

### From the desk of District Governor Susan Valenta

Apríl 2016

Countdown to the Conference!

The plans are completed, and now the 2016 District Conference team is waiting to welcome everyone to the event after over a year of planning under the leadership of 2016 District Conference Chair, Richard Flanders (Rotary Club of Pleasanton North). Richard and his amazing team have worked very hard to make this year's conference fun, entertaining, inspirational, educational, and relevant to Rotarians and prospective members. We have set new records for this conference – at the time of this article being written, over 900 attendees have registered!

For a sneak preview of what is in store, just go to <a href="http://dc.rotarydistrict5170.org">http://dc.rotarydistrict5170.org</a>.

Here are a few FAQs:

What to pack:

During the day, business casual attire. The Saturday dinner event is black-tie optional, business or dressy attire for women. The hotel property has a pool, so, if you are staying overnight, bring a bathing suit. The Iron Horse Biking Trail is a short distance and provides plenty of opportunity for exercise – so bring a comfortable pair of shoes.

Registration:

You may pick up your name badges at the Mt. Diablo Room of San Ramon Marriott from 8:00—10:00 am and 4:00—7:00 pm of April 29,



Friday. You may also proceed directly to the Blackhawk Automotive Museum where registration is from 11:00 am—3:00 pm.

Registration will continue at the Mt. Diablo Room from 7:30 am—7:00 pm on April 30, Saturday and from 8:30—9:30 am on May 1, Sunday.

Directions to the event:

To the Blackhawk Automotive Museum

3700 Blackhawk Plaza Cir, Danville, CA 94506

From the North Bay Area: Take US-101 north to San Francisco. Take Bay Bridge (I-80) east to I-580, then connect to Hwy. 24 heading east toward Walnut Creek. At the Walnut Creek interchange, take I-680 south to Crow Canyon Road exit. Go east (left) on Crow Canyon Road 4.2 miles. Turn right on Camino Tassajara. The first left (at the Century Blackhawk Plaza Theater) is the entrance to Blackhawk Plaza. The

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second right takes you into the closest parking area. The Museum is on the hill behind the Anthropologie Building.

From Oakland Area: Take I-880 south toward San Jose. Just past San Leandro, at Hayward, take Hwy. 238 to connect to I-580 east. Take I-680 north (toward Walnut Creek) at the Dublin / Pleasanton interchange to Crow Canyon Road exit. Go east (right) on Crow Canyon Road 4.2 miles. Turn right on Camino Tassajara. The first left (at the Century Blackhawk Plaza Theater) is the entrance to Blackhawk Plaza. The second right takes you into the closest parking area. The Museum is on the hill behind the Anthropologie Building.

From San Jose Area: Take I-680 north to Crow Canyon Road exit. Go east (right) on Crow Canyon Road 4.2 miles. Turn right on Camino Tassajara. The first left (at the Century Blackhawk Plaza Theater) is the entrance to Blackhawk Plaza. The second right takes you into the closest parking area. The Museum is on the hill behind the Anthropologie Building.

#### To the San Ramon Marriott

2600 Bishop Drive, San Ramon, CA 94538

#### From the North Bay Area:

From San Francisco: Take 101 south to CA -92 E/Hayward and merge onto CA-92E.

Then exit 26a-B for Interstate 880 toward Oakland/San Jose. Take 880 N/Oakland and then take I-238 toward Castro Valley/ Stockton/I-580. Merge onto I-580 east. Then take I-680 north. Continue to Bollinger Canyon Road. Turn left onto Sunset Drive, then left onto Bishop Drive.

From Oakland Area: Take I-80 east to Interstate 580 east. Merge onto CA-24E and follow signs to Walnut Creek/Concord. Merge onto I-680 south. Exit onto Bollinger Canyon Road. Turn left onto Bollinger Canyon Road and then left onto Sunset Drive, and then left onto Bishop Drive.

From San Jose Area: Take 101 north to 680 north. Continue to Bollinger Canyon Road. Turn right onto Bollinger Canyon Road, then turn left onto Sunset Drive, and the left onto Bishop Drive.

Looking forward to seeing you soon!





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## Save The Date—Thursday, June 23—Toast and Toast

The annual Toast and Toast is scheduled for Thursday, June 23, from 5:30 – 8pm at one of the finest horticulture theme parks in the west – Gilroy Gardens! This is an opportunity to say goodbye to soon-to-be PDG Susan Valenta and welcome soon-to-be DG Jeff Orth. For only \$37 per person, guests can tour the park, enjoy a full BBQ meal with hosted beer, wine, and soft drinks, and enjoy a sneak preview of Luminations. Registration is available by going to <a href="https://events.rotarydistrict5170.org">https://events.rotarydistrict5170.org</a>.



# "Like" Rotary District 5170 on Facebook

We share club posts, information from Rotary International, District event information and more on our Facebook page <a href="https://www.facebook.com/">https://www.facebook.com/</a> RotaryDistrict5170.

Go check it out today!

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## The Rotary Foundation Corner

Cecelia Babkirk, District Rotary Foundation Committee Chair

The Rotary year continues its relentless march toward the end - June 30th and so do we.

Lest you think we are coasting to the finish line, think again. The job is never really done AND we are already working on next year.

<u>Following are the current efforts and</u> deadlines:

**April 30 -** DDF Spending Plans and MOUs are due from the President-Elect. All forms and the club DDF Allocations are at rotarydistrict5170.org. You can find them by scrolling down the home page and clicking the link in the right side navigation. Easy peasy, lemon squeezy!

**April 30 -** Goal - complete your club's End Polio Now flash campaign and submit the contributions to The Rotary Foundation.

June 15 - Complete your club's Annual Fund campaign and submit the contributions to The Rotary Foundation. It takes about two weeks for TRF to report, so submitting the contributions by this date will ensure all the funds are reported by June 30th. See more about this campaign later.



<u>Upcoming events and deadlines:</u>

Mid-to-late June - Rotary Foundation
Fund Development Training - open to all
Rotarians, but recommended especially for
the club Foundation Chairs, club
Presidents and Presidents-Elect. Exact
dates, times and locations to be
announced soon. Let's get the Centennial
year of The Rotary Foundation off to a
great start. More about the Centennial in
a future newsletter.

Late July -early August - Foundation Grants Trainings - As always, these trainings will take place in two locations in the northern part and southern part of the district. Dates, times and places to be announced soon.

**October 31 -** Final reports for the 2015-2016 District Grants are due.

#### Other news:

The 2016-2017 Rotary year is also the year of the Centennial of The Rotary Foundation. Expect a lot of news and information to be on the horizon, including how you and your club can celebrate the event!

How you can reach me:
Cecelia Babkirk
rotariancecelia@gmail.com
(408) 242-6286

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## Vocational Service

#### Jim Gibson, District Vocational Service Chair

#### April Greetings to you!

Sometimes we question ourselves, as Vocational Service Chairs, WHAT are we supposed to do in Vocational Services? Some Rotary Clubs have found their way to a "project" or a "service" that helps some individuals or even their community by "using" the talents of their Rotarians in service to others. Some Rotary Clubs aren't sure what to do or how to represent themselves in this *Avenue of Service*.

Since every Rotary Club is unique in size, in location, in their members' expertise and abilities, there can be many opportunities to help/serve others. One small Rotary Club has focused on helping children in their community who are "at risk." Those Rotarians simply wanted to interact with single-parent families by establishing role models for young men in order for them to pursue and realize their dreams rather than joining a gang to feel they "belong." Another Rotary Club wanted to publicly recognize "unsung heroes" (working people) in their community doing an excellent job (teachers, public safety personnel, non-profit personnel, health workers, social workers, etc.) by documenting and lauding their efforts leading to positive results benefitting their community and/or individuals. Larger Clubs have worked with their Chamber of Commerce to encourage local businesses to understand the solid values found in fair business

practices and the adherence to ethical behavior. And speaking of "business," ALL Rotary Clubs regardless of size are encouraged have their members do business with each other if there is any opportunity to do so. Through this practice, we reward each other for being ethical businessmen, fair and honest, and we help make good businesses stronger. Nothing wrong with that! And finally, one Club, twice a month, asks 4 or 5 different members to share with the Club what it is they do (not just a job title or a classification), where they work, what is the best thing they like about what they do, what is their biggest challenge, and what skills would they like to use in service to others through Vocational Services?

There are many ideas and opportunities for us Rotarians to serve through our careers and vocations, but many are not obvious. We can open a dialogue with our Club members to ask how they would like to use their skills and talents in service to others. There should be no pressure for your Club to become the world's Vocational Service gift to humanity... but the hope is that an activity, based on either a Rotarian's career or interest or an observation of another person's or community need will lead to the use of our proven (vocational) abilities to make a situation better. We can't do everything, but we can do something. You might even call it "Service above Self."

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Thank you for all that you do for Rotary. If you can, see if you can focus in on how your Club can serve others through the vocational knowledge and practice your Club holds, and perhaps envision a good activity to reach for. See you at the District Conference!

Be well. Do good work.

Jim

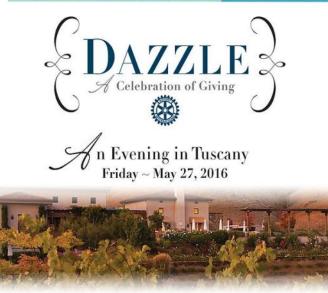
Jim Gibson

District 5170 Vocational Services Chair

H: 408-735-0663 e: jimgib007@aol.com







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## Youth Service

Youth service programs are going well in the District! It is hard to believe there are only 2 and half months remaining in this Rotary year!

Here are updates of the different youth service programs across the district:

#### Interact:

All Rotarians are invited to attend the Interact



Forum at the District Conference on Saturday, April 30. In addition, Interactors from across the District will be performing during the Saturday night Dinner/ Interact had talent show at the Conference.

Upcoming District-wide events include the Incentive Cruise on May 15 and the summer send-off on June 18<sup>th</sup>.

Rotarians and advisors are always welcome to attend Interact area events-check out the calendar of events here: <a href="http://www.rotarydistrict5170.org/">http://www.rotarydistrict5170.org/</a>
SitePage/interact-event-calendar

For more information on these and other district Interact events, please visit the Interact website: <a href="http://www.interact5170.org/">http://www.interact5170.org/</a>

**Speech Contest:** Another successful year for local and area speech contests! The final district-wide contest will take place in the morning of Sunday, May 1 at the Marriott Hotel San Ramon on the last day of the District Conference.



All of the information for the 2015-2016 Rotary year is posted on the district speech contest webpage: <a href="http://www.rotarydistrict5170.org/SitePage/speech-contest">http://www.rotarydistrict5170.org/SitePage/speech-contest</a>

**ELC:** The Enterprise Leadership Conference (ELC) is designed to help develop the leadership and presentation skills of industrious high school juniors through a working introduction to the opportunities, benefits and challenges of establishing and operating a business in the free enterprise system.

The three ELC programs in the South Bay were held in February and March, and the Oakland Enterprise conference was held the weekend of April 15-17---they were all very successful!

Click here to learn more about the ELC programs:

http://www.youthservicesandbeyond.org/
elc/

**RYLA:** The Camper Registration link for Camp RYLA 2016 has been emailed to all clubs/email contacts that had originally RSVP'd for spots. Please note all completed applications are due April 30.

More information can be found at the RYLA website: <a href="http://ryla5170.com/">http://ryla5170.com/</a>



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#### Youth Exchange:

The district Youth Exchange program not only *changes the lives* of the students, host families, and natural families but most importantly, these students are ambassadors for Rotary and the Youth Exchange program. Plus, many of the exchange students will eventually become Rotarians. This is sustainable but more importantly, will increase our future Rotary membership world wide.

For more information, please contact Darlene de la Cerna at dmdsc57@gmail.com.

#### **Youth Protection:**

Club leaders are reminded that club youth services certification application needs to be completed at the beginning of each calendar year. Visit this link to see the current status of your club for 2016: <a href="http://yex.rotary5170.org/ave\_youth/CCAList.asp">http://yex.rotary5170.org/ave\_youth/CCAList.asp</a>

It is highly encouraged that all Rotarians take the online youth protection awareness training course. It can be accessed at this link: <a href="http://yex.rotary5170.org/ave\_youth/">http://yex.rotary5170.org/ave\_youth/</a>
YPATraining.asp

All Rotarians with extensive involvement with youth need to complete a more detailed process, including reference checks and LiveScan fingerprint submission. Further information can be found on the youth protection website: <a href="http://www.rotarydistrict5170.org/SitePage/youth-protection-1">http://www.rotarydistrict5170.org/SitePage/youth-protection-1</a>

### **Rotary District 5170**

#### 2015-2016 Officers:

District Governor: Susan Valenta District Governor Elect: Jeff Orth

District Governor Nominee: Orrin Mahoney Lieutenant Governor, AOS: Phil Dean Lieutenant Governor, AG's: Larry Barr

Governor's Partner: Tom Valenta

District Treasurer: Lorna Padia Markus

District Administrator: Olivia Poe

#### **Assistant Governors:**

Area 1: Joe Goralka

Area 2: Brian Schott

Area 3: Daren Young

Area 4: Julie Lewis

Area 5: Stewart Cusimano

Area 6: Gregg Giusiana

Area 7: Cheryl Rebottaro

Area 8: Sue McSorley

Area 9: Steve Ross

#### **District Chairs:**

Club Service: Larry Dean

Community Service: Charlene McIntyre
International Service: Jeboy Koshy
Vocational Service: Jim Gibson
Youth Service: Margarethe Pfeffer
Membership: DGN Orrin Mahoney

The Rotary Foundation: Cecelia Babkirk

Public Image: Deborah Rice
District Trainer: Tim Lundell
Technology: Ross McClenahan
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