



# Inspiration

District 5280  
Newsletter  
Volume 2  
September 2018



Rotary District 5280  
Beach Party & Cardboard Boat Race



It's the night before and each child has their clothes laid out. For several days prior, the question was, "what should I wear?" Mom and Dad have taken them shopping for clothes to wear for their return back to school. The anticipation is building. It is morning and they scramble to dress and be ready. Lunch boxes are prepared. And off they go in tow with Mom and Dad to their first day of the school year. This is as much a tradition as apple pie and baseball.

Everyone recognizes the importance of education and literacy. Recent studies reveal 36 million adults struggle with low literacy. That's one in every six adults in the United States. But, in a recent public opinion poll, 70% of respondents claim they do not personally know someone with low literacy. In reality, they probably do. Adult literacy has an awareness issue.

This month Rotary International brings attention to education and literacy. Supporting education is one of Rotary's six areas of focus. How can you help? Club members can pair with young students for

mentorship. Members can go to the local library and read stories to children. We can share our knowledge and experience with educators and other professionals who work with vulnerable communities. Rotarians can combat adult literacy by collaborating with local advocates to offer community literacy programs. And there is so much more we can do.

Once there was a man born in the early 1900's. In the remote ranchlands there was not a school or teachers. He grew up functionally illiterate. Later in years whenever a document had to be signed by him, he usually placed an "x" on the line and asked a family member to sign his name for him. This because he believed his writing skills were poorly unacceptable. I remember signing his name on the line with an "x". He was my father.

Together, we can empower and inspire others of all ages, to learn. Be the inspiration.

*Joe*

# Rotary District 5280 Beach Party & Cardboard Boat Race



Rotarian Cindy Williams, Social Media Co-Chair Rotaractor Christopher Reyes, Governor Joe Vasquez, District Rotaract Representative Sarah Furie, SAG Youth Service Laine Caspi and San Fernando Valley Rotaract President David Ventura



Gwen Vuchsas, **Playa Venice**, won the chili Judges' Award and the People's Choice Award! Must have been great!

Over 500 Rotarians, Rotaractors, Interactors, Youth Act member, family and friends attended this year's District Beach Party & Cardboard Boat Race at the Seaside Lagoon in Redondo Beach. Once again many of our clubs came through with fabulous food! **Koreatown** provided 70 pounds of Korean BBQ and Kimchee, **Filipinotown** provided a delicious Lechon (roast pig), **Rio Hondo/Vernon** secured a donation of 400 hot dogs! **Playa Venice Sunrise** has become known for the beautiful and delicious dessert display! Other clubs that provided either food or funds to this year's picnic are: **Bellflower, Carson/Gardena/Dominguez, Compton, Downey, El Segundo, Glendale Sunrise, Historic Filipinotown, Latinos Unidos, Lawndale, Redondo Beach, Rio Hondo Vernon, South Bay Sunrise, Southwest LA, Thai Town, Torrance/Del Amo, Westchester, Wilshire and Woodland Hills**. Thanks to all of you. A special thank you to **Crenshaw Park Hills Heights** and **Westwood Village** for their generous donations that allowed all youth to attend for free!

Past District Governor Chuck Anderson ran a great Cardboard Boat Race with 15 boats competing. This event gives us lots of laughs. The winner the **Rotary Club of Downey's Dunkin Downey**. Congratulations! The Purple Punt Boat from **Glendale Sunrise** finished second and **Latinos Unidos Culver City High Interact** came in third! It's a lot of work to build these boats and we appreciate all of you who participate!

The Chili Competition, under the great leadership of Tom Quintana who has run this contest for 6 years, was fantastic! We had eight entries, the competition was fierce and all of the chilies were delicious! This year **Playa Venice Sunrise** swept both of the awards winning the Judges' Trophy and the People's Choice Award. I hear Gwen Vuchsas has only made this chili 3 times and it was always for contests. She has won every one of them! Congratulations, Gwen!

# Rotary District 5280 Beach Party & Cardboard Boat Race



The Cardboard Boat Race was won by the **Rotary Club of Downey**, second place went to **Glendale Sunrise** and third was **Latinos Unidos** and **Culver City High Interact Club**.

Dan Medina once again rocked us with great music. Thank you Dan for donating your time and talent to our event year after year! Thanks also to Jody Leventhal from Hermosa Beach. She helped in many ways and secured the wine donation from Uncorked, Hermosa Beach. Thank you to our generous District Governor Joe Vasquez who is not only a great DG, but he donated all of the beer!

We ended the evening with a great Karaoke competition. Congratulations to Hope (I wish I knew more about her) who took home the trophy!

We could not pull this event off without our Interact and Rotaract volunteers. They help in so many ways, you guys ROCK! The BIGGEST THANK YOU goes to everyone who attended and enjoyed the evening. That's why we do this!

There are many great photos of the event. Go to [www.facebook.com/groups/RotaryDistrict5280/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/RotaryDistrict5280/) or [www.gphoto.smugmug.com](http://www.gphoto.smugmug.com).

Beach Party Chair  
Wendy Clifford  
and  
Rozangela Vasquez



# Congratulations!



Rotaractors Bailey Ann Duarte, Eugenia Huang, Sho Chawla and Veerali Juthani. Rotarians Rica Viola and Cindy Williams

## Rotaractors to Attend International Assembly

2019-20 RI President Mark Maloney, for the first time in Rotary International and Rotaract history, is inviting a select group of Rotaractors to attend the International Assembly from 16-18 January 2019 in San Diego, CA, USA!

In addition to participating in sessions with governors-elect, they will also have the chance to talk about new ways to collaborate with Rotary members and strategies for leading their fellow Rotaractors.

Over 1,600 Rotaractors applied for this one-of-a-kind opportunity. District 5280's own Sarah Furie was selected for one of only 60 Rotaractors invited to attend. This is a enormous honor and great opportunity for Sarah. Congratulations!

Rotary International President Barry Rassin wants Rotaractors to join him in Hamburg, and make this year the biggest Rotaract Preconvention in history!

Click on the outstanding Rotaract RI website <https://www.rotary.org/en/get-involved/rotaract-clubs> and the excellent Rotaract District website at [rotaractla.org](http://rotaractla.org). See the RI President and the President Elect on [www.youtube.com/watch?v=1UYXXA7GmRM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1UYXXA7GmRM).



### District Rotaract Board:

Kiko Ruby Lin, Public Relations; Judy Kim, Community Service;  
Christopher Reyes, Secretary; Gabe Biren, Treasurer;  
Sarah Furie, District Rotaract Representative;  
Ben Shea, Executive Aide and Eugenia Huang, Special Events Coordinator



# September is Basic Education Rotary and Literacy Month



More than 775 million people over the age of 15 are illiterate. That's 17 percent of the world's adult population.

The goal of Rotary with literacy one of the Six Areas of Focus is to support basic education and literacy, reduce gender disparity in education, and increase adult literacy. We support education for all children and literacy for children and adults. Help empower educators to inspire learning at all ages.

Rotary Clubs throughout District 5280 donate books, dictionaries to schools and children. Several clubs participate in reading to children programs.

RI covers the basics of this Area



## Presidents' Fellowship

Join your fellow club presidents for a morning of breakfast, classic cars and Rotary fun!

Enjoy breakfast and an exclusive tour of the Nethercutt Museum, one of America's top five automotive museums!

Share your club's successes and get answers to your questions. Bring your event flyers to share with other clubs! Collaborate on projects with your fellow clubs.

The date is Saturday, October 6, 7:00 am – 12 noon.

Cost is \$40/per person. Includes breakfast and a tour of the Nethercutt Museum.

Register and pay at the online link on this page.

### First Stop: Odyssey Restaurant (7:00am-9:15am)

15600 Odyssey Dr., Granada Hills, CA 91344

### Second Stop: The Nethercutt Museum (9:45am-12:00pm)

Museum parking lot: 15151 Bledsoe Dr., Sylmar, CA 91342

Museum tour: 15200 Bledsoe Dr., Sylmar, CA 91342

Contact Presidents' Fellowship Chair Scott Pafford

scottgsr1@gmail.com or 818-625-8971

## Connect, Partner, and Serve Through Rotary

September 18—Literacy Breakfast

September 20—Peace Conference

September 29—Membership Session

September 30—District Community Grant—Applications Due

October 6—Presidents' Fellowship

October 24—World Polio Day

October 27—Camp Pendleton Halloween Festival and Collection Delivery

October 30—District Breakfast

November 3—Foundation Celebration ([link](#))

November 17—Membership Session

And more to come! Details about these events will be communicated through the District Newsletter (emailed to every Rotarian) the Weekly News (emailed to every Rotarian), the District Website ([rotary5280.org](http://rotary5280.org)), the District Facebook Page ([facebook.com/RotaryDistrict5280/](https://facebook.com/RotaryDistrict5280/)) and the District Facebook Group Page ([facebook.com/groups/RotaryDistrict5280/](https://facebook.com/groups/RotaryDistrict5280/))

Use the hashtags: [#wearerotary](#) [#betheinspiration](#)

Send articles and pictures to  
District Newsletter Editor  
Carmela Raack, [carmraack@aol.com](mailto:carmraack@aol.com)

## Erase Hate, Foster Acceptance Promotion Chair Jewel Price

It was exactly 20 years ago this year, that the world learned of the brutal death of a University of Wyoming student Matthew “Matt” Shepard.

Lured by two men, Matt was taken to an isolated pasture, tied to a fence, tortured, beaten and left for dead.

Simply because he was gay.

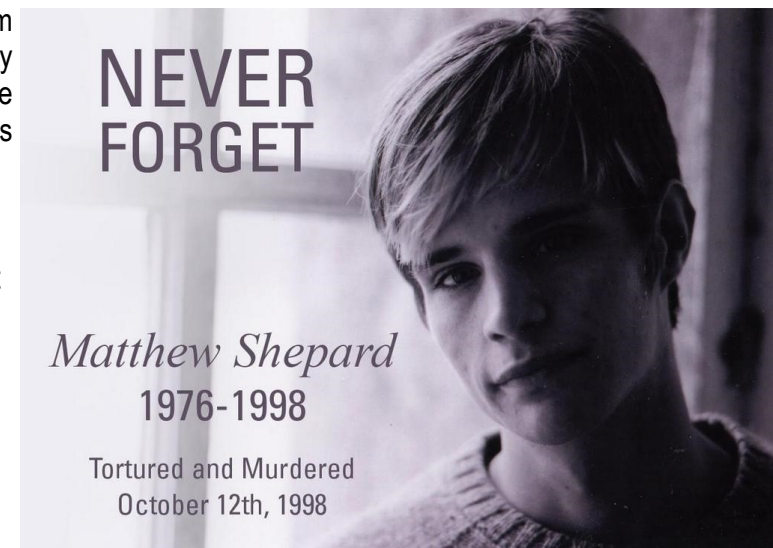
This unthinkable tragedy began a worldwide dialogue about hate, hatred against any community, for any reason. Sadly, it is a conversation that continues to this day.

On what would have been Matt’s 42nd birthday, December 1, his Mother, Judy, will be the feature speaker and facilitator as we learn how we can take away hate.

You will leave this forum with action items that you can put into place, immediately by yourself or with your club that will serve to reduce incidences of hate in your community.

This is the first program from your District Rotary Foundation Team. We hope you will attend this incredible event.

**Erase Hate**  
Saturday, December 1st  
Loyola Marymount  
University  
9:30AM-1:30PM  
Lunch provided  
Further details to come





**All aboard! "Service on the Rotary Express!"  
34th Annual Foundation Celebration**

Information on [rotary5280.org](http://rotary5280.org):

Celebration Flyer  
 Drawing Tickets Instructions  
 Multiple Donor Form for Drawing Tickets  
 Program Ad Examples

Program Ad Sponsorship Form  
 What to Wear  
 Parking Guide

The Foundation Celebration is more than a dinner party it is the District 5280 way of raising contributions for The Rotary Foundation. These funds support The Rotary Foundation providing such projects as Polio Eradication, Rotary Global Scholars and Global Grants for join projects in our community and throughout the world.

There are several ways to support the event and The Rotary Foundation. One way is to attend and enjoy! Another way is to donate an item for the Opportunity Drawing. Foundation Credits will be given to the donor or the donating club. The third is the easiest of all! The Drawing Tickets contain 12 drawing opportunities. Buy or sell 10 of the tickets for \$10 each and the 2 extra are yours as a bonus. You could be a winner!

Please make checks to The Rotary Foundation along with your drawing stubs. Payment may be made by credit card directly to The Rotary Foundation, [rotary.org](http://rotary.org).

One of the goals of The Rotary Foundation is a \$100 donation with "Every Member, Every Year," District 5280 encourages \$250. District leaders make it more fun and interesting by offering the opportunity to win prizes to go along with our donations and to enjoy a great social evening!



Foundation Celebration Co-Chairs  
 Olivia Ryans, [olivia5280@att.net](mailto:olivia5280@att.net) and Kelly Spirer, [kbspirer@me.com](mailto:kbspirer@me.com)



# It's All About the Clubs!



**Carson-Gardena-Dominguez**



**Wilshire**



**Carson-Gardena-Dominguez**

Rotary Clubs help children and families get ready for school. **Carson Gardena Dominguez, El Segundo, Latinos Unidos and Wilshire Rotary Clubs** stuff backpacks with school supplies. **Downey** donated backpacks to Downey TCL along with \$1,000 for the program.



**El Segundo**



**Wilshire**

# Rotary in the News and on the Cover!



Henry Tseng has been a member of **Westwood Village** Rotary for more than 40 years. At 111 years of age, Henry is one of the oldest people in the world. An active member of the Collins & Katz Family YMCA, he rides a recumbent bike for 30 minutes every day! He attends an adult fitness class at 6:30 am three times a week.

Henry was in a LA Times article September 1. One of his secrets to longevity is to smile every day and to never worry. He says the older a person gets the more they need to move their body.

With the support of Rotary, he helped found the YMCA's P.L.U.S.S. Program for people with Parkinson's Disease.



**Playa Venice Sunrise Rotary** serves food at National Night Out. Several Rotary Clubs throughout the district including **Culver City** and **Downey** participate in the event. The national event is the first Tuesday of August helps to build friendship, positive relationships and a great event for communities.

**Rancho Park Rotary Club President**  
Mehrnoush Yazdanyar  
on the cover and with a story.



**Malibu Rotary Club President**  
Bianca Torrence  
on the cover and with a story.





**CALLING ALL  
PRESIDENTS & YOUTH CHAIRS!**

**EVERYTHING YOU WANTED  
TO KNOW ABOUT YOUTH PROGRAMS BUT  
WERE AFRAID TO ASK**

**Learn more about RYLA, scholarships, youth  
protection, Interact, Rotaract,  
Youth Exchange & more!**



# THE 1ST ANNUAL YOUTH ASSEMBLY



**SEPTEMBER 15, 2018**

**8:00AM-12:00PM**

**PALS Center**

**8721 Wilbur Ave., Northridge**

**Register: [www.rotary5280.org](http://www.rotary5280.org)**

*WE PROMISE DONUTS,  
COFFEE, GAMES & FUN!*



## **Youth Assembly for Rotarians**

**SAG Youth Service Laine Capsi**

Calling all Club Presidents and Youth Chairs! You're invited to the 1st Annual Youth Assembly. Learn more about RYLA, scholarships, youth protection, Interact, Rotaract, Youth Exchange and more! We promise donuts, coffee, games and fun!

This event is **NOT** for youth members. It is intended for Rotarians only (Rotary Club Presidents, youth advisors, and anyone interested in youth programs)

This event is free, but please register online so we can get an accurate count of attendees.

Register on [rotary5280.org](http://rotary5280.org).

## **Youth Conference**

**October 14**

Dana Middle School

5504 W. 135th St.

Hawthorne, CA 90250

United States

Are you an Interactor interested in leadership development, eager to learn more about Rotary and make new friends? You're invited to Rotary District 5280's Youth Conference!

Cost: \$20/person by October 1, 2018

\$25/after October 1 or at the door

Register on [rotary5280.org](http://rotary5280.org).

# Literacy Breakfast



Literacy Breakfast Chair  
Judy Delavigne

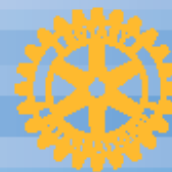
"Words are, in my not-so-humble opinion, our most inexhaustible source of magic." - J.K. Rowling

Plan to attend the Rotary District 5280's Annual Literacy Breakfast with International Peace Educator and Author, Paul K. Chappell, who will be speaking on "Peace Literacy: The Future of Peace in the Classroom and the Community".

The event will be held at the famed Lawry's - The Prime Rib in Beverly Hills on Tuesday, September 18th from 7:00 – 9:00 am. The public is welcome. Registration is required. Register on [Rotary5280.org](http://Rotary5280.org).

Questions? Contact Literacy Breakfast chair Judy Delavigne at [judith.delavigne@lmu.edu](mailto:judith.delavigne@lmu.edu)

# Rotary



Rotary District 5280's Annual

# Literacy BREAKFAST

"Peace Literacy:

The Future of Peace in the Classroom and the Community"

**Tuesday  
Sept 18**

**7 - 9 am**

**Lawry's The Prime Rib  
100 N. La Cienega Blvd.  
Beverly Hills**

**\$10/person**

Rotarian early registration until  
September 1; open registration to the  
public from September 1-11.

Contact information:  
Judy Delavigne  
[judith.delavigne@lmu.edu](mailto:judith.delavigne@lmu.edu)



**KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Paul K. Chappell**  
International Peace Educator, Speaker, and Author

Paul has authored six books and serves as the Peace Literacy Director for the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation. He is a West Point graduate, former army captain and Iraq War veteran. Paul grew up in a violent household and struggled with trauma throughout his school years. He created Peace Literacy to help all students and adults work towards their full potential and a more peaceful world.

**RSVP at:**  
**[www.rotary5280.org](http://www.rotary5280.org)**



## Peace in the South Bay

International Peace Day Celebration is September 20. Rotarian Peace Conversation Facilitator graduates and Mediators Beyond Borders will enhance dialogue for Rotarians and non-Rotarians. Register on [rotary5280.org](http://rotary5280.org).

A recent partnership Rotary and Mediators Beyond Borders International (MBBI) aims to bring community-based solutions to prevent conflict in more communities. Rotary has worked with MBBI – an impact organization founded on the principle of people-centered peacebuilding – since 2013 to advance the common goals for peace. This new, partnership will enable Rotary members to train with MBBI to sharpen their mediation, dialogue and other conflict transformation skills.

For more information, contact Past District Governor Vicki Radel at [drvictoriaradel@cs.com](mailto:drvictoriaradel@cs.com).



# PEACE IN THE SOUTH BAY

## 09.20.18

### INTERNATIONAL PEACE DAY INTER-FAITH CELEBRATION

"Is religion a pathway or an obstacle to peace?"

6:00-9:00PM

Hermosa Beach Community Theater  
710 Pier Ave., Hermosa Beach, CA 90254

### FEATURING:

Dr. Reinhard Krauss



Moderator  
U.S. Congress Award Winner  
Executive Director- Academy  
for Judaic, Christian, and  
Islamic Studies

Rabbi Leah Lewis



Temple Menorah

Imam Jihad Saafir



Islah Los Angeles

Buddhist Patti Heckman



Soka Gakkai Int'l

Father Paul Gawlowski



Our Lady of Guadalupe

**REGISTRATION:**  
\$25 | IN ADVANCE  
\$35 | AT THE DOOR  
\$12 | STUDENTS  
**REFRESHMENTS  
INCLUDED**

**SIGN UP:**  
[www.rotary5280.org](http://www.rotary5280.org)

**FOR MORE INFO:**  
[wilsonsuni@aol.com](mailto:wilsonsuni@aol.com)  
[pgross@wradvisors.com](mailto:pgross@wradvisors.com)  
[drvictoriaradel@cs.com](mailto:drvictoriaradel@cs.com)

Rotarian "Peace Conversation Facilitator" graduates and MBBI (Mediators Beyond Borders Int'l) will enhance dialogue for Rotarians and non-Rotarians.

# Membership Workshop



Interesting! Inspiring! Interactive! Fun!

Join the first of four Membership Sessions across District 5280!

Create the best Rotary Brand experience to improve your club culture and retention!

Cost is \$25. Sign up online today! RSVP by September 17.



## FIRST MEMBERSHIP WORKSHOP

### CREATING THE BEST ROTARY BRAND EXPERIENCE TO IMPROVE CLUB CULTURE AND RETENTION

**SEPT. 29**

Glendale Fire Department  
421 Oak St.  
Glendale

REGISTRATION:  
8:00AM  
PROGRAM  
8:30AM-12PM

**\$25**

RSVP  
BY Sept. 17

## INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP?

LEARN HOW TO RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS AND RETAIN THE ONES YOU HAVE.

ASSESS THE HEALTH OF YOUR CLUB.

DISCOVER WHAT CONTRIBUTES TO YOUR CLUB'S ROTARY IMAGE IN THE COMMUNITY.

... [WWW.ROTARY5280.ORG](http://WWW.ROTARY5280.ORG)



SAG Membership  
Kathleen Terry

The Membership Team



Peter Smyth



Susan Griego



Bob Kelchner



Helene Pizzini



Brady Connell



Sally Goya

Rotary



## CAMP PENDLETON HALLOWEEN FESTIVAL



SATURDAY

OCTOBER 27, 2018

11:00AM - 2:00PM

Play games, decorate pumpkins, serve lunch  
Donate baby and children's items, toys and  
more for the Rotary Warrior Warehouse

To volunteer, to donate or with questions:

Marie Fremd, [marie.fremd@aol.com](mailto:marie.fremd@aol.com), 310-720-0938

Ted Jones, [tedjonesrotary@yahoo.co](mailto:tedjonesrotary@yahoo.co), 310-809-5380

Jim Miceli to donate food for lunch

[jimmiceli@aol.com](mailto:jimmiceli@aol.com), 818-763-5693

Tom Quintana for Rotaract and Interact

[quprs@aol.com](mailto:quprs@aol.com), 310-666-2394

### Halloween Fun with Families at Camp Pendleton

Rotarians, Rotaract and Interact Clubs are invited to help celebration an afternoon with the children at Camp Pendleton. District 5280 has participated with this event for many years.

Along with having a good time donations of baby clothing are delivered to the Rotary Warrior Warehouse.


Many clubs donate to the event. Thank you Wilshire for the pumpkins that the children enjoy. Food for lunch is donated and served by Rotarians. Everything is appreciated.




## Gowns Needed for Marine Birthday Ball

Rotary Warrior Warehouse is in need gowns suitable for a black-tie optional type event for the wives of Marine wives at Camp Pendleton. This annual Marine Birthday Ball is November 11 with Marines in full dress uniforms and wives dressed in their finest.

Gowns and accessories may be donated with the much needed baby items being collected by Rotary Clubs throughout the district. The dresses and accessories may be delivered with the baby items that will be taken to Camp Pendleton on October 28 for the Halloween Festival. Or, dresses may be taken to the District Office. Contact, Marie Fremd, [marie.fremd@aol.com](mailto:marie.fremd@aol.com), 310-720-0938 or Melody St. John, [melodyrchollywood@gmail.com](mailto:melodyrchollywood@gmail.com), 323-459-6148.



Rotary   
District 5280

*The*  
**Marine Corp**  
**Birthday** *Ball*

**Camp Pendleton Wives Need**  
*Evening Gowns, Dressy Attire*  
Donate to the Camp Pendleton Rotary Warrior Warehouse  
Delivered at the Halloween Festival October 27, 2018  
Donated items may be delivered to the District Office or  
Marie Fremd, [marie.fremd@aol.com](mailto:marie.fremd@aol.com), 310-720-0938 or  
Melody St. John, [melodyrchollywood@gmail.com](mailto:melodyrchollywood@gmail.com),  
323-459-6148