



February 2014



# The LINK

## IMPORTANT DATES

February 8  
*Pre-PETS*  
CSUS

March 6  
*Peace Forum*  
Location: TBD

March 7-9  
*PETS*  
San Jose

March 9-15  
*World Rotaract Week*

March 29  
*District Assembly*  
Inderkum High School

March 30  
*Dinner with RI President*  
**Ron Burton**  
Doubletree Hotel

May 2-4  
*District Conference*  
Silver Legacy Resort  
Reno, NV

June 1-4  
*RI Convention*  
Sydney, Australia

## Happy Birthday, Rotary!

Rotary International has a birthday this month. It turns 109 years old on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Some of its clubs have February birthdays. All turn another year older this year, if not this month. But February seems a good month to reflect on our beginnings.

The oldest club in our district, the Rotary Club of Sacramento, is now 100 years old. Chartered on February 1, 1914. The club is planning a big centennial celebration this coming spring, when they hope to seat as many as a thousand celebrants for dinner.

Our Marysville Rotary Club is the second oldest, chartered April 1, 1920. The Oroville Rotary Club was third, chartered April 11, 1924, and Gridley soon followed, chartered on January 29, 1925. The Lincoln and North Sacramento clubs both received their charter on November 28, 1925.

RI records indicate Roseville was admitted to Rotary March 21, 1938. Fair Oaks chartered on January 29, 1946. Walnut Grove chartered on April 23, 1948, followed by Carmichael on June 10, 1948; West Sacramento on February 28, 1949; Folsom on September 2, 1953; Yuba City on June 7, 1954; Arden Arcade on February 23, 1955; Rancho Cordova on January 27, 1959; Foothill Highlands on March 12, 1959; South Sacramento on March 24, 1959; Orangevale on April 5, 1960; and Elk Grove on April 24, 1962.

That brings us to the two clubs that celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, a good place to stop counting and make my point. Rocklin/Loomis Basin was chartered February 17, 1964, and the Rotary Club of Citrus Heights was admitted May 18, 1964. Twenty-one clubs are listed above, one more than half of our total number of clubs. Happily, today we're signing up some new members who were not yet born 50 years ago.

Alma and I were guests at Rancho Cordova's 54<sup>th</sup> charter night celebration recently. It was a festive event. They proudly recognized a charter member and presented a club-sponsored Paul Harris award to a younger member. They remembered many people and projects of the



*Continued on page 2*



*Celebrating the Teamwork and Accomplishments  
of Rotarians in District 5180*





## DISTRICT 5180

### OFFICERS

*District Governor*

Bill Short

*District Governor-Elect*

Fred Teichert

*District Governor-Nominee*

Glenn Fong

*District Secretary*

Shelton Enochs

*District Treasurer*

Dennis Diver

### ASSISTANT GOVERNORS

*Area 1*

Harrel Wilson

*Area 2*

Brent Hastey

*Area 3*

Bill Tobin

*Area 4*

Walter Dahl

*Area 5*

Mike Reinero

*Area 6*

Judy Foote

*Area 7*

Bill Wittich

*Area 8*

Fred Rowe

*Area 9*

Barbara Tracy

**Continued from page 1**

past. They also awarded a second Paul Harris to a new Rotarian, inducted only 54 weeks ago, who is now dedicated to being part of the Paul Harris Society.

It started me thinking. Not all clubs can possibly have charter members, yet nearly all we saw in official club visits have some really motivated and dedicated members. Our clubs and their service projects outlive us and that's a good thing. I see it as a tribute to the true meaning and core values of Rotary. Our clubs, vintage and new, have done and continue to do so many wonderful things in their own communities and around the world that they remain vital in mission, yet still attractive to new people. So, happy birthday and good job, Rotary!

By the way, here is an opportunity to bring clubs greater pride of achievement and possible new members. Benefit by publicly promoting your people and good works, the life-changing engagements of Rotary, the things we do that grab your heart.

Presenting Rotary achievements in attractive form to a wider public audience is possible. District 5180 maintains an active webpage, a Facebook page, and this monthly newsletter, *The Link*, all with space for new stories and photos. You or your committee can be creative or simply send our editors the "who, what, when, where, and why" behind a snapshot and we'll make it usable, even look good, if possible.

Our role is support for the clubs. My goal is to see that work, but obviously it won't work if you don't help. Send us story lines and photos. I personally have been working to learn videography, hoping to put some interesting, club-promoting video clips online. Old dog, new tricks!

Send us a human-interest story with one or more photos.

Ray Ward has the webpage: [rward@yourlegacybenefits.com](mailto:rward@yourlegacybenefits.com)

PDG Bob Deering does the Facebook page: [bobdeering5180@gmail.com](mailto:bobdeering5180@gmail.com)

DGND Barbara Tracy edits *The Link*: [bjtracy@comcast.net](mailto:bjtracy@comcast.net)



# Up Close and Personal

*Our Facebook page regularly contains feature articles on District 5180 Rotarians who are making a difference in their communities. Rotarians often tell us they read these articles before anything else so we are reprinting them in The Link for those of you who may have missed them. Enjoy!*

## I'm a Rotarian!

He has a megawatt smile, an abundance of energy and a passion for the work of Rotary at home, across the nation and around the world!

When Richie Fernandez was encouraged to be a Rotarian he wasn't certain why, but he explored the Internet until he came upon an opportunity to learn about Rotary through a Group Study Exchange to Austria in 2008. He quickly learned about service above self, caring for people and the work of Rotary. Wanting to be part of it all, Richie was determined to find the Club that would fit his desire for fun, service, community and friendships.

Richie explored one club after another. When visiting the Rotary Club of East Sacramento, one of the members pulled him aside and personally invited him to be a member. "I was honored; I was personally asked. Someone thought I would bring value to the club and to the projects that were important to people in our community and around the world."

Today, Richie is president of the Rotary Club of East Sacramento. The benefits to him and his family are many, including the opportunity to travel to places



*Richie (right) poses with fellow East Sacramento Rotarian and PDG Bob Deering and his wife Chris at the 2013 RI Convention.*

See **FERNANDEZ** on page 7

## ShelterBox is His Passion!

Bill Tobin has joined The Rotary Club of El Dorado Hills in 2004 and hasn't slowed down since. Bill is a club Past President and multiple Paul Harris Fellow, but a variety of roles as a member have given him opportunities to work on projects that make a difference in the lives of people, young and old.

Since the earthquake in Haiti in 2010, Bill has been an avid volunteer ambassador for ShelterBox USA. He has spoken to over 50 Rotary clubs and held fundraisers providing tens of thousands of dollars for the disaster relief organization. He has received two "U.S. President's Volunteer Service Awards" and was named the ShelterBox USA "Ambassador of the Year" for 2013.



*Bill (back, second from right) shows the Boy Scouts how ShelterBox works.*

Married to his high school sweetheart (and fellow Rotarian and Paul Harris Fellow) Sherie for over 30 years, they have two grown boys, and 4 grand puppies.

"Rotary offers so much—amazing opportunities to help humanity; a wonderful network of friends both local and around the globe; and a simple standard to live by, our 4-Way Test. It is a very rewarding and central part of our lives."

For another picture, see **TOBIN** on page 7

## Elk Grove and Laguna Sunrise Step Up to Help “Emancipated Youth”

The Rotary Clubs of Elk Grove and Laguna Sunrise formed a partnership, wrote a matching-funds Rotary District grant and worked together to provide emancipated foster youth who were relocating within the local Elk Grove community with an “Emancipation Basket.” Valued at approximately \$300-350, each “basket” contained basic kitchen appliances and cookware, non-perishable food items, a gift card to a local grocery store for perishable foods, various cleaning and personal hygiene items, and additional miscellaneous items based on individual student need. All items were purchased and stored in the warehouse of Floor to Ceiling, and, on Monday, January 13, Rotary members picked up items to deliver to students.

Elk Grove has one of the highest populations of foster youth in the State of California. Approximately 450-500 foster children are attending school within the Elk Grove Unified School District. As these local youth “emancipate” from the program, they are often forced to begin a life of independence at the young age of 18-19. While the school district assists these newly emancipated foster youth with finding a place to relocate within the community, their new residence comes without furnishings, cookware, utensils, and most other basic living necessities.

Through a needs assessment done with the Elk Grove Unified School District, it was learned that help is needed to provide these basic living



*Members of the Elk Grove and Laguna Sunrise Rotary Clubs pause for a photo while assembling “Emancipation Baskets.”*

essentials. The local Rotary clubs were presented with a list of items students need, and the members took it from there! A Rotary Club member sat with each student and completed an exit interview to determine immediate needs, as well as educational plans, and employment challenges.

Some of the youth being emancipated already have children of their own and, with basic shelter and living



*“Emancipation baskets” contain those basic items needed to stock a new residence.*

necessities in place, the foster youth are able to concentrate on furthering their education, and/or acquiring employment, and raising and nurturing their children. Baby diapers, wipes and children’s books were included in the baskets for youth with children, and club members have donated gently used furniture to keep students from having to sleep on the floor.

Rotarians will check in with the students regularly and will have the opportunity to provide ongoing job-shadowing and career information and can offer counsel on money matters such as balancing a check book and keeping good personal records.

Several members from the Rotary Club of Elk Grove are even opening their places of employment for a Foster Youth Services Job Shadow Day on February 7, 2014. Here, students will spend several hours seeing the kinds of jobs available and the skills and education they will need to be competitive in today’s job market.

For more information or to offer assistance in any way, please contact Millie Brink, President of the Rotary Club of Elk Grove at [tmbrink6@gmail.com](mailto:tmbrink6@gmail.com) or Angela Spease, President of the Laguna Sunrise Rotary Club at [angela.spease@gmail.com](mailto:angela.spease@gmail.com).



# This Arden Arcade Project Has a 48-Year History!

For over 48 years, the Rotary Club of Arden Arcade has been sponsoring the Walter Anderson Memorial Laurel Ruff Holiday Party. The Laurel Ruff Center is a special education school in the San Juan Unified School District.

The event has transformed over the years. Originally a luncheon and a Santa visit put on at the Sacramento Inn where the Laurel Ruff students were bussed and Rotarians mainly acted as hosts, the event was modified about 10 years ago when it



*The Rotarian/Student Team*

Ruff Center changed to a young adult program, and the younger students were mainstreamed into the local grammar schools. The event then changed once again to allow the Laurel Ruff students working in the school's Hospitality Program to work with the Rotarians to put on the event for the younger students from up to four local grammar schools. When the school district no longer allowed the club to provide the food, the club began purchasing everything from the school district. Rotarians barbecue the hamburgers,



*Here comes Santa!*

was moved to the Laurel Ruff cafeteria so more of the student body could participate. At that point, Arden Arcade Rotarians started providing all the food, doing all the cooking, serving the students, and having Santa visit with all the children and give them each a present and a stocking.

Then three years ago, Laurel



*...and a good time was had by all!*



*Rotarians are "servers."*

plate the food, and help serve and bus the tables. Even though the event is called a holiday party to meet school requirements, Santa still plays a major role as he visits with the children and delivers stockings to them.

## Interact in Action!

### Making the Season a Little Brighter

West Sacramento Rotary and River City High School Interact—an unbeatable combination! Each Christmas the two service clubs get together for Holiday Senior Gift. This past Christmas,



Rotary volunteers and teens took gifts purchased by Raley’s shoppers to 125 low income senior citizens. In addition to sponsoring the Interact Club, West Sacramento Rotary also provides drivers for Meals on Wheels.

*Interactor Jessica Ngo delivers gifts to Song Phaviset, 77.*

*Photo by David Kamminga*

### Grant High Interactors Host Successful Blood Drive

The Grant High School Interact Club can call its blood drive a resounding success! Their work produced 86 pints of blood, 73 of those from first time donors! While most of the blood came from caring students, eleven teachers, staff, and parents joined the effort.

North Sacramento Rotarians were invited to lend a hand by helping move students from the registration area to the Bloodmobiles in the parking lot. Thirty-three Interactors took shifts at the registration table.

In all, 110 potential blood donors went through the initial screening process. Since donors must weigh a minimum of 110 pounds, many of the ineligible donors were just too light! Those who weren’t eligible were a bit disappointed, but they are looking forward to next year’s drive. Eligible donors, while they approached the Bloodmobile with trepidation, emerged with smiles on their faces and excited about their next opportunity to donate.

*(below) A Grant student gives blood.*



*(left) Registration time*

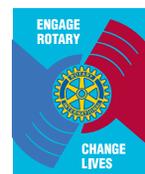


### Ethics and Vocational Service: How to Take Action

Does your club have difficulty getting engaged with vocational service? The November edition of *The Rotarian* magazine features a primer that includes information on the role of ethics in vocational service. “I believe that Rotary’s reputation for integrity and high ethical standards is one of its strongest assets for attracting young people,” says Paul Netzel, past chair of the Vocational Service Committee. Here are a few ways to take action:

- Dedicate time at club meetings to discussing The Four-Way Test and the Rotary Code of Conduct. Be sure to talk to new members about the importance of these documents as guiding principles.
- Organize a workshop on ethics in the workplace and invite local business leaders. To help participants build practical skills, consider including an open discussion on ethical dilemmas.
- Give awards to businesses or professionals who demonstrate high ethical standards in their treatment of employees, customers, and the community at large.
- Sponsor an essay or speech contest for young people. Hold local or regional competitions for students to address the theme “What The Four-Way Test Means to Me.”

*Reprinted from Rotary documents*



## Know Your Rotary History

# The Paul Harris Fellow

The Paul Harris Fellow recognition acknowledges individuals who contribute, or who have contributions made in their name, of US\$1,000 to The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International.

It was established in 1957 to show appreciation for and encourage substantial contributions to what was then the Foundation's only program, Rotary Foundation Fellowships for Advanced Study, the precursor to Ambassadorial Scholarships.

The first Paul Harris Fellows include 1937-38 RI Director Allison G. Brush and longtime RI Treasurer Rufus F. Chapin, both for donations they made in 1946. Mrs. Adan Vargas was the first woman to receive the recognition, for a gift made in 1953. Mrs. Harry L. Jones was the second, and one of only five people recognized for contributions made in 1957.

Early Paul Harris Fellows received a certificate of recognition. In 1969, the

Foundation unveiled the first Paul Harris Fellow medallion at the RI Convention in Honolulu, Hawaii, USA. Japanese metal artist Fiju Tsuda created the piece under the direction of then-past Foundation Trustee Kyozo Yuasa. Today, Paul Harris Fellows receive a certificate and pin. They are also eligible to purchase a Paul Harris Fellow medallion.

Rotarians have a tradition of supporting the Foundation by honoring others. Ida LeTulle Taylor became a Paul Harris Fellow in 1978 when her husband, then-District Governor Vann Taylor, made a donation in her name in honor of their 34th wedding anniversary. The gift also made her the 25,000th Paul Harris Fellow.

At the International Assembly in 1979, then-RI President-elect James Bomar challenged each Rotary club to make one non-Rotarian a Paul Harris Fellow. The Rotary Club of Pikesville, Maryland, USA, responded by making a dona-

tion in the name of Mother Teresa in 1980. The entertainer Pearl Bailey also became a Paul Harris Fellow through a joint effort of the Rotary clubs in Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

Many other notable figures have been named as Paul Harris Fellows, including U.S. President Jimmy Carter, Russian President Boris Yeltsin, U.S. astronaut James Lovell, UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, and Jonas Salk.

The number of Paul Harris Fellows reached the one million mark in 2006.



*Reprinted from Rotary documents*

### FERNANDEZ - Continued from page 3



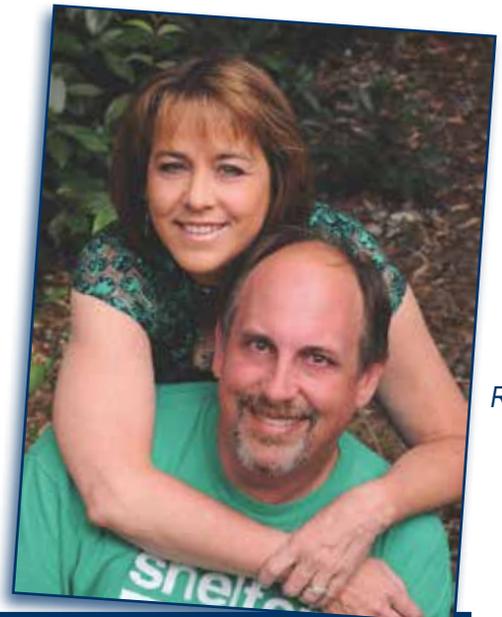
near and far as he represents Rotary on behalf of his club and District 5180. "Rotary has given me personal life skills that have made me better in business and better for our community through service to others before self."

From Richie we learn an important lesson. When we want others to join us as Rotarians and to do the good work of Rotary, we must make it personal, we must ask.

*(left) Richie's wife Taylor with his greatest fan Zoe at last year's softball*

*(right) Bill poses with his wife Sherrie*

### TOBIN - Continued from page 3



Re-