

This Week

Presenting Kimmet Haggins His Craft Talk Program Host: Kimmit Haggins

Do you think you know our unofficial Ambassador to Tanzania? ... the person who occasionally brings Tanzanian coffee to brew and share and sometimes to sell?

Do you know where he was born and grew up? Do you have any idea where he went to school? . . . or how much official schooling he has had? Have you heard if Kimmit Haggins has any brothers or sisters?

We know that, at one time, Kimmit was supplying coffee for the Boy Scouts to sell. Is that still happening? If so, what progress has been made in spreading it in the local Scout Council? At one time I remember it being suggested that they would add tea. And what goes with Coffee and tea? . . . Why Cookies!!! And who sells cookies once a year? . . . The Girl Scouts! Could there be a *Commercial Match* here? Is this still being considered? Has it already begun?

We might find out the answers to these and other questions when Kimmet gives his Craft Talk on Thursday. ○



Dialing In

By Steve Kerekes,
 President



Were We Born to be in Control?

I am reading a very interesting little book called *Stumbling on Happiness*, by Daniel Gilbert, a psychologist. I am not that far into the book, but it is basically a discussion on how the human mind plans for the future, based on what it thinks will make its owner happy based on our past experiences, clichés, popular opinions, and prejudices, and why that mind rarely succeeds in planning accurately for true happiness. This is pretty heady stuff, and I hope to understand this better as I get further along into the book. However, I think that the following excerpt is worth consideration by any Rotarian:

◊ ◊ ◊

Prospection [the act of considering the future] can provide pleasure and prevent pain, and this is one of the reasons why our brains stubbornly insist on churning out thoughts of the future. But it is not the most important reason. Americans gladly pay millions – perhaps even billions – of dollars every year to psychics, investment advisors, spiritual leaders, weather forecasters, and other assorted hucksters who claim they can predict the future. Those of us who

subsidize these fortune-telling industries do not want to know what is likely to happen just for the joy of anticipating it. We want to know what is likely to happen so that we can do something about it. If interest rates are going to skyrocket next month, then we want to shift our money out of bonds right now. If it is going to rain this afternoon, then we want to grab an umbrella this morning. Knowledge is power, and the most important reason why our brains insist on simulating the future even when we'd rather be here now, enjoying a goldfish moment, is that our brains want to control the experiences we are about to have.

But why should we want to have control over our future experiences? On the face of it, this seems about as nonsensical as asking why we should want to have control over

Please turn to Dialing p. 4

Greeter of the Week

July 20

Ray Carlson

July 27

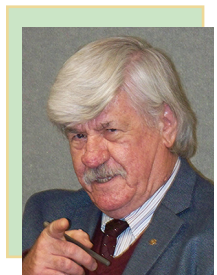
Gary Clark

August 03

Theo Clarke

Program Review

Welcome, Doug Colliflower *You seem to Fit Right In*



Last week's program was the craft talk of new member Doug Colliflower. The craft

talk is when we learn everything we want to know or need to know about new members. We are delighted to have the *always smiling* Doug as a member of Altadena

Rotary. Now we know a lot more about his background.

Doug is married to Candace and has two children, a son Dylan entering his last year at San Diego State University, and a daughter Jenna, who is about to begin her second year at Berkeley.

Doug was born in Coronado, California, most famous for the Coronado Hotel where *Some Like It Hot* was filmed. Just imagine having Marilyn Monroe filming just down the street. Unfortunately, Doug's family moved to Colorado when he was still and infant. Oh well.

Doug's family eventually moved back to California, locating in Ojai when Doug was still a young boy. He started out his working career as a paper boy in Ojai. Ray Carlson would be proud.

In about 1969, Doug – with his parents' urging – got into the game of golf with his brother. But he didn't dabble in it as many of us did. He went out to play golf every day in the summer ... some days from dawn to dusk. He was breaking 80 after about one year. That impresses me, having broken 100 only once in my life. When he was fifteen he got a job in the local golf shop, so, when he wasn't playing golf, he was earning money



in the golf shop. Doug clearly was totally immersed in the game of golf. (I am getting images of Bill Murray in *Caddy Shack*).

When he finished high school, Doug went to work for the Professional Golf Association of America. He got a job as a manager of a golf course in Pomona in 1976, building programs for them. At 19 years of age, Doug was the primary golf professional at Diamond Bar golf course.

Please turn to Program, p. 3

Congratulations

Birthdays

06/03 - Kathleen Fennel
06/08 - Theo Clarke
06/12 - Tom McCurry
06/17 - Gary Clark
06/20 - Dotty Clarke
06/23 - Margarita Figueroa

Anniversaries

06/05 - Mike & Wendy Davis Noll
06/18 - Charles & Regina Wilson

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..... Ian H.S. Riseley
Dist 5300 Gov..... Raghada Khoury

Officers

Steve Kerekes, Pres. Bus. 626-796-5000
Sarah O'Brien, Pres. Elec. Bus. 310-902-6547
Charlie Wilson, V. Pres. Bus. 626-351-8815
Mark Mariscal, Sec. Bus. 323-816-6713
Mike Noll, Treas. Bus. 626-683-0515

Directors

Mindy Kittay • Anthony Hill
Charlie Wilson • Dennis Mehringer
James Gorton • Sarah O'Brien • Marc Mariscal

Chairmen

Sarah O'Brien Administration
David Smith Foundation
Steve Cunningham Asst. Foundation
Craig Cox Membership
Jacque Foreman Public Awareness
Jacque Foreman Acting Publicity
Jacque Foreman Sparks/Website
Mike Zoeller Club Projects
Craig Cox Community
Doug Colliflower Asst. Community
John Frykenberg International
Tony Hill Youth Contests/Awards
Mike Zoeller Youth Projects
Ray Carlson Vocational
Editor, Design & Typesetting Foreman Graphics
Photography Jacque Foreman

July

New Rotary Year

Program Chair, Kimmit Haggins

July 20 - Kimmit Haggins, Craft Talk

July 27 - Joint Meeting with San Marino

August

Membership - New Club Development

Program Chair, Tom McCurry

Summer Community Service Happenings



I am pleased to announce that new member Doug Colliflower (see nearby craft talk write up) has agreed to act as Co-Chair of the Community Service Committee. We will be holding a committee meeting soon to discuss our community projects calendar for this Rotary year.

We are now in full swing on our Summer

Concerts in the Park at Farnsworth. Thanks to all of you who have signed up so far.

Each week we need people for security (4), set up (2), concession (3), take down (3), and Rotary Information (1).

On a weekly basis, two emails will be sent:

- One will be a reminder to those who have signed up for a particular Saturday.
- If we need additional volunteers a differ-

ent Email will be sent to those who have not signed up to request your help.

The concerts have proven to be a great community service event. You can partake of good music, enjoy great fellowship, and meet your neighbors – all in a beautiful outdoor arena with adult beverages! We'd like 100% participation by the end of the summer – we'll have a cold one for you in the booth. ○

Photos from the First Concert



Program

Continued from p. 2

His career in golf continued to grow. He managed the municipal Marshall Canyon golf course in the 80s, then the Nolan Golf Club in Granada Hills.

He got into a limited partnership overseeing the day-to-day operations in a new course called Mountain Meadows. In 1984 a proposal came out for a course in Altadena. Doug's partnership put in a bid and won. The course was at two sites, Altadena and Eaton Canyon. They did *tons of capital improvements*, but irrigation became a big issue.

In 1992, Doug and Candace bought a home in Altadena where they still live with their three dogs. Doug says the early 90s were the best years for golf. In the late 90s the golf business started deteriorating. Courses had been overbuilt. Courses were seeing a 15 to 20 percent drop in revenues.

Doug saw the writing on the wall and began looking around for a new career to get into. In August 2013, he acquired his real estate license. At the same time, another golf opportunity came along to run the Stevenson Ranch golf course in Stevenson

County in the Central Valley. Unfortunately, water issues became increasing problem, and the course closed on July 18, 2015.

Doug returned to Altadena and entered his real estate career. After working as a real estate agent for about 1½ years, Doug has just made arrangements to work with a local, well-known realtor: "CJ." Doug and CJ will be working for Berkshire Hathaway Realty, and the name of their company will be Altadena Realty Group. We wish you all the best in your new career, Doug.

Tony Hill ○

Dialing

Continued from p. 1

our television sets and our automobiles. But indulge me. We have a large frontal lobe so that we can look into the future, we look into the future so that we can make predictions about it, we make predictions about it so that we can control it – but why do we want to control it at all? Why not just let the future unfold as it will and experience it as it does? Why not be here now and there then? There are two answers to this question, one of which is surprisingly right and the other of which is surprisingly wrong.

The surprisingly right answer is that people find it gratifying to exercise control – not just for the futures it buys them, but for the exercise itself. Being effective – changing things, influencing things, making things happen – is one of the fundamental needs with which human brains seem to be naturally endowed, and much of our behavior from infancy onward is simply an expression of this penchant for control. Before our butts hit the very first diaper, we already have a throbbing desire to suck, sleep, poop, and make things happen. It takes us a while to get around to fulfilling the last of these desires only because it takes us a while to figure out that we have fingers, but when we do, look out world. Toddlers squeal with delight when they knock over a stack of blocks, push a ball, or squash a cupcake on their foreheads. Why? Because they did it, that's why. Look, Mom, my hand made that happen. The room is different because I was in it. I thought about falling blocks, and poof, they fell. Oh boy! Sheer doing!

The fact is that human beings come into the world with a passion for control, they go out of the world the same way, and research suggests that, if they lose their ability to control things at any point between their entrance and their exit, they become unhappy, helpless, hopeless, and

depressed. And occasionally dead. In one study, researchers gave elderly residents of a local nursing home a houseplant. They told half the residents that they were in control of the plant's care and feeding (high-control group), and they told the remaining residents that a staff person would take responsibility for the plant's well-being (low-control group). Six months later, 30 percent of the residents in the low-control group had died, compared with only 15 percent of the residents in the high-control group. A follow-up study confirmed the importance of perceived control for the welfare of nursing-home residents but had an unexpected and unfortunate end. Researchers arranged for student volunteers to pay regular visits to nursing-home residents. Residents in the high-control group were allowed to control the timing and duration of the student's visit ("Please come visit me next Thursday for an hour"), and residents in low-control group were not ("I'll come visit you next Thursday for an hour"). After two months, residents in the high-control group were happier, healthier, more active, and taking fewer medications than those in the low-control group. At this point the researchers concluded their study and discontinued the student visits.

Several months later they were chagrined to learn that a disproportionate number of residents who had been in the high-control group had died. Only in retrospect did the cause of this tragedy seem clear. The residents who had been given control, and who had benefited measurably from that control while they had it, were inadvertently robbed of control when the study ended. Apparently, gaining control can have a positive impact on one's health and well-being, but losing control can be worse than never having had any at all.



Gilbert, Daniel. *Stumbling on Happiness* (p. 21-23). Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group. Kindle Edition.

So just the fact that we think we are in control and steering our lives towards what we believe will make us happy helps to, in fact, make us happier than we otherwise would be.

The concept is interesting, and I wonder if it isn't at least a little bit of the reason why most of us joined Rotary and have stayed with it. It helps us feel that we are in control, helping to do what we believe is beneficial to all concerned, utilizing methods and goals that we consider/hope to be correct. (Is it the truth?) Hmm. ○

>> REMEMBER <<

Joint Meeting In San Marino

Thursday, July 27

San Marino Community Church

Fellowship Hall

1750 Virginia Road, San Marino, CA 91108

Realtors® Report finds Home Staging decreases Time on the Market

WASHINGTON (July 6, 2017) – Sixty-two percent of sellers’ agents say that

for a higher dollar value.”

According to the report, which is in



its second iteration, nearly two-thirds of sellers’ agents

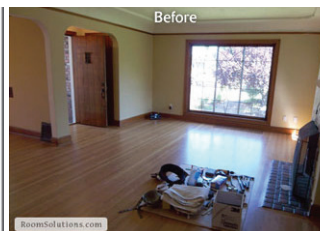
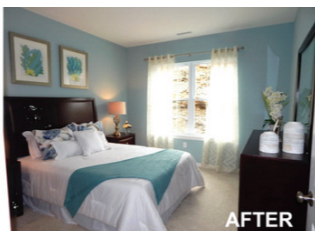
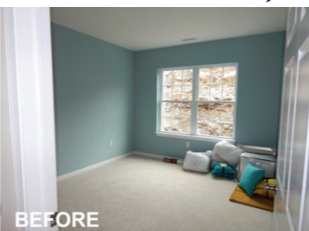
Seventy-seven percent of buyers’ agents said that staging a home makes it easier for buyers to visualize the property as their future home, and 40 percent are more willing to walk through a staged home they first saw online. However, 38 percent of buyers’ agents said that staging positively affects a home’s value if the home is decorated to the buyer’s taste, meaning that a home’s staging should be designed to appeal to the largest number of potential buyers.

staging a home decreases the amount of time a home spends on the market, according to the National Association of Realtors® (NAR) 2017 Profile of Home Staging, www.nar.realtor/reports/profile-of-home-staging.

“Realtors® know how important it is for buyers to be able to picture themselves living in a home, and, according to NAR’s most recent report,



Forty-nine percent of buyers’ agents said that staging has an effect on most buyers. Another 48 percent stated that staging has an effect on some buyers’ opinion of a home, but not always, and only 4 percent said



staging a home makes that process much easier for potential buyers,” said NAR President William E. Brown, a Realtor® from Alamo, California and founder of Investment Properties. “While all real estate is local, and many factors play into what a home is worth and how much buyers are willing to pay for it, staging can be the extra step sellers take to help sell their home more quickly and

said that staging a home decreases the amount of time the home spends on the market, with 39 percent saying that it greatly decreases the time and 23 percent saying it slightly decreases the time. Sixteen percent of sellers’ agents believe that staging either greatly or slightly increases a home’s time on the market, while 8 percent believe that it has no impact.

that it has no impact on buyers.

Realtors® representing both buyers and sellers agreed that the living room is the most important room in a home to stage, followed by the master bedroom, the kitchen, and then the yard or outdoor space. The guest bedroom is considered the least important room to stage.

Examples found on the internet. ○



TASTE - of - 'DENA

Benefiting Altadena Library District

Dear Friends and Supporters of Altadena Library,

Now that Growing Up 'Dena has past (and was a great success!), the 50th Anniversary Committee and I are turning our attention to the remainder of 2017 and our upcoming efforts to continue celebrating this important milestone in the Library's history. It seems appropriate to take full advantage of this historic anniversary by garnering the support of potential donors in the community and cultivating ongoing donor relationships to help achieve the Library's ongoing goals. Thus was born the inspiration for an upcoming fundraising event -- Taste of 'Dena!

Taste of 'Dena will be held on Saturday, September 23rd at the Library, featuring tastings from local restaurants and caterers, alcohol selections from local wineries and breweries, and a diverse assortment of exciting raffle and auction items. All ticket sales and proceeds will benefit specific initiatives at the Altadena Library to be announced shortly.

"Why," you may ask, "are you telling me all this?" It's simple -- we need your help! The 50th Anniversary Committee will need the support of several more dedicated volunteers to put on this event and manage all the various pieces of the event planning including, but not limited to, sponsorship and donation solicitations, event logistics, raffle coordination, and vendor relationship management.

Will you answer our call and join our team? I would be happy to discuss with you in more detail the scope of responsibilities for these volunteer positions and an early, approximate timeline for the event planning. If you are interested in joining the planning committee for this unique event, please email me at cynthia.reed@gmail.com or contact Mindy Kittay at mkittay@altadenalibrary.org.

Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely,

Cynthia Carmona

Cynthia Carmona
President, 50th Anniversary Committee





All concerts are FREE and start at 7:00 PM in the Amphitheater at Farnsworth Park.
 568 East Mt. Curve Ave., Altadena, CA 91001 for information: 626-798-6335
 Visit: <http://www.altadenasheriffs.blogspot.com>

21st Annual Summer Concert Series Schedule - 2017

The Saline Fiddlers Philharmonic	Saturday, July 8th
The Down Beat Express	Saturday, July 15th
Bleeding Harp	Saturday, July 22nd
Whos Next	Saturday, July 29th
The Tuners	Saturday, August 5th
Upstream	Saturday, August 12th
Kings of 88	Saturday, August 19th
Nowhere Man	Saturday August 26th

And... For Our Grand Finale... Saturday, Sept. 9th
Hot August Night in their Tribute to :
NEIL DIAMOND

Presented by B & E Promotions & Sheriff's Support Group of Altadena

Thank You to our generous sponsors



Time to Look for a New Home?

Doing just that for Altadenans since 1998!

SEYFFERT & ASSOCIATES

626.791.2800
 linda.seyffert@podley.com
 CUBBE PODLEY

Podley



Rotary Club
Of Altadena



Georgia Rutherford

In Memory of
Don Rutherford
SSGA's First President



2555 Lake Ave.
Altadena, Ca 91001
626.296.2818

