

November 20, 2014

This Week

The Craft Talk ... Part 2

*Craig Cox and
Jacque Foreman*
Program Host:
Jim Gorton

Upon entering Rotary, we're asked to do a craft talk to introduce ourselves to the members of the club. This is a great way of getting to know our new members, but what about our longer-term members who joined many years ago? Many current members weren't around when those earlier craft talks were given. Even those members who were around may not really have much insight as to what's been happening in their fellow members' lives over the years since they heard their craft talks.

This Thursday, we'll continue our occasional series in which we catch up with long-term members and have them give us the part of their craft talk they'd give if they were joining us now — the Craft Talk, Part 2!

Our speakers this Thursday will be Craig Cox, who was inducted into the Club in July 1991 and our own *Sparks* Editor, Jacque Foreman, who was inducted in November 1996



REFLECTIONS

by Hal Yorke, President

BEEFLECTIONS

on . . . The Trabi

Last week I described the East German Trabant (affectionately called the Trabi) as "a small oil-gas-mixture guzzling car propelled by a 2-cycle pollution generator that maxed out at an ear-splitting 18 HP." A week after the opening of the border between East and West Germany in November 1989, Goettingen, a small university town the size of Pasadena, just 15 miles from the border, was virtually overrun with Trabis. I believe that the population of Goettingen doubled on those first two weekends. Trabis were everywhere.

Because parking close to the central pedestrian zone had always been a problem, the East Germans had to be very creative in finding a spot to stow their Trabis. To my dismay, outdoor basketball courts were filled with the blue-smoke-belching beasts. There was no such thing as an illegal parking spot; if a Trabi could fit, it did. Police did not give out any tickets. Soon the stores in Goettingen were



sold out. My wife and I had to drive to Kassel — 30 miles to the southwest — to do our shopping.

Surprisingly, the East Germans had a lot of western currency to spend. I have no idea where the money came from. Yes, the West Germany Government gave every East German 50 Deutsche Mark (DM), but many East Germans were able to spend a lot more than 50 DM. The money had apparently accumulated in East Germany over a time period of many years, illegally of course, but now suddenly it could be spent in the West. Many bought used West Germany cars

Please turn to Reflections, p.3

Greeters

November 20

Jim Gorton

November 27

Thanksgiving -- Dark

December 04

Kimmit Haggins

Program Review



Altadena Rotary had a field trip of sorts on Thursday, November 13 to the Boy Scout San Gabriel Valley Council's (SGVC) Camp Trask nestled in Monrovia Canyon. Our hosts were Rotary member Charlie Wilson, Camping Secretary Sonia Guerrero Kagan and Camp Ranger J. Anthony Villalobos.

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Craig Cox Membership
Editor, Design & Typesetting Foreman Graphics
Photography Jacque Foreman

Kagan explained that SGVC runs three camps: Cherry Valley on Catalina Island, Holcomb Valley near FawnSkin in the San Bernardino Mountains, and Camp Trask.



erates year round. Because of its proximity to the city, it is a great camp for younger scouts (cubs, webelos) and new leaders. The council also holds many merit badge classes on site.

Villalobos has worked with the Boy Scouts of America for 25 years. He described how the camp was purchased in 1966

November Rotary Foundation Month

Program Chair, Jim Gorton

Nov 20 - Craft Talk -- Part 2
Nov 27 - Thanksgiving -- Dark

December Rotary Family Month

Program Chair, John Frykenberg

Dec 04 - To be Announced
Dec 11 - To be Announced
Dec 18 - Christmas Party -- Special Location
Dec 25 - Christmas -- Dark

when it was known as Monrovia Scout Reservation. The council bought another portion of land, and the camp name was changed to the Tallman H. Trask Scout Reservation on

May 13, 1972. Trask was the original Scout Executive with SGVC in 1920.

Arcadia Rotary has been an important supporter, helping build the dining hall and

Please turn to Program, p. 4

Congratulations



Birthdays

11/08 - Sterling Louviere
11/13 - Ed Jasnow
11/26 - Ray Carlson
11/26 - Roger Fennel



Anniversaries

11/07 - Hal & Barbara Yorke



Chairmen's Corner

by John Frykenberg, International Chair



\$5.6 billion in US appropriations plus 3000 US troops on

the ground in Iraq has apparently emboldened Islamic State terrorists in Iraq and Syria. Genocide is growing by the day along with atrocities as the barbaric terror continues to consume lives.

Hundreds of families have been captured by Muslim fighters, their children slaughtered like animals and their daughters taken as sex slaves. ISIS is not even burying the bodies which, are strewn about on mountain sides, under rocks and lying out in the open. The stench is horrible. Innocent men, women and children are being murdered, raped, tortured and kidnapped. Christian, Yazidis and other minority religions have been left without shelter or clothing as winter sets in in northern Iraq.

No one deserves to be forced to watch their loved ones mutilated, abused, tortured, raped and mocked for their faith. Even rescue teams, motivated by love and peace, have seen their loved ones kidnapped, abused and killed. How can people be so vile and evil? God have mercy on us for not doing more to help them!

What is needed for literally tens of thousands of people in desperate circumstances is food, water, medicines, and protection. Rescue agencies including Samaritan's Purse, World Vision, Run Ministries, Christian Relief Council, Church of God Ministries Disaster Relief, North American Aerials, LLC along with Crosswinds Aviation and Christian Broadcasting Network

currently are doing what they can to provide safe homes in refugee camps. They need your prayers and financial support. Run Ministries alone is trying to feed and provide for 26,000 refugees. The work is difficult, dangerous and necessary. (NB – Be careful who you give relief contribution too... reportedly ISIS charities are also collecting money from caring Americans and Europeans; money used to support its terrorist efforts!)

ISIS is currently buying and selling slaves, still decapitating its captives after the widely publicized beheadings of James Foley and Steven Stoloff plus some 1000 Turkman, 1700 in Tikrit, 2000 in Mosul, hundreds in Kocho. Children are being recruited as suicide bombers and girls enslaved for sexual abuse. The latest casualty figures of 1265 in August, 1186 in July, 1531 last June total over 9826 murders in the year to date. These figures do not include 200,000 killed in the Syrian civil war or data from Anbar province.

ISIS is committing atrocities with US military equipment captured from the Iraqi armed forces. 537 truck bombs were exploded by ISIS this year, targeting Kurdish and Shiite communities. Even Sunni apostates have been targeted.

"The most violent, bloodthirsty elements of ISIS are non-Syrians — people such as Moroccans, Tunisians, Egyptians and Chechens," and activist states.

Observers cite the desire to instill terror in the populations of the territory that they have conquered as being the motive behind ISIS' actions, and the general con-

sensus is that the tactic is working.

In the eyes of its enemies, ISIS represents a modern-day Khawarij, which is a description of where the group stands on the traditional salafist-jihadist spectrum.

The Khawarij movement which emerged in the seventh century, is better remembered for what it did to fellow Muslims than it is for conducting significant campaigns against non-Muslim enemies.

The movement pioneered the practice of takfir, or considering insufficiently pious Muslims deserving of death. Annihilating whole groups of Muslims for perceived laxity in religious matters or else for simple disobedience is a focus of ISIS. The Islamic State includes ex-Baath Party, ex-Iraqi army personnel, handling the purely military and logistical responsibilities. The group combines seemingly irrational violence and pragmatic political-military behavior as needed. ISIS is mobilizing support precisely because it is so violent and determined to pursue its vision.

And while ISIS has not gained widespread political acceptance in Syria, it has not been fully rejected by the Sunni community at large either. Politicos have denounced it, but the group's fundraising networks and political support abroad remain intact despite US sanctions against ISIS.

The role for Rotarians? Pray for peace. Write a check to one of the relief organizations trying to provide safety and protection, food and shelter for those innocent people unfortunate enough to lie in the path of the ISIS juggernaut. ○



MONEY MATTERS

by Linda
Wilkes

In The News

Total construction spending fell 0.4 percent to \$950.9 billion in September from the revised August estimate of \$955.2 billion. Compared to September 2013, construction spending has risen 2.9 percent on a year-over-year basis.

The Mortgage Bankers Association said its seasonally adjusted composite index of mortgage applications for the week ending October 31 fell 2.6 percent from the previous week. Purchase volume rose 3 percent. Refinancing applications

decreased 6 percent.

Manufacturing activity rose to 59 in October after a reading of 56.6 in September. A reading above 50 signals expansion. It was the 17th consecutive month of expansion, and the overall economy grew for the 65th consecutive month.

The trade deficit increased from \$40 billion in August to \$43 billion in September. Exports fell \$3 billion to \$195.6 billion. Imports increased \$0.1 billion to \$238.6 billion.

Factory orders fell \$2.8 billion, or 0.6

percent, in September to a seasonally adjusted \$499.4 billion. Excluding the volatile transportation sector, new orders decreased slightly.

Retail sales fell 1.6 percent for the week ending November 1, according to the ICSC-Goldman Sachs index. On a year-over-year basis, retailers saw sales increase 1.8 percent.

Non-manufacturing activity fell from 58.6 in September to 57.1 in October. A reading above 50 signals expansion. It was the 57th straight month of expansion in the services sector. The employment component rose to 59.6, the third strongest reading in the report's 17-year history.

Initial claims for unemployment benefits for the week ending November 1 fell by 10,000 to 278,000. Continuing claims for the week ending October 25 fell by 39,000 to 2.348 million, the lowest level since December 2000. The less volatile four-week average of claims for unemployment benefits was 279,000, the lowest level since April 2000.

The unemployment rate fell from 5.9 percent in September to 5.8 percent in October, the lowest level since July 2008. Employers added 214,000 jobs in October and revised the September figure of jobs gained from 248,000 to 256,000.

Coming on the economic calendar are reports on wholesale trade on November 12 and retail sales on November 14. ○

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

Program

Continued from p.2

a full size fort on the property (called Fort Rotary). Altadena Rotary recently con-



structed three platforms and purchased three tents that

will be used to house staff in the summer.



Kagan said that the SGVC is starting to bring in youth from China who are interested in scout resident programs. Four groups will be coming to the camp in January 2015. These parents do not have scouting in their country but appreciate how scouting has a positive influence on the life of a young person.

Craig Cox ○

Reflections

Continued from p. 1

and discarded their Trabis.

Today the Trabi is a collector's item and sells for a price many times the original cost for a new car. Berlin entrepreneurs have purchased a fleet of Trabis and offer city tours in these unique vehicles. There are Trabi clubs that take outings together. Occasionally, a small town will be overrun with the smelly beasts, because some Trabi club has decided to visit them. As one of the many quirks of the German reunification, the Trabi is exempt from Germany's emissions laws. Even if you were able to decrease their emissions by a factor of ten, the Trabi could never pass Germany's tough emission requirements.

So the Trabi will probably be around for a long time, a reminder of a unique period in Germany history. ○

**TELL US ABOUT YOUR PASSION
WRITE A COLUMN**

Flags come down After Veterans' Day . . . Next Stop: Destruction & Replacement

The flags that went up on Saturday, November 08 came down one week later on November 15. This time we had a group of six (6) Rotarians (David Smith, Mike Noll, Theo Clarke, Tony Hill, Mike Zoeller and Gordon Seyffert), so they were divided into two crews of 3, one going north on the east side of Lake and one going south on the west side of Lake. With two groups, the flags came down with deliberate speed.

Before the two crews left, Craig Cox came by and reminded all of us that this was the last time these particular flags were put out. They have become faded and are beginning to look ragged. They will be given to the Boy Scouts for proper destruction. Smith said that the flag at the top of lake was beginning to look ragged also, so he will add it to the flags for destruction. Since he has a new flag for that pole, it will just be a *Swap Out*.

Smith showed us how to properly fold a flag. Hold it lengthwise, fold it in half lengthwise and in half again lengthwise. Starting with the stripes, create a triangle and fold in triangles until you come to the stars. It is now ready to be stored or taken for destruction.

The next time the flags go up — for Memorial Day at the end of May — we will be putting up twice as many flags. So pay attention: you will be asked to show up somewhere to assemble the flags and to put up the additional hardware for hanging the flags and replace any hardware that has become broken. ○



A NEW FACE IN AFRICAN FASHION

*This article was originally published by Salt Magazine - www.saltmagazine.org
and was brought to our attention by Joy Carlson*



In August 2014, Adelaide was host to a unique fashion event at the official launch of *Dignity for Zambia*, a charity which supports vulnerable women in rural southern Zambia.

Guests were privy to a vibrant collection of increasingly popular African fashions designed by a young and upcoming Zambian fashionista Kapasa Musonda, whose bold and colourful African prints, infused with western flair, were universally considered as "awesome."

SALT Magazine met with Kapasa to find out more about her aspirations and inspirations, and her thoughts on the future of African designs in a global market.

Her mother was a professional seamstress who encouraged Kapasa to sew and she began piecing fabrics together and designing her own clothes. "While I was waiting for my final school results I wanted to experiment with mum's sewing ma-

chine and would try to just sew little things – nothing serious."

She had her lucky break in 2006 at the age of 17, when, with another 200 Zambian young people, she enrolled in a six month sponsored Business, IT and Health training program with a local charity organisation, funded by USAID. Kapasa was among the eight participants whose business plans were approved for sponsorship and a trip overseas for further education.

"I made a business plan for the competition on fashion design and I was lucky to have been one of the winning plans," she said, "We went to the United States and that's when I was advised to build a foundation in fashion before starting my business. I won a scholarship in a fashion school through the business plan and the designs I did – and that's how I got into the fashion game."

"I like to describe my design in four words," she said. "Modern, artistic, colourful and simple, and above all, I really want

KAPASA

Kapasa Musonda was sponsored by Altadena Rotary for the three years that she attended FIDM in Los Angeles

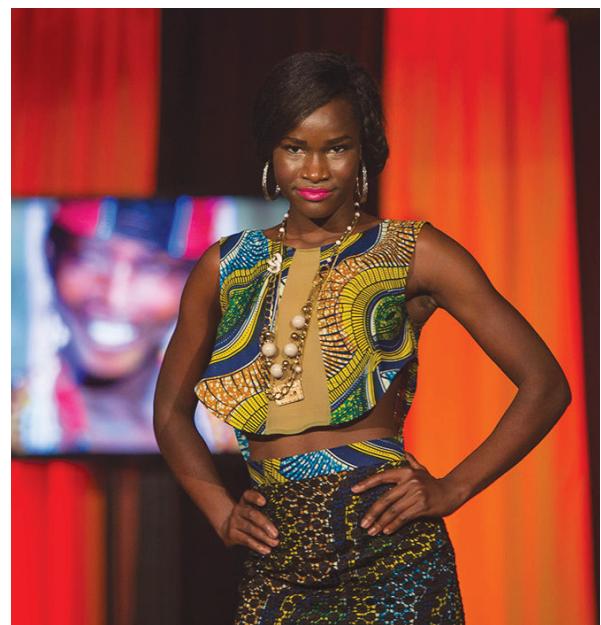
to make my client happy and pleased with my work".

Pressed about her particular 'style' she said "I think my style is ever evolving I always want people to experience something different so I would not say my designs are African per se, they have African inspiration – but each piece is different".

She thinks that African fashion can blend with western influences, as she believes her designs can make her clients see that they don't have to be overtly traditional with their outfit. "My job is to present my designs in a way that people would want to wear it as oppose to wear something completely western".

In the past few years established, 'big name' designers have been using African prints, and for Kapasa, African fashion is just beginning to grow into a signature print which would never go out of style. "I see African fashion really growing possibly taking over the runways out there," she says with a smile.

Kapasa said she loved her time in Adelaide, and it's a place she'd like to visit again. SALT Magazine looks forward to welcoming her back and being treated to another taste of her fabulous design collection.



*Photographs by
Matt Turner*

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