



## From Governor Elsa...

This VIBRANT Rotary year, we are focused on "lighting up" Rotary.

We could do that by letting each of our Rotary lights shine as an intense beacon to attract new members and retain current members! I light a candle, **you** light a candle and before we know it 2400+ District 5280 Rotarians Light Up Rotary to Recruit and Retain members. Light a candle by inviting friends and associates to attend a club meeting with you and expose them to what **YOUR** club is doing. **YOUR** individual Rotary light can also re-energize and retain current club members.

If your friends and associates hear from **YOU** about the fun, fellowship, networking, and service that **YOU** are experiencing in Rotary, they will be drawn like moths to the verbal light **YOU** are sending to them.

**YOU** can become the Rotary lighthouse that reaches out to others to lead them into Rotary as a new member.

August is Membership Month. Share **YOUR** Rotary moments and experiences that are dearest to your heart. **You** will be lighting your lantern to start them on their own vibrant Rotary journey.

With each new member that joins and with each inactive member **YOU** re-engage, Rotary service is being refueled. More dedicated Rotarians equates to greater Rotary service in our community, our city, our state, our nation, and our world. With our combined lights shining in unison, we become a literal Lighthouse to truly LIGHT UP ROTARY!

### GOVERNOR ELSA'S ONE GOAL: EACH CLUB A VIBRANT CLUB

# R

**Reach out to recruit and retain members** - Minimum Net 2 New Members per club

- Reach out to friends/acquaintances/businesses
- Reach out to past members
- Reach out to members who are not participating
- Reach out to Rotary Alumni (GSE, Ambassadorial Scholars, Exchange Students)
- Reach out to family members

Let **YOUR** Rotary light shine brightly to reach out to recruit, retain and re-energize Rotary members this year! Let **YOUR** Rotary light shine brightly to reach out to recruit, retain and re-energize Rotary members this year!

Club Presidents, Membership Chairs and anyone interested in sharing Rotary, please circle Saturday, August 23, on your personal calendars to attend the District Membership Seminar. This will be held from 7 am to 1 pm at the lovely Wilshire Country Club located at 301 North Rossmore Ave. in Hancock Park. A delicious breakfast will be served and District Governor Nominee, Greg O'Brien, along with Rotary Zone 26 Coordinator PDG Rod Belton, will be sharing ideas to REACH OUT to RECRUIT new members, to RETAIN current members, and to RE-ENERGIZE your current membership. Make your reservations today! The cost is \$35 per person.

*Light Up Rotary and Be Vibrant!*

*Elsa Gillham*



**EACH ONE  
BRING ONE**



**COME, JOIN ROTARY**



# An Interview with Paul Netzel



*Mary Tabata interviewed distinguished Rotarian Paul Netzel, a Trustee of The Rotary Foundation about Rotary Membership. Paul has served as a RI Director, Zone Director, Past District 5280 Governor and numerous other leadership positions. Paul has received The Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service and was elected to the District 5280 Hall of Fame. He has 45 years of perfect attendance. Paul and Diane are active members of Rotary Club of Los Angeles 5. They are members of the Arch Klump Society, Major Donors, Paul Harris Society and Bequest Society members of The Rotary Foundation.*

The Rotary International website states, "Rotarians join and stay with their clubs primarily because they seek opportunities for community service, fellowship, and friendship." Paul Netzel explains, "The key to Rotary is the active participation of its membership." Being involved and engaged will look different for different members, Netzel says, but being a member of Rotary is "not a spectator-sport type thing." Rotarians should be mindful that "it's a privilege to be invited. You don't sign up for Rotary, so with that, you have to know, what are the expectations?"

When Netzel joined Rotary, he was courted by other service clubs in the community. But clearly, Rotary stood out, because "I understood Rotary's global significance and the prestige and the caliber of the members in Rotary at that time." He was "the young pup the next oldest

member was 6-7 years older than I" and was mentored not only by his sponsor, but by other Rotarians who, in a gentle way, "reinforced the values of Rotary and what they represented in terms of setting people apart in terms of business and professional life in their community." These days the need is not only for sponsors but mentors, formal and informal, are perhaps even more important for new members in their 20s and 30s.

Clubs can also create new ways for younger members to engage such as having satellite clubs that meet at different times and different settings than the main club, and/or having distinct committees on which younger members are invited to serve. Clubs should also consider having strategic plans that integrate current and future leadership, so membership can be centered around three-year goals rather than beginning and ending in one President's term.

(continued on page 4)



# An Interview with Paul Netzel



In the international arena, Rotary is growing exponentially. In one District in India, Rotaract has grown from 17,000 young adults to 21,000. This District has 3,000 Members at their District conference. Rotary in this part of the world is synonymous with the eradication of polio.

But more important, Rotary is associated with enhancing and changing lives of people in their communities in life-saving ways. Rotarians provide support for vocational training, for schools, health care, blood banks, literacy work and bring energy for living in even more visible ways than clubs do in the United States.

Rotary Club leadership can take an active role in identifying new members' interests and making this a part of their process. Rotarians, Netzel notes, are "entrepreneurial and want to do things, want to make things happen, want to have an impact, whatever it might be." New members



should speak up about their interests and "not sit back and wait for someone to invite them to do it, but say, "Hey, I'd like to get involved and here are my areas of interests." Netzel's challenge to club leadership is to create opportunities for every Rotary member to become a Rotarian by having a Rotary Moment.

We can ask ourselves a series of questions about Rotary: Why did we join? Why do we remain? What makes it special? We can even create a "Rotary bucket list" of experiences that we would like to have in our lives as members of Rotary. These experiences can be at every level of Rotary – Club, District and International. We are all in Rotary for something, and by being active in our own clubs, participating in a polio corrective surgery trip, or lighting candles in the darkness at a Sri Lanka School, every member can Light up Rotary.





# August is Membership Month



## The Joy of Membership

District Membership Chair Greg O'Brien

Over the past year, I have had the opportunity to visit a number of Rotary Clubs, both in and outside of this District. I have attended meetings with more than 100 members present, and other meetings with fewer than six. Our district, in fact, has 20 Rotary clubs with fewer than 20 members. (Keep in mind that RI now requires 25 members to grant a charter, five more than a few years ago).

As this article is being written, my own Rotary Club of Palos Verdes Peninsula is planning to induct four new members on August 1. Although the new inductions will bring our total to more than 60 members, including several newer members in their early thirties, the club is only half as big as it was 20 years ago. There are very few older clubs in fact that can boast they are today at the peak of their membership.

I have seen a number of membership programs over the years. Invariably they have focused on the symptoms, but not the causes of Rotary's membership challenge. At last, however, Rotary has recognized that strong membership is the result of having "vibrant" Rotary clubs. This new emphasis is the most encouraging approach to membership development that I have seen in Rotary for many years.

Let me explain. Suppose you own a restaurant. Your once popular establishment has been losing business. Do you hire someone dressed in a costume to stand outside with a colorful placard to draw attention of passing traffic? Or do you analyze your product? Is your food still known as the best in town? Is the service still impeccable? Is your restaurant modern, comfortable and attractive?

Now imagine you own a chain of restaurants. Some of your locations are of high quality. Others, however, are not. Once a customer experiences cold food, poor service, unkept restrooms, etc., he or she is unlikely to return. Their experience affects not just the local cafe, it hurts the entire chain. That is why franchise restaurants insist on quality control down to the last detail.

Rotary clubs are not franchises exactly, but the same principle applies. When guests, including speakers, have an unsatisfactory experience at one Rotary club, their perceptions affect the entire Rotary brand.

Happy, satisfied Rotarians attend meetings, line up for service projects, contribute to The Rotary Foundation and become Paul Harris Fellows. They invite friends to join them at Rotary because they are proud of their club. They don't worry about how to approach the sensitive question of recruitment because recruiting is not sensitive, it is fun.

This year's District Membership Committee is composed of past club presidents who have all demonstrated the ability to create, lead and project Rotary within their communities. We are here to assist the clubs. Call on one of us for more information. We will be happy to meet with your club.

## Membership Seminar August 23

This informative seminar at the Wilshire Country Club will begin with breakfast at "Ye Olde Rotary Club," to which you have been invited as a guest. The seminar cost is \$35 including a full breakfast.

Come join the fun and see and discuss some of the best meeting practices employed by successful clubs to create enjoyable meetings. Bring a pen and a pad of paper. You will not want to forget the amazing tips you will hear, not only on making your club VIBRANT but on proven techniques to retain members and how to organize a successful membership drive.

Special guests include Rotary Zone 26 Coordinator Rod Belton, PDG, and Rotary Zone 26 Membership Chair Gary Citti, PDG. -  
Click [HERE](#) to learn more.

RSVP by August 15 to the District Office at office@rotary5280.org or 310-670-9792

Greg O'Brien, DGN, Membership Chair



# District Membership Committee



**Susan Berk:** "Membership in Rotary is a great way to meet with like minded people who want to do service locally and globally. Each weekly meeting is an opportunity to learn from great speakers and enjoy the fellowship of Rotarians."



**Jerry Brown:** "Having been involved in Membership the past three years, I have been very impressed with the clubs that have been able to add great new members that have been Rotarians at heart for much of their life. The new energy and enthusiasm that is so necessary for club growth keeps the clubs moving forward and getting more involved in the community and the Foundation."



**Paul Velasco:**  
"Membership is the lifeblood of your club. Maintaining your existing members is, of course, vitally important; but without a healthy "new blood" transfusion every year, the club will eventually die. Being a VIBRANT club that people want to join and experience means LIFE!"

**Karen Greenberg:** "Our members are a cross section of business and community leaders who want to make a positive difference in the lives of others. Knowing what Rotary is about makes it easy for me to reach out to these people to let them know what we do and how they can fit in our organization."



**Kathleen Copus:** My membership goal is to reach out to Foundation alumni. Every Rotary club has its own personality, so have fun visiting multiple clubs, and then stick with the one that works for you and gives you the most joy. Once you've found your club, and become a member, be the reason why others want to join, too!



**Lawrence McLaughlin:**  
"Membership retention = involvement. Everyone in the club should be active on a committee and involved in club projects. A disengaged member will soon be a former member."

**Makiko Nakasone:**  
"We are planning to charter Little Tokyo Rotary Club this commemorative year when the Japanese American community is celebrating its 130th anniversary of this historic area's birth."



**Dean Reuter:**  
"Invite people to join Rotary who are of good character and a good professional reputation. Look for people with "Quality of the Heart."

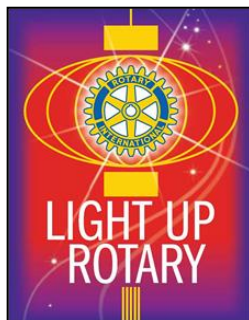
**Cover Picture:** Rotary Information is presented top to prospective members at the Rotary Club of Palos Verdes Peninsula. Seated from left to right are PVP Club Member and Past President Julia Parton, New PVP Club Member Greg Allen, New PVP Club Member Juliet De Moss, District Governor Nominee, District Membership Chair and PVP Club Member Greg O'Brien, Palos Verdes Peninsula Club President Jim Hartman, New PVP Club Member Lynne Neuman and New PVP Club Member Max Bartoli. The photo was taken by club member and professional photographer Christopher Stillians.

These four members are being introduced to the Vibrant Goals for 2014-2015 with Club leaders. They are discussing the basics of Rotary and the specifics about Palos Verdes Peninsula Rotary Club. The four will be inducted by Governor Elsa Gilham on her August 1 visit to the Palos Verdes Peninsula Rotary Club.

# District Events



## "Welcome to Rotary" Seminar



**A**re you a new Rotarian or have you been a member for a while and want to learn more about the Rotary organization and opportunities? Do you sometimes feel lost when hearing about the Avenues of Service, and all that Rotary "language"? Wondering where you fit in and how you can get involved? Do you want to know more about how you can meet other Rotarians, more about the District, how your Club fits with the District and Rotary International? Then come and join us for answers to these and other questions from members of your District Leadership Team as they try to take the mystery out of Rotary:

SEPTEMBER 20

7:30 am (registration) – 12:00 noon

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH HALL

958 LINCOLN BLVD., SANTA MONICA, CA 90403

RSVP to [office@rotary5280.org](mailto:office@rotary5280.org) or 310-670-9792. Sign up early as space is limited! Complimentary continental breakfast included! Flyer available [HERE](#). Questions? Contact District Trainer Bette Hall at [bet-terhrsolutions@gmail.com](mailto:bet-terhrsolutions@gmail.com)

## District 5280 Literacy Breakfast

Weds Aug 13, 2014, 7:00-9:00 am



District Attorney Jackie Lacey

District 5280 Senior Scam Awareness Project

Austin Beutner

Founder and Chairman of the Board  
Vision to Learn

Lawry's

100 N La Cienega Blvd., Beverly Hills, CA 90211

THANK YOU to LAWRY'S FOR HOSTING BREAKFAST! Rotarian **Gina Doyle**- General Manager and our other Rotarian hosts from the Lawry's organization: **Richard Frank**- President & CEO, **Bryan Monfort**- Vice President and **Todd Johnson** - Director of Operations

LIMITED SEATING!!!

Please RSVP By Aug 6, 2014:

Mike Birkholm, District

Literacy Chair

[mbirkholm@birkholmdirect.com](mailto:mbirkholm@birkholmdirect.com)

818-400-3814



## District Calendar

### *August—Membership Month*

- 13 Literacy Breakfast
- 14 Presidents' Fellowship
- 23 Membership Seminar

### *September—Youth Service*

- 14 District Picnic
- 20 New Member Seminar

### *October Vocational Service*

- 7 District Breakfast
- 18.....Homeboy 5K—Team Rotary  
Baby Shower for Camp Pendleton
- 25 Halloween Trip to Camp Pendleton

### *November—The Rotary Foundation*

- 8 Foundation Celebration
- 12 Last Club Visit
- 20 Presidents' Fellowship

### *December—Family of Rotary*

- 6 Angel City Giveaway

### *January Rotary Awareness*

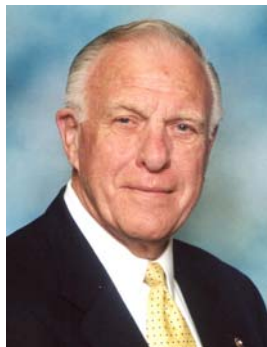
- 13 District Breakfast

### *February World Understanding*

- 5-9 Humanitarian Trip Guatemala
- 20-22 PETS



# Vibrant Club Recognition Program



## VIBRANT Club Recognition Program

District 5280 GOAL: Every Club a VIBRANT Club

Drew Frohlich, PDG

**V**IBRANT Clubs are strong, energized, engaged and growing, and are recognized for their outstanding service to the local and world community. A VIBRANT club reinforces full circle of One Rotary: -attracts and engages more members and raises the awareness of Rotary.

This year's program is geared to help you plan, build, track and record you club's development and progress toward an OUTSTANDING year. The program consists of two simple parts: Participation and submission of your club's [VIBRANT CLUB FORM](#) and completion of and qualification for the 2014-15 [RI PRESIDENTIAL CITATION](#).

The role of the VIBRANT CLUB Recognition Program is to help build, support and strengthen the effectiveness of your club and salute and recognize CLUBS OF EXCELLENCE. Do not wait until the end of the year to look at the requirements. It is hoped the VIBRANT scorecard and RI PRESIDENTIAL CITATION will help your

## End Polio Now

If progress is measured in numbers, Rotary has entered rarified air in the fight against polio. Eighty percent of the world is now certified polio free, and only one strain continues to circulate today, according to Dr. Bruce Aylward, who leads the World Health Organization's Polio Eradication Program. The Rotary Foundation has given \$43.6 million in grants to fight polio in Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

Club in planning its year's activities, stimulate ideas, increase community awareness and member participation, and serve as a checklist of progress and accomplishments during the year.

VIBRANT CLUBS are clubs that achieve at least 70 VIBRANT points between 1 July and 15 April, 2015. Closing date for the receipt of [VIBRANT CLUB FORM](#) is 15 April, 2015. Forms are mailed to: PDG Drew Frohlich 1044 Fairview Drive, La Canada Flintridge, CA 91011.

[RI PRESIDENTIAL CITATION FORMS](#) must be sent to the District Governor no later than 31 March, 2015. Forms sent directly to RI will not be processed.

The clubs scoring the most combined VIBRANT POINTS and RI PRESIDENTIAL CITATION points will receive special recognition at the District Conference.

For questions, contact: District 5280 2014-15 Awards Chair PDG Drew Frohlich, [AFrohlich@aol.com](mailto:AFrohlich@aol.com). Details and forms are available [HERE](#).

## District Calendar

### March Literacy Month

- .....7 ...Future Leadership Training
- 21 Rotary Day
- 3-2-1 Polio Race & Picnic
- 31 District Breakfast

### April Magazine Month

- ...11..... Rotary Day of Service
- 16-19 Fellowship Trip Cuba
- 24-26 RYLA
- 30 Presidents' Fellowship

### May: Promote Int. Convention

- 14-17 District Conference
- Sao Paulo, Brazil

### June Rotary Fellowships

- 5-8 Rotary Intl Convention
- Sao Paulo, Brazil
- 20 District Assembly

This is your District Newsletter-Magazine, please send club announcements, pictures and other interesting items you want to share by the 20th of each month.

For more information about any article, contact the Rotarian chair, go to [www.rotary5280.org](http://www.rotary5280.org), read the Weekly News, or go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/RotaryDistrict5280/>

SHARE THE DISTRICT  
NEWSLETTER-MAGAZINE!  
Carmela Raack, Editor 2014-15  
[CarmRaack@aol.com](mailto:CarmRaack@aol.com)



# District Events



## Rotary Foundation Celebration

**R**otary Foundation Celebration Raffle Drawing tickets are a great way to support and donate to The Rotary Foundation. Our goal is for every Rotarian to purchase or sell at least one book of raffle tickets. The first place cash prize is \$3,000, second place \$1,500 and \$500 for third place. Winning tickets will be drawn at the November 8th Rotary Foundation Celebration at the Biltmore Hotel.

An **Early Bird Drawing** will take place at the September 14th District Picnic. The winner will receive a full page 8.5"x11" color ad in the Rotary Foundation Celebration Tribute Program. Deadlines and for more details, contact Tom Johnstone at [tjohnstone@wiseburn.k12.ca.us](mailto:tjohnstone@wiseburn.k12.ca.us)

All clubs are encouraged to donate a gift basket or single item valued at a minimum of \$150, to be presented to Governor Elsa at the Governor's Visit, for the **Rotary Foundation Celebration Silent Auction**. For more details contact Helene Pizzini at [pizzini3@cox.net](mailto:pizzini3@cox.net).

**Live Auction** items may also be donated. We are looking for exciting rendezvous, sports or entertainment packages. For more details contact Cindy Williams at [cjwill9105@gmail.com](mailto:cjwill9105@gmail.com).

This year our **Tribute Program** will be a beautiful 8.5x11" full color booklet, with a range of opportunities for advertising and sponsorship. For information contact Judith Wilson at [jwilson@travelbyjr.com](mailto:jwilson@travelbyjr.com) or Bette Hall at [betterhrsolutions@gmail.com](mailto:betterhrsolutions@gmail.com).

Each and every Rotarian can participate in some way. Do not miss the opportunity to support The Rotary Foundation. Remember, one half of what we raise this year, will come back to our district in 2017-18 to assist in the funding of future projects created by the clubs in District 5280. This is an investment in our future!

Flyers, auction forms and details can be found [HERE](#).

The event is sold out. A **waiting list** does exist, and seats do open up. Contact Cozette Vergari, Chair, at [CozetteRotary5280@gmail.com](mailto:CozetteRotary5280@gmail.com).



# Humanitarian Trip to Guatemala



The District Humanitarian Trip will be to Antigua, Guatemala from February 5-9, 2015. Accommodations will be at the Hotel Casa de Santo Domingo. Buses will transport Rotarians and their guests to the sites for humanitarian projects funded through Global Grants. Most of the projects will be in the Lake Atitlan region. Other projects are in the Antigua region.

Entertainment will be provided in the evenings. Most meals, the hotel and bus transportation to the projects are included in the price. Optional tours are available to explore the Antigua area. The side trip will be February 9-12, 2015. The Antigua Humanitarian Trip is at a cost of \$1,600 double occupancy, fully inclusive.

Antigua, Guatemala was the capital of Central America from 1543 to 1774. The capital was moved to Guatemala City 28 miles away. Antigua has been declared a UNESCO World Heritage site. The authentic Spanish Colonial style architecture dates back to the 1500's. There are numerous buildings, churches, cathedrals and homes from the 1500's. Noted for its gourmet continental restaurants, residents from all over the world have made Antigua their home. Local Mayans give special charm with their colorful hand knit clothing.

For more information contact, Sr. AG International Service Ben Aranda, [ben@arandainsuranceservices.com](mailto:ben@arandainsuranceservices.com), 818-956-9965



The District 5280 Guatemala Humanitarian Trip committee is actively seeking financial commitments to support the seven Global Grants we are sponsoring in Guatemala. The Global Grants are as follows:

- Lake Atitlan Renewal Program - The Lake is very close to being dead due to pollution from the surrounding population. This grant is attempting to stop the pollutants ending up in the lake.
- Moore Pediatric Center – Doctors from Guatemala and the world provide free surgery to children of limited resources. This grant will assist in the expansion of the facility capabilities.
- Conflict Resolution Training – Alianza Joven is a Guatemala organization focused on crime and violence prevention. The funds will be used to further expand their services into four more cities.
- Water Treatment Plant – Joya Verde is a community in the hillside above Guatemala City. There is no water or sewage runoff capability and the municipality cannot afford one. This grant will provide this capability.
- Pediatric Wheelchairs for Persons with Special Needs – Hope Haven will manufacture, maintain, train, and provide wheelchairs for 100 in need persons.
- Guatemala Literacy Project – Provide books, supplies, teacher instruction, and computer complex for the indigenous population near the Lake Atitlan area.

Please contact Richard Ham, [rhamca@msn.com](mailto:rhamca@msn.com), 310-435-5398, if any of the above projects look like something your club would want to support.



# Community Service in the District



## Rotary Community Alliance

Creating & Sharing Visions

**R**CA, Rotary Community Alliance is a forum for those interested in improving communities and working with individuals in need. Sr. AG Community Service Cindy Williams holds meetings each month on District Community Service activities.

RCA will have an active October!

- October 18, 8:00-11:00—Support Homeboy 5K  
Sign up for [Team Rotary](#), \$30 per team member
- October 18, 2:00-4:00—Baby Shower for Camp Pendleton
- October 25—Camp Pendleton Halloween Carnival  
Delivery of District Baby Shower gifts



**H**elp support our warriors and their families. There are 160 babies born each month at Camp Pendleton! They can really use a Baby Shower!

- Baby and Toddler Clothing
- Booster Seats
- Diaper Bags and Diapers
- Strollers
- Baby Blankets and Crib Bedding
- Toddler Toys
- Children Books
- Washcloths and Bath Towels
- And MUCH MORE!

Details available soon. Contact Cindy Williams, [cw@cwbusinesscenter.com](mailto:cw@cwbusinesscenter.com), 310-600-6196.



# Governor's First Visit



Governor Elsa Gillham leads the Happy Clap during the First Governor's Visit at the Rotary Club of Koreatown.



Governor Elsa will recognize outstanding Rotarians at each Governor's Visit. President Charles Kim sponsored the most new Rotarians. Hong Kim for Club and District Participation. Young Kim is the most generous to The Rotary Foundation.

A large number of District Leaders and Koreatown Rotarians dined on a tasty meal and enjoyed delightful fellowship.

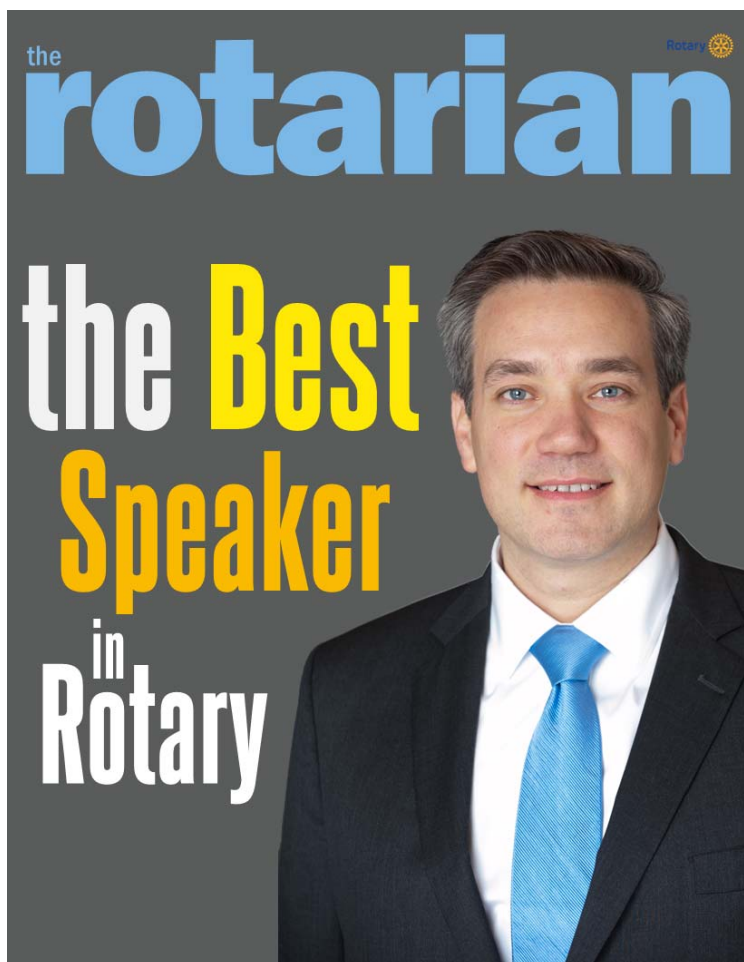
Brad Robinson, PDG, commented on the [Rotary 5280 Facebook Page](https://www.facebook.com/Rotary5280), "Great visit Elsa. Excellent speech. Very inclusive and interactive. Excellent start!" From AJ Willmer, "It was a VIBRANT meeting!"

Keep informed: [www.facebook.com/groups/RotaryDistrict5280](https://www.facebook.com/groups/RotaryDistrict5280)





**T**he long and short of it ... or tall and short ... Pearl Leeka chaired an outstanding and fully packed First District Breakfast. At the October 7 District Breakfast hear from the number one speaker in Rotary. Peace Scholar Jeff Whittfield presents the mission of Rotary so everyone will understand the outstanding and ambitious scholarship programs... He has an outstanding message.



Yuna Erickson was active before the Rotary year began with the District Directory. Thank you for a job well done.



Drew Frohlich, PDG, and Mike Thomas enjoy a good laugh at the breakfast. Thanks Mike for the printing the District Directory.



We have missed John Colville, PDG, who loves to attend events and meetings. John is recovering from hip replacement surgery. Take care and be well.

# Share Your Story



## My Rotary Story: Jeremy Brown

When I joined the Carson-Gardena-Dominguez Rotary Club in Oct of 2008, who knew that it was going to change my life? After visiting other community based civic clubs, Rotary was the one that seemed to be doing the most in the community.

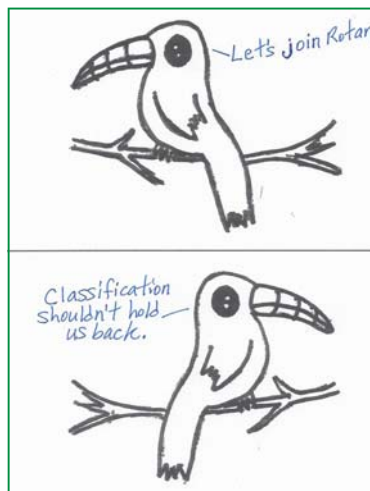
Getting involved with Operation Gobble was my first introduction in to "Service Above Self". Tossing frozen turkeys around and into boxes with other Thanksgiving meal items was fun, until the individual schools started to pick up the boxes and it hit me. How many families were less fortunate and did not have the ability to go out and buy a simple turkey dinner and they didn't live on skid row.

The more projects and responsibility I was given with the youth lead to my first Rotary moment. At RYLA-Rotary Youth Leadership Academy (also in my first year), during one of the activities a young man spoke about how he was contemplating suicide. As fate would have, it this young man was also in my cabin. Again it hit me. How much a difference that the organization I had recently joined was making in people's lives.

One of the best parts about being in Rotary I have come to relish is the friendships that have developed. I don't call many people friends, but in Rotary I know I have real and true friends both young and old alike. I have learned so much from the "tenured" Rotarians that I can only aspire to do half of the hours of dedication and projects they have done over the years. It's amazing to realize how many of these Rotarians actually practice what they preach in living by the 4-Way Test.

I look forward to being able to take an international trip with Rotary and expand my Rotary experiences. More importantly I want to pay it forward to other adults and especially youth, to show them that this is not an organization of just a bunch of older white men.

## Cartoon Section



## Membership Webinar:

In the first session of a five-part webinar series, international membership expert Nikki Walker from [MCI Group](#) will discuss new ways of thinking about membership, including innovative strategies for addressing changes in people's attitudes toward joining clubs and associations. *Membership: It's Now or Never* is scheduled for August 13. Dates and topics for the other Membership Matters webinars to be held during 2014-15 will be announced later.

Click [HERE](#) to register for the first webinar, Wednesday, 13 August, 10:00-11:00 Chicago time.

## Win Airline Tickets

Five Rotary Clubs—Manhattan Beach, Westchester, Latinos Unidos, Wilmington and Hawthorne/LAX/Lennox—have joined together for a Rotary Community Project involving [Vision to Learn](#) to provide free eye exams and free eye glasses for the kids enrolled in the five Lennox elementary schools.

Rotarians will have a hands on opportunity, to provide the initial vision screenings. This project kicked off this past spring at Moffett Elementary with a special thanks to the Manhattan Beach Rotary with their initial contribution to the project.

The clubs are having a special raffle to fully fund this project with a great 1st prize of 4 round tickets on United Airlines worth \$4,200! Other prizes include more flights, a Paul Harris Fellow, a Murad Gift Basket, Oakley Sunglasses, Boot Camp Workout for 10, Gift certificates for exercise classes, restaurants and MORE!

Tickets are \$20 each, BUY 5 and get 6 for \$100! Contact Nora MacLellan, [dougnora@aol.com](mailto:dougnora@aol.com), or Patrice Springer at [hpspringer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hpspringer@sbcglobal.net) for more information or to buy tickets. Flyer available at [www.rotary5280.org](http://www.rotary5280.org).

