

May 09, 2013

This Week


Away Meeting at the American Legion Post 13 Program Host: Craig Cox

New member Joshua Miller coordinated our *field trip* to the beautifully refurbished facilities of the American Legion Post 13. With the large number of returning veterans, the American Legion is well positioned to facilitate their transition from military to civilian life.



The American Legion was chartered and incorporated by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veterans organization devoted to mutual helpfulness. It is the nation's largest wartime veterans service organization, committed to mentoring youth and sponsorship of wholesome programs in our communities, advocating patriotism and honor, promoting strong national security, and continued devotion to our fellow servicemembers and veterans.

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Johnson's Judgments

by President Julius Johnson

Honoring those who have served, and Welcoming a New Member

Last week (May 2, 2013) I was listening to someone talking about the different stages of life. They included the child, the student, the warrior, the king and the sage. During our last Rotary meeting we, as kings honored students who have served as warriors in defense of our nation: veterans.

It made me feel quite honored and proud to be a part of an organization that was performing the noble task of bestowing well-deserved scholarships on this sometime neglected portion of our society — our Vets.

Hearing the story of how one of them was discharged from the Navy in San Diego. He was thousands of miles away from what was his home. He had to live in his car.

He finally made it to the PCC Veterans' center, where he got hooked up with housing, counseling and educational contacts that are helping him readjust to civilian life.

Our Rotary club, which is loaded with sages, often serves as a King to children,

students and warriors as we perform *Service Above Self*. A salute to Craig Cox for bringing us such a wonderful program.

Rotary props to Gordon Seyffert for a great induction service. Gordon lead us in welcoming aboard our newest Rotarian, Charles Wilson. Charlie works for the Boy Scouts of America and will be working with our youth projects.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the District Conference in San Diego. The conference will be at the Town and Country Resort and Convention Center. The Dates are May 16-19, 2013. We will be hosting a hospitality suite so come on down for the ultimate in fellowship. ☺

Greeters

- May 09
Alan Kindrick
- May 16
Sterling Louviere
- May 23
Tom McCurry



Program Review

We Salute You . . . Honoring Those Who have Served

Approximately ten years ago, Altadena Rotary Charities [ARC] was established with funds from the Altadena post of the American Legion. As part of the agreement with the American Legion, a portion of the funds given to ARC were to be permanently set aside to fund scholarships for veterans.

Since the establishment of ARC, every year the Rotary Club of Altadena has awarded scholarships to qualified students from Pasadena City College [PCC]

who also happen to be veterans of the United States military and live in Pasadena, Altadena or Sierra Madre.

Last Thursday (May 9, 2013) was our most recent opportunity to recognize outstanding young people who have served in the armed forces of this country and who are now pursuing their education at PCC.

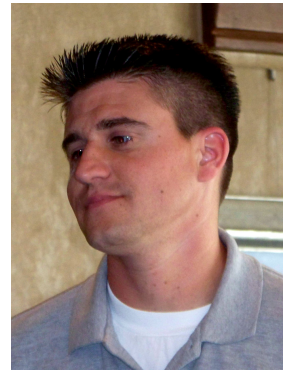
Several years ago, PCC established a Veterans Resource Center to serve their student-veterans. Patricia D'Orange Martin has served as the coordinator of the Center since it was established on campus in 2009. There are over 700 veterans in the student body at PCC, 28 percent of whom are women. Fifteen percent of the overall armed forces are female.

The Center offers tutoring, mentoring

and career services for their veterans. It also provides housing assistance, book loans, food cards and bus passes. D'Orange Martin invited the Rotarians to visit the Center and learn more about the individuals it serves.

The Club awarded scholarships to four individuals.

Nathaniel Kemnitz served six months in Fallujah, Iraq during some of the heaviest fighting of the Iraq



campaign. In August 2004, he was injured by an IED, resulting in the loss of the use of his right hand, damage to his right shoulder and the loss of sight in his right eye.

As a result of these injuries, he underwent a large number of surgeries and spent significant time in military hospitals. He is a recipient of the Purple

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Rotary Club of Altadena - #7183

Chartered: February 14, 1949

P.O. Box 414, Altadena, CA 91003

www.altadenarotary.com

Meets: Thursday, 12:10p

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Gordon Seyffert • Sterling Louviere

Dennis Mehringer • Tony Hill

Chairmen

Dennis Mehringer Administration

Craig Cox Foundation

Jacque Foreman Public Awareness

Jacque Foreman Acting Publicity

Jacque Foreman Sparks/Website

Mike Zoeller Club Projects

Ed Jasnow Community

John Frykenberg International

Gordon Seyffert ... Youth Contests/Awards

Hal Yorke Vocational/Youth Projects

Ray Carlson New Generation

Gordon Seyffert Membership

Editor, Design & Typesetting Foreman Graphics

Photography Jacque Foreman

May

Month not designated

Program Chair, Craig Cox

May 09 - Away meeting at the American Legion Post 13 (Pasadena)

May 16 - Dewey Merrill Business Plan Competition

May 23 - JROTC Awards

May 30 - ClubRunner Training

June

Month not designated

Program Chair, Ed Jasnow

Jun 06 - To be Announced

Jun 13 - To be Announced

Jun 20 - To be Announced

Jun 27 - Demotion Party - Evening Event

Congratulations



Birthdays

05/05 - Ursula Moore

05/09 - Bill Jennings

05/15 - Elsa Smith

05/18 - Craig Cox

05/30 - Susan Applegate

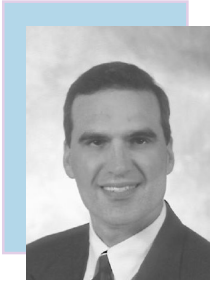


Anniversaries

05/18 - Tony & Ann Rider Hill

05/19 - Roger & Kathleen Anne Fennell

Summertime, and the Giving is Easy



The days are getting longer and the weather is getting warmer as we enter that last two months of the Rotary year. If you are like me, time seems to go by faster every year (my kids tell me it's because my metabolism is slowing down!). So here we are with less than 60 days left to make a contribution to the Rotary Foundation and you are saying to yourself, "I know the Rotary Foundation is a tremendous force for good but I'm confused about how I

contribute." So here is our quick guide to contributing to the Rotary Foundation.

Step One: Go to the internet at www.altadenarotary.com

You will see Julius' smiling face. Scroll down, and you will see some money with a link: "Contribute to a Paul Harris or Make a Donation." Click the link.

Step Two: A screen appears that says "Online Donating Through Altadena Rotary Charities" – go to the bottom of the screen where it says "Yes, I want to make a donation now." **Click the "now."**

Step Three: Fill out the information on

the screen. In the comments box indicate that the donation is for the Rotary Foundation. You can designate the donation for Polio Plus or the Annual Fund or a Matching Grant (you will need to include the matching grant number). **Hit submit.**

Once you hit "submit" the well oiled wheels of Altadena Rotary start turning. You will get a letter thanking you for your tax deductible gift to *Altadena Rotary Charities*. Your gift will then be forwarded to the Rotary Foundation. The world will be a better place. ...

Simple.



Program

Continued from p.2

Heart.

He has been accepted at UCLA, where he intends to pursue a masters degree in social work, with the goal of working with military families.

Marshall Lewis is a veteran of the Marines and also served in Fallujah, Iraq. He was injured by a vehicle while clearing a soccer field to land helicopters.



This injury resulted in many fractures to his leg. Lewis is a past president of the Veterans' Club at PCC. He hopes to study computer science at either Stanford or USC.

A.J. Glasgow served in the United States Navy and spent the majority of his tour of duty in the Persian Gulf. Glasgow is

the current President of the Veterans' Club at PCC. He is majoring in business management.

David Old was

a combat medic in the Marines in Iraq. He is a recipient of the Bronze Star. Old



is a nursing major at PCC.

We are very proud of these outstanding recipients of the Altadena Rotary Veterans



Scholarships and grateful for their heroic service to our country. *Boyd Hudson*



This Week

Continued from p. 1

The American Legion is a nonpartisan, not-for-profit organization with great political influence perpetuated by its grassroots involvement in the legislation process from local districts to Capitol Hill. Legionnaires' sense of obligation to community, state and nation drives an honest advocacy for veterans in Washington. The Legion stands behind the issues most im-

portant to the nation's veterans community, backed by resolutions passed by volunteer leadership.

Like Rotary, the American Legion's success depends entirely on active membership, participation and volunteerism. The organization belongs to the people it serves and the communities in which it thrives.



Gordon's Corner

by Gordon Seyffert

The RI Council of Legislation . . .

. . . meets every three years, with a representative selected to attend from each District. The purpose is to consider submitted proposals for revisions or additions to our RI Constitution and Bylaws, Standard Club Bylaws, as well as items contained in the Manual of Procedure. This process began in late April in Chicago with discussion and voting on submissions received from Clubs and Districts over the past several months.

Representatives were in attendance from 532 Rotary Districts. Results from a recent membership survey were reported, and indicate that better communication between the RI leadership and the Clubs/Membership is needed. Most feel that membership, service projects and public image are key focus items for the future.

Many of the first day's proposals concerned changes to the Standard Club Bylaws regarding the appointment of officers and directors. Some regions of the world wanted to include Secretaries and/or Treasurers on the board. After much discussion the vote was 285 to 211 in favor of including the Club Secretary as a member of the board. This will become effective July 1, 2013, but is moot for us as this is already covered under Article II, Section 1 of our Bylaws.

Attendance recording criteria came up for discussion, often under suggestions that would have the effect of relaxing requirements for attendance. Many felt that the downgrading of attendance expectations would weaken clubs, and that instead clubs should focus upon conducting engaging meetings and activities that will

attract participation.

One interesting such approach added the option of "engaging in a club's service project" to the ways in which credit for attendance could be gained. An amendment to add "and activities" to this clause was passed, followed by a 340-165 vote in favor of the main motion. Previously a similar option was only available if each club passed a motion stating that such activity was acceptable.

This will *technically* affect us, as Article IV of our Bylaws state that Active Member regular meeting attendance is based upon meetings alone, whether those of this club or those of another. By tradition and policy, however, Altadena attendance credit is given for these newly approved purposes as well, and so there's really no change.

Another attendance proposal argued that a member who is ill or physically unable to maintain regular meeting attendance should be allowed to *participate* by electronic means, although the countering view was that this would be too costly, would adversely affect fellowship, and/or would be unnecessary in light of current leave of absence provisions. This motion failed on a vote of 204-309.

Termination for failure to meet the required minimum standards of meeting attendance received particular scrutiny. The current wording is that a member failing to meet the standard "shall be subject to termination," but *shall* — as it turns out — is in fact not compulsory in its meaning. Nevertheless, representatives felt the need to clarify, and so a proposal was made to change the wording to: "The

member's membership may be subject to termination unless the board consents to such non-attendance for good cause." This motion passed by a vote of 381 to 128.

There was discussion on the leave of absence (LOA) policy, especially as it relates to longer term medical situations. It was proposed and passed to allow extended LOAs for medical reasons, including the condition that this will not count against a club's attendance record. In a similar decision, it was determined that a member's excused absence will not be included in the club reporting.

Much controversy ensued over the matter of the Rule of 85 and the age at which it should be applied. In 2010, the minimum age of 60 years was raised to 65, but there had been instances in which some were "caught in the middle with no grandfathering clause." The resulting complaints caused the current COL to eliminate the minimum age in the calculation of Rule of 85 eligibility (in which age plus years of Rotarian membership equaling or exceeding 85 allows a member to be excused from attendance policies).

A final first-day observation concerned the issue of weekly regular meetings, vs. twice monthly or every other week meetings — such as is now the policy of the Lions and Kiwanis organizations. However, results show that their approach does not attract membership. While some Rotarians have argued that the weekly commitment may deter recruiting among younger professionals, others feel that the 50 percent attendance provision allows a person with an *every other week* orientation to maintain their attendance requirement.

And whose observations were these? Certainly I was not there. But Rotarian Doug Vincent of the Woodstock-Oxford Rotary Club of Ontario, Canada (representing D7080) graciously reported through the ROTI Fellowship, and permitted blanket freedom-of-use for the purpose of informing Rotarians. Thanks, Doug!



MONEY by Linda Wilkes MATTERS

Economic Update In the News

New home sales rose 1.5 percent in March to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 417,000 units from a rate of 411,000 units in February. On a year-over-year basis, new home sales were 18.5 percent higher than March 2012. At the current sales pace, there is a 4.4-month supply of new homes on the market.

The Mortgage Bankers Association said its seasonally adjusted composite index of mortgage applications for the week ending April 19 rose 0.2 percent. Purchase volume rose 0.3 percent. Refinancing applications increased 0.3 percent.

Existing home sales fell 0.6 percent in March to a seasonally adjusted annual rate

of 4.92 million units from 4.95 million units in February. Compared to a year ago, existing home sales were up 10.3 percent in March. The inventory of unsold homes on the market rose 1.6 percent to 1.93 million in March, a 4.7-month supply at the current sales pace, up from a 4.6-month supply in February.

Orders for durable goods — items expected to last three or more years — decreased \$13.1 billion, or 5.7 percent, to \$216.3 billion in March. This follows a 4.3 percent increase in February. Excluding volatile transportation-related goods, March orders posted a monthly decrease of 1.4 percent.

The Commerce Department announced that gross domestic product —

the total output of goods and services produced in the US — increased at an annual rate of 2.5 percent in the first quarter of 2013. This follows a 0.4 percent pace of growth in the fourth quarter of 2012.

Initial claims for unemployment benefits for the week ending April 20 fell by 16,000 to 339,000. Continuing claims for the week ending April 13 fell by 93,000 to 3 million, a recovery low. The less volatile four-week average of claims for unemployment benefits was 357,500. Upcoming on the economic calendar are reports on pending home sales on April 29, the housing price index on April 30 and construction spending on May 1.

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

LAMP/Mentor Luncheon

President Julius has asked to share this information on the LAMP/Mentor Luncheon with you.

His Gamma Zeta Boulé Fraternity Foundation is hosting its 2013 *Rising to the Top* scholarship (LAMP/Mentor) luncheon on June 2, 2013 from 11:30a to 2:30p at the Hilton Hotel, 168 S. Los Robles Avenue, Pasadena, California 91101. The honorees this year will be Eric Holoman, President of Magic Johnson Enterprises and Michael Scott, MD, local humanitarian and physician. The keynote speaker will be Nolan Rollins, President and CEO of the Los Angeles Urban League. In addition, they will take a few minutes to provide special recognition awards for two legendary Gamma Zeta Boulé *archons*, Melvin Stevens and the late Ernest Crew.

The luncheon is the foundation's primary fundraiser for our highly successful LAMP/Mentor Program. They will be pro-

viding financial assistance to 12 well-deserving high school seniors who have successfully participated in the LAMP/Mentor Program. This is the largest number of graduates we have assisted since the program's inception in 2009.

President Julius needs our help to make

this year's luncheon a success. At the time of this writing, ticket sales, ad sales and sponsorships are not going quite as well as had been hoped, and he asks that those of us who wish to help his organization meet its sponsorship commitments purchase luncheon tickets at \$100 ea.

President Elect asks for Input on 2013-2014 Committee Chairs and Budget

President Elect, Dennis Mehringer has announced that the first meeting of his 2013-2014 Board of Directors will be Tuesday evening, May 7, 5 to 6:30p. The location is 260 S. Los Robles, third floor conference room. The agenda will be:

1. 2013-2014 committee chairs
2. 2013-2014 budget

You don't have to be an incoming board member to go. If you have in mind that

you wish to volunteer for a committee chairmanship or don't want to be a committee chair, it is advisable to be there.

If you want to get a preliminary look at the upcoming budget, come and find out how our money is to be spent.

This is your chance to have input on both these very important items. If you have an opinion, now is the time to state it and get your voice heard.



Job Creation & Entrepreneurship

by C. Ray Carlson, Chair,
New Generations Service

Creating Awareness and Taking Action



I to r: C Ray Carlson, Rim Elbayer-Aly, Ginger Markevicius, and John Frykenberg

Create Awareness, Take Action....in our Club....in our Community...in our World. That was the slogan of Rotary International during 2000-2001, the year I was president of Altadena Rotary. And that is still the essence of what we have been doing all the years since I joined Rotary in 1989, nearly a quarter century ago.

The District Assembly on April 20 provided another opportunity to **Create Awareness** of the great need to teach Entrepreneurial Education that will lead to small business formation and the creation of jobs. I spoke to about 70 in the Foundations session and then to about 200 club presidents, both current and new ones, along with the leadership of the district. I urged **Action**, and, during the break, president-elects came to me with business cards and expressed keen interest in getting started. One gave me his regular business card too — *Director, US Department of Commerce, International Trade Development, Regional Office!* Others came to me with substantial business coaching experience. It is business-savvy talent like that within Rotary that convinces me of the opportunity to apply their skills and experience to the great need for job creation, locally and globally.

The upcoming District Conference will enable more Awareness creating opportunities as I speak at the Foundation session again and the Vocational Service ses-

sion. A display table and handouts will further enhance awareness for what clubs can do. I hope they will join us in our Global Grant project in Nigeria, where we hope to raise another \$100,000 and will need \$22,500 in addition to our \$7,500 to receive that sum from the Rotary Foundation for the fiscal year 2013/14. We received notice this week of their receipt of our 2012/13 Matching Grant applications for \$50,000 to cover more states in Nigeria in October, with the goal of covering every state with a seminar in at least one university by 2020. Nigeria's population is now 30 million more than Russia's!


Our District Business Plan Competition on May 16 will bring together students from Arcadia, San Marino, and Pasadena high schools. It has been a struggle to get clubs to commit to this even though the schools and their instructors are eager to do so. Last Friday I met Zeke Martin, entrepreneurship instructor at Muir High School's Business & Entrepreneurship Academy. He has an exceptional skill in developing business plans, I perceived, and I look forward to working with him in the future.

An exciting new development last week is the opportunity to link with the California Council on Economic Education and spread Entrepreneurial Literacy throughout all school districts in California. Their goal is to impact one million

California students each year from 2015 onwards and are raising \$800,000 this year toward hiring staff and printing curricular materials. I met Elizabeth Fieux, Director of Development, at the fund-raising event of Pasadena After-Hours Rotary Club last Saturday, and she set up our meeting with CCEE staff on Thursday, May 1, at Alexander Hamilton High School in Los Angeles where an all-day Fiscal Literacy program was held. John Frykenberg and I were invited by Elle Charles, Director of Teacher Relations, to each train a class of high school seniors on how to handle job interviews.

Afterwards we met with Ginger Markevicius, Program Director, and Rim Elbayer-Aly, Director of Administration, and agreed that we would assist CCEE in developing an Entrepreneurial Education curriculum in parallel with their Financial Literacy program. A first all-day class will be held in September, for which we will provide mentors. I hope they will be from from nearby Rotary Clubs in District 5280. This will be essentially identical to the day-long classes for 155 teachers from the LA County Office of Education that I instructed in 2005-07.

Markevicius was an Ambassadorial Scholar at an Australian University, where she earned an MBA. She has spoken at many Rotary Clubs, loves Rotary and looks forward to promoting this new program.

Thus, in 2013/14, we will begin to expand our Job Creation efforts beyond San Gabriel Valley and District 5300 to Los Angeles Unified, the County, and eventually the whole State of California: ***Creating Awareness and Taking Action to fill a very great need - Jobs!*** 

Contact Ray Carlson: crayc@me.com, 1-800-448-3456



From Tony Hill, Fellowship Chair

FELLOWSHIP...

The Core of Altadena Rotary

Fellow Altadena Rotarians: As your current fellowship chair, I wanted to let you know about fellowship events that have been scheduled for the rest of Julius' Presidential year.

May 25 (a Saturday) at 4:15p, we will be attending the **Dodgers vs the Cardinals baseball game** at Dodger stadium. Our incoming President, Dennis Mehringer, will be making arrangements for us to see the game from the Stadium Club. Again, feel free to invite family and friends. Ticket and a meal will be provided at a charge of about \$35 per person.

June 1 (a Saturday) **Hike in El Prieto Canyon** ending with a barbecue lunch on the lawn of Theo's mountaintop home with panoramic view of the valley. Details such as meeting place, time and cost to follow (any cost should be minimal).

June 2 (a Sunday) **Lamp Program Luncheon** - This is the main annual fund raising event by Julius' fraternity Gamma Zeta Boule Foundation. It is a luncheon that will take place at the Pasadena Hilton Hotel on So. Los Robles Ave. The money raised will again be used to pay for college scholarships for local foster children. Our goal is to fill a table of 10 to support this very worthwhile project of our President. The cost is \$100.00 per attendee. The program will include good food and interesting speakers.

June 9 (a Sunday) - **Antique Car Show at Lacey Park in San Marino**. Although it will not be a project of our club, this event has been a fund raiser for the San Marino Rotary Club for many years, and is just an interesting program taking place in our area, and, by attending, you will know that the money will be going to support Rotary

projects.

June 27 (a Thursday) - The **Demotion Party** to celebrate the conclusion of Julius' year as Rotary President and the induction of the incoming President, Dennis Mehringer. This is an event you can be sure President Julius is looking for-

ward to with great anticipation at this stage of his Presidential year.

Hope we will have lots of participation in these upcoming events. Remember, friends, family and potential members are **always** welcome at any of our Rotary Fellowship Events.

Details regarding three of the Fellowship events listed on this page

"Details regarding three upcoming Fellowship events:

- **Dodger Game:** Saturday, May 25 at 4:15 PM - Dodgers vs Cardinals. We are getting an amazing deal here through season ticket holder, Dennis Mehringer. These are great seats at only \$35.00 per person. Dennis has pre-purchased these seats to qualify for a substantial discount to our benefit. Please sign up early as at some point Dennis will need to dispose of any unused tickets. Craig has sent everyone an email to facilitate signing up through Club Runner. Be sure to invite family and friends, and bring your kids to this very family friendly event. Look forward to seeing you all there.
- **Hike in El Prieto Canyon & barbeque lunch at Theo's mountain top home:** Saturday, June 1 - We will meet at Theo's at 8:30a. The hike will start at about 9a or shortly thereafter. The Hike is classified by our leader Gordon Seyffert as *moderately strenuous*. Bring a camera and water. Again, very family friendly, so do not hesitate to invite family and friends. Late morning or mid-day we will have barbeque lunch (hamburgers & hot dogs). Maps to Theo's place will be distributed to all attendees. Cost, if any, should be mini-

mal. Musical entertainment is being planned. More details and Club Runner sign-up to follow.

- **Lamp Program Luncheon:** Sunday, June 2 - The luncheon will be at the Hilton Hotel on South Los Robles, Pasadena. A fundraiser sponsored by the Julius' fraternity Gamma Zeta Boule to raise funds for their Foundation, which provides college scholarships for local foster children. Julius is hoping to at least fill a table of 10 from our Rotary Club. Expect good food and thought provoking speakers. Cost will be \$100.00 per attendee.

Further details, including suggested arrival time, to follow.



Membership Chair, Gordon Seyffert, pins red badge on our newest member, Charlie Wilson, who is District Executive for the San Gabriel Valley BSA