

From the desk of District Governor Susan Valenta

June 2016



As my term closes as your 2015/16 District Governor, this last column is one of reflection. Reflection on what was learned, what was gained, and what remains.

What was learned: Realizing the unlimited energy and generosity of our Rotarians and our Rotary clubs. Over this past year, I saw first-hand

our Rotarians sharing their lives with others from feeding the homeless to building lasting legacies within their communities. Beyond our country, Rotarians have traveled thousands of miles with the hand of friendship, the gift of giving, and the heart of service. In reflection, this continues a Rotary movement that has been a major force in our world for 111 years that has created positive change in the human condition.

What was gained: Appreciating the impact that Rotarians make on the local and world stage. The role of the District is solely to be a resource to our clubs, and the commitment of time and knowledge the leadership team has committed over this past year underscored the value of the District's role. The Leadership Team provided training in membership development, public image, foundation, and grant writing. They were always a phone call or email away with instantaneous information. Combined with the leadership of each of our Club Presidents, the organization is an effective collaboration that delivers results with one of the most valuable resource we will always treasure -- volunteers.

What remains: With just a couple weeks remaining, we have the opportunity to celebrate the success of our Rotary clubs at the June 23 Toast and Toast at Gilroy

Gardens. This will be an evening of celebration – with a Toast to our clubs and the accomplishments they have made over this past year. It will also be a Toast to our incoming District Governor, Jeff Orth, and the continued success of Rotary District 5170! And what will remain forever in my heart is the privilege and honor of serving as your District Governor. You are each a Gift to the World.

Quick Updates:

The Rotary Foundation: We are at 98.1% of our District's goal with \$12,660 left to reach 100% by June 30! As an extra incentive for a member to receive their first Paul Harris Fellow, any amount between \$100 and \$500 will be matched with recognition points until June 24, 2016. All that is needed to qualify is to send a copy of the signed 123 Form to: James LeBlanc, District 5170 Annual Fund Chair 2015/2016, 691 Stanfield Drive, Campbell, CA 95008. If you have any questions or need further information, contact James at jamesleblanc1@comcast.net or cell 408-309-3086.

Toast and Toast: There is still time to register for an evening of fun, fellowship and celebration at Gilroy Gardens Theme Park on Thursday, June 23, from 5:30 – 8pm. Enjoy a full BBQ, hosted wine, beer, and soft drinks, a special gift from the Gilroy Welcome Center, a sneak preview of Lumination – all for \$37 per person. Simply reserve by clicking http://events.rotarydistrict5170.org.





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Vocational Service

Jim Gibson, District Vocational Service Chair email— jimgib007@aol.com



Some last thoughts for this Rotary year...

Congratulations to all District 5170 Rotary Club leaders! This was a great year! And congratulations to our District Governor Susan Valenta who has guided us with a powerful vision for making our Rotary Clubs better and becoming... a gift to our communities and

to the world. And a sincere "Thank you!" to Governor Susan for her strong support for the Vocational Services Avenue of Service. Many of the Avenues of Service reach out to help youth, or any one person or group of people in our community, and we also reach out to other societies and countries to assist them in some meaningful way. Yes, all noble endeavors. Yes, Rotarians are indeed a gift to the world. But one unique feature of Vocational Services is... we Rotarians are allowed to help each other! By doing business with a Rotarian, we can help his/her business grow, and we can rest assured we are dealing with an honest, reputable person. In an unabashed way, we can be a gift to another Rotarian! And why shouldn't we celebrate this wonderful gift to ourselves? It is the truth... It is fair to all concerned... It does build goodwill and better friendships... It is beneficial to all concerned... So, these ideas and concepts actually lead individual Rotary Clubs to grow into a powerful, cohesive, strong, ethical organization by keeping a strong Vocational Services frame of mind.

As your District *Vocational Services* Chair, I enjoyed interacting with many Rotary Clubs over the past year. It was very enjoyable since every Rotary Club is unique-- in size, in location, in what interested their members, in leadership, in the communities their members live and work in, in their members' skills and talents and careers (and many other unique characteristics)-- so learning about Rotary Club's Vocational Service programs and their projects showed a lot of variety. And that's OK for each Club to express their "uniqueness!" Some Clubs weren't

sure what to do with the Vocational path of the Avenues of Service, so we talked and looked at various ideas and numerous ways those Clubs could confidently embrace *Vocational Services* and truly be a gift to their community as well as each other. And from Rotarians using their work and career knowledge to help on projects and assist individuals, the act of a Vocational Service has made a positive difference in people's lives. You did good things. And for that effort of yours, I would say that your "Service Above Self" ennobles the entire Rotary organization around the world. Thank you for your caring and concern and willingness to share your talents.

From the beauty of poetry comes an insight into "Work." Below, please find an excerpt from "The Prophet" by Kahlil Gibran.

Then a ploughman said, Speak to us of Work. And he answered, saying:

You work that you may keep pace with the earth and the soul of the earth.

For to be idle is to become a stranger unto the seasons, and to step out of life's procession, that marches in majesty and proud submission towards the infinite.

When you work you are a flute through whose heart the whispering of the hours turns to music.

Which of you would be a reed, dumb and silent, When all else sings together in unison?

Always you have been told that work is a curse and labor a misfortune.

But I say to you that when you work you fulfill a part of earth's furthest dream, assigned to you when the dream was born,

And in keeping yourself with labor you are in truth loving life,

And to love life's labor is to be intimate with life's innermost secret.

But if in your pain you would call birth an affliction and the support of the flesh a curse written upon your brow, than I answer that naught but the sweat of your brow shall wash away that which is written,

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You have been told that life is darkness, and in your weariness you echo what was said by the weary.

And I say that life is indeed a darkness save when there is urge.

And all urge is blind save when there is knowledge, And all knowledge is vain save when there is work, And all work is empty save when there is love; And when you work with love you bind yourself to yourself, and to one another, and to God.

And what is it to work with love?

It is to weave the cloth with threads drawn from your own heart, even as if your beloved were to wear that cloth.

It is to build a house with affection, even as if your beloved were to dwell in that house.

It is to sow seeds with tenderness and reap the harvest with joy, even as if your beloved were to eat the fruit.

It is to charge all things you fashion with a breath of your own spirit,

And to know that all the blessed dead are standing about you and watching.

Often have I heard you say, as if speaking in sleep,

"He who works in marble, and finds the shape
of his own soul in the stone,
is nobler that he who ploughs the soil.

And he who seizes the rainbow to lay it on a
cloth in the likeness of man, is more
than he who makes the sandals for our feet."

But I say, not in sleep but in the over- wakefulness of noontide,
that the wind speaks not more sweetly to the giant oaks
than to the least of all the blades of grass.
And he alone is great who turns the voice
of the wind into a song made sweeter by
his own loving.

Work is love made visible

And if you cannot work with love but only with distaste, it is better that you should leave your work and sit at the gate of the temple and take alms of those who work with joy.

For if you bake bread with indifference you bake a bitter bread that feeds but half man's hunger And if you grudge the crushing of the grapes, your grudge distills a poison in the wine And if you sing though as angels, and love not the singing, you muffle man's ears to the voices of the day and the voices of the night.

Kahlil Gibran's book, published in 1923 is especially relevant and helpful for us today and is a wonderful gift for yourself or a loved one... "The Prophet"

Thank you again for the honor of serving you as your District Vocational Services Chair this past Rotary year. Hopefully our "work" is something we "get to do," and not something we "have to do." If you need some kind of business service or product, check your Rotary Club first for a source for it, and if unable to find it in your Club, go to the Rotary District 5170 Yellow Pages (found at our District Web Page: http://www.rotarydistrict5170.org/).

Be well. Do good work. Have a great summer!

Jim Gibson

... and a little extra...

A Rotarian appeared before St. Peter at the Pearly Gates.

"Have you ever done anything of particular merit?" St. Peter asked.

"Well, I can think of one thing," the Rotarian offered. "Once, on a trip to the Black Hills out in South Dakota, I came upon a gang of bikers, who were threatening a young woman. I directed them to leave her alone, but they wouldn't listen. So, I approached the largest and most heavily tattooed biker and smacked him in his face, kicked his bike over, ripped out his nose ring, and threw it on the ground. I yelled, "Now, back off!! Or I'll kick the crap out of all of you!"

St. Peter was impressed, "When did this happen?"

"Just a couple minutes ago..."



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The Rotary Foundation Corner

Cecelia Babkirk, District Rotary Foundation Committee Chair email— rotariancecelia@gmail.com

The Rotary Foundation Corner

The 2015-2016 Rotary year is nearly over and we are looking forward to the 100th anniversary of The Rotary Foundation in 2016-2017. It will be a big year.

But before we say goodbye to this year, a snapshot of where we are, as of June 19:

	<u>Goal</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>% Goal</u>
Annual Fund	\$671,420	\$658,760	98.11%
Polio Plus	\$ 49,450	\$177,784 WO	W! 359.5%

Governor Susan and the Rotary Foundation Committee team are working to exceed the Annual Fund goal and we think we can do it. For clubs which have not yet achieved their club goal and which might be holding checks, please be sure to mail them by June 24, so they will be posted in this year. We know that a number of clubs are making a last minute push to bring their giving to their goal. The Flash Polio Campaign (complete with the Campaign Kit) was a wild success and we look forward to repeating it with even greater success next year. Thanks to all Rotarians who rose to the cause and contributed \$30 or more to rocket our total contributions to polio.

For your information, every penny of those contributions end up being matched so that the \$177,784 raised will become **\$800,028** available for use in the eradication effort.

WE WANT TO HELP YOU! HERE'S HOW:

For any member in the district which has not achieved their first Paul Harris recognition level (\$1,000), we will match every dollar contributed 1 to 1 with recognition points, up to \$500!

Example:

Total needed for Paul Harris Fellow	\$1,000
Total contribution to date	\$ 700
Shortfall	\$ 300

Make a \$150 contribution and the club or district will match it with 150 recognition points and you will achieve your Paul Harris Fellow designation.

The contribution must be made by June 24 – see Susan's message for details.

This has been a great and challenging year and I look forward to serving in 2016-2017. Let's make it a great 100th Anniversary year!

Warm Rotary Regards, Cecelia



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ROTARY FOUNDATION FUND DEVELOPMENT TRAINING

When: August 6, 2016, Saturday

Time: 8:30 am to 12:00 nn

Where: Location to be announced

Topics:

The Rotary Foundation 100th Anniversary Activities; How to Strategically Set Club Goals and Motivate Members to Give; Everything You Need to Know about Annual Fund, Polio Plus, Endowment/ Major Gifts; Recognition Levels; Rotary Direct; How to Support The Rotary Foundation Using Other Peoples' Money (OPM) and much more!

Who Should Attend?

Club Foundation Chairs, Club Presidents, all interested members

For more information and to RSVP, contact:

Jim LeBlanc jamesleblanc1@comcast.net 408-309-3086 or Olivia Poe admin@rotarydistrict5170.org 408-273-4577

ROTARY FOUNDATION **GRANTS TRAINING**

When: August 20, 2016, Saturday

Time: 8:30 am to 12:00 nn

Where: AdMail

31640 Hayman Street Hayward, CA 94544

Topics:

The Basics of District Designated Funds (DDF); How to Write a District or Global Grant; What Projects are Eligible; Sustainability; Where to Get Funds if You Need Them; Accessing Corporate Foundations for Funding; How to Use Video to Raise Money for Projects; and much more...

This is a mandatory training - any club wishing to do a Rotary Foundation Grant must send a representative.

Who Should Attend?

Club Representative, Project Initiators/ Implementers, Foundation Chair, Avenues of Service Chairs, any interested Rotarian

For more information, contact: Lorena Tuohey Ituohey@comcast.net 408-578-4091

Olivia Poe

admin@rotarydistrict5170.org

408-273-4577

LEARN HOW TO RAISE FUNDS FOR YOUR CLUB PROJECTS USING VIDEO

We are seeking Rotarians who are genuinely interested, coachable, willing to stick with training and apply any learning until it is mastered. Must have basic video/internet/computer skills and be long-term serious.

Training will be provided to those who have what it takes!

For more information, contact Cecelia Babkirk, rotariancecelia@gmail.com / 408-242-6286 or Olivia Poe, admin@rotarydistrict5170.org / 408-273-4577.

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Youth Service

Youth service programs in District 5170 had a successful year, touching the lives of thousands of young people. We were truly a "Gift to the World" by sharing our talents with the youth and young adults of our District. We had a team of dedicated Rotarians who provided great programs and great experiences for young people. These include:

Our youth service team for the 2015-2016 Rotary Year

Margarethe Pfeffer	District Youth Service Chair
Darlene de la Cerna	District Youth Exchange Chair
Janel Alimboyoguen	Rotaract Governor
Ben Macatangay	District RYLA Chair
Jenn Chang	Camp RYLA Director
Marco Renella	District Speech Contest Chair
Arley Marley	District ELC Chair
Scot Smithee	District Youth Protection Officer
Bob Goetsch	Children at Risk
Michelle Lewis	District Interact Chair
Stacy Phan	Interact Governor
Cara Nguyen	Interact Lt Governor
Chris Miller	Youth Services Communication Lead

Special thank you to all of the district youth service chairs and club youth service chairs for their support of everything they do throughout the year!

Here is a snapshot of the 2015-2016 year in numbers:

7,000 Active Interactors

4,300 participants at Interact Fall Leadership Conference (FLC)

300 Enterprise Leadership Conference attendees

210 Campers at RLYA

185 Attendees at Interact President Winter's Retreat

209 Attendees at New President Meeting

187 Speech Contest Participants

5 Youth Exchange inbound participants







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RYLA 2016 is quickly approaching! This year, camp will be held June 26-July 1, 2016, with an expected attendance of 210 campers. Additional information can be found on the RYLA website: http://ryla5170.com/ Please contact Ben Macatangay at benedictomacatangay@gmail.com for additional information.



ROTARY YELLOW PAGES

About seven years ago District 5170 started providing Yellow Pages on our Rotary District website. The objective was to give our Rotarians the capability of listing their businesses so fellow District Rotary members would have a place to look up services they may need. What a great way to communicate our vocation!

We encourage you to list your company and services. You may even consider adding this information to your club website or newsletter.

Remember, the Yellow Page listing is completely free!

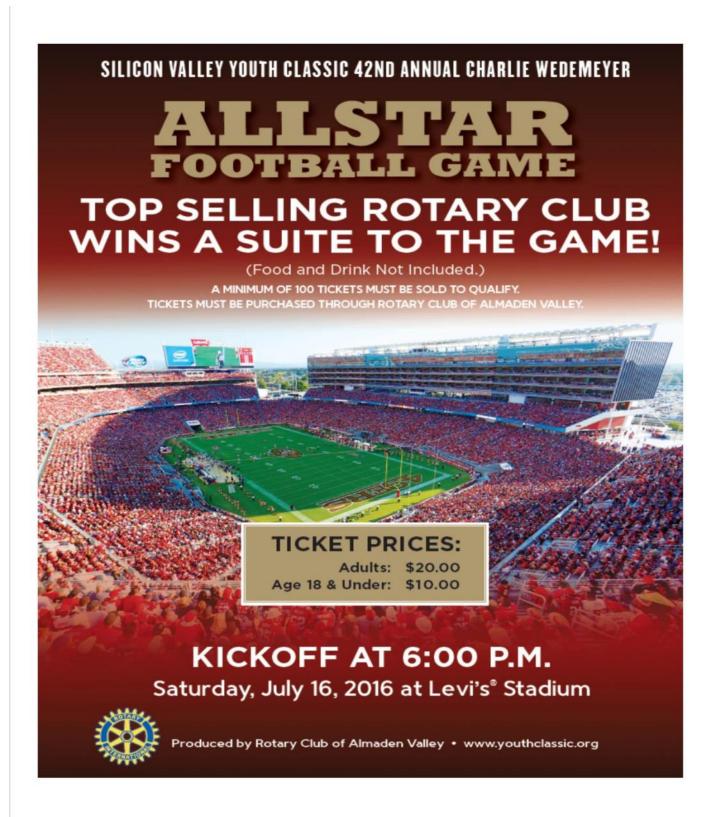
You simply go to <u>rotarydistrict5170.org</u> and at the top of the home page you will see the Yellow Page link. Just click on Yellow Pages... it's pretty self-explanatory and very easy to add a listing. Plus it's FREE.

If you have any questions, please contact Gary Citti at garycitti@cittisflorist.com or call 408-371-9600 ext 2.

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Club Events

Click on event flyers to be taken to the Club websites for more information



Club Events

Click on event flyers to be taken to the Club websites for more information



Fiesta Los Bravos

Celebrating COANIQUEM'S Brave Children & Families

Presented by the COANIQUEM Burned Children Foundation

Where

Rhythmix Cultural Works 2513 Blanding Ave Alameda, CA 94501



Enjoy Chilean style appetizers and wines from Veramonte!

Live Auction and other fun!

When

Sunday - September 11, 2016
3:00p.m. - 6:00 -p.m.
Tickets: \$75 per person
Live Auction!
Video & Live Entertainment

Join us in celebrating another year of success!

vist our website: www.burnedchildren.org for more information





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Rotary District 5170

2015-2016 Officers:

District Governor: Susan Valenta District Governor Elect: Jeff Orth

District Governor Nominee: Orrin Mahoney

District Governor Nominee Designate: Tim Lundell

Lieutenant Governor, AOS: Phil Dean Lieutenant Governor, AG's: Larry Barr Governor's Partner: Tom Valenta District Treasurer: Lorna Padia Markus

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

The District Office is located at 2570 N. First Street, San Jose, CA 95131.

www.rotarydistrict5170.org | Phone: (408) 273-4577 | Email: admin@rotarydistrict5170.org

To highlight your club projects and events in the District newsletter, please email the information to admin@rotarydistrict5170.org by the 10th of each month.



Please help the District Office share the most accurate information. Update your information now on ClubRunner.

https://portal.clubrunner.ca/50083/ User/Login

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Go check it out today!