

Rotary Club of Altadena

Sparks

OFF THE ROTARY WHEEL
AN AWARD-WINNING NEWSLETTER



ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE

November 16, 2017

This Week

Meet the Rose Queen and Her Court At the Rotary Club of San Marino Guest Program Host: San Marino Rotary

This week we will be joining the Rotary Club of San Marino to meet the Rose Queen and her court. The meeting will begin at noon and will be held at

**San Marino Community Church,
1750 Virginia Rd. San Marino**
(cross-street: south of Huntington Dr.)



You will have a chance to meet and talk with these fine young ladies. Each in turn will tell us a bit about herself and her future plans for school and career.



Please Remember:

Go to
San Marino Community Church.
Our meeting is there this week
November 16
to meet the
Rose Queen and her Court



Dialing In

By Steve Kerekes,
President



Why a Computer Could Never Replace a Rotarian

Last week's article looked at the elements of the 4-Way Test and discussed situations where being truthful did not always mean being beneficial, and where being fair did not always mean building goodwill and better friendships.

This week continues that discussion and talks about reconciling these four principles. It is once again taken from an essay by Frank Deaver, Professor Emeritus of Journalism at the University of Alabama and a member of the Rotary Club of Tuscaloosa, Alabama. The essay can be found in its original form at <<https://www.rghfhome.org/first100/presidents/1954taylor/taylor/ethicsandmore.htm#.Wf4SsjtrwdU>>



Let us come, then, to look at our Rotary Four-Way Test in what may be a new and more introspective way. Its four questions appeal to:

- TRUTH,
- FAIRNESS,
- GOODWILL, and
- BENEFICIAL.

Our credo embraces the best of both principle and pragmatism.

In the first two questions, we find words of principle:

- TRUTH and
- FAIRNESS.

These principles call us to an apparently unbending dedication to seek truth and dedicate ourselves to fairness. As ideal expectations, they are not always totally attainable, but they are worthy goals. A Rotarian who does not seek to attain these goals is falling short of the lofty standards idealized in these probing questions.

The other two questions embrace practicality:

- GOODWILL and
- BENEFICIAL.

These are goals usually attainable through the intelligent application of human reasoning. They call us to practical analysis of actions, seeking the greater good that

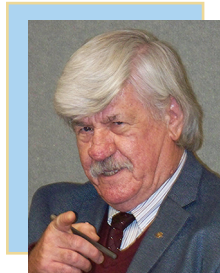
Please turn to Dialing p. 4

Greeter of the Week

November 16
Meeting at San Marino Rotary Club
November 23
Dark -- Thanksgiving
November 30
Tom McCurry

Program Review

It's Your Rotary Foundation There are Many Ways to support It



Last Thursday our speaker was Rotary District 5300 Foundation Chair, Michael (“Mike”) Driebe. He

is a long-time Rotarian who shared with us everything you ever wanted to know about the Rotary Foundation – and boy – as you will see below, there is so much to know.

Driebe began at the beginning: the

Rotary Foundation was created in 1917 by Rotary International’s sixth President, Arch C. Klumph, as an endowment for Rotary “to do good in the world.” The Foundation has grown from an initial contribution of \$26.50 to over one billion dollars. Those who have given – as most of us have – can proudly say “I am part of that sum that has and will continue to do so much around the globe.

He told us of the Rotary Foundation mantra: “ Every Rotarian, every year,” meaning that the goal is to have each Rotary member worldwide contribute a minimum of \$25/year, and that each Rotary Club contribute to the foundation an average of \$100/member per year.

There are many subcategories used to rank Rotary Clubs based upon that Club’s giving history. There is the “100% Foundation Giving Club” whose contributions go to basic Rotary programs of Polio Plus, the Endowment Fund and the Annual Giving Fund. There is the “100% Paul Harris Club” in which all members are Paul Harris Club members, meaning that each member has given a minimum of \$1,000 in cash and recognition points to the Paul Harris Foundation. There is the Top 3 Per Capita Clubs in giving.

There are also individual recognitions. For instance becoming a Paul Harris Fellow by donating an accumulated total of \$1,000



to the Paul Harris Foundation. Many of the members of our Altadena Rotary Club who are Paul Harris Fellows themselves have gone on to make their spouses and other family and friends Paul Harris Fellows by donating additional accumulated \$1,000 sums in the names of these family members and friends. There is the Paul Harris Society. To be named a member of the Paul Harris Society, you must contribute the sum of \$1,000 per year to the Paul Harris Foundation. Mike Driebe told us that he accomplishes this by

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Congratulations



Birthdays



11/06 - Mindy Kittay
11/08 - Sterling Louviere
11/09 - David Campbell
11/13 - Ed Jasnow
11/20 - Steve Kerekes



Anniversaries



11/01 - Jacque Foreman & Bruce Conroy

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Rotary Club of Altadena - #7183

Chartered: February 14, 1949
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Altadena Town & Country Club
2290 Country Club Drive • Altadena, CA
626-794-7163

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Dist 5300 Gov..... Raghada Khoury

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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

**November
Rotary Foundation**

Program Chair, Dennis Mehringer

Nov. 09 - Michael Driebe, Rotary Foundation
Nov. 16 - Meet the Rose Queen & her Court
Nov. 23 - Thanksgiving - Dark
Nov. 30 - Maria Perez-Arton - Craft Talk

Decorating our Community for Veteran's Day



On Friday, November 10 at about 4 in the afternoon, Doug

Colliflower, Craig Cox, Ben Green and Tony Hill met at the Presbyterian Church parking lot to put flags down Lake Avenue so they



would be up for Veteran's Day.

Tony stores the flags at his home, so the first thing was to move half the flags from Tony's van to Doug's van.

It was decided that Tony and Ben would go south on Lake from Altadena Drive to Woodbury Road, with a bit of a detour on Mariposa to put flags on one light pole there.

Craig and Doug went north on the east side of Lake from Woodbury Road to Altadena Drive. It was necessary that Craig's team go north because one of the light poles on the east side of Lake needed a new flag bracket, and, Craig is an expert at mounting the brackets on the light poles.

The first picture shows Ben, Doug and Tony transferring half the flags from Tony's van to Doug's van. Craig was getting the new bracket out of his car to put it in Doug's van.

The second picture shows Ben holding the ladder and preparing to hand the second



flag to Tony.

The third picture shows Craig on the ladder after mounting the bracket. He is putting a tool in



his pocket so he can grab the flag that Doug is handing him.

The flags were all up by about 4:30; perfect timing as darkness was falling fast.

Program

Continued from p.2

arranging for the sum of \$84 to be deducted each month from his Visa card and donated to the Paul Harris Foundation.

You can earn the title of *Major Donor* by donating a total of \$10,000 to the Foundation. Driebe said one does this not so much as a bragging right but as an outward sign of his/her commitment to Rotary to hopefully encourage others to do the same by his/her example. You can become a member of the *Arch Klumpp Society* by going beyond the \$10,000 Major Donor category. By so doing you also receive a permanent recognition by way of a plaque with your name placed on a

wall at Rotary Headquarters in Evanston, IL.

Then there are recognitions for those who contribute to Rotary upon their death. You can become a member of the *Bequest Society* by notifying Rotary International that you have made a provision in your will or estate plan to leave part of your estate to the Rotary Foundation. You can become a member of the *Benefactor Society* by leaving a minimum of \$1,000 to the Foundation. You can have a Rotary endowment fund named after you if you leave \$25,000 or more to Rotary in your testamentary document.

The great thing about contributing to the Rotary Foundation in the many ways described above, and other ways not mentioned due to space and time limitations, is that the Rotary Foundation delays the use of your contributions for a three-year period, using the interest accrued during these three years to cover the operating costs of the Foundation.

As a result, when you give to the Foundation, you know that 100 percent of your contribution is going to the charitable works of Rotary. Not many charities can make that make this promise.

Tony Hill

Dialing

Continued from p. 1

may result from our decisions.

The Four-Way Test – our Code of Ethics – is designed for those who are willing to dedicate themselves – and their businesses – and their professions – and their social positions – all that they are – to the principles and the practicalities that have made Rotary what it is.

Look around almost any community – your own, for instance – and you will see that civic, social, political, and economic leaders are in large part Rotarians. I submit to you that this is no accident. But it does lay upon our shoulders an added burden of responsibility.

It has been said that “Leaders do the right thing; managers do things right.” That is a valid definition of ethical leadership. Managers are employed to do the defined things right, in other words to follow. But leaders – in order to do right things – must be the decision makers, those who determine what is right. Rotarians – I repeat – are those leaders.

The Four-Way Test can serve us as a trusted ethical guide. Through it, we are pointed to the ethics of principle. Through it we are pointed to the ethics of practicality. But as responsible, individual Rotarians, we are trusted to recognize the differences. We are expected to apply both principle and practicality in an ethically mature way.

It is not enough that we *ASK* the four questions. It is not enough that we make a decision based on some *ONE* of the questions. Our Four-Way Test is not only our call to lofty principles, and to beneficial practicality, it is our challenge to combine them in ethically responsible decisions and actions.

As Rotarians, we cannot content ourselves to be conformists in what may be ethically questionable. Our ethical convictions may bring us to challenge our colleagues – perhaps even challenge a law. Recall that great moral heroes of history are

those who were willing to stand for right, often in defiance of society and its norms.

We could mention:

- Jesus Christ,
- Mohammed,
- Mahatma Ghandi,
- Martin Luther King, and
- Mother Teresa.

They were leaders. They were not conformists.

Today, we are challenged by our Four-Way Test to prove ourselves worthy of the obligations we assumed when we accepted the name that we wear with pride, the name **Rotarian**. To wear that name proudly,

we must

- Diligently adhere to principles,
- Consider practicalities, and
- Conscientiously answer and balance the questions of our Four-Way Test.

We must – as Rotarians – be visible examples of ethically right conduct. And we are, indeed fortunate, to have the Four-Way Test as our ethical guide.



As long as Rotary is guided by the principles of the 4-Way Test, discretion will need to be exercised to reconcile its competing goals, and Rotarians will not have to worry about being replaced by computers. ○

In Honor of Veteran's Day

Saturday, November 11

Let Us Remember

It Is The Soldier

by Charles M. Province, U.S. Army

It is the Soldier, not the minister
Who has given us freedom of religion.

It is the Soldier, not the reporter
Who has given us freedom of the press.

It is the Soldier, not the poet
Who has given us freedom of speech.

It is the Soldier, not the campus organizer
Who has given us freedom to protest.

It is the Soldier, not the lawyer
Who has given us the right to a fair trial.

It is the Soldier, not the politician
Who has given us the right to vote.

It is the Soldier who salutes the flag,
Who serves beneath the flag,
And whose coffin is draped by the flag,
Who allows the protester to burn the flag.

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Building a Guest Unit Just got Easier

From an article by
 John A. LaRocca, LaRocca Inspection Associates

To the delight of builders and homeowners, a new 2017 law removes many restrictions and barriers to building accessory dwelling units in California.

California State Senator Bob Wieckowski, D-Fremont created a bill that drastically reduces the regulations restricting the creation of Accessory Dwelling Units. Many of us know them as *Guest Units* or *Guest Homes*.

After Governor Jerry Brown signed the Bill into law in 2016, the rules took effect for all Californians as of January 1, 2017.

According to an article by Phillip Molnar of *The San Diego Union-Tribune*, Wieckowski said of his legislation, "SB 1069 returns more power to homeowners

and reins in some of the enormous fees and requirements levied by local agencies."

SB 1069 is a major step forward in addressing California's housing crisis by removing restrictions that have discouraged – and in most cases prohibited – homeowners from adding these rentable second units.

The White House's *Housing Development Toolkit* praised California's actions to reduce barriers and called for allowing more accessory dwelling units to help meet the affordable housing challenge.

Most potential homebuyers in today's real estate market, especially younger first time buyers, struggle with high home prices and rising interest rates. The possibility of build-

ing within a half mile of public transit or in an architecturally and historically significant district.

Other restrictions and guidelines in SB

1069 require that the unit has long-term affordability covenants and restrictions requiring the unit to be affordable to persons of low – or very low – income for not less than 55 years. The lot must be zoned for single-family or multifamily use and contain an existing single-family dwelling. The Additional Dwelling Unit cannot be intended for sale separate from the primary residence and may be rented.

SB 1069 goes on to stipulate that the Accessory Dwelling Unit shall not be considered new residential uses for the

purpose of calculating local agency connection fees or capacity charges for utilities, including water and sewer service.

Those considering building a *guest unit* should sit down with their local planning department official and explore the possibilities for their individual site. A homeowner with an existing, non-permitted additional dwelling unit, s/he could bring an *as-built* drawing of the construction and discuss the requirements to obtain a permit for that pre-existing construction. ○



ing onto or converting part of a property into a legal income producer could help to convert many more home shoppers into homebuyers.

The legislation states that as long as the granny flat meets current zoning guidelines, no other local ordinance policy, or regulation shall be the basis for the denial of a building permit or a use permit.

Homeowners can get out of providing parking for granny units, which cannot exceed 1,200-square-feet, as long as it is



Job Creation & Entrepreneurship

by C. Ray Carlson, District Chair, Job Creation & Entrepreneurship

Duane Dewey Merrill A Legacy at Muir High School *that can continue to impact Youth and give Hope*

It was on October 30, 1998 that our beloved friend and past president, Dewey Merrill, gave the final hours of his life to teaching students at John Muir High School about his own life and career as an entrepreneur. I was with him and held his hand as he passed from this life. Having just heard him pour out his heart to the pupils and, in his final words, encourage them literally to allow God to give them direction in life, I could pray that his passage into Eternity with God would be a joyous experience for him.

His death in performing *Service Above Self* made a profound impact on me and every one in our club. When a new flag pole in front of the School was being constructed, paid for by the Altadena Rotary Charities on behalf of the Altadena American Legion, I urged that a plaque in Dewey's honor be placed at the foot of the pole. At the dedication of the flagpole, Dewey's final act of speaking to the students was cited. The Muir orchestra played, the Muir choir sang, the JROTC students presented the flag, and Dewey's wife Phyllis Merrill hoisted it. It was truly an honor-filled occasion, attended by

our club members.

We established an annual Dewey Merrill Award of Excellence for those students who had prepared the best business plans based on their own ideas. Political leaders presented beautiful commendations to the students. This was repeated annually many times until the Business & Entrepreneurship Academy was formed at Muir, and the Business Plans became class projects rather than individual efforts.

In recent weeks, I proposed to the new principal, Dr. Lawton Gray, that I teach in single, double-period classes every 9th grade class at Muir how to write Business Plans based on student ideas. My 1- page fill-in-the-blanks form will work beautifully within that 100-minute time frame. I have done it many times before and have seen how interested and excited the students become because the ideas are their own, not a *Class Project*. And it might lead to a business of their own some day, where they will be *their own boss*, maybe hire employees, and even maybe make a lot of money! We will establish Competitions

between the students in each class, between classes, and have them give oral presentations at the Altadena Rotary Club and even at two other local Rotary clubs if members volunteer to teach.

This is a *screening* business plan form, to ascertain whether the business idea has any chance at viability. The Bottom Line will show this, and whether parameters must or can even be changed sufficiently to make adequate profit. Otherwise, seek another idea. More instruction is needed to develop a more detailed plan of 15-25 pages to convince family members and friends, maybe, to *invest* in their ideas after they have saved at least 10 percent of capital needed. The popular TV series *Shark Tank* has created considerable interest even among teens.

A recent 39-page document dealt with the *anxieties* of teenagers and how they are losing confidence in themselves to be able to achieve anything – pass tests, advance in grades, graduate, be accepted into college, find fulfilling jobs, find mates, move away from parents.

Their addiction to social media and smart phones is thought to be a major cause.

My observation from volunteer teaching for 20+ years is that most of the students are captivated by the simple idea of making their own jobs, based on their own ideas. When stumped, they can be guided into discerning from their daily lives something that might become a source of income. Maybe even what they do for fun, without pay!

Principal Gray liked the idea and invited me to start in Spring of 2018. Three days later I had a heart attack! But without pain. Patched up with a stent, I was sent home to get ready. To continue in your footsteps, Dewey Merrill, serving God by serving kids in my community. Exciting! ○



At a Rotary meeting: (l to r), C. Ray Carlson, Dewey Merrill and Program Speaker



Entrepreneur & Small Business Workshops

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16TH
“What Does It Take to Open Your Business?”

10:00AM - 11:00AM

“Permits and Licensing Requirements in LA County”

11:00AM - 12:00PM

Community Room, Altadena Main Library

600 E. Mariposa Street, Altadena 91001



REGISTER TODAY!

Please email hello@altadenalibrary.org to claim your spot at these special workshops!

Call (626)798-0833 with any questions!

What Does it Take to Open Your Business?

Learn what you need to consider when opening your business. Topics covered: the importance and elements of a business plan, understanding finances, and learn about free resources available to you.

Permits and Licensing Requirements in LA County

Learn which departments handle which permits and licenses, what to expect when dealing with LA County, and how to prepare to expedite the process!



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
CONSUMER & BUSINESS AFFAIRS

ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER & BUSINESS AFFAIRS

The mission of the Los Angeles County Department of Consumer and Business Affairs is “to create a fair and vibrant marketplace.” It achieves this through educating consumers about their rights and responsibilities, mediating disputes and investigating consumer fraud complaints, assisting small business owners, and enforcing LA County’s minimum wage ordinance.

“Small businesses are really the engine in the economy.”

- Karen Mills -

23rd Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration

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ALTADENA LIBRARY DISTRICT PRESENTS THE

Second Saturday

2017-18 CONCERT SERIES*

October 14	<i>Upstream*</i>	March 10	<i>DeRumba</i>
November 11	<i>The Tone Brothers</i>	April 14	<i>Kenny Sara and the Sounds of New Orleans</i>
December 2	<i>Upbeat Swing Orchestra</i>	May 12	<i>The Podunk Poets</i>
January 13	<i>Kai Clark with special guests John York & Carla Olson</i>	June 9	<i>Crown City Bombers</i>
February 10	<i>Gerry Rothschild Band</i>		



*October 14th's Second Saturday Concert featuring Upstream is sponsored by the office of Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger.

All other Second Saturday Concerts are supported in part by funds received from the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Foundation.

Free live music, delicious food and drink, and good friends... all right around the corner!



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