From the Governor

Welcome to the 2016-17 Rotary year! I feel honored to be serving as your 2016-17 District Governor and look forward to getting to know you better and seeing firsthand some of our clubs’ great projects and fun activities. While I know that I cannot see everything and be everywhere, I’m excited about the opportunities I will have to attend your fundraisers and celebrations when I can.

This year we want to provide opportunities for everyone in the family to be involved in Rotary starting with a district-wide picnic on Sunday afternoon, August 21, in Discovery Park. Fun and fellowship are the focus for the afternoon for the entire family. We’ll have a bounce house for the kids, volleyball for those who crave activity, and plenty of shade for those who just want to sit and talk. Bob Mutchler will be there with his “band of doctors” to provide the music, and those who wish can show their appreciation by making a contribution to the PolioPlus effort. This is also an excellent opportunity to introduce prospective members to the family of Rotary so think about those in your circle of friends that you might invite.

You can find out more about opportunities for young people of all ages by attending the 2nd Annual Youth Summit on July 30. Registration is free and open right now on the district website so plan to join us.

There’s more ahead so watch the website and your monthly newsletter and make sure you don’t miss something. Let’s have a great year!

Most of you know that we lost one of our recent leaders on June 23. PDG Bill Short served this district in many capacities, none more important than his year as District Governor in 2013-14. You can read more about his life and accomplishments on the District 5180 website, but I wanted to share a memory with you that illustrated another of Bill’s talents—his writing ability. Most of us knew Bill as an attorney, but prior to passing the bar, he was a newspaper reporter. In fact, he was slated to be the editor of this year’s district newsletter.

When Bill made his rounds and visited his clubs, he asked his AGs to introduce him. To do that task, he gave us his own version of his bio which I liked so much that I read it as it was given to me. I want to share it with you again now as we remember Bill and celebrate his life.
Bill Short: “I’m Proud to be a Rotarian!”

Our District Governor, Bill Short, was born and raised in the suburbs of Los Angeles. Most of his schooling was in Beverly Hills, where he was actually kicked out of Beverly Hills High School in his senior year for fighting.

It was a knockout punch a couple years later that started Bill’s newspaper career. While he didn’t participate in that fight, it was a project in his night photography lab at Pasadena Junior College. He had enough money for only five sheets of film with flashbulbs. He went to a Golden Gloves boxing match with the school’s 4-by-5 Speed Graphic camera. He came back with a lucky picture of an uppercut landing on the other guy’s chin.

When the black and white image in the darkroom showed the knockout punch, the professor sent Bill and his still dripping wet negative to meet her boyfriend, who was the night editor at the Pasadena Star-News Independent. The newspaper paid Bill $5, a byline, and all the film and flashbulbs he wanted. He became a small businessman that night, soon owned his own Speed Graphic camera, and was turning an easy $25 a week with byline photos on free film.

Bill was a photo-journalist over the next 20 years for several newspapers, plus television and radio. During that time he also built a radio station in Hawaii, went back to school, and became a Deputy Sheriff in Modesto. That in turn led to law school and Bill spent the next 20 years as a public defender in Butte County, where he still has a greatly reduced private practice.

Bill says the two greatest things in his life were finding Alma and Rotary. Bill and Alma have been happily married nearly 20 years. Bill joined the Oroville Sunrise Rotary Club in 1997, served on various committees and the Board of Directors. His club named him Rotarian of The Year and Quiet Rotarian at different times. He was President in 2001-2002.

At District level, Bill served on the GSE Committee, was Community Service Chair, a presenter at numerous District Assemblies, served as an Area Rep for Literacy, chaired a District Assembly and Mid-Year Retreat committee, and was an Assistant Governor for five years. He says the best things he did in Rotary were helping start his club’s Interact Club at Oroville High School and spending a week as counselor at the RYLA Camp in 2012.

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**Newsletter Submission**

*Power Forward* is being produced to highlight some of the great projects and activities put together by the Rotary clubs and committees in District 5180. All clubs and committees are welcome to submit articles to the interim editor Jim Tracy at [james.tracy09@comcast.net](mailto:james.tracy09@comcast.net). The deadline for submission of articles is the 24th of the month preceding publication, and pictures that illustrate the article add interest and are always welcome. A limited number of flyers may be included at the end of each newsletter.
Rotarians Help Rotarians

Arden-Arcade Rotarian Gary Johnson of Zoom Imaging Solutions, Inc., recently addressed the Pocket/Greenhaven Club on a subject that has been a source of great success for him -- fundraising. A long-time Rotarian, he transferred to Arden-Arcade in 1990 and became president in 1999. He has chaired the Food & Wine Gala and the Horsepower & Hold ‘Em Events that have grossed over $650,000. Gary indicates that to be a successful fundraiser you need both passion and partners.

In addition, Arden-Arcade has the Peterson Cup, a golf tournament, plus minor fundraisers like the Christmas Party 50/50 Raffle, the Kitchen Dinner, a Club Dinner/Auction & Treasure Hunt, and the weekly raffle. The Horsepower & Hold’Em event was developed from Gary’s love of Texas Hold ‘Em poker. He has utilized the Capital Casino to run the gaming as well as the Von Housen Mercedes Benz garage. In 2011, the net was $35,000 and it increased to $74,500 in 2016. Gary advised the Pocket/Greenhaven members to find their passion, test the idea, run the numbers, and find a partner to develop fundraisers on a larger scale.

Giving Thanks to Fair Oaks and Point West

Our district’s Rotarians are involved in many projects both locally and internationally, and we don’t hear about many of these efforts. The letter that follows came to the Rotary Club of Fair Oaks from a grateful Rotary Club for theirs and well as Point West’s help with a project. Thank you to these Rotarians as well as all of you who travel to other countries to make life a little brighter for those less fortunate.

I wanted to take a moment to acknowledge the great work that three members of the Fair Oaks Rotary Club performed for our community in the East Cape of Baja Sur.

Last weekend, Karen Romines and Jim and Diana Cralle helped paint one of the Alburgues in San Antonio, a small community north of our town. As well, they all helped our club distribute water filters to rural rancheros in our area.

In total, we had over 30 Rotarians representing Rotary Clubs from Truckee, Nevada City, Point West and Fair Oaks travel to BCS. We were able to develop great friendship. At the same time, we created some wonderful Rotary moments.

You may be proud of your District club members.

In Rotary Service,

Chris Geyer
President, Club Rotario
Los Barriles Cabo de Este
Lunar Lunacy

Light up the night and light up foster kids’ lives and the lives of other local kids in need at the 3rd Annual Lunar Lunacy Ride on Saturday, July 23, 2016. Rotary Club of Point West-Sacramento presents this FUN ride. The charity partner is CASA-Sacramento. Honorary Chair of this year’s ride is Assemblyman Kevin McCarty who serves on the California State Assembly’s Select Committee on Foster Care.

Experience our city in the moonlight at Sacramento’s only moonlight family friendly ride with live music, food trucks and lots of fun. It’s a leisure ride, not a race!

The course will be closed (no traffic). Meander in the moonlight past iconic Sacramento sites like the Capitol, Tower Bridge, Crocker Art Museum and along the Sacramento River. It’s a ride, not a race!

New for 2016 - Presidential Challenge: Point West President Desiree Wilson challenges other Rotarian Presidents to field a team of riders for Sacramento’s only nighttime ride under a FULL moon that is larger than her “Lunatic Ladies” team which now numbers 12 and continues growing.

Over 40 teams are currently registered, such as Kings Foundation, Team SMUD, River Cats, CASA Warriors, Moonlighting Medics, River Rats and Balanced Body.

Rider fees are just $35 per person, individual or team.

You don’t have to register as a team, but then you miss bragging rights for the next twelve months over Desiree and her club!

If you don’t have a bike, check out the website FAQs (special discount for rental bikes is available).

If you are out of town but want to improve foster kids’ lives, register as a “virtual cyclist” and make a donation of any amount.

We also would love to have additional Rotarians volunteer for this fun event. There are lots of volunteer roles that you can fill, plus still have time to ride.
The Pony Express Rides Again…
the Pony Express Marathon that is!

The Rotary Club of Sacramento hosted the inaugural run of the Pony Express Marathon this past May. For any long term goal, endurance is the key. This is true of running a marathon, ending a disease or improving our community. The event was a great success and we want to thank our members, but also many of the Rotary Clubs around the District who participated, donated or supported the event. Some Clubs gave money, others worked at the event, a few Clubs participated in “Rotary Village” and gained exposure to potential members. Whatever you or your Club did, we appreciate it. Thank you!

This past year the beneficiaries of the Pony Express Marathon included Alpha K9 and Courage World Wide.

Alpha K9 was started by Army veteran, and Purple Heart recipient, Kevin Cameron who recognized the need for service animals for our veterans, first responders and children suffering from traumatic exposures, commonly referred to as PTSD. Kevin provides approximately 200 dogs per year to deserving vets and others, most at no cost.

The other beneficiary of the event, Courage Worldwide, was started by Jenny Williamson to fight human trafficking. This appalling problem is not just overseas, but a very real and large problem in our very own community. Jenny’s organization provides safe homes, medical care and education to boys and girls removed from the sex trade in the greater Sacramento area.

The goal for the Pony Express Marathon this year was to help both Alpha K9 and Courage Worldwide expand and increase their programs to serve more people in need. We did this, and now the District is in the process of considering a major project for Courage to be supported locally and with international funding.

Next year the Rotary Club of Sacramento will again host the Pony Express Marathon on April 30, 2017. We hope the Clubs in the District will again support this event and we look forward to sharing more opportunities with other Clubs to cooperate in this great project.

I look forward to Barbara’s term and hope to provide other Clubs with an opportunity to join us again this coming year. Thank you for participating and getting involved.

David L. Cohen, Past President Rotary Club of Sacramento 2015-2016
Meet Lola Purdy

Lola Purdy is finally getting back into the swing of things. You see, Lola has only been vertical again for the past two weeks after suffering a fractured femur which laid her out for three months, and yes, she did it cleaning up after a club meeting. She says that someone had spilled some oatmeal during breakfast, and her foot found it. Now, back to full strength Lola is looking forward to her first year as the Assistant Governor for Area 3.

A charter member of the Historic Folsom Club, Lola has been a Rotarian for 13 years. The club became a reality when the need arose for another club in Folsom that met at a different time and included more women. As a result, the charter membership was nearly 50% women. To differentiate themselves from the evening club that met in the area, club members decided that they would have “happy dollars” instead of fines because no one wanted fines at 7 am. A friendly banter between the two clubs quickly arose as Historic Folsom members called the evening club the “pre-historic” club and in return were called the “hysterical” club by the evening club because they were always “happy.”

Lola also remembers how green the members of the new club were. No one knew anything about Rotary. When John Messner and Frank Woods, then members of the District 5180 Foundation Committee, visited their club in March to find out why there had been no contributions to the Foundation to date, they all said, “What Foundation?” Once educated, they made their goal by April and have continued to support the Foundation ever since.

Lola served as club president in 2010-11. She’s also served as her club’s Foundation chair, historian, and club information officer, and as Permanent Fund chair for the District. She helped start the club’s foundation and served as its chair and treasurer.

One of her favorite club activities is its annual International Culinary Festival. It grew out of the downturn in the economy when the club’s golf tournament failed to produce the desired results. The club needed to come up with something new, and the Festival was so successful that it has become its biggest fundraiser.

Lola and her husband are a Rotary couple. Gordon’s entrance into Rotary, however, was a little different. At the club’s charter night, Gordon happened to be sitting at a table with three experienced and vocal Rotarians. Lola says that when they found out he wasn’t a Rotarian, he didn’t have a chance. He joined Rotary two weeks later.

Married for 40 years, they met at work at IBM, where in combination, they spent over 50 years of their life and moved around a lot as the job required. Lola has an undergraduate degree in philosophy and psychology and an MBA from UC Irvine. She became a real estate agent eight years ago, and Gordon joined her five years ago. Together they work in the four counties, but she says they are able to serve their clients all over. Describing it, Lola says they “aim for the fairway but play it where it lies.” Because they work for a global company, Coldwell Banker, they are able to help people with their connections throughout the United States and beyond.

Lola and Gordon love to travel, but obviously, those opportunities have been limited recently. Lola adds that she is an avid reader and belongs to three book clubs. The clubs force her out of her comfort zone, and she often ends up reading something she would not have chosen on her own, a feature she has grown to appreciate. Lola has also served on the board of directors for the Folsom Chamber of Commerce and is active in other community and philanthropic activities. Another first will occur for Lola shortly when she serves as a bridesmaid in a club member’s wedding.

Yes, Lola is one busy lady, but her commitment to Rotary is one of the top ones on her list. District 5180 is fortunate to have her as an AG, and we are looking forward to what she will bring to this new role.
Pocket-Greenhaven Loves a Parade!

It’s a grand celebration! Yes, every year the Rotary Club of Pocket-Greenhaven participates in the Fourth of July Parade in Pocket-Greenhaven area of Sacramento. Starting at Lisbon Elementary School, the parade winds its way down Windbridge Drive where it terminates on Pocket Road at Garcia Bend. There various organizations and food vendors have set up booths where fun, food, and information are dispensed. Of course, Pocket Greenhaven uses this event as an opportunity to let people know about their club and introduce themselves to prospective members. Club participation in the event includes Interactors from John F. Kennedy High School as well as friends of the club, and this year the Rotary Club invited DG Barbara to join them in the parade.
Welcome to a new year of saving lives through blood donation. With a blood transfusion happening every two seconds and no artificial substitute in sight, it’s more important than ever to donate blood, or encourage another to donate on your behalf.

Rotary’s District 5180 Blood Drive Challenge has launched! Which Rotary clubs will take home the honors this year? This friendly and meaningful competition is a great way to help your communities. It couldn’t happen at a better time, as the blood supply is being severely stretched this summer, leading to critical public appeals asking people to donate blood soon. Decreased collections and increased patient usage have led to dwindling inventories that have the potential to impact patient care.

A safe and plentiful blood supply is critical to help patients with both emergency and ongoing needs. The need for blood will touch nearly all of us, whether it’s our own need or that of someone we care about — a family member, friend, coworker, neighbor, or maybe even a fellow Rotarian.

Rotarians contributed nearly 1,500 blood and blood component donations last year! With each blood donation potentially helping up to three patients, Rotarian efforts have touched 4,500 individual lives. Thank you for your support. Together, we do save lives.

For Blood Drive Challenge information or to schedule a speaker for your club program, please contact Elaine Rock at 916.453.3792 or elaine.rock@bloodsource.org.

Rotarian blood donors help patients like Michelle reach a healthy future. She received a marrow transplant for aplastic anemia at 5 years old and now enters her junior year of high school. Healthy and strong today, she loves to swim and scuba dive.
At this session, we will discuss:

- Gaining Knowledge
- Available Resources
- Ask Why?
- Are You Ready?
- Building a Strategy
- Alternatives
- Integration
- Review

Where: Faith Presbyterian Church
625 Florin Road, Sacramento, CA

When: August 13, 2016 8am-Noon

Who Should Attend: President, President-Elect, Membership Chair, any member who is interested.

Sign Up At: www.rotary5180.org or www.D5180MembershipSeminar.eventbrite.com
The First Annual D5180

Family Fun Picnic

Sunday, August 21, 2016
11:30 am - 3:30 pm
Discovery Park
in the heart of Sacramento
right off Interstate 5

Food * Fun * Live Music * Bounce House * Games
Family & Friends

Registration Starts July 18 on the District Website

Rotary
2016 Youth Services Summit

July 30th  8:30 AM – Noon

Address: Link Hall, Faith Presbyterian Church
650 Florin Road, Sacramento 95831

Why attend?  Each year, Rotary connects thousands of young people to a global network of friendship, service, and action. As Rotaractors and Interactors, they make a difference in communities at home and abroad. Through Rotary Youth Exchange, they explore new cultures. With Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, participants learn skills that will help them succeed as community leaders. Each year, over 500,000 young people participate in Rotary Youth Service programs worldwide. Through Rotary Foundation grants we can reach the most vulnerable youth and help them to build a better future.

The District 5180 Youth Services Summit includes:

- An outline of our Rotary Youth Programs and Services;
- Personal experiences from Rotarians and Youth Program participants and alumni;
- An exchange of ideas, best practices and lessons learned;
- A description of the roles and resources of the District and Rotary International; and
- Introduction of a proposed District 5180 RI grant to aid those who escape from the horrific life of human trafficking.

Registration is Free
Includes a Continental Breakfast
Register at
http://5180.eventbrite.com