

# Rotary Club of Hayward

# HIGH GEAR



EDITORS: ROBERT PIMENTEL, BRIAN SCHOTT, SEAN REINHART • PHOTOGRAPHER: ED AVELAR • APRIL 10 & 17, 2017

## ROTARY CLUB of HAYWARD, CALIF. MEETING NOTES: APRIL 10, 2017

**Paul “The Godfather” Martin** was named the Outstanding Hayward Rotarian of 2017.

The honor is given annually to the Hayward Rotary Club member who best exemplifies the Rotary motto of “Service Above Self”, and whose contributions in the five Avenues of Service distinguish them among their peers. It is the highest honor Hayward Rotary Club bestows.

Hayward Rotary Club members nominate their worthy peers to the OHR committee for consideration. The honoree is selected by the OHR committee which is comprised of the past five OHR honorees.

The 2017 OHR committee members are: **Brian Schott, Debby De Angelis, Larry Ratto, Nels Nelson, and Ed Mullins.**



### **Paul Martin, Outstanding Hayward Rotarian** *His Family History by Brian Schott*

Paul Giannini Martin was born May 10, 1966 in Hayward, the youngest of 4 Boys to his parents, Lillian and Ralph Martin.

Long-time Rotarians might remember that for many years, Hayward Rotary supported his Mother Lillian’s favorite cause, Providing Hearing Tests for School Children.

As a boy, Paul grew up in the Hayward Hills after his parents sold their 2nd Street property to CalTrans in the 1960’s for the never-to-be built Foothill Freeway where the property still stands vacant today.

## “an offer he can’t refuse”

Hayward Rotary Foundation President Paul Martin is the Outstanding Hayward Rotarian of 2017



*Paul “The Godfather” Martin*



Paul "The Godbaby" Martin

Paul attended East Ave. Elementary and Bret Harte Jr. High. He graduated from Moreau Catholic High School in 1984. He excelled at football and earned the title MVTD – Most Valuable Tackling Dummy. While seriously considering going into Religious Life as either a Holy Cross Brother or Priest, he instead opted to attend UCLA where he obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Economics.

Having tasted the good life in Southern California where he mistakenly got a transfusion that unfortunately was infused with Dodger Blue Blood, Paul moved back North with his now tainted Dodger Blue blood and attended Santa Clara University School of Law where he earned his JD and was admitted to the California State Bar in December 14, 1992.

Even after all that Catholic School Education (with time off for bad behavior at a Public University) Paul decided that continuing the Celibate Life was not for him and on August 26, 1995, he married up and is now the husband of his beautiful and much younger wife Mary whom he met at Moreau. Fourteen Months later, he joined Hayward Rotary - the 2nd smartest decision he made - considering that as California State Bar Attorney # 161238, he was asked by a Presiding Judge – Former Rotarian Roy Hashimoto to join our Club and was Paul's sponsor.

Paul and Mary live in Pleasanton and are someday going to be empty nesters with their 3 of their 4 children either off to college or selling legalized Cannabis – until they move back in of course. However, it is his youngest daughter Olivia who at 13, rules the roost. After completing his role as Immediate Past President of Hayward Rotary, Paul moved his Development and Property Management Business over the hill from Hayward to Pleasanton.

**About Paul Martin, Outstanding Hayward Rotarian**  
*His International Service by Nels Nelson*

Paul keeps an eye out for visitors to the Hayward Rotary Club meetings at all times. If he spots a visitor from a foreign land, he makes sure that introductions are made and he finds them a table where the new visitor will meet new friends.

Paul was especially active in welcoming a student from Germany in 2012-2013. The student, HOLGER KLINGE, was a student at Cal State, East Bay as a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar. With Paul's guidance, he became a regular participant in our meetings.



The Martin family

Paul has been a frequent contributor to the Rotary Foundation and is a Paul Harris Fellow plus two. He also makes frequent announcements at our meetings encouraging our members to contribute to the Rotary Foundation, dedicated to the world eradication of polio.

Paul attended the Rotary International Convention in Lisbon, Portugal in 2013. There he could be heard joining in the singing of the Portuguese national song "Canta Portugal".

Cleaned up for Paul's braggadocio, in male company, is his frequent public exclamation, "I am able to recite potent vicious oaths in eight different languages!"

**About Paul Martin, Outstanding Hayward Rotarian**  
*His Community Service by Ed Mullins*

Since joining our club in 1996, Paul has actively participated in club projects. We often see him distributing our lunch passes as a member of our House Committee. Paul says he



really likes that job because it reminds him of the days in his family's theater business selling admission tickets and snacks. It's almost as much fun, but in Rotary he doesn't get to keep the money he collects.

As Club President and later as Foundation President, Paul has been steadfast in his commitment to improving the quality of life in the Hayward community. In his family business of property management, he is able to see the community factors that contribute or detract from its quality of life and property values. Paul is active in the Hayward Chamber of Commerce's Governmental Relations Council which advocates for policies and regulations that benefit the community.



Paul Martin with the tools of his trade

Paul recognized a need in the community in which our club could be an agent of change. During his Club President year, he saw a way for better fire prevention among Hayward's population of senior citizens. He learned that many seniors have no smoke detectors, or detectors that do not work. Paul created the Rotary Club Smoke Detector project to provide new smoke detectors to seniors who need them. By working with the Fire Department and sponsors like Case Industries, Paul was able to create this project out of whole cloth for the betterment and safety of the community. The impact of safety is nearly beyond measure because what is a life worth?

These are examples of how Paul truly lives Rotary's motto of Service Above Self and our 4-way Test.

### **Paul Martin, Outstanding Hayward Rotarian** *His Club Service by Debby De Angelis*

Paul Martin became a Rotarian at age 30 and has served the club in a large variety of ways. His style is a quiet one, but make no mistake, he has the pulse of this club and is aware of most everything that happens here. For 20 years he has worked quietly to ensure we move forward as a well-functioning club with community service as the heartbeat.

Paul lists Rodeo as his favorite Rotary project. Here his heartbeat is clear as well. As the king of the beer booth, he has created a money generating booth that takes great pride in their service and having fun. He helped to rebuild the beer booth to create a Hayward Rotary storage space as well as a safer, healthier place for those who work the booth. He always has a new twist to try and make both more money and more fun. He has made the beer booth the glamor assignment of the rodeo. He enlisted his family and in particular his niece Jamie to help sell more beer. Jamie played softball at Cal State East Bay and brought with her a core of softball and volleyball players who became part of the Rotary family in the beer booth. Paul is comfortable in his cowboy boots and hats and has taken a club leadership role in his work with the Rowell Ranch Rodeo or the cowboys as we call them. His leadership is the ongoing negotiation of our contract with them has continued to move the club forward in the support of rodeo funds for our community grant program.

When we say Paul does a quiet job, he also does one of the most essential ones with his service on the House committee. You heard about that when he sits at the check-in table, but that also comes with the room set up and breakdown that creates our meeting place each week. Those that serve on this committee are our quiet leaders.

Paul was asked to step into the club presidency at a late date in the spring of 2013 when both our president elect and pres. elect nominee had to step aside for personal and business reasons. He went straight from saying yes to PETS (that's President Elect Training Seminar) and was president before he blinked. In part from this experience, during his 2013-14 presidential year he created an unofficial presidential advisory board as a training ground and communication sounding board for the presidents that followed him. This has helped to ensure a smooth transition of knowledge and leadership among the ranks of presidents and officers of the club. I for one was very grateful for this leadership as I followed him and was a beneficiary of his leadership and wisdom in this role. During his year as president and with his leadership the club received a Presidential citation from Rotary International, not just qualifying the club but at the highest level "of distinction".

You heard from Ed about Paul's work with the Hayward Fire Department helped to create the smoke detector project. An ongoing example of Paul's club service is his work with many parts of our community. Making sure that the Fire Dept. is a part of Hayward Rotary leads Paul to promote not only Rotary membership, but to see ways to create community projects that tie our club to the various parts of the community. I enjoyed talking with the fire fighters who helped cook omelets at the Omelet Brunch and they make it very clear what a great service our club provides with the smoke detector project.

Paul has served in a variety of roles as past-president including service on the nominating committee to keep us moving with a pipeline of good board members and new club leadership.

After his board role finished as club president, Paul served as part of an ad-hoc board committee to create guidelines for club projects and review the projects submitted for the funds that come to the club from the Hayward Rotary Foundation. His leadership on this committee again demonstrated his strong sense of who our club is and how we support our community.

For me, one of the fun roles that Paul has played to serve our club was when he organized my demotion party. Using his love of Frank Sinatra and the Rat Pack, he brought it to life with a skit that shared his humor and wit with a bit of Rotary, history and song. At the holiday party he allowed himself to join the Sinatra imitator in a bit of song.

We have talked in a variety of places and times about the role for past presidents and Paul gives us a role model with his ongoing leadership and support of the club. Making ways to engage our past presidents in our club and use their valuable knowledge has been an ongoing process that Paul reminds us of often and suggests ways to utilize that.



Paul Martin with his 2015 Rotary Club board members

After his presidential year, Paul stepped up in yet another role. He had served on the Hayward Rotary Foundation board for several years and last year was elected as its president. He runs a quick and efficient meeting. His leadership here included support for the projects including smoke detectors as an ongoing project, ROP support for the first responders program, support for the Children's reading room in the new library and future support for Mia's Dream accessible park.

To paraphrase what one of his nominators said, Paul has demonstrated his unwavering loyalty, wisdom and commitment to the Hayward Rotary club and has appropriately earned the nickname "Godfather" for his club service.

## **Paul Martin, Outstanding Hayward Rotarian**

*His Youth service and Vocational service by Larry Ratto*

I have witnessed first-hand Paul's work behind the scenes politically as he quietly advised and guided major players in our community which garnered positive results for Hayward.

His expertise in development circles has assisted others in our community to achieve success thus making Hayward a more vibrant city.

He generously shares his exceptional knowledge and skills in these areas while maintaining high ethical standards in all his dealings. How this aligns with his involvement in the automobile sales industry will remain a mystery to many including me. This is one of the many reasons he is known as the "Godfather". I must admit however I have never seen him on any occasion wearing suede shoes.

Paul's high ethical standards and the high regard we in Hayward Rotary have for him and his ability, was demonstrated when he was selected by his peers to lead our Club Foundation.

As our Foundation President he presided over one of our Foundation's most significant projects for the children of Hayward – the purchase and donation of 10,000 new children's books for our soon to be completed main Library. That \$10,000 Rotary project acted as a catalyst for over \$250,000 in matching gifts. This project will be a lasting legacy for Hayward's children for generations to come.

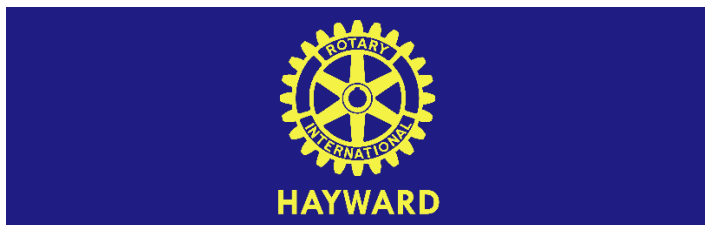
Paul has been deeply involved in the success of our ongoing youth projects, including The Literacy Project, Child Spree, Interact, Let's go Fishing to name just a few. His deep involvement in all of our club's fundraisers, especially our major one, the Rowell Ranch Rodeo concessions is commendable.

Everything positive our club does for our community has Paul's fingerprints all over it. He is truly an important reason for this club's success in its service to our community. That is why he is our Outstanding Rotarian of this year, or any year.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**President Sean Reinhart** presented a book, "The Godfather: Annotated" to Outstanding Hayward Rotarian **Paul Martin**. The book had been signed by Paul's family as well as every Rotary Club member in attendance at the OHR ceremony, in recognition of his good work helping make Hayward a stronger and healthier community.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m. Next week keynote speaker: Hayward Schools Superintendent Matt Wayne.



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## ROTARY CLUB of HAYWARD, CALIF. MEETING NOTES: APRIL 17, 2017

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Greeters: **Vrushali Nanjundappa** and **Dave Elkins**. Meeting called to order by **President Sean Reinhart**. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by **President Elect Nominee Sid Hamadeh**. The Thought for the Day was provided by **Vrushali Nanjundappa**. "The only Zen you find at the top of a mountain is the Zen you bring" – Robert Pirsig

### INTRODUCTIONS

**Dave Elkins** introduced Visiting Rotarian Bob Tucknott, Rotary Club of Dublin. We also welcomed several guests. To help welcome our guests in true Hayward Rotary Club style, **Chuck Horner** led us in a rousing round of "HELLO!"

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **President Sean Reinhart** reported that **Charley Plummer** is out of the hospital and is as well as can be expected. **Charley** would prefer no visitors or calls at this time while he is recovering. **President Sean** also reported that **Nels Nelson** had a heart attack over the weekend, but is recovering and expects to be home soon. Get well cards were sent around the room.
- **President elect AT Stephens** is recruiting and scheduling volunteers for the Hayward Rotary annual Rowell Ranch Rodeo fundraiser on May 20 and 21. All Rotarians are required to work both days of the Rodeo. Can't be there? Send two volunteers in your place or donate \$100 per day.
- **President Sean** recognized and thanked this year's Rodeo committee chairs: Operations chair **George Pacheco**, Accounting chair **Ed Mullins**, Main Food booth chairs: **Rick Hansen & Sid Hamadeh**, and Beer booth chairs: **Dave Elkins & Norman Garcia**.

### FINES AND FOOLISHNESS

**Club Anniversary fines:** John Hunter, Tom Gratny, Bob Carlson. **Birthday fines:** Marita Cheng, Dan Goldstein, John Hunter. **Wedding Anniversary fine:** Ed Mullins. **Dad Joke fine:** Sean Reinhart: The old west was a violent place. People shot each other at the slightest provocation. Like one time, a gunfighter rode into town, where he saw an artist setting up his easel. Instantly, the gunfighter draws his weapon and shoots him dead. The sheriff quickly arrived and asked the gunslinger, "Why did you shoot the artist?" The gunfighter replied, "I thought he was going to draw."

### PAUL HARRIS FELLOWSHIP

**Dave Elkins**, Rotary Club member for 13 years & past president received a Paul Harris +3 in recognition of his donations to Rotary International Foundation. Thank you for your charitable giving, **Dave!**



Dave Elkins and President Sean Reinhart

### KEYNOTE SPEAKER: DR. MATT WAYNE

Dr. Robert Carlson, Rotary Club member and Hayward Board of Education trustee introduced Dr. Matt Wayne interim superintendent of Hayward Unified School District. Dr. Wayne spoke about the progress of Hayward schools. Of particular note is the strong improvement in graduation rates among Hayward students, now approaching 90% and climbing fast. After providing an overview of all the great achievements of the past year, Dr. Wayne noted that there is more improvement needed and is working on ways to get this done.



HUSD Trustee Dr. Robert Carlson, President Sean Reinhart, Mayor Barbara Halliday, Dr. Matt Wayne

### ADJOURNMENT

**President Sean** adjourned the meeting at 1:30 p.m. Next week 4/24: "At the Dawn of a New Century" Club Assembly presidential address by **President Sean Reinhart**.



# WANTED:



**HAYWARD ROTARY  
CLUB MEMBERS**

**TO WORK AT THE  
ROWELL RANCH  
RODEO FUNDRAISER**

**REQUIRED!**

**SATURDAY, MAY 20  
and  
SUNDAY, MAY 21**

**Members are required to work at the Rodeo on both days.  
Can't be there? Send two volunteers in your place or donate \$100 per day.**

Contact **A.T. Stephens** to schedule your volunteer work shifts. Contact **George Pacheco** for general questions.