also helps support a private orphanage in Tijuana, and members have worked hands-on in Central America, Africa, and India. Other signature projects of the Club include: sponsoring Interact service Clubs at Paloma Valley High School, a Rotaract Club at MSJ College, and leadership camps in the San Bernardino Mountains, as well as welcoming exchange students, and Rotarians from around the World.

While the Rotary motto is "Service Above Self," it is expected all will have a fine time at the two upcoming events. The Theme of the **Mayor's Ball** is "An Evening in Tokyo" in honor of the current International President of Rotary, Mr. **Sajuki Tanaka**. While the dress is always black-tie optional, some kimonos are expected, and there has been talk of carrying in the "Mikado," **Menifee Mayor John Denver**, on a sedan chair. However it is likely Rotarians **John and Linda** will arrive unaided. There will be a red carpet, reception desk, open bar, live music, sit-down dinner, introductions, a principal speaker, and silent auction. And, of course, plenty of dancing and socializing at

the new City's annual party for itself and its residents. Tickets for the **Mayor's Ball** are \$60 for singles, \$110 for couples, and \$200 for tables of four. For information and reservations, please call 672-1731.

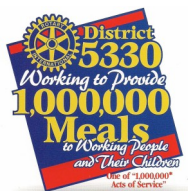


Menifee Mayor John Denver reads his invitation to the Annual Mayor's Ball, as sponsoring Rotary Club of Menifee President Elect Linda Denver and President Carol "Red" Sullivan look on. The theme this year is "An Evening in Tokyo."

**"Menifee Motor Madness"** on the MSJ campus draws dozens of rods, classics, and other motorized beauties. Their

proud owners are awarded trophies and other prizes and there is always live entertainment, food and drink, and sponsor booths. The car show is the original creation of Menifee Rotarian **Chuck Cena**, who has worked hard to get the event on the regular circuit schedules of area shows. This year he is yielding the Chair role to his long-time assistant, Rotarian **Cal Crosby**. This year **Menifee Motor Madness** will again be jointly sponsored by the City of Menifee, which on the same day in the same area will celebrate its own birthday.

Next year, the Rotary Club of Menifee will celebrate its 50th birthday, having been founded in 1963 in Del Webb's Sun City. It is one of the oldest Rotary Clubs in Southwest Riverside County. Luncheon meetings are held at noon, Thursdays, at the *Menifee Lakes Country Club*. Rotarians are urgently needed for both of our big annual events as volunteers and as donors of trophies or auction items. September and October are critical for our continued leadership and success in the community. Please let **Red, Linda, Cal, and Chuck** know how YOU can help.



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## Merle Dersheid

Guest Speaker

Recently a 91-year-old veteran of the U.S Merchant Marine in World War II was honored at the weekly luncheon of the Rotary Club of Menifee. **Merle Dersheid** of Sun City was applauded for his service to the United States and was presented with a memorial book by President **Carol "Red" Sullivan**. Merle wore his dress uniform, complete with three gold stripes on his sleeves and golden "scrambled eggs" on his visor. He attained the rank of Chief Mate, which in the Merchant Marine identified him as the second in command, after the Captain.

Merle spoke of the importance of the Merchant Marine to the United States and its allies in defeating the Axis powers. Thousands of tanks, trucks, aircraft, and countless other supplies were delivered across the Atlantic and Pacific, with serious losses suffered from attacks by enemy submarines and aircraft. The Federal Government has long ago recognized the Merchant Marine as a full and equal partner to the other branches of the military.

Merle enlisted in the peacetime Navy in 1937. His four-year enlistment expired just six weeks before Dec.7,1941. He was discharged from his billet on the battleship "California" in Hawaii. The old "battlewagon," a veteran of World War I, was badly damaged just a few weeks later and suffered many casualties in the



surprise attack by the Japanese. He meanwhile had returned home and married his sweetheart, Clova. Merle rejoined the front line action by enlisting in the Merchant Marine and, with his Navy training and natural aptitude for seamanship, he rose through the ranks to be a very young Number

2 in command of ships vital to the United States' winning the war.

Merle explained briefly to the Rotarians how the Merchant Marine got into action before the other branches because of the 1941 Lend Lease agreement between President Roosevelt, Winston Churchill, and



Joseph Stalin. As a result of that treaty, and long before we officially entered the war, our merchant mariners were sailing in harm's way through wolf packs of Nazi submarines, and with great losses because the United States hadn't yet created the protection of warships to groups of supply ships sailing together in convoys. He further mentioned our remarkable war effort in producing the first "Liberty" ships and later the larger and faster "Victory" ships. Kaiser shipyards in San Francisco and Los Angeles assembled a merchant ship from parts sent from around the Country in just four days. There are a few of the old ships left around the USA, including the "Lane Victory" in Long Beach, which is maintained and manned by volunteers and takes folks out on short cruises regularly throughout the year.

After the war Merle worked for many years as a machinist, as well as a plant supervisor. He has always stayed active with various Merchant Marine clubs in Southern California, including his present affiliation with the veterans in his retirement community. The members are planning a Veteran's Day celebration in Sun City. Rotarian and Menifee Mayor **John Denver** offered Merle and his shipmates whatever help the city could provide.

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## Italian Exchange Group

A group of eleven Italian Rotarians and spouses are visiting District 5330 and were hosted by the Lake Elsinore Rotary Club on August 23 at the home of **Paul & Dona Niehouse** on the shore of Lake Elsinore. The visitors were here through a Rotary Friendship Exchange program between our district and one in Italy. They have been hosted in the Temecula area and in 29 Palms. They will also be hosted in the Redlands/Riverside area and in Big Bear Lake. Previous exchanges have been with Rotary districts in Brazil and Turkey.



Judy and Mark Handwerker with members of the Italian Rotary group.



Rich & Sue Dell'Acqua and Tom & Liz Yuzer at the reception held for the Italian Rotary group.



Sandro and Anna Maria, the couple hosted by Paul David, with his daughter Chloe.

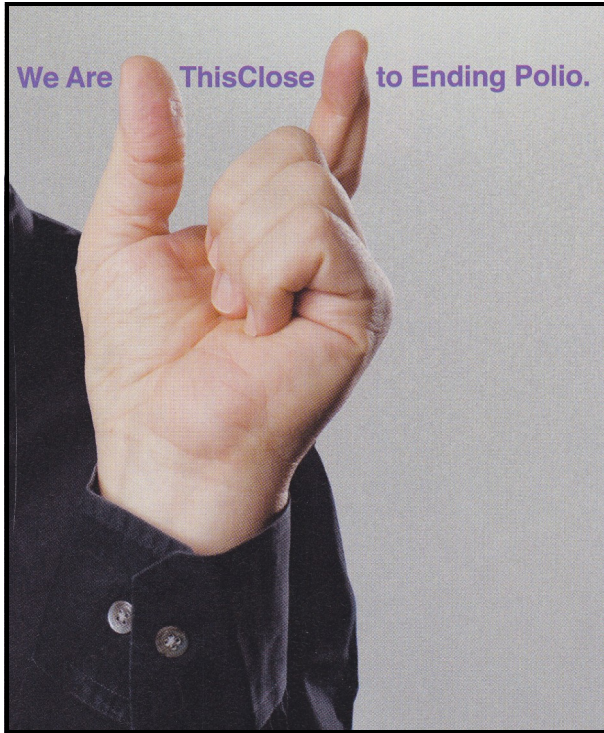


Sandro and Anna Maria with Paul David's kids—Valerie, Cody and Chloe.



Sandro was impressed with all the bigger vehicles and was thrilled when Paul let him drive his truck.

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## Invite someone to lunch

*Invite a potential Rotarian to lunch! New member proposal forms are available. The form outlines how to propose a new member. Ask **Don Lunday** for information. Take one home with you and just do it!*

*When was the last time YOU proposed someone for membership in Rotary? Your fellow Rotarians are counting on you to seek out energetic, qualified business and professional leaders—men and women, young and more mature—to propose for membership. We need to make it clear to prospective members the commitments required to be good Rotarians, namely, attendance and participation. You owe it to your club and your community to do it today.*

### SAVE THE DATE!

**Sep 29** Mayor's Ball  
**Oct 23** Menifee Motor Madness  
**Oct 26-28** District Conference (Palm Desert)  
**Oct 27** Foundation Gala  
**Dec 6** Official Governor's Visit  
(Evening meeting with our partners)

### Luke Pytlik

Guest Speaker  
August 30 Evening Meeting



Luke Pytlik exchanges banners with President Carol "Red" Sullivan.

**Luke Pytlik**, who was accompanied by two other members of the Temecula New Generations Club, **Dane Wunderlich** and **Matt Smith**, presented a slide show of approximately 200 photos & videos he took while on his recent trip to India. Luke, a talented tattoo artist, was not yet a Rotarian when he went with a Rotary group to spend a month in India touring more than 15 cities, sharing information about what he does and gaining a great deal of insight into the Indian people and about Rotary. Most people join Rotary, then later become Rotarians; Luke learned what it was to be a Rotarian, then came back home and joined Rotary.



(L to R) President Carol "Red" Sullivan, Dane Wunderlich, Luke Pytlik, Tom Yuzer and Matt Smith.

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## 2012-2013 Leadership

President—Carol “Red” Sullivan  
 President Elect—Linda Denver  
 Vice President—Ruth Bol  
 Secretary—Judy Handwerker  
 Treasurer—Mike Castillejos  
 Immediate Past President—Paul David  
 Membership—Don Lunday  
 Foundation—Tom Yuzer  
 Club Administration—Linda Denver  
 Sergeant at Arms—Chuck Cena  
 District Governor—Jean Easum  
 Assistant Governor—Don Lunday  
 Newsletter—Jan Lunday



## September Birthdays

09/11	Christine David
09/11	Bill Vincent
09/13	Nicole Greenberg
09/16	Eugenia Vincent
09/17	Michelle Marconi
09/23	Jeremy Taylor

## September Rotary Anniversaries

09/01/95	John Denver
09/01/95	Dennis Martin

## September Wedding Anniversaries

09/07	Jim & Shirley Wilson
09/17	Chuck & Polly Cena
09/29	Carol Sullivan & Michael Stout
09/30	Charles & Georgette Wilhite

## Membership

BLAZE, STU—619-301-5211  
 Restaurateur  
 BOL, RUTH — 234-4319  
 Pediatric Dentist  
 CALLAWAY, DR. LINDA — 672-1851  
 School Superintendent  
 CARPENTER, TOM ESQ.— 654-7417  
 Attorney at Law  
 CASTILLEJOS, MIKE — 672-1971  
 Bank Manager  
 CENA, CHUCK — 679-5869  
 Investment Advisor  
 CROSBY, CAL “CROZ” — 246-2202  
 Realtor  
 DAVID, PAUL — 246-3530  
 Health Club Trainer/Owner  
 DENVER, JOHN — 672-1731  
 Real Estate Broker  
 DENVER, LINDA — 672-1731  
 Retired Educator  
 GREENBERG, DR. JONATHAN—943-6369 x126  
 School Superintendent  
 HANDWERKER, JUDY — 672-9860  
 Fiduciary  
 JACKSON, ROSEANN—679-1128  
 Florist  
 LUNDAY, DON — 676-2640  
 Hospice Chaplain  
 MARCONI, DAN — 301-5333  
 Real Estate Sales and Investments  
 MARTIN, DENNIS — 926-4665  
 Tax Preparation  
 OJOMO, CHRISTIAN—949-870-8028  
 Administrator  
 PADILLA, GREGORY—602-317-0338  
 Hospital Administrator  
 PRATHER, DAWN —756-4888  
 Charity Management  
 ROARK, ROBERT “BOB” — 800-824-6561  
 Insurance Agency Owner  
 ROSILEZ, DR. ANTHONY— 926-9244  
 School Superintendent  
 SMOLINSKI, JOE — 672-0777  
 Mortuary Management  
 SULLIVAN, CAROL “RED” — 672-1523  
 Clinical Research  
 TAYLOR, IVETTE — 679-2222  
 Financial Advisor  
 VINCENT, WILLIAM—333-8576  
 Education  
 WILHITE, CHARLIE — 816-0420  
 Law Enforcement  
 WOLONS, DOROTHY— 672-1991  
 Chamber of Commerce CEO  
 YUZER, TOM — 679-8541  
 University Fund Raising

## Honorary Members

BAUSTIAN, CAROLYN — 301-6071  
 SOTERO, MARJORIE — 679-8211  
 WESTFALL, LINDA — 830-6380  
 WILLIAMS, REAGAN  
 WILSON, JIM—301-5604  
 WRIGHT, PAUL—679-3429

All area code 951 unless otherwise indicated.