

# On the Rotary Road

With District Governor Jack McClenahan and PDG Jane

Club visits began close to home July 2 with our own **Rotary Club of Ojai West** for presentation of the “Home Club of District Governor” banner.

President **Nick Oatway** was well prepared and did a great job at his first meeting, unfazed that Jane and I were seated right in front of him dressed in our District Governor finery.

Then we hit the Rotary Road (cue theme from *National Lampoon's Vacation*) for Grover Beach and official DG visit #1 to the 1-year old Rotary Club of **The Five Cities Eco**. What an eye-opener to see the list of projects **Julie Tizzano-Schumann's** club has in progress. They were doing final touches on their painting of the Pismo Beach Pier (Yes, saw it with our own eyes!) in time for 4<sup>th</sup> of July. By agreement with the organizers, they also did the post-4<sup>th</sup> cleanup of the pier area using their “zero-waste” method...and the club was paid for it...doing well by doing good!

The next week found us in beautiful Cambria for a joint **Cambria-Cambria Sunrise** social at the ocean view home of Cambria President **Mike Griffin** and Patty. Thank you to all those who brought goodies to the potluck! Visiting with members from both clubs was lost of fun and a little business from your DG, talking about exciting ideas for fundraising to match the Bill and Melinda Gates polio challenge.

The two clubs are working together to help grow the smaller Cambria Sunrise club using tried-and-true plus *Ignite* membership ideas that resulted in a net gain of 14 new members for Cambria in 2012-13.

With the leadership of “second time” President **Linda Finley**, Cambria Sunrise members are ready to start inviting small business and professional people who cannot break away for a noon meeting.

Some after Linda's meeting we were on the road again to the Embassy Suites San Luis Obispo hotel and Conference Center for a meeting of 2013 District Conference Committee.

Co-chaired by **Deb Linden** and **Charlene Rosales** all the committee members have their assigned roles and are doing great things to make your 2013 District Conference memorable. Past RI Presidents Kalyan Banerjee and Rick King will inspire you and motivate your members. Afternoon fields trips will let you explore and enjoy our magnificent D5240 North Coastal Region.



Next day, we went to Morro Bay State Park where daughter Laurinda and grandsons were camping. Hey, we love camping and wanted to be part of the fun.

That afternoon we met with Rotary Club of **Morro Bay Eco**, in its second year. They were the model and co-sponsor for the Five Cities Eco club. All clubs can learn from these new clubs. Some of their projects may fit into your club's service programs.

With proceeds from combined recycling/fundraising projects, they have been able to purchase hundreds of the “Unite to Light” solar lights (the little green ones) and ship them to Niger and Ghana. They also make them available in the Morro Bay community for the homeless. Club President **Taylor Newton**—featured in the May 2013 *Rotarian* magazine-- accepted the job for a second time with help from incoming president Trina Dougherty. This club is growing.

Saturday July 13<sup>th</sup> we went to Goleta for the first of four regional Membership/PR/Foundation Seminars for District Region #3 (West). A good turnout of 35 District and Club leaders participated in several short focused presentations on best practices and priorities for Foundation, Public Relations, Membership.

Invite District speakers on these topics to speak at your club, meet with your club board or a committee. When you see this issue of On The Rotary Road, two Membership/PR/Foundation Seminars will remain—August 10 San Luis Obispo, August 24 Bakersfield.

In Goleta, we stopped into **Ronda Werner's** meeting of parents participating in Rotary Youth Exchange as host parents or parents of outbound students.

Sunday was the first PRLS staff meeting of the year with **Jack Tingstrom** -- one of the first new friends I met in Rotary 35 years ago -- directing the program this year. Doing a fair amount of public speaking these days, I can highly recommend Master PRLS.

