

Make a dream come true!



NOVEMBER 2017



Learn about the Global Grant Scholars Program and District 5280's participation on [page 7](#).



“Let’s celebrate and collaborate to truly make a difference.”

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DISTRICT CALENDAR

November

- [4](#) Peace Conversation Facilitator, Part 2
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- [15](#) 9th Annual USC vs. UCLA Rotary Tailgate Luncheon ([See page 14.](#))

December

- [1](#) Global Grant Scholarship Apps Due to Clubs ([See page 7.](#))
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January

- [9](#) District Breakfast
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February

- [9-11](#) PETS

Two major cities in Colombia, Bucaramanga and the capital of Bogotá, are the sites for District 5280’s humanitarian trips. See [page 10.](#)



“Rob’s Run To End Polio
far exceeded the goal of \$250,000!”

GREETINGS DISTRICT 5280 ROTARIANS, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS

By Cozette Vergari, District Governor

CENTENNIAL II MILLION DOLLAR DINNER.

More than 600 hundred guests gathered at the JW Marriott LA Live on October 28. Fritz Coleman, our master of ceremonies, and Dr. Peter Salk, son of Dr. Jonas Salk, who developed the first safe and effective polio vaccine, our keynote speaker, headlined the evening.

The results of Rob’s Run To End Polio were announced! Our goal was \$250,000. By the gala, we had surpassed that goal and fast approaching \$600,000. And, more donations came in at the dinner. Rob DeCou received a standing ovation from the crowd, as we brought him to the stage to honor his inspiration and courage. Thank you, Rotarians, for not only accepting Rob’s

challenge but embracing it with great generosity and spirit!! The Million Dollar Dinner was a smashing success!!!

REGISTRATION FOR THE DISTRICT HUMANITARIAN TRIP TO COLOMBIA WILL CLOSE SOON.

We have a few seats left for our fabulous trip planned for the beautiful, majestic city of Bucaramanga (March 21–26) and the exciting, historical Bogota (March 26–30). You may travel to one, or the other, or combine both.

Register soon, as spots are filling up quickly. There will be hands-on projects, tours and evening events. We are supporting approximately a dozen projects,

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nine of which are Global Grants. ([See page 10](#) for more information about these humanitarian trips.)

DISTRICT BREAKFAST NO. 2: A SALUTE TO OUR VETERANS. On November 7, we will honor our Rotarian veterans, as well as other veterans we know, and some we will meet that day. We have a really fun-filled morning planned. ([See page 21](#) for details, including reservation information.)

COMING UP IN DECEMBER. There will be two events: Angel City Celebration on December 2 and the Braille Institute Holiday Party.

DISASTER RELIEF. We continue to accept donations through the District Charitable Foundation for the many, many tragic disasters we have recently witnessed. You may select those you wish to support in the effort to provide aid to the victims of these tragedies. You may do so through the District's website, using PayPal. We are working through the network of Rotary to shepherd these donations, so they are received where they are needed and will be used appropriately.

Thank you for making a difference in peoples' lives. ★



THERE'S A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITY WAITING FOR YOU

at the 2018 Rotary International Covention



TORONTO, CANADA
June 23–27, 2018





THANKSGIVING: THE REAL CELEBRATION

By Michael Turner (Woodland Hills)
SAG Communications

FOR MOST OF US, THANKSGIVING USUALLY INCLUDES feasting with family and friends and enjoying a four-day weekend with football games, family reunions, eating some more, and hitting the stores on Black Friday.

The first Thanksgiving was held in November 1621, after the Pilgrims' first corn harvest. Governor William Bradford organized a celebratory feast and invited a group of Indians to join with them. In addition, the Pilgrims recognized that everything they had was a gift from God, even their sorrows. The Thanksgiving celebration became a tradition. And, over the centuries, families have added their own customs to the Thanksgiving celebration, demonstrating what is most precious to them. Here is what some family and friends celebrate on the fourth Thursday of November.

The Pilgrims recognized that everything they had was a gift from God, even their sorrows.

- **To gather in unity.** It is refreshing and invigorating when people come together in celebration of a common purpose. It is a reconciliation of differences as well as a time of healing. We share our victories as well as our struggles, yet find strength and hope.
- **To teach the young.** In stories retold, each generation brings purpose and meaning to the richness of their heritage. Faded pictures, sentimental knick-knacks, even the prayer prior to the meal can be a part of a family's enduring legacy.

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- **To prepare the heart.** In gratitude, we reflect upon all the gifts (family, friends, health, happiness) that give our life meaning and purpose. In addition, many of us extend ourselves and give to others to help those who are less fortunate. Out of the abundance of our hearts, we are able to offer our time and treasure to help others.

HERE ARE SOME WAYS DISTRICT CLUBS OPEN THEIR HEARTS TO THE COMMUNITY:

- **The Glendale Club** will hold a Kettle Kick-Off Breakfast with the Salvation Army (November 10).
- **The Playa Venice Club** will hold a Kick-Off Team Meeting for their Holiday Adopt-a-Family project (November 15).
- **The Carson Gardena Club's** Operation Gobble will provide 200 Thanksgiving dinners to low-income families (November 16).
- **The Wilshire Club** will prepare and serve a Thanksgiving feast for the women and families at Alexandria House Transitional Shelter (November 21).
- On Thanksgiving, November 23, **the Calabasas Club** will serve meals to some 700 seniors at the Sagebrush Cantina. ([See the story on page 22.](#))

YOU ARE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE in any of these projects, create a community event for your club, or do something personal and meaningful with your family and friends. Whatever your plans, take some time during this holiday to reflect on what you are thankful for and what you will do to make your community a better place for everyone. ★



Take some time during this holiday
to reflect on what you are thankful for
and what you will do
to make your community
a better place for everyone.



Global Scholar applications are due to the District by January 12, 2018.
Interested students should contact a local Rotary club
for assistance with the application process.



KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH \$30,000? GLOBAL GRANT SCHOLARS KNOW!

By Lorine Parks (Downey) Senior Correspondent

ROTARY'S NEWEST PEACE INITIATIVE, the Global Scholar, formerly called Ambassador Scholar, provides the enriching experience of study abroad and humanitarian service. Scholars are encouraged to embrace Rotary's motto, "Service Above Self."

Individuals from our District recently selected for the prestigious Global Scholar program, which comes with a \$30,000 stipend, include:

- Angela Kim is a former recipient who wants to contribute to the field of environmental policy. With a bachelor's degree in biochemistry and political science and a master's degree in environmental science, Angela studied the impact of climate change in Toronto. She was sponsored by the Westwood Village Club.
- Sara Adelman, who has a master's degree and was sponsored by the Granada Hills Club, studied public health at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, where she worked with the humanitarian

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organization Doctors of the World. Their clinic in Bethnal Green offers primary health care and social-services support for the vulnerable population, which includes asylum seekers, undocumented migrants, and the homeless. This organization is about to launch a mobile clinic with a customized vehicle to provide health-care services for resettled refugees, and Sara participated in this first-ever pilot project in London.

Inbound Scholars is a category within the Global Scholars program.

- Hanako Iwamuraone Ono, sponsored by the Westwood Village Club, is studying education at UCLA.
- Coralie Klipfel, sponsored by a Paris Rotary Club and the Downtown Los Angeles Club, is a visiting researcher and Ph.D. candidate at UCLA. She holds a degree from the University of Paris Panthéon-Sorbonne and studied at Leiden Law School and at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid. Her studies require her to travel back and forth between France and the US.

District Outbound Scholar is another category within the Global Grant program. Two District 5280 participants are on their way from California to London:

- Natalie Dial, sponsored by the Westchester Club, and Justin Trop, sponsored by the Downtown LA Club. Both are studying public health at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Natalie is studying for a doctorate in public health with a specialization in infectious diseases, and Justin, who is a medical student at USC, is studying community health and epidemiology.

FOR THOSE CONSIDERING APPLYING FOR A GLOBAL GRANT, there are six categories of study, which correspond to Rotary’s six areas of concern: Peace and Conflict, Prevention/Resolution; Disease Prevention and Treatment; Water and Sanitation; Maternal and Child Health; Basic Education and Literacy; Economic and Community Development.

Jewel Price, Friendship Exchange chair, was a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar to Ireland. “When I went to Ireland in the 1970s” said Jewel, “I studied psychology and worked with children in special education and elementary schools, where I



tested children and wrote assessments and recommendations for their placement in school.”

Jewel, who was a dean and faculty member at Glendale Community College for 40 years, added, “I was asked to join Rotary by a colleague at my college when she learned that I am a former Ambassadorial Scholar.” Jewel went on to become president of the Glendale Sunrise Club (2008–09) and now is chair of the Global Grant Scholars (GGS) Program.

WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS TO BE A SELECTION COMMITTEE JUDGE? Global Grant Scholars Committee member Richard Cortes, an assistant professor and academic counselor at Glendale Community College, was Jewel’s mentor and first introduced her Rotary in 2007. “I’d been fortunate,” he added, “to participate as a Rotary Foundation Group Study Exchange representative from the former District 5260 to District 1790 in France.”

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Richard was born and raised in New York City. His parents had emigrated there when leaving Honduras in 1971. He moved to Los Angeles in 1986 and is now a member of the Greater San Fernando Valley Club. Richard earned a bachelor's degree at CSUN and his Ph.D. from Claremont Graduate University. He has published several articles relating to higher education and immigration issues.

"The Rotary Foundation," said Richard, "has entrusted in me and my fellow District 5280 Global Grant Scholars Committee members the responsibility to select the best candidate(s) to carry on special projects that will effectively align with one of Rotary's Six Areas of Focus.

"We have the responsibility," he continued, "to ensure the candidates' graduate programs mesh with their chosen career fields. I am proud to take part in something that will change the life of potential future Rotarians and also change the lives of other global citizens who will benefit from the work of Global Grant Scholars.

"For me, there is no one important personality trait for applicants. It is the profile of the applicants in their written materials and their interview that contribute to their selection. Academic performance, quality of the proposed project, community involvement, verbal presentation, career plans, and close alignment with the proposed area of focus for their studies and project are critical factors."

When asked what he looks for in a candidate, Richard replied, "Passion! As a committee, we need to have a strong sense that the proposed project is something candidates are truly passionate about. When someone is passionate about serving others, we know this person will carry on this same drive and enthusiasm professionally and personally. We enjoy reading candidates' applications that show vision or thinking outside the box."

The deadline for clubs to submit applications to the District is January 12, 2018, and judges' decisions will be announced in March. Interested students should contact a local Rotary club for assistance with the application process. ★



“There is no one important personality trait for applicants. It is the profile of the applicants in their written materials and their interview that contribute to their selection.”

**—Richard Cortes
selection committee member**





TWO TRIPS, TWO CITIES: HUMANITARIAN PROJECTS IN COLOMBIA

By Lorine Parks (Downey), Senior Correspondent

HUMANITARIAN TRIPS EMPHASIZE the working side of Rotary’s international projects. Those who have participated will tell you that.

“Rotary isn’t just getting together for breakfast, lunch, or dinner,” said Guity Javid, co-chair of the trips. “It’s helping those in need and making a difference in someone’s life. These trips show Rotary at work and what we’re all about. I love it!”

What specific tasks will Rotarians do in Colombia? “For the first part of this adventure,” said Guity, “we go to Bucaramanga on March 21, where we will do six projects. Four are global grant projects, three concern water and sanitation, and one is organic farming.

“For our second hands-on experience, we’ll fly to Bogota on March 26, where we will do seven projects, which include 1) water and sanitation, 2) malaria diagnosis and prevention, 3) technology training and audiovisual equipment, and 4) Operation Smile.

How were these projects selected? “All these projects were presented to us by Colombian Rotary Clubs,” said Guity. “Need assessments were done by local people, and our goal is to meet the health, socio-economic, and educational needs of the local communities.”

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“There is an urgent need,” emphasized Guity’s co-chair, Mark Ameli, “to provide safe drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene. The provision of public health services in impoverished and indigenous communities is practically nonexistent or has been severely affected by guerilla warfare and heavy rains.”

Why Columbia? With a population of 47 million, it is the third most populous country in Latin America, and its economy is the fifth largest in Latin America.

The country is often characterized by its ethnic and geographic diversity, but wealth is unevenly distributed across the population. As a result, many Colombians continue to be affected by poverty, discrimination, and inequality. In fact, about half the population lives under the poverty line.

In rural villages access to food and medicines have been blocked by years of warfare, leading to increasing malnutrition. Other key concerns are the risks of disease outbreaks from contaminated water and poor sanitation.

“As a female,” Guity said, “I love to help women and children advance in their lives, professionally and personally, through education, good nutrition, and technical training. We do all of that in our projects.

“It is wonderful to be able to give back to those in need and pay it forward,” she continued. “This to me is the greatest satisfaction, to see how we as a district/community can make a difference in other people’s lives and give them hope.”



Humanitarian Trip Co-Chairs Guity Javidi and Mark Ameli

Guity and Mark are members of the Rancho Park Rotary Club. Guity, a Rotarian since 1991 (more than 26 years!), proudly says, “My father was a Rotarian in Iran, so I was raised in a Rotary family. My daughter is a member of the Beverly Hills Club, and she will join us in Columbia. I love Rotary, as it fulfills my passion of helping make the world a better place by doing good deeds and making a difference in someone’s life.”

Mark is a past president of the Rancho Park Club and a former president of the Iranian American Lawyers Association. “In July of 2017,” he said, “I assumed the position of adjunct professor of law at University of West Los Angeles, so Guity has done most of the heavy lifting for this project.”

Mark added that, “Guity had similar projects two years ago, in Guatemala. It’s life changing for the participants. Seeing what Rotary does throughout the world will make one a proud Rotarian.”

It won’t be all about hands-on humanitarian projects for Rotary participants, however. Also scheduled

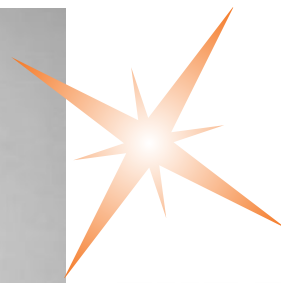
are tours of cities and cultural and historic sites, and some fun, too.

How safe is the countryside? According to Guity, “We don’t have any safety concerns. However, travelers must be vigilant and mindful of their surroundings no matter where they visit. ★





Bill and Ruth Frank at UCLA.



THE FIGHT TO ERADICATE POLIO HAS A SAN FERNANDO VALLEY CONNECTION: DR. BILL FRANK

DR. BILL FRANK, AN ICONIC HUMANITARIAN, philanthropist, educator, dentist, and Rotarian, passed away in 2010. Bill was president of the Greater Van Nuys Club and served as District Governor in 1973–74 in District 5260. However, his greatest legacy was being a national and international coordinator for Rotary International's "Polio Plus" campaign to eradicate polio worldwide.

Bill's fight against polio was highly personal because his wife, Ruth, suffered from the debilitating disease. She spent two years in an isolation unit at UCLA Hospital, and the staff always wore "protective gowns." Although Ruth was never placed in an iron lung, the fever and pain of the disease were real, and hung on. However, she was finally released from the hospital when the fever abated and she was no longer considered contagious.

By 1952, their family was back together again, and Rotary became a big part of Bill's life. In 1953, Dr. Jonas Salk, who had been working on an injectable polio vaccine, released it to the public. This was the beginning of relief for Ruth and others in the United States who were suffering from the disease. In 1961, Dr. Albert Sabin developed an oral polio vaccine.

Both doctors' greatest legacies were their decisions to offer their vaccines as gifts to the world. The men did not take out patents on the drugs, and they were made available at low cost.

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Bill Frank's greatest legacy was being a national and international coordinator for Rotary International's "Polio Plus" campaign to eradicate polio worldwide.

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Bill and Ruth attended the 1985 Rotary International Convention in Kansas City, where they heard Dr. Sabin speak about his work and the scourge of polio that still affected so many in the developing world. He challenged Rotary to take on the project of eliminating polio from the world. According to Ruth, she heard someone in the audience yell back, "WE ACCEPT YOUR CHALLENGE!!"

Rotary International picked up the mantle, and the quest to eradicate polio began.

FOR FUNDRAISING PURPOSES, the world was divided into seven regions. Bill received a call from RI requesting that he chair the region for the United States. Although he had promised Ruth he would take on no other volunteer commitments when he retired, when Bill hung up the phone, he told Ruth, "I can't say no to that request." So their work immediately began, and they traveled across the country raising funds to fight polio.

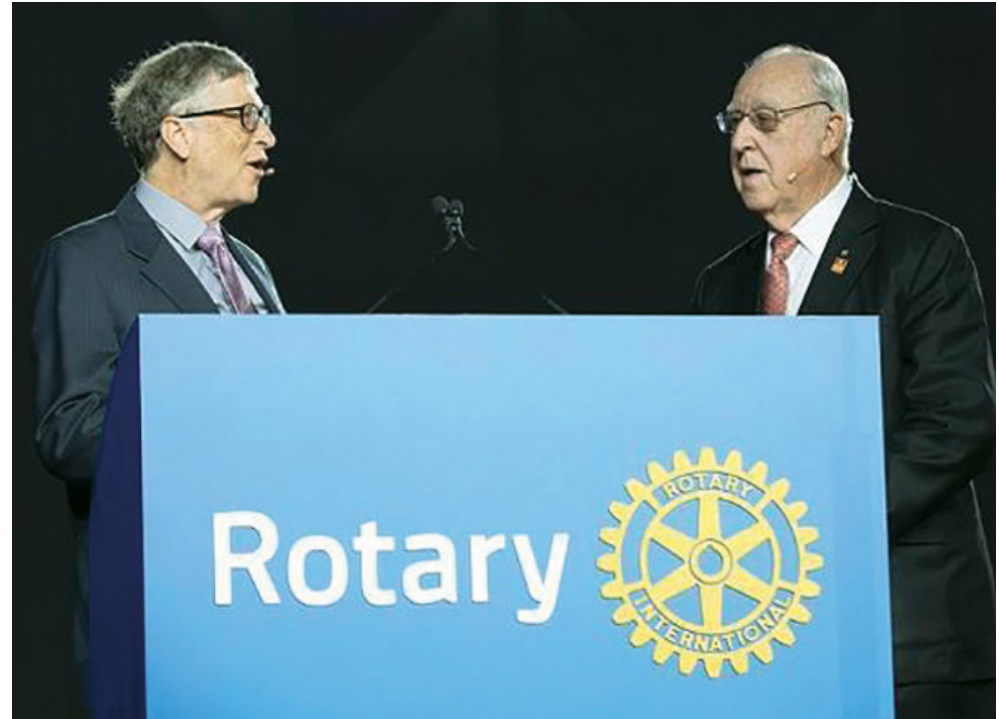
The fundraising goal for the first campaign was \$125 million. At the next Rotary Convention the results were announced region by region, and the U.S. reported last. It was announced that Bill's region had raised more than \$100 million. The final tally was \$140 million. Everyone was thrilled and thought the effort would soon be finished by the new millennium.

It wasn't! In 2007, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation gave a \$100 million challenge grant to the RI Foundation. In 2009, the Gates Foundation increased the amount to \$355 million. At the 2017 RI Convention in Atlanta, the Gates Foundation committed up to an additional \$450 million to support the eradication of polio.

IN THE '90S, THE UNITED NATIONS HONORED ROTARY FOR ITS WORK ON POLIO and Bill was sent on behalf of RI to accept the award. Although, Bill is now gone, Ruth had the pleasure of hearing from the Atlanta Convention that Bill Gates was helping to finish what Bill Frank had started.

"May this nightmare end," Ruth commented. "No longer will anyone in the world be afraid to send their children to a neighborhood Birthday Party!" ★

Bill's fight against polio was highly personal because his wife, Ruth, suffered from the debilitating disease.



2016–17 RI President John F. Germ, right, with philanthropist Bill Gates, co-chairman of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, at the Rotary International Convention in Atlanta, where the Gates Foundation committed additional funds to support the eradication of polio.



Wednesday, November 15, 11:30–1:30
Tickets at rotaryuscuelatailgate.org/purchase-tickets



BRUINS AND TROJANS SQUARE OFF AT ANNUAL TAILGATE LUNCHEON

By Lorine Parks, Senior Correspondent, Downey



THREE ROTARY CLUBS, West Torrance, South Bay Sunrise, and Torrance Del Amo, are again collaborating to present the 9th annual Rotary USC-UCLA Tailgate Luncheon.

"This event has been growing each year and we expect more than 400 attendees," said Marianne Kelchner of the South Bay Sunrise Club. "Proceeds from this event support the athletic programs of the five Torrance public high schools."

Who got the idea, and when? "We were initially inspired by the LA5 Club," Marianne commented. "Since they had done a USC-UCLA Rivalry Luncheon for a number of years. However, for those of us in the South Bay, it's a long trek to downtown LA, and parking is difficult. So, in 2009 Greg Becker, who was president of the West Torrance Club at the time, suggested that we consider doing an event in the South Bay area."

Which of you is USC, which UCLA? "We now have about 10 members on the planning committee who are on both sides of the fence. Both committee member Patricia Rivkin and I are Gauchos, from UC Santa Barbara. My daughter is a USC graduate, so I am partial to USC."

What do you serve? Any unusual dishes? "We have changed the menu from time to time," Marianne explained, "but always kept the 'Tailgate' theme. So, we included hamburgers, hot dogs, brisket, fried chicken, and side dishes like potato salad and coleslaw. The serving has varied from plated to family to buffet. The Torrance Bakery has been making cool cookies for dessert with both the USC and UCLA logos on them. They're very tasty and popular!!"

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Do you limit the number who can come? “We held it at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Torrance and for the first six years, but we outgrew their largest ballroom and had to move to the Marriott Torrance. The only limit is the size of the ballroom and the Marriott can accommodate about 600.”

“ALTHOUGH WE RUN THE EVENT AS AN OFFICIAL ROTARY MEETING of the three clubs with the ringing of the bell, flag salute, invocation, we do not limit attendance to Rotarians,” Marianne said. “It is a great opportunity to invite family, friends and especially, prospective Rotarians to this fun event! In recent years, we have had song girls, pep bands and mascots from both schools. We have also enlisted the local high school bands to play their fight songs.”

“We are always looking for sponsors who want to promote their business through banner displays, program ads, and other branding opportunities,” added Jim Olds of the Torrance Del Amo Club, this year’s committee chair. “There will be a live auction and the proceeds go to the five high school athletic programs. Spread the word, and we’ll see you at the rivalry.”

Tickets are \$50 each and \$500 for a table of 10 and can be purchased at rotaryuscuclatailgate.org/purchase-tickets. ★



Traveler and Bruin Bear mascots come to lunch at Rotary.

Proceeds from this event support the athletic programs of the five Torrance public high schools.

To have known Elmer was to love, admire, and respect him.



PDG ELMER JORDAN PASSED AWAY

THERE IS SO MUCH TO SAY ABOUT PDG ELMER JORDAN, but the words “Rotarian” and “gentleman” are the ones that come to mind first and foremost. To the Calabasas Club, Elmer epitomizes Rotary, always quietly giving advice, but only when asked, and practicing what Rotary stands for in his actions, in his speech, and in all of his behaviors.

The Calabasas Club was most fortunate when Elmer needed to change clubs and he selected Calabasas. He embraced the move into District 5280 and offered his unfailing support and encouragement to the members and always urging “get involved.”

Elmer was born and raised in New York City and before retiring he was the owner of the Elmer R. Jordan Insurance Agency in Westlake Village. He was past president of the San Fernando Valley Agents/ Brokers Association and recipient of the Van Dusen Award, the association’s highest honor for advancing the ideals of the insurance industry.

A ROTARIAN SINCE 1972, Elmer was a past president of the Tarzana-Encino Club and served as

DG in District 5260 in 1983–84. He served two terms as a training leader at the International Assembly and served on the Board of Directors of Rotary International from 1991–93.

Elmer published *Can the Four Way Test Work in Today’s Society* and *Advancing the Object of Rotary*. He represented 17 presidents of Rotary International as their personal representative at District Conferences in Argentina, Canada, the United States, and the Philippines.

ELMER WAS A MAJOR DONOR of the Rotary Foundation and a recipient of the Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service. When he finally had to stop attending Rotary meetings due to ill health he had 44 years of perfect attendance. Elmer was married to his lovely wife, Gloria, for many years, and they were blessed with five children.

A more devoted person to Rotary and a more deserving person of Rotary District 5280 Hall of Fame Award would be hard to find. To have known Elmer was to love, admire, and respect him. ★



Elmer Jordan





Membership Nook:

SPOTLIGHT ON CLUBS' EFFORTS TO INCREASE MEMBERSHIP

By Kathleen Terry (Manhattan Beach), SAG Membership

THERE ARE SO MANY INNOVATIVE EFFORTS that are being conducted in our District to increase membership. Below are a few that I would like to highlight.

Creating a Family Membership. The San Pedro Club changed their bylaws to include a new class of membership, Family. This membership is available for the spouse or domestic partner of a full member of the club. This family member would become a full member of the San Pedro Club but pay dues at 50% of the regular dues set by the club. The family member would only pay for meals at club meetings they attend. The family member would be required to attend mandatory events. The 50% dues will cover the dues that are sent to RI and to the district so the club will not be paying out any additional money for them. What a great way to get more involvement of a spouse or domestic partner in the great things Rotary does.

Developing a New Member and Club Brochure. Masao "Mike" Okamoto (Little Tokyo) created a membership booklet that is given to all new members, which explains everything they need to

know about their club. Ben Aranda (Historic Filipino) town also crafted a brochure for his club.

If you would like to create either of these for your club, contact Kathleen at terrymanna2@gmail.com for a template.

Bringing a Friend to Rotary. Playa Vista Sunrise holds a "Bring a Friend to Rotary" meeting when there is a fifth week in a month. After the meeting there is a wine-and-cheese social to discuss Rotary with prospective members. They also hold a monthly Happy Hour during the winter months to meet potential members and to get to know members outside their normal breakfast meetings.

Sharing Rotary with Non-Rotarians. David Henseler, president of the South Bay Sunrise Club, has been creatively introducing people to Rotary by offering monthly service and networking events, where Rotarians and non-Rotarians interact while doing a service project. There is no selling of Rotary just letting people experience what Rotary does. In September they had the first event for this new South Bay Friends of Rotary group. There were 30 people

who came, and the best part was that there were six non-Rotarians who participated. In addition, a representative from Covenant House talked about the work they do getting homeless young adults (18–25 years old) off the streets. The service project was preparing 108 sack lunches to take back to Covenant House. If you are interested in finding out more about this activity, contact David at dhenseler@socal.rr.com.

If you are doing something innovative or interesting, let me know, so other clubs can benefit. Send your ideas to Terrymanna2@gmail.com, or contact me at 310.545.4046 ★

MEMBERSHIP WORKSHOP
Save the Date!
Saturday, January 27, 2018
in Burbank from 8–11:30 a.m.





*Yahaira Sagastume and Luis Ramirez
from the Hawthorne-Lennox Rotaractors*

PROMOTING ROTARACT IN THE COMMUNITY

On Saturday, September 23, the Hawthorne-Lennox Rotaract Club participated in the 22nd Annual Lennox Family Festival, staffing a booth for kids that included face-painting, coloring activities, and giveaways. The Hawthorne-Lennox Rotaract Club loves participating in events like this to make their club's presence known in the community. They wore Rotary swag and talked to people at the festival about the importance of Rotaract and their efforts to support the community.

District Youth Conference for Interact Members:

LEADERSHIP, EVENT PLANNING, AND PREPARING AGENDAS

By Sarah Furie (San Fernando Valley Rotaract), District Rotaract Executive Aide

AS ROTARACTORS we are passionate about youth. Some of us in the District were involved in Interact when we were in high school (some not so long ago), and we like working with District 5280 Interactors.

It was great to see so many Rotaractors, Rotary Young Professionals, Rotarians, leaders and mentors at the District 5280 Youth Conference on Sunday, October 15. This conference was a one-day event, where Interactors from around the District learned about leadership, public speaking, and transitioning from Interact to Rotaract. This was, of course, all made possible by donations from Rotary Clubs that sponsored their Interactors' attendance. Some Interact advisors and liaisons were present to show their support.

The keynote speaker was the executive director of LEAP Foundation, Charlie Gallagher. He gave an inspiring and motivational talk on leadership, goals, and going outside of our comfort zones. He challenged us to do at least one thing we feared each week. *Yikes!*

What was great for the Interactors was to learn that if they keep working hard in school and doing good work in the community through Rotary, they can



Keynote speaker Charlie Gallagher is flanked by Jamie Kim, District Interact Representative, left, and Christopher Reyes, District Rotaract Representative.

continue on to be good Rotaractors and then lifelong philanthropists when they join Rotary.

Most speakers and break-out session leaders were young professionals, and this allowed them to better relate to the students. The Interactors asked many questions about preparing agendas, event planning, making decisions about colleges, and career choices.

Thank you to everyone who made this event possible and who continue to support District youth programs and activities. ★



THE ROTARY CLUB OF WESTCHESTER

cordially invites you to the

**FINAL 2017-18 GOVERNOR VISIT
AT THE GOVERNOR'S HOME CLUB**

NOV 15 2017

NOON-1:30

Crowne Plaza LAX Hotel Restaurant

5985 W. Century Blvd., Los Angeles

COST | \$27 (PAY CASH OR CHECK AT THE DOOR)

RSVP | OFFICE@ROTARY5280.ORG

PROGRAM (IN LIEU OF GOVERNOR'S SPEECH):

SHUTTLES WILL DEPART THE HOTEL AT 12:40 FOR A ONE-MILE RIDE TO WESTCHESTER VILLAGE.
WESTCHESTER ROTARY CLOCK DEDICATION IN HONOR OF ROTARIAN HOWARD DROLLINGER AT 1 O'CLOCK.
SHUTTLES WILL DEPART AT 1:20 TO RETURN TO CROWNE PLAZA LAX BY 1:30

Make a Dream Come True!  **NOVEMBER 2017**



INFORMATION MEETING ABOUT BEING A DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Would you like to get information about what the governor job entails? Maybe you're considering applying, if not this time, maybe in the future. You and your spouse are invited to an informal discussion with past district governors about things like, what is involved in time, expense, preparation, travels, etc?

A session will be held: Saturday morning, November 18, 2017 at DG Cozette Vergari's home in Westchester

Registration: 8:30 Session: 9-10:30 am

RSVP by November 4 to the District Office: 310.670.9792

To Rotary Club Presidents and Rotarians of District 5280

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR DISTRICT GOVERNOR 2020-2021

From Brad Robinson, PDG, Chairman of the Governor Nomination Committee

THIS IS A CALL FOR NOMINATIONS for District Governor for Rotary International District 5280 for the Rotary year 2020-2021. In accordance with the by-laws of Rotary International, a candidate for District Governor must have completed a full term as a Rotary club president and have been a Rotary member in good standing for at least seven years by the time she or he assumes the office as District Governor.

District Governor Candidates must complete an official Governor-Nominee Form and Data Form which has been signed by the candidate's Rotary Club Secretary attesting his/her club membership and that the club suggests the member for the office of District Governor. Further, accompanying the Nominee Forms must be a biography of the candidate's background and qualifications, Rotary positions held, and experience and involvement at the club and district levels.

The biographies should be no more than two pages, single-sided. **Nominee Forms are available at the District office and on the front page (left side) of the District website.**

There is an information meeting on November 18 at 8:30 a.m. (See sidebar.)

The completed nominations form, with biography, must be received no later than DECEMBER 8, 2017 at:

Rotary District 5280 Office
c/o DG Nominating Committee
8939 S. Sepulveda Blvd., Suite 210
Los Angeles, CA 90045

The Governor Nominating Committee will interview qualified candidates on Saturday morning, January 13, 2018, location to be determined. ★

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Rotary District 5280 presents . . .



DISTRICT BREAKFAST | NOVEMBER 7

A SALUTE TO OUR VETERANS

EVENT DETAILS:

LOCATION

CROWNE PLAZA LAX
5985 W. CENTURY BLVD.
LOS ANGELES 90045

TIME

7:00 CHECK-IN
7:30 PROGRAM

RSVP

OFFICE@ROTARY5280.ORG

310.670.9792

COST

\$38 BY NOVEMBER 1
\$43 AFTER NOVEMBER 1

PAYMENT

CHECKS PAYABLE TO
ROTARY DISTRICT 5280

MAIL TO:

8939 S. SEPULVEDA BLVD., #210
LOS ANGELES CA 90045

CAMP PENDLETON DONATIONS

PLEASE BRING DONATIONS FOR
THE ROTARY WARRIOR WAREHOUSE:

CHILDREN'S TOYS, BABY ITEMS, AND
GOWNS FOR THE MILITARY WIVES

JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL SALUTE TO THE VETERANS IN OUR ROTARY CLUBS AND ACROSS THE USA

Make a Dream Come True!  NOVEMBER 2017



01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28





The Calabasas Rotary Club has hosted this special event for 29 years.

Imaginative Club Project

THANKSGIVING FOR 700 SENIORS

By Lorine Parks (Downey), Senior Correspondent

“WE LOVE SHOWCASING THIS EVENT AND IT WARMS OUR HEART,” commented Bette Hall of the Calabasas Club. For 10 years she chaired the Thanksgiving for San Fernando Valley Seniors at Sagebrush Cantina. “It is our signature project, and this is the 29th year of serving the dinner.”

When the Calabasas Club was formed in 1988, its members decided they wanted to host this special meal, and they reached out to a Calabasas stalwart, the Sagebrush Cantina, and its owner, the late Bob McCord, who helped start the event. This year more than 700 seniors are expected, and at least 150 volunteers will help prep and serve the dinner. “Our seniors look forward to it now,” commented Bette. “We’re already getting reservation requests.”

Why just seniors? “Because this is a day of family and joy,” said Bette, “and so very often our seniors find themselves alone, without family, and it can be a very depressing day!

This way they spend the day in the company of others and have a great meal, enjoy entertainment and dancing, along with service that comes with warm and friendly smiles!”

“The Rotary Club volunteers are oh-so-friendly,” said Bobbie Powell, who comes with other —continues

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—continues

“Volunteers from all over the Valley come out in droves to serve our seniors. In fact, it has become such a popular event we are now having to restrict the number of volunteers.”

—Bette Hall,
Calabasas



Seniors enjoy a great meal, entertainment, and fellowship.

seniors from Owensmouth Garden in Woodland Hills. “It’s so nice for senior citizens to get together here with other seniors. It is just like a homecoming. We say, we’ll meet again, God willing, next year. And we’re sitting out here in the sunshine. Where else can you do that except California at Thanksgiving?”

HOW DOES THE CLUB FIND THESE LONELY SENIORS? “We reach out to all the senior centers in the west San Fernando Valley,” Bette said, “senior apartments, and living centers, to the local HUD housing complexes. Also, now we get a wheelchair-accessible bus so that those who are wheelchair bound and previously always homebound on this holiday are also included.

Los Angeles City Council Members Mitchell Englander and Bob Blumenfield each provide a bus, and Rotary provides additional transportation, so that a total of five to seven buses bring seniors from around the Valley to the Sagebrush Cantina.

This project is imaginative, not just in scope, but in the way it draws so many volunteers and co-sponsors.

HOW YOU INVOLVE OTHER VALLEY GROUPS?

“Turkeys are all provided by a company that found out about our project,” said Bette, “and every year the general manager contacts the Sagebrush, asks what they need, and delivers the turkeys. The stuffing, rolls, vegetables, cranberry sauce, gravy—all parts of this delicious Thanksgiving feast—are donated by Sagebrush Cantina suppliers!”

“The Sagebrush people and the staff are our partners in this event and donate their time. They cook the meal to perfection, arriving in the wee hours of the morning to make sure this is all done!” Bette added. “The dessert, which of course is pumpkin pie with a dollop of whipped cream, is provided by St. Bernardine’s of Sienna Church in Woodland Hills. The congregation loves to do this community service and we always end up with more pies than we can possibly use, but that is their part and they thoroughly enjoy doing it!”

“VOLUNTEERS FROM ALL OVER THE VALLEY come out in droves to serve our seniors,” Bette said. “In fact, it has become such a popular event we are now having to restrict the

—continues



—continues



Arriving seniors are greeted by members of a scout troop.

number of volunteers, most of whom are Rotarians or Interactors, as we were overflowing! We cut back from more than 200 to about 150. We have whole families serving lunch to our honored guest. My grandsons, along with other young people, spend their time serving the dinner and visiting with our guests. They all enjoy doing this. Members from our club cut up the pumpkin pies, plate the salads and meal, and of course, socialize with the seniors.

“The doors open at 11:30, but seniors start arriving at 10 to make sure they get a seat! They are so eager.”

Bus after bus rolls in, and out climb our guests. They are greeted by members of a Brownie or Boy

Scout troop, all waving signs and saying “Happy Thanksgiving!”

“Along with the dinner comes entertainment by a band of seniors. They play inside the restaurant. This year we adding a band of young musicians who will be playing to guests seated outside.

“OUR ‘PARENT’ CLUB, WOODLAND HILLS, IS A BIG PART OF THE EVENT, both as volunteers and as a sponsor,” said Sally. “City Councils are involved and Silverado Senior Living Center provides treats for guests to take home.”

“Volunteers are exhausted at the end of the day,” says Bette. “But we have a feeling of tremendous satisfaction that we could make this holiday special for so many.

“You ask if it changes much from year to year,” Bette said. “Not really, it just gets better! You see our newer members having their “Rotary Moment” as the seniors thank them and express their joy at having somewhere to go on a holiday, where they would otherwise have been sitting home alone.”

“THIS IS ONE OF THE MOST HEARTWARMING EVENTS THAT ANYONE CAN ATTEND and a lesson to us all not to neglect our seniors. Too often our focus is on other segments of our community and there is such a huge need at our doorsteps. The reward far outweighs the hard work with the smiles and thank yous! We all have an amazing day—a day when we all can give THANKS!” ★

“You see our newer members having their ‘Rotary Moment’ as the seniors thank them and express their joy at having somewhere to go on a holiday, where they would otherwise have been sitting home alone.”

—Bette Hall,
Calabasas

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Matt Kinley, a former **Downey** Rotarian who is now a member of the Long Beach Club, shared with his former club members how life has been over the last 19 years with a son who has Duchenne muscular dystrophy.



Where's Charlie Brown? There were 34,460 pounds of pumpkins at the **Wilshire Club's** Pumpkin Patch!

—continues





Co-founders of Operation Smile, Dr. Bill and Kathy Magee, were the speakers at the **Historic Filipinotown Club**. Pictured from the left are PDG DJ Sun, John Mina, the Magees, and PDG Elsa and Larry Gillham.



Violinist Vijay Gupta, who has an interest in neurobiology and mental health issues, has become a world-renowned advocate for the redemptive and regenerative power of music. Gupta, who spoke at the **Beverly Hills Club**, is flanked above by President Myra Luri, left, and Sandy Pressman.



The **San Pedro Club's** newest member is Aaron Saliba, second from left. PDG Rick Mendoza, second from right, inducted Aaron. Looking on are President Pete Mokler, far left, and Helene Pizzini, who sponsored Aaron.





The **Westchester Club** had fun on their Mystery Trip to the Old Town Music Hall in El Segundo. Proceeds from the event were donated to the Westchester YMCA Youth and Government program.

New Name for a Seasoned Club

The **Lomita-Torrance Airport Club** has officially changed its name to the **West Torrance Club**. ★

OTHER DISTRICT NEWS



Leaders Brunch. The second Club Presidents and District Leaders Brunch was held at the historic Alex Theater in Glendale. The theatre opened as a Vaudeville house and movie palace in 1925. The theatre was renovated 2014. ★

Make a Dream Come True! ★ NOVEMBER 2017





MAKE A DREAM COME TRUE

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