

Rotary



Rotary District 5280
Greater Los Angeles
Newsletter-Magazine

Volume 19 | February 2016



Angel City Celebration 2015

pages 5 & 6

DISTRICT 5280 MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

DJ Sun
District Governor
Rotary Club of Korea Town

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SAG Communications
Rotary Club of Woodland Hills

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Governor D J's Message Page 3

RI Peace Scholars Page 4

PETS Pages 5 - 7

District Breakfast Page 8

Rotarian Magazine
Story on Humanitarian
Trip to Colombia Page 9

District Conference Page 10

Vocational Service Page 11

Pageant of the Arts Page 12

Giving to the
Rotary Foundation Page 13

Rotary Day 3-2-1 Page 13

Vision to Learn Pages 14/15

District Calendar Page 15

Angel City Celebration Pages 16/17

District & Club News Page 18



Be a gift to the world

From Governor DJ...

Time flies very fast. I thought that we had just started the new year and yet it is already February. I hope that each club is making progress on the goals that were set out for the year last July. Let's reflect on where we are in achieving our goals for membership, financial contributions to the Rotary Foundation, and in each of the five avenues of service.

The month of February is very special in the Rotary calendar since it is designated as World Understanding Month. It also includes the anniversary of the first Rotary meeting, held on February 23, 1905, now designated World Understanding and Peace Day. To recognize this month, the Rotary International board asks all Rotary clubs to plan programs for their weekly meeting and undertake special activities to emphasize "understanding and goodwill as essential for world peace."

To observe this month, many clubs host international speakers, invite youth exchange students and international scholars from schools and universities to club meetings, arrange discussions on international issues, present entertainment with an international cultural or artistic theme, and schedule other programs with an international emphasis.

Many clubs take the opportunity to launch an international community service activity or consult with a Rotary club in another country. It is a good month to initiate a Rotary Fellowship Exchange and encourage support for Polio Plus or other Rotary Foundation programs.

World Understanding Month is a chance for every club to pause, plan, and promote the Fourth Avenue of Service-- Rotary's continued quest for goodwill, peace, and understanding among people of the world.

Our district is engaged in many Global Grant projects in many different countries such as the clean water project in Fiji, cataract surgery in Kenya, dialysis equipment for Bhutan, school improvements in Panama, and cleft palate and cleft lip surgeries in the Philippines.

As you read this, I am in Panama with 134 Rotarians from our district to carry out multiple projects designed to alleviate suffering.



Upcoming Events:

February 11th (Thursday) will be the third district breakfast. Our keynote speaker will be Austin Beutner, who is Founder and Chairman of Vision To Learn. Many clubs in the district have partnered with this organization to provide eyeglasses to children in our communities.

April 28th through May 1st will be the District Conference at the San Diego Mission Bay Hilton Resort. This will wrap up our work for this Rotary year. I look forward to celebrating our accomplishments with many of my fellow Rotarians.

At the beginning of our year, we planned many different projects to improve and strengthen our organization. Let's focus on accomplishing our goals so that in the future, we can remember that we were a Gift to the World in 2016.

*Let's be a gift
to the world.
DJ Sun*

Rotary International Peace Scholars

By Michael Turner, SAG Communications, Rotary Club of Woodland Hills

Each year, Rotary International funds some of the world's most dedicated and brightest professionals to study at Rotary Peace Centers. Through training, study, and practice, Rotary Peace Fellows become leaders and catalysts for peace and conflict resolution; many go on to careers in national governments, NGOs, the military, law enforcement, and international organizations like the United Nations and World Bank.

"The world is in great need of more peace fellows who can work hand in hand with governments and communities to counterbalance the outbreak of war and conflict." – Abu Sufian Taj Ellassfia, 2011-13 Rotary Peace Fellow

Rotary selects up to 100 individuals from around the world to receive fully funded academic fellowships at one of six peace centers: Duke University and University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; International Christian University, Japan; University of Bradford, England; University of Queensland, Australia; and Uppsala University, Sweden. These fellowships cover tuition and fees, room and board, round-trip transportation, and all internship and field-study expenses.

In just over a decade, the Rotary Peace Centers have trained more than 900 fellows for careers in peace building. Many of them go on to serve as leaders in national governments, NGOs, the military, law enforcement, and international organizations like the United Nations and World Bank.

There are two types of peace fellowships:

Master's Degree

Master's degree fellowships are offered at premier universities in fields related to peace and conflict prevention and resolution. Programs last 15 to 24 months and require a practical internship of two to three months during the academic break.

Professional Development Certificate

For experienced professionals working in peace-related fields who want to enhance their professional skills, RI offer a three-month program in peace and conflict prevention and resolution at Chulalongkorn University in Thailand. This program incorporates two to three weeks of field study. RI awards up to 50 certificates each year.

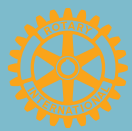
Eligibility

The Rotary Peace Fellowship is designed for professionals with work experience in international relations or peace and conflict prevention and resolution. Applicants must also meet the following requirements:

- Proficiency in English; proficiency in a second language is strongly recommended
- Strong commitment to international understanding and peace as demonstrated through professional and academic achievements and personal or community service
- Excellent leadership skills
- Master's degree applicants: minimum three years of related full-time work or volunteer experience, bachelor's degree
- Certificate applicants: minimum five years of related full-time work or volunteer experience, strong academic background

Fellows are selected through a globally competitive application process, based on the applicant's ability to have a significant, positive impact on the world. The application process begins online, where you'll find information about working with your sponsor Rotary district and the supplementary materials you'll need to complete your application. Candidates have until May 31, 2016 to submit applications to Rotary District 5280. Districts must submit endorsed applications to The Rotary Foundation by July 1, 2016. Applications are available at www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/get-involved/exchange-ideas/peace-fellowship-application





“The Making of a ‘Super President’ – Impossible Goal?”

by Lorine Parks – Rotary Club of Downey

“Not after an intensive two-day training program, for 170 incoming leaders from six Rotary Districts in Southern California.”

That’s how the September 1978 Rotarian magazine headline introduced the concept of PETS (Presidents Elect Training Session), which began then as a joint effort of the six California Rotary districts. Wide ties, leisure suits and sideburns distinguished the PETS pioneers of 1978, but their keynote address theme is still current today: “Rotarians are considered leaders. You are in the peculiar position of being a leader of leaders.”

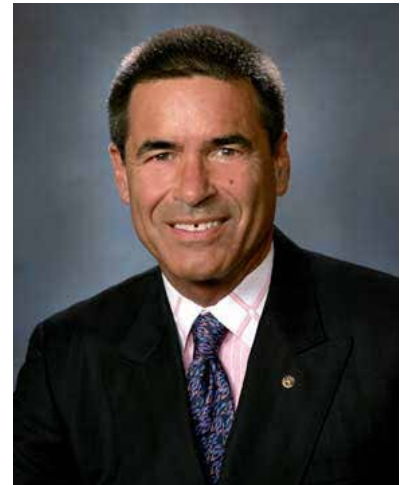
Skip almost 40 years to the present. PDG of District 5330 Rich dell’Acqua, of the Rotary Club of Hemet Sunset and chair of the this year’s awesome weekend, is staging the convocation, themed “Imagine Rotary.” Proceedings take place February 19-21, 2016 and this will be a Southern California-Nevada combined Districts’ largest yet.

Back to the initial gathering in Newport Beach, California, on April 1978, one might expect the session was mandated by from the top, by Rotary International. But surprise, PETS was the brainchild of Jim Vanderburg, incoming district governor for District 5320. He was quickly supported by two of his Rotarian friends, Joe Jordan of District 5260 and Carl Schwab of District 5320.

Recognizing that incoming club presidents deserved more orientation and preparation than they had been getting, the multi-district planners organized in-depth executive sessions. Pictures from that first multi-district session show a “boater” straw hat-clad Welcoming Committee, “manning” the Registration Desk (there were no women Rotarians in 1978).

Ready to begin a self-analysis of their clubs’ strengths and weaknesses, registrants participated in a time management session aimed at “adding one more hour of productive time to each day simply by stressing priorities.” At that first convocation, budgeting and finance sessions were rated among the best by participants. Other subjects covered included communications, Rotary information, building a team, motivation, personal fulfillment (it must be fun”), and memorizing names and faces.

When asked what he remembered most vividly from his own indoctrination as president of the Rotary Club of Beverly Hills, PDG Brad Robinson now immediate past chair of PETS, says, “For me personally, I was impressed (and overwhelmed) with how much I had to learn about Rotary.”



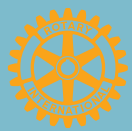
Brad Robinson, District Foundation Chair

Brad, whom we all remember from his year (2011-12) as District Governor, as The Man on the Flying Trapeze, goes on to say, “There were two things that were important to me about the PETS experience. One was the camaraderie I developed among the other Club Presidents Elects and District Leaders, and the other was gaining an initial understanding of how the Foundation works and its importance. It was an emphasis on the Foundation that I took back to my club, and implemented during the year.”

In his excellent history of PETS, Ray Klingensmith, RI President 2010-11, recounts the slow but steady growth of this new idea, for training incoming president. “The districts in Southern California continued to support the PETS through annual meetings to train incoming club presidents, and the first multidistrict organization, now known as the Southern California/Nevada PETS, has conducted a PETS meeting every year since the first one in 1978!”

In Ray’s words, “The wisdom of better training for incoming club presidents was immediately recognized, and there were two new multidistrict PETS held in 1979. One in Missouri called “Show Me” Rotary PETS, and one in Northern California now known as “Far West PETS.”

But even great ideas sometimes stumble. The training



sessions for club presidents were so popular and effective that in 1988, the RI board mandated that a PETS be held in every district every year. According to Ray's telling, the RI board failed for several years to recognize the advantages of multidistrict meetings to train incoming club presidents.

"Fortunately," as Ray says, "Rotary is a grass roots organization, and the number of multidistrict PETS organizations continued to grow in the USA. Now, most of the districts in the United States are members of multidistrict PETS organizations, which currently number more than 20. It is estimated that more than 90% of the club presidents elect in the USA are now trained in multidistrict PETS!"

Multi-district PETS leaders formed a PETS Alliance, which now conducts annual meetings in July of each year. The PETS Alliance also has encouraged and supported the creation of multidistrict meetings in countries outside North America, and multidistrict PETS have now been successfully held in Australia, Brazil, New Zealand, and Sweden.

This year's feature-packed Southern California-Nevada PETS is being held in Los Angeles, at the the easy-to-reach LAX Marriot. The number of meetings, break-out sessions and plenary speeches have multiplied. New titles reflect the times: "Got Facebook? The Social Media and Rotary," "How to Attract Young Professionals," "Discover the FUN in Fun-raising," and "Rotary: Why Our Brand Matters."

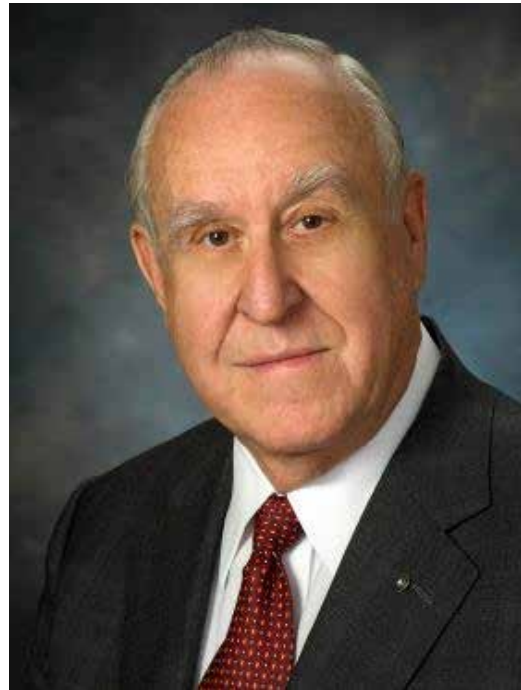
Expect your club's President-Elect to come back stunned



by the intensity of the session and filled with the positive but frustrating exposure to more good ideas than anyone could possibly implement in just one year.

The keynote speaker will be John Germ, RI President-Elect, who will serve with all the rest of the incoming class of 2016-17 at PETS. John, a member of the Rotary Club of Chattanooga and chair of the International PolioPlus Committee, is board chair and chief executive officer of Campbell and Associates Inc., consulting engineers. He was a Tennessee Young Man of the

Year in 1970. John is a recipient of the Boy Scouts



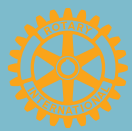
John Germ, RI President-Elect

Silver Beaver Award and the Arthritis Foundation Circle of Hope Award. In 2013, and the White House recognized him as a Champion of Change.

PETS has come a long way since the first one in Southern California was so highly successful and thereby showed the way for others. And it happened in typical Rotary fashion, via a good idea at the local level that was appreciated and adopted by other Rotary districts. As Klingensmith says, "The concept of PETS has clearly passed the Four Way Test."



Lorine Parks – Rotary Club of Downey



Southern California/Nevada PETS February 19 - 21, 2016

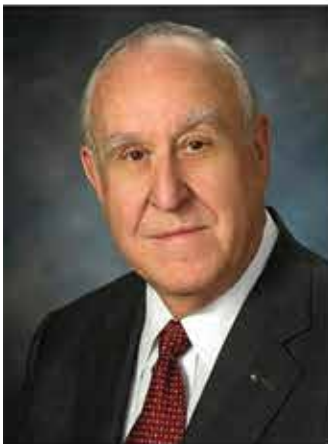
GET REGISTERED



Rotary



RI PRESIDENT-ELECT



John F. Germ
President 2016-17
Rotary Club of Chattanooga
Tennessee, USA

John F. Germ is board chair and chief executive officer of Campbell and Associates Inc., consulting engineers. He joined the firm as an engineer in 1965 after four years in the U.S. Air Force. He serves on the boards of several organizations, including the Public Education Foundation, Orange Grove Center Inc., and Blood Assurance Inc. He also is founder and treasurer of the Chattanooga State Technical Community College Foundation and president of the Tennessee Jaycee Foundation.

Germ joined Rotary in 1976 and has served as RI vice president, director, Foundation trustee and vice chair, aide to the Foundation trustee chair, chair of Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge, RI Board Executive Committee member, RI president's aide, membership zone coordinator, committee member and chair, task force zone and area coordinator, RI training leader, and district governor.

Germ is a recipient of RI's Service Above Self Award and The Rotary Foundation's Citation for Meritorious Service and Distinguished Service Award. He and his wife, Judy, are members of the Arch Klumph Society.



Register for PETS at www.socalnevadapets.org/reg
Los Angeles Airport Marriott
5855 West Century Boulevard - Los Angeles 90045
310-641-5700



ROTARY DISTRICT 5280

DISTRICT BREAKFAST

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2016



KEYNOTE SPEAKER: AUSTIN BEUTNER

Founder and Chairman of Vision To Learn, a nonprofit organization that provides free eyeglasses to children in low-income communities



Austin Beutner is most recently the former Publisher and CEO of the Los Angeles Times and the San Diego Union-Tribune.

Earlier in his career, he worked at The Blackstone Group, and at age 29 became the firm's youngest partner. He left Blackstone to serve in the U.S. government, where he led efforts to help Russia transition to a market economy after the collapse of the Soviet Union.

After his stint in Russia, Beutner Co-Founded Evercore Partners and, as President and Co-CEO, helped build the company into one of the leading independent investment banks in the world.

In 2010, Beutner accepted a \$1 annual salary to serve as First Deputy Mayor and Jobs Czar for the City of Los Angeles. In that role, he oversaw the policy and operations of 13 city departments ranging from the Los Angeles World Airports, the Port of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, to the Departments of Planning, Building and Safety, and Housing and Homeless.

In 2012, he created Vision To Learn, a nonprofit organization that provides free eye exams and free glasses to children in low-income communities. As many as 2 million kids in American lack the glasses they need to see the board, read a book and participate in school. Vision To Learn solves the problem by providing the access to care these children lack.

TIME

7:00AM | Registration

7:30AM | Breakfast

LOCATION

Westin LAX Hotel
5400 W. Century Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90045

COST

Before Feb. 4 | \$38

After Feb. 4 | \$43

RSVP

To District Office At:
office@rotary5280.org

or

310-670-9792

PARKING

Free self-parking in hotel
parking structure

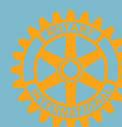
CLUB _____ # OF ATTENDEES _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please return this form with payment
to the District Office at:
8939 S. Sepulveda Blvd., Suite 210
Los Angeles, CA 90045

Make checks payable to:
Rotary District 5280

Please note: Clubs reserving a full table of 10 will have a reserved table. For clubs with less than 10 attendees, there will be open seating.

A reservation made is a reservation paid. Each attendee must have a ticket in their possession.



FRONT

District Humanitarian Trip to Colombia in The Rotarian Magazine



CONVENTION ours artistic side

The neighborhoods of Seoul pulse with distinct personalities. Myeong-dong is for shopping. Hongdae is for partying. Gangnam is for people watching. And the charming neighborhood of Insa-dong will be a great place to delight over handmade crafts and antiques if you're in Seoul for the 6 Rotary International Convention from 28 May to 1 June. Insa-dong's reputation as a tourist destination began after the Korean War, but its roots as an artist's haven go back more than 500 years, when it was home to a government-recognized school.

The neighborhood's artistic life lives on in streets dotted with art galleries, and shops full of pottery, handmade paper, and other Korean crafts. You'll find plenty of less-authentic items that still make for good souvenirs, such as wooden clogs, mother-of-pearl jewelry, embroidered bags, paper fans, dolls, chopsticks, and slippers.

At the area food stalls, you can watch as young men make *jeon* (Korean court cakes), from silky threads of honey filled with sweet nuts. In the winter, ice cream cones are a must, and in the summer, *hotteok*, a chewy cake filled with sugar, honey, and cinnamon, served off the griddle.

The main street is closed off on weekends, and often come across a traditional music performance or an art demonstration. — SUSIE MA

Register for the 2016 Rotary convention in Seoul at www.riconvention.org.



DISPATCHES

Project brings smiles to Colombia

Each spring for the past two decades, Rotarians in District 5280 (California) have partnered with a district outside the United States on a series of projects in that district's country. In March 2014, nearly 120 Los Angeles-area members from 20 clubs traveled to Medellín, Colombia, for their annual trip; previous destinations have included Guatemala, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, and El Salvador.

For four days, working with District 4271 (part of Colombia), Rotarians assisted with 10 projects near Medellín, from outfitting a hospital with washers and dryers, to supplying computers for kids, to helping children with disabilities.

On the third day of the trip, Past District Governor Chuck Anderson, of the Rotary Club of Redondo Beach, Calif., traveled with a team to the mountain village of Alejandría, two hours outside Medellín. "The last hour was on a dirt road," he says. "We were tired and couldn't wait to get off the bus." But when they arrived, they were re-energized when most of the town — more than 500 adults and children — came out to greet them.

Anderson took this photo of a group of children, their parents, and local dignitaries, who lined up in front of the village's brick-and-wood church and sang a welcome. "I get choked up thinking about it," he says. Each Rotarian brought two to four backpacks filled with school supplies to give to local children — along with candy and a hug.

The project in Alejandría, funded by Districts 5280 and 4271, as well as The Rotary Foundation, provided \$39,000 of dental services in a community where none existed, explains Past District Governor Doug Baker. "If you haven't had your 'Rotary moment,'" Anderson adds, "you'll have it on one of these trips. Whether it's handing out wheelchairs or doing projects like this [in Alejandría], the gratitude you get from people is remarkable."

— ANNE STEIN

500

Residents of Alejandría who will have access to quality dental care because of this project

40

Percentage of rural Colombians who live in extreme poverty

\$446,748

Total cost of the 10 humanitarian projects undertaken in March 2014 in Colombia

STRAIGHT OUTTA ROTARY

DISTRICT CONFERENCE 2016

APRIL 28TH ~ MAY 1ST

SAN DIEGO MISSION BAY HILTON

THURSDAY | *Pub Crawl*

FRIDAY | *Epic Hospitality*

**SATURDAY | *Stop Hunger Now
& Jaw Dropping Performance
at the Governor's Ball***

You Simply Cannot Miss This!

One Conference...Two DJs

Full of Selfless Rotary Moments

COMING SOON

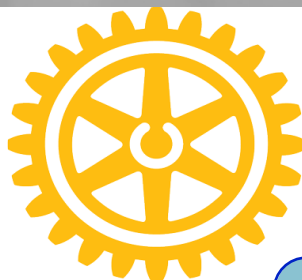
Starring DJ Sun & D5280's Most Interesting Man

Produced by Rotary District 5280

Executive Producer Jaimee Sul

Co-Produced by Westchester Rotary Club Young Professionals

Rotary
District 5280



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.Rotary5280Conference2016.com

Rotary Vocational Service

February 2016 | Celebrate Vocational Service Month!



Inspiring Others Through Vocational Service

Rotarians serve, empower, and inspire others by using their vocational skills and expertise to address community needs and help others discover new vocational opportunities. Here are a couple of ways that Rotarians can apply their expertise to the needs of their communities:

- Provide career counseling for high school and university students. Encourage members' spouses and friends to offer counseling and share hands-on experiences to help the students focus their career goals.
- Invite high school and university students to work alongside you or others in your place of business.

Rotary District 5280 & Vocational Services Presents:



March 5, 2016

Loyola Marymount University

The Rotary Pageant of the Arts is an opportunity for all clubs to sponsor and bring forth high school youth to demonstrate and perform their individual talent in art, dance, music or speech. Clubs are encouraged to recruit youth from local high schools, to arrange for them to demonstrate and perform at the club level, and to select those that will proceed to The Pageant on March 5. The Pageant will begin in the afternoon. A reception with refreshments will follow after the performances.

We encourage you and your clubs to participate, to select and to sponsor these highly talented artists and performers. And we don't just stop here. The youth depend on us to be there to witness their performances, and to see their talent. Each youth that participates is a winner. They are all winners.

Art Contest Chair:

Gerardo & Brenda Jaramillo
gjaramillo@crlu.org
bjaramillo@crlu.org

Dance Contest Chair:

Gwen Vuchsas
gvuchsas@secoteam.com

Music Contest Chair:

Debbie Wehbe
Debbie.wehbe@gmail.com

Speech Contest Chair:

Agnes Lewis
ajlewis7@gmail.com

Pageant Co-Chairs:

Lance Miller
lance@lancemillerspeaks.com

Audrie Echnoz
audriechnoz@gmail.com

SAG Vocational Service:

Joe Vasquez
joevasquez1@verizon.net

**Applications &
Registration Fees
Due February 5, 2016**

Visit www.rotary5280.org
for complete details



Giving to The Rotary Foundation

By Zaven Kazazian, Rotary Club of Glendale Sunrise

The Rotary Foundation provides hope, health, and peace around the world. So much good begins with these gifts: wells are constructed, children are vaccinated against illness, senior citizens are afforded meals and services, children and adults are educated and given professional opportunities. This work is vital to the children, families, and communities who benefit. Only when people's basic needs are met, can they pursue the larger elements of human life including conflict resolution, community building, and peace.

Paul Harris Fellow

A Paul Harris Fellow is someone who contributes (or in whose name is contributed using Foundation recognition points), a gift of \$1,000 or more cumulatively to the Annual Fund, PolioPlus Fund, or an approved global grant.

Becoming a Paul Harris Fellow is a tremendous accomplishment and honor as these contributions impact communities around the world. Paul Harris Fellows, in a very tangible way, provide stepping stones to a more harmonious world.

Paul Harris Society

The Paul Harris Society (PHS) is an official recognition program of The Rotary Foundation for individuals who

personally contributes \$1,000 or more to the Annual Fund, PolioPlus Fund and/or an approved global grant every Rotary year, when financially able. Contributions to the Endowment Fund and Disaster Recovery Funds are not eligible for PHS membership.

We say "when financially able" to allow some wiggle room if an individual is having financial issues one Rotary year that may prevent them from meeting their expressed intent as a PHS member.

Consider joining the Paul Harris Society and give joyously to the Foundation and be personally fulfilled knowing that your gift is doing good in the world.

To join the Paul Harris Society visit:

www.rotary.org/paulharrissociety

For additional information, please visit the Paul Harris Society Table at the February 11 District Breakfast or send an email to the District Paul Harris Society Chair, Zaven Kazazian at zkazazian@earthlink.net

If you have further recognition questions, please call the Rotary Support Center at 866-976-8279 or email RotarySupportCenter@Rotary.org



Please support our **Rotary 5280 Event** in one or more of the ways listed below!

March 12, 2016 @Griffith Park

➤ Join the Run



Share this event

- 10K Run **9:00 am**
- 5K Run **10:00 am**
- 1 Mile Fun Walk or Run **10:30 am**

➤ Donate \$1 Dollar fundraiser

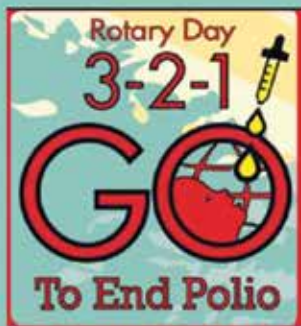
- www.321GoToEndPolio.com

➤ Corporate Sponsor Tables at the event to showcase your company

- www.321GoToEndPolio.com

➤ Corporate Key Sponsor Spots available

- www.321GoToEndPolio.com



What a Gift – Bringing Better Vision to High School Students

The Rotary Club of Inglewood was out in full force on January 19. The club was at Inglewood High School for the formal launch of a partnership involving Vision To Learn, the Los Angeles Clippers and Inglewood Rotary to bring free eye exams and glasses to all of the students enrolled in the Inglewood Unified School District. They were joined by the Austin Beutner, Founder of

expected to need full-vision screening and glasses. The cost is roughly \$100 per student.

In low-income communities, 95 percent of kids with vision impairments do not receive proper glasses, said Vision to Learn chairman and founder Austin Beutner, a former Los Angeles Times publisher and deputy Los Angeles mayor.

A UCLA study of the organization's work found that students with untreated vision problems are likely to have trouble learning. Often, grades improve significantly after treatment.

"Inglewood is the first community in the nation of its size to solve the problem of vision care for every kid in the community," Beutner said. "Born and bred in L.A., it's a model for the nation."

Inglewood Mayor Jim Butts and Los Angeles County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas joined the ceremony to celebrate the program.

"This is a very subversive way of civic engagement," Ridley-Thomas said. "It's revolutionary. Eyeglasses can make the difference between success in the classroom and failure. Not only in the classroom,

Vision To Learn, Rotary District 5280 Leadership and many of the area's elected officials.

Clipper stars Chris Paul and Paul Pierce, commended the Clippers for helping to sponsor Vision to Learn by providing a mobile eye clinic for exams and the Rotary Club of Inglewood for making sure that all the students had their vision screened.

"At the end of the day, the reason we're here is for the kids," Chris Paul said to a crowd gathered in the Inglewood High School gym. "When I was in school, it wasn't cool to have glasses. It just wasn't a cool thing. But, for this to be available to all the kids in Inglewood, is a proud day."

Paul Pierce, who attended Inglewood High, said he joined the program as soon as he heard about it. I'm thankful that I've been able to be a part of this. When [the Clippers] brought this to me, I said, "This is a no-brainer. This is something that can make a difference."

All 12,000 Inglewood Unified School District students will receive initial vision screenings that will be provided by Inglewood Rotarians, and about 1,800 are

in life. It's the first program of its kind in the nation. Let's pray it will not be the last."

"This is a great project for Rotarians," said District Governor D.J. Sun. "It is an opportunity for Rotarians to have a hands-on project that gives quantifiable results. What a gift for these children. I am looking forward to



seeing the relationship between Vision To Learn and Rotary to continue to expand.”

Dolories Minor of Inglewood Rotary is looking forward to getting to work. “We started the project with Centinela Elementary, then moved on to Inglewood High School. We have 11,000 children to provide vision screenings to and are so excited to be able to make such a great impact on our community.”

Vision To Learn has screened more than 300,000 children, and provided more than 46,000 free eye exams and 34,000 free eye glasses. Additionally, Rotary Clubs, Rotarians and their community partners have raised over \$300,000 for Vision To Learn. Contact Nora at dougnora@aol.com or 310-489-0160 if your club would like to get involved!



District Calendar

February 2016

11 District Breakfast
19-21 PETS (LAX Marriott)
23 Viral Day
27 Presidents/PE Brunch

March 2016

5 Rotary Pageant of the Arts
12 3-2-1- Go
26 New Member Orientation

April 2016

5 District Breakfast
9 Rotaract Ethics Forum
16 Rotary Day of Service
28 - May 1 District Conference (San Diego)
29 - May1 RYLA

May 2016

4 -10 RI Convention (Seoul Korea)

Angel City Celebration 2015

With the help from Rotary volunteers and friends, the 2015 Angel City was glorious and successful. We heard from community activists and parents who expressed their appreciation to our commitment to improving their lives and opportunities. The caring and the kindness of volunteers brought smiles to young and old alike.

What a sight: a sea of golden shirts with the message “Rotary Cares”



on the front! Special recognition goes to the Interactors, Rotaractors and exchange students who helped wherever extra hands were needed. It was a seamless operation with a diverse and energetic group of volunteers. A JOB WELL DONE!



On behalf of the families we served, and the members of Angel City Planning Committee, we thank the volunteers for getting up so early on December 12 and working nonstop in a true holiday spirit of giving and kindness. We are grateful for your participation and contributions. The event would not have been nearly as successful without your support.

Here are some highlights from the event:

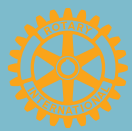
- Served 5,000 residents of South LA
- 400 Volunteers, from 22 rotary clubs, 13 Interact Clubs, and 7 Rotaract Clubs and members of other service organizations and businesses
- 40+ Exhibitors The reviews from the exhibitors were excellent, many have committed for next year
- Prepared and served 2,500+ Pancake Breakfasts
- Gave away 5,000+ books, 3,800 toys and 16 bikes
- Large contingent of MDs, medical students, dentists, and other health care professionals were present from UCLA, USC Medical and Dental Schools, and the Charles Drew Nursing School. Local hospitals such as Children's Hospital, California Hospital, St. Francis Hospital, and Cedars-Sinai Hospital
- 3 mobile medical clinics – Coach for Kids, Vision To Learn, T.H.E. and Clinic and Hearing Lab by House Ear Clinic.
- Health Care services include general wellness checkups, with blood tests, dental examines, hearing tests, vision tests, glasses, memory tests and much more. The House Ear Clinic tested 346 people, dental checks up for 500+ youth and Vision To Learn tested 200+ people





- Because of a strong showing of health care professionals this year, this event has evolved to now include the entire family. Everyone who attended received a benefit from attending. Angel City truly served the entire community.
- LA County Parks was an excellent partner: Their help is invaluable!
- Big thanks to LA County Supervisor Ridley-Thomas and LA City Councilman Joe Buscaino, their offices contributed additional equipment augmenting the equipment from the LA County Parks.
- We secured more than \$20,000 in cash donations for the toys and small amount of supplies and over \$75,000 of in-kind services
- Last but not the least, thank you to our sponsors. They made our job easier to show the world “Rotary Cares.”





Four Torrance Clubs Present \$16,000 to Four Torrance High Schools



Torrance's North, West, South & Torrance High Schools were the recipients of over \$16,000 raised by the **Four Rotary Clubs of Torrance** and checks were presented to school representatives on January 20 at the DoubleTree Hotel. The proceeds were raised at the seventh annual UCLA/USC tailgate event sponsored by the **Del Amo, Lomita-Torrance Airport, South Bay Sunrise, & Torrance Rotary Clubs**. Pictured are the Rotary club leaders who made the presentations along with the high school representatives. The funds are earmarked for the schools' athletic and band programs. Photo by Gilbert Watson.

Rotary Club of Los Angeles Donates \$33,290 to School on Wheels



So. California DGs Participate in Tournament of Roses Parade



The District Governors from Southern California enjoyed lunch with the President of RI, **K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran** (fourth from left in the top photo) at the Tournament of Roses House. **DG DJ Sun**, is second from left in the top photo). The DGs were also on RI's float during the Tournament of Roses Parade on January 1.

Hawthorne - Lennox Rotaract Completes Project in Colombia



A day in the life of Bogota. **Hawthorne - Lennox Rotaract** completed school projects in the Bogota, Colombia Poverty Zone. They members were treated like royalty in the homes of members of the **Rotary Club de Bogota** family members. It was an unforgettable Rotary experience.

RI Peace Conference in Ontario, CA



Above photo: Opening Ceremonies at the RI Peace Conference. **DG DJ Sun** is third from left. Bottom photo: Rotary Club of Woodland Hills member **Ron Supancic** with **Dr. Hideko Tamura Snyder**, a Hiroshima survivor, who teaches collective healing to victims of violence. This was indicative of the quality and stature of speakers at the RI Peace Conference.