

November 01 2012

This Week

Kristy Peters Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations, The Huntington Library Program Host Boyd Hudson



The program for this week will be a presentation on current events and plans for The Huntington Library.

Our speaker will be Kristy Peters, the Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations at the Huntington. She will address current exhibits and displays, the Japanese Garden project, along with plans for new buildings and facilities.





A Big Rotary Thank You

esterday (October 27, 2012) was the big kick off for our *Get In Gear, Now* Program. Done in and through the Master Mind Collective; It was a huge success.

The event got kicked off by two stunningly attractive motivational performers known as *Twin of a kind*. These ladies, who are twins, captivated inspired and motivated all in attendance.

During the seminar, Billionaire PA one of the speakers — told the students that you never succeed alone. You must have a team and a support system behind you. My Rotary crew and support system came out in big numbers, boots on the ground, sleeves rolled up and committed. I thank God for each and everyone of you.

Your individual task performance was a great help. But your presence was such an inspiration to the kids and to me. You each made a difference that made a difference in the lives of the young people who were a part of the *Get In Gear, Now* Program experience. And I thank you.

We had over 44 kids and young adults who participated in the event, and they really participated. Much of the event was caught on video. We will show the finished product at a future Rotary meeting.

Other community organizations came to check us out, and we may get two or three new members as a direct result of the program.

In addition, thank you for your support and attendance at my offices Open House on Friday night. It really meant a lot to me to see so many of you there. I truly feel the love. Please continue to let the love flow.

CICCUCIS November 01 Kevin Moore November 08 Mike Noll November 15 Gordon Seyffert



Program Review

CalTech — One of the Great Universities of the World

Register in the heart of the San Gabriel Valley is the home of one of the great universities of the world: The California Institute of Technology, or Caltech. Last Thursday, Loren Markel, a media and public relations officer for Caltech gave a highly informative presentation on current and coming developments at the university.

Caltech is the home for approximately 2200 students and 300 faculty members. In addition, there are about 9000 people who are employed by Caltech, making it

Sparks is published 48 weeks a year and is the official publication of the Rotary Club of Altadena. The deadline for submission of articles is Friday at 6p to current editor email, fax, or delivery. Rotary Club of Altadena - #7183 Chartered: February 14, 1949 P.O. Box 414, Altadena, CA 91003 www.altadenarotary.com Meets: Thursday, 12:10p Altadena Town & Country Club 2290 Country Club Drive • Altadena, CA 626-794-7163 Rotary Int. Pres. Sakuji Tanaka Dist 5300 Gov...... Sylvia Veronica Whitlock Officers Julius Johnson, Pres. Bus. 626-797-1186

Dennis Menringer, Pres. Elec D	us. 626-577-9800
Tony Hill, VPres	us. 626-795-5363
Jim Gorton, Sec B	
Mike Noll, Trea B	us. 626-683-0515

Directors

Jim Gorton • Craig Cox • David Smith Gordon Seyffert • Sterling Louviere Dennis Mehringer • Tony Hill

Chairmen

Dennis Mehringer	Administration
	Foundation
	Public Awareness
	Acting Publicity
Jacque Foreman	Sparks/Website
Mike Zoeller	Club Projects
Ed Jasnow	Community
John Frykenberg .	International
	Youth Contests/Awards
Hal Yorke Vo	cational/Youth Projects
Ray Carlson	New Generation
Gordon Seyffert	Membership
Editor Design & Typesettir	g Foreman Graphics
0 11	Jacque Foreman

the largest employer in the City of Pasadena. One of the most significant affiliations is that with the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL). JPL was founded by the Caltech faculty and is now managed for NASA by Caltech. JPL is the leading center in the United States for the robotic exploration of the solar system, and is currently responsible for conducting active missions throughout the galaxy with more than two dozen spacecraft.

Caltech is a major research institution conducting research in a number of dif-

Caltech at A Glance

6 Academic Divisions Jet Propulsion Laboratory 2,231 Undergraduate and Graduate students 300 Faculty Members 9,000 Employees 35 Cross-Disciplinary Research Institutes and Centers 31 Nobel Laureates

November Foundation Month

Program Chair, Boyd Hudson Nov 01 - To be Announced Nov 08 - To be Announced Nov 15 - To be Announced Nov 22 - Thanksgiving - Dark Nov 29 - To be Announced

December

Family Month

Program Chair, Sue Applegate Dec 06 - To be Announced Dec 13 - Combined meeting, San Marino Rotary Dec 20 - Christmas Party Dec 27 - Dark - No Meeting



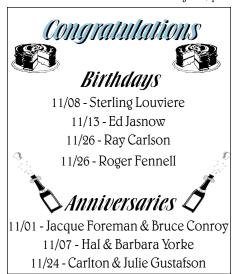
ferent disciplines. These disciplines include:

(1). *Energy and Earth Science;* studying such areas as climate change, earthquake processes, the atmosphere, environmental hazards and clean energy;

(2) *Chemistry and Biomedicine:* working on drug-delivery systems, neurological diseases and individual behavior, biological systems, DNA sequencing and genetics;

(3)*Materials Science:* Creating new polymers, elastics and adhesives, *Please turn to Program, p. 3*

Caltech





Join the Effort to End Polio



World Polio Day, 24 October, people around the globe participated in the World's Biggest

Commercial, promoting the international effort to eradicate the devastating disease.

The innovative, interactive online initiative gives everyone a chance to join Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Bill Gates, Jackie Chan, Angelique Kidjo, and other world figures and celebrities who have already joined in Rotary's **This Close** campaign in support of polio eradication. Participants can upload photos of themselves to Rotary's polio eradication website, **endpolionoworg**, to be edited into the constantly expanding promotional spot. They receive an email with a direct link to their image and comment within the commercial.

Rotary is also releasing *End Polio Now*, an eclectic album of songs performed by

its celebrity polio eradication ambassadors from the music industry. The lineup includes several polio survivors: violin virtuoso Itzhak Perlman, folk rock musician Donovan, and Staff Benda Bilili, a Congolese soukous band scheduled to launch its US tour in Los Angeles on World Polio Day. The End Polio Now album is available for download on iTunes, and soon as a CD from shop.rotary.org, with all proceeds from sales going to PolioPlus.

Coinciding with World Polio Day, Rotary is ramping up its advocacy work in the 200 countries and regions where Rotary clubs exist to encourage every national government to commit to help meet a \$700 million funding shortfall for the *Global Polio Eradication Initiative* through 2013.

Although new polio cases are at an alltime low — there were fewer than 180 worldwide in 2012 as of 16 October — the funding gap has already curtailed scheduled immunization activities in polio-affected countries. If eradication fails and polio rebounds, up to 200,000 children per year could be paralyzed.

"Governments need to step up and honor their commitments to polio eradication if we are to achieve our goal of a polio-free world," says Wilfrid J. Wilkinson, chair of The Rotary Foundation. "We are at a true tipping point, with success never closer than it is right now. We must seize the advantage by acting immediately, or risk breaking our pledge to the world's children."

Here are other ways you can support the global effort to eradicate polio:

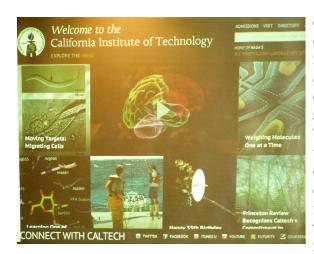
- *Upload your photo* for the World's Biggest Commercial.
- Lend your voice to advocacy efforts by signing the petition on endpolionow.org.
- Begin planning an *End Polio Now lighting* to celebrate Rotary's anniversary on 23 February.
- Contribute now to end polio.

Program

Continued from p.2

aerospace engineering, thermodynamics;

- (4) Information and Computer Science: inventing next generation chips, circuitry, lasers, computer hardware, global communication networks, quantum computing and information technology;
- Astronomy and Physical Science: studying the universe, e.g., galaxies, stars and solar systems, the design of spacecraft, telescopes, optics and microelectronics; and
- (6) Social and Economic Sciences: studying the history of science and technology, the refining of economic theories



and the analysis of markets, elections and auctions.

Caltech is a leader in the development

of alternative energy sources, including research into making fuel from carbon dioxide and water and delivering affordable forms of renewable energy via a smarter, enhanced power grid. The staff is working on breakthrough medical discoveries including HIV fighting proteins, low cost microchips that can assess immune health, and electronics advances for robotic arms and legs for paraplegics. Caltech is also a

leading research university in sustainable development working on techniques to *Please turn to Program, p.5*



Economic Update In the News

Retail sales rose 1.1 percent to \$412.9 billion in September. This follows an upwardly revised 1.2 percent increase in August. Compared to September 2011, retail sales have increased 5.4 percent.

Consumer prices rose 0.6 percent in September, following an identical 0.6 percent increase in August. Compared to September 2011, consumer prices have risen 2 percent. Consumer prices at the core rate — excluding volatile food and energy prices — were up 0.1 percent in September.

The National Association of Home Builders/Wells Fargo monthly housing market index rose one point in October to 41, the highest level since June 2006. This marks the sixth consecutive monthly gain. An index reading below 50 indicates negative sentiment about the housing market.

The Mortgage Bankers Association said its seasonally adjusted composite index of mortgage applications for the week ending October 12 fell 4.2 percent. Refinancing applications decreased 5 percent. Purchase volume rose 1 percent.

The combined construction of new single-family homes and apartments in September rose 15 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 872,000 units. Single-family starts increased 11 percent. Volatile multifamily starts rose 25.1 percent. Compared to a year ago, housing starts were up 34.8 percent in September. Applications for new building permits, seen as an indicator of future activity, rose 11.6 percent to an annual rate of 894,000 units.

Existing home sales fell 1.7 percent in September to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 4.75 million units from 4.83 million units in August. Compared to a year ago, existing home sales were up 11 percent in September. The inventory of unsold homes on the market fell 3.3 percent to 2.32 million in September, a 5.9-month supply at the current sales pace, down from a 6.1-month supply in August.

Initial claims for unemployment benefits for the week ending October 13 rose by 46,000 to 388,000. Continuing claims for the week ending October 6 fell by 29,000 to 3.25 million.

Upcoming on the economic calendar are reports on new home sales on October 24 and pending home sales on October 25.

Industry Insider Mortgage Rates Hover at Record Lows; Buying Is Cheaper than Renting

Mortgage rates are hovering at historic lows largely due to implementation of the third round of quantitative easing (QE3). This program, recently orchestrated by the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) involves purchasing additional agency mortgage-backed securities at a pace of \$40 billion per month.

In an additional effort to keep borrowing costs down and spur economic growth, the FOMC announced it would continue Operation Twist through the end of the year. The plan entails selling \$400 billion in short-term Treasurys in exchange for the same amount of longer-term Treasurys.

The FOMC noted that "these actions, which together will increase the Committee's holdings of longer-term securities by about \$85 billion each month through the end of the year, should put downward pressure on longer-term interest rates, support mortgage markets, and help to make broader financial conditions more accommodative," according to a statement.

This is timely news particularly for a housing market that's healthier than many realize. According to *Trulia*, on average, buying a home is now 45 percent cheaper than renting in the100 largest metro areas in the nation (providing the homeowner plans to stay in the home for the national average time of seven years). That's a savings of \$771 every month!

At the same time, housing prices are now posting solid gains. According to the most recent *CoreLogic* data, year-overyear home prices have increased 4.6 percent since August 2011. And according to its most recent Housing Markets Insights report, investment bank *Morgan Stanley* anticipates a 2012 housing price increase of 7 to 9 percent.

If you have buyers considering taking advantage of today's market conditions and historically low interest rates, contact me today.

Find Linda Wilkes on line: http:// www.myprospectmortgage.com/lwilkes

MEET THE ROSE QUEEN AND HER COURT THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13 COMBINED MEETING WITH SAN MARINO ROTARY



"Princess Nora of Liechtenstein, honorary president of the advisory committee for 100 Cities for Peace, has announced that Rotary International is a recipient of the organization's annual Pax Urbis award given to cities, people, and institutions for their work in promoting peace.

The princess notified Rotary International of the committee's decision through a letter to the governors of districts 2201, 2202, and 2203 (Spain). As a recipient of the award, Rotary will be invited to participate in the Cities for Peace convention in Madrid, 10-14 December, and serve on the advisory committee in the area of developmental cooperation.

"100 Cities for Peace is an international movement that identifies and disseminates the practices of cities and social institutions around the world that are committed to promoting a culture of peace. The movement supports the values behind the United Nations Millennium Development Goals." The above notice ran in the October 22nd issue of The Lovola Star, the newsletter of District 3780's Loyola Heights club (Quezon City, Philippines). It intrigued me so much that I had to look into it further. Wikipedia was my first choice of resources, but it had nothing on an organization by that name. I turned then to Yahoo.

Yahoo's first entry was at: <http:// english100citiesforpeace.gutensite.com/ >, which had this definition of the organization:

"100 Cities for Peace" is an international movement that identifies and disseminates the practices of cities and social institutions around the world that are committed to promoting the CULTURE OF PEACE. Therefore, with the aim of promoting social change, 100 Cities for Peace presents a prize each year to the best projects at the PAX URBIS International Awards. "100 Cities for Peace" promotes values based on the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, which revolve around three main challenges: the right to life, social justice and respect for the environment. The idea behind "100 Cities for Peace" is that well-connected social initiatives will produce a multiplier effect and that these "positive attitudes" will be copied. Hence, the significance of the theme we propose to society can be summed up by the phrase: "Do ut item des" (I keep giving...)

100 Cities for Peace

Wow! That last part seemed strangely familiar.... Do we know of an idea that depends on *positive attitudes* and a multiplier effect? How about our own commitment to *Job Creation and Entrepreneurship*? And how about *Service Above Self*?Which seems to be echoed in their own motto of *I keep giving* (in the English version).

I further discovered that the Honorary Committee and Presidency includes, in addition to Princess Nora of

Program

Continued from p.3

improve the accuracy of ozone and pollution predictions, the development of high-efficiency photo voltaic solar cells.

The London Times Higher Education Rankings has named Caltech the Number One University in the world. Last year Liechtenstein, these three members: Federico Mayor Zaragoza (a Spaniard and the Director General of UNESCO from 1987 to 1999), Father Angel García (a Spanish diocesan priest and founder of what in English is the Messengers of Peace Association), and Alicia Rodríguez (a dual citizenship Mexican/Spaniard who presides over something called in English the International Committee of the Banner of Peace). These four individuals are described as "committed to social work worldwide."

Winners of this group's PAX URBIS award "must continue to undertake projects and proposals promoting the CULTURE OF PEACE [and] must establish links with organisations involved in this movement and spread these ideas globally with effective communication." Okay, so there's a certain agenda behind the naming of Rotary International as an award winner. But I think we can live with that, as we already meet the first requirement and it's not hard to see that we're doing a fair job with the second.

It's an honor to be named, and I think it means that Rotary International is increasingly accepted for its contributions to world peace.

We should be justly proud.

0

the members of the Caltech family were awarded over 130 patents. There are currently 31 Nobel laureates on campus. Markel invited us to come to visit the campus and learn more about the great work being done there.

You are cordially invited to our Christmas Party Potluck Thursday Evening December 20, 2012 6:30 to 9p 257 Ø. Delacey Pasadena, Ca 91105

Party Room above the Pool

Turkey, Ham, Drinks, Utensils, etc. Provided

Bring a Salad, Vegetable Dish, or Dessert All Members and Families, including Children invited

\$10 per person Register on ClubRunner