

The Tattler

Rotary Club of La Mesa

Volume 2016-17, No.130

Meeting Date: 2/22/17

Wednesday's @ Noon, La Mesa Community Center,
4975 Memorial Drive, La Mesa CA 91942



www.LaMesaRotary.org

Jolly Okot-Andruvile **WOMEN EMPOWERMENT** **NETWORK DESIGN**

WEND, Women Empowerment Network Design, is a social enterprise that employs and empowers disadvantaged women in Northern Uganda.

The women supported by WEND were all either directly or indirectly affected by the war in Northern Uganda. Many of our ladies were forced to become child soldiers or wives to LRA commanders. During war, many women were abducted, raped and abused. For the women who were lucky enough to escape, many returned HIV positive and with new children. After returning home, these women and children were ostracized due to their former affiliation with the rebels. Because these women were taken captive at a tender age, many lacked a basic education or a means to support themselves and their families.

In response, in 2009, Invisible Children Uganda developed the social enterprise, Mend. A program that employed 22 war-affected mothers as seamstresses to utilize skills training and education to improve their quality of life, invest in a sustainable future, and grow as leaders within their families and communities. Due to the hard work of the seamstresses, as well the resources invested in their livelihoods, the Mend program experienced many successes. In 2014, Invisible Children could no longer provide funding or availability to the US marketplace. As a result Mend came to a close. Determined not to leave the ladies, Jolly Okot, founder of Invisible Children Uganda, made a commitment to continue on under a new name, WEND. For the last two years, Jolly has struggled to pay the ladies' salaries out of her own pocket. Despite hardship, Jolly and the ladies never gave up hope. And good thing they didn't...because of their relentless perseverance and faith...

WEND will be launching in the US in 2017!

Lunch Time Service Opportunities

February 22, 2017

Greeter	Ted Sanchez
Songs	John Kalas
Pledge	Sue Richardson
Thought	Guy Elam
Raffle	Deryk Inn
Fines	Al Lantz
4-Way	Robert Aguilar

March 1, 2017

Greeter	Rob Sauvajot
Songs	Jay Thompson
Pledge	Martin Brickson
Thought	Scott Elam
Raffle	Mel Jacobson
Fines	Jenny Flynn
4-Way	Mike Mascari

March 8, 2017

Greeter	Becki Schwartz
Songs	Bonnie Welch
Pledge	John Carlson
Thought	Robert Aguilar
Raffle	Don Jenkinson
Fines	Nathan Oestreich
4-Way	Mark Matthews

If you cannot perform your assigned duty, please arrange for a replacement.

Important Dates:

- Feb 22nd 4-Way Speech Contest
- Feb 25th District 5340 6th Annual Peace Studies Forum – USD Kroc Center
- Mar 3rd Jenny Flynn Grotarian – 6:00 pm
- Mar 18th Rotary District Training Assembly
- Apr 8-9 RYLA Youth Conference
- Apr 19th Rotarians at Work Day
- May 20th District 5340 Conference – Liberty Station

Save the Date for a Grotarian gathering!

Get to know Jen Flynn
March 3rd, 6 – 8:30 PM

“Never doubt that a small group of THOUGHTFUL
COMMITTED CITIZENS can CHANGE THE WORLD.

Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

Margaret Mead



**We can't wait to share our passions and get
better acquainted with everyone at Rotary. We
look forward to changing the world with you!**

Please join us: Friday, March 3rd 6-8:30 PM
3428 Juniper Street, South Park, 92104
Cross street is Westland

RSVP TO JEN at jen.flynn66@gmail.com or – 860-830-4454

4-Way Speech Contest



The Four Way Test

of the things we think, say and do

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

Visit the La Mesa Rotary online! www.LaMesaRotary.org
Or find us on Facebook! Just search for La Mesa Rotary.

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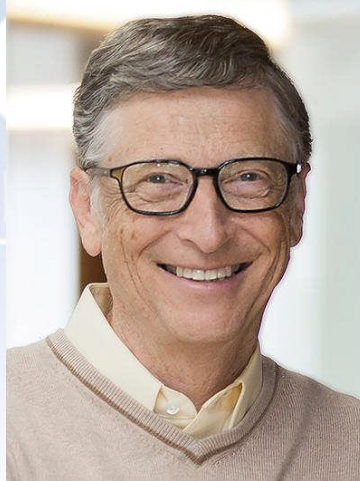
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Bill Gates to be keynote speaker at Rotary International Convention in Atlanta



ATLANTA, Ga. (Feb. 14, 2017) – Rotary's 108th annual **international convention** June 10–14 is expected to attract 40,000 Rotary club members from over 160 countries, and will inject an estimated \$52.3 million into Atlanta's economy.

Bill Gates will speak at this year's Rotary International Convention.

Often described as a “mini-United Nations”, Rotary's third convention in Atlanta will transform the Georgia World Congress Center into a cultural kaleidoscope as the organization's global network of volunteers gather to exchange ideas on how to improve lives and bring positive, lasting change to communities around the world.

Registrants will engage in workshops and hear from a lineup of world-class speakers, including Bill Gates, co-chair, of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The Gates Foundation and Rotary International have an ongoing match of 2:1 to support polio eradication efforts up to \$35 million a year. Today in **Bill and Melinda Gates' Annual Letter** they reaffirmed the important role Rotary has played in polio eradication.

“Rotary and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation have been working together on polio eradication for a long time, and our strong partnership will continue through the final years of the effort,” said Rotary International President John Germ. “With the most effective resources in place, it's possible that we will soon see the last case of polio in history. At the convention, Bill will say more about how we can — and will — end polio.”

Organized by Rotary International in conjunction with the **Atlanta Host Organizing Committee** of local Rotary members, registrants of the convention will also get to experience Atlanta's southern charm with visits to the World of Coca-Cola, the College Football Hall of Fame and an Atlanta Braves game.

Bill Gates to be keynote speaker at Rotary International Convention in Atlanta

June 10-14, 2017

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“The Rotary International Convention provides an exceptional opportunity to bring together more than 40,000 civic and business community leaders from throughout the world to Atlanta to enjoy our unique brand of southern hospitality,” said William Pate, president and CEO of the Atlanta Convention and Visitors Bureau. “The addition of Microsoft founder Bill Gates as a keynote speaker reflects the importance and good work that Rotary does worldwide.”

The global eradication of polio has been Rotary's top priority since 1985. Through the **Global Polio Eradication Initiative** – a public-private partnership that includes Rotary, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) – the incidence of polio has plummeted by more than 99.9 percent, from about 350,000 cases a year in 1988 to just 37 confirmed in 2016. Rotary, including matching funds from the Gates Foundation, has donated \$1.6 billion to polio eradication.

Atlanta's first Rotary convention took place 100 years ago, when **The Rotary Foundation** was established with its first contribution of \$26.50. The Rotary Foundation's assets have grown to approximately \$1 billion, and more than \$3 billion have been spent on projects and scholarships that promote **peace**, fight **disease**, provide **clean water**, support **education**, save **mothers and children**, and grow **local economies**.



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