

## This Week

### Captain Vicki Stuckey Altadena Sheriff's Station

**Program Host:  
 Mark Mariscal**

*News from our  
 Altadena Sheriff's Station*

Our club recently finished assisting the Sheriff Support Group of Altadena with the Summer Concert Series in Farnsworth Park. The Sheriff's Station staff is led by Captain Vicki Stuckey. This week, she is our speaker. She will also be bringing a Sheriff Lieutenant – a senior level officer – from the County-Wide Office who will speak specifically on how Proposition 109, aka *the early release program from State Prisons* effects our local community.



**Our Speaker**

Vicki L. Stuckey, is a 32-year veteran of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, and was assigned as the Altadena Station Captain by Sheriff Jim McDonnell in October of 2015. Altadena Sheriff's Station is responsible for providing law enforcement services to the citizens of Altadena.

Stuckey's career with the Sheriff's  
*Please turn to This Week p. 3*



## Dialing In

By Steve Kerekes,  
 President



### The Best Way to Kill a Friendship

"A true friend is someone who is there for you when he'd rather be anywhere else."

Len Wein  
*writer and editor at DC Comics  
 who passed away earlier this month.*



*In the last two weeks we have looked at why people become friends and what builds better friendships. This week's selection continues to be taken from Joseph Epstein's excellent book, Friendship - An Exposé (Houghton Mifflin Co., 2006, pps. 34-45) and discusses the flip side of that - what actions people take, or do not take, that kills their friendship. You can consider the following either as a positive admonition - or a bit of negative advice.*



Loyalty is certainly among the responsibilities of friendship, but to what degree? "All for one and one for all!" exclaimed D'Artagnan and the Three Musketeers in Alexander Dumas's famous novel, formulating the high ideal of loyalty among friends. Yet, one wonders if Porthos mightn't have told Athos that he thought Aramis was a bit cheap ("You'd think once, just once, he'd pick up the tab for a flagon of Bordeaux"); if Aramis ever asked Porthos

whether he noticed that Athos's breath was not all it should be; if Athos told Aramis that Porthos, when you got right down to it, was damn pushy; and if, after a night's drinking, the three men tended to agree that D'Artagnan's flair was overdone and, made him seem – how to say this? – just a touch light in the loafers.

All of which is to say that in friendships, as in almost every other sphere of life, vast discrepancies exist between the ideal and reality. A New Yorker cartoon has a man coming out of a church exclaiming, "How can I love my enemies when I don't even like my friends?" Life provides moments when, alas, one knows whereof the fellow speaks. "Thy friendship oft has made my heart to ache," wrote William Blake. "Do be my enemy – for friendship's sake."



Why does one decide to befriend one  
*Please turn to Dialing p. 4*

### Greeter of the Week

- September 28  
**Tony Hill**
- October 05  
**Mendel Hill**
- October 12  
**Boyd Hudson**

# Program Review

## More than Just a Thrift Shop



That's what our speaker, David Fields, told us about the St. Vincent de Paul Society at our program last week. As the Executive Director of the St. Vincent de Paul Society of Los Angeles, Fields outlined the wonderful charity work that the Society does

with the funds it generates from the Thrift Shops. Though the Society is a Catholic organization, it treats everyone regardless of religion, race, or creed.

Fields has lived in Altadena for 28 years, and it was through a connection at St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church that he got involved with the Society.

The Society was founded in 1833 in Paris, France, and was dedicated to helping the homeless living on the streets. Over the years, the Society has become known for its Thrift Shops, where people donate used clothing, furniture, cars, etc. The sale of these items helps fund the Society's charity



work. Fields noted that he was wearing a Brooks Brothers shirt, which he could never afford to buy new, but purchased at the Thrift



Store for \$5.99. The charitable work done by the Society is very extensive. The number of homeless people in the LA area has grown exponentially. Two of Fields' staff members, Connie O'Donnell and Ron Turkal, talked about the work they do with St. Elizabeth's for those people in need within the church's parish boundaries. This help is not just for members of the Catholic Church. They practice *homelessness prevention*, where

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### Rotary Club of Altadena - #7183

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www.altadenarotary.com

Meets: Thursday, 12:10p

Altadena Town & Country Club

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Photography ..... Jacque Foreman

### September Education & Literacy

*Program Chair, Mark Mariscal*

Sep. 28 - LA Sheriff Captain Vickie Stuckey

### October

*Economic & Community Development*

*Program Chair, Ray Carlson*

Oct. 05 - To be Announced

Oct. 12 - To be Announced

Oct. 19 - To be Announced

### Congratulations



#### Birthdays



09/13 - Boyd Hudson

09/17 - Dennis Mehringer

09/19 - Bob Collinge

09/21 - Doug Colliflower

09/22 - Etta McCurry



#### Anniversaries



09/01 - Mark & Paula Mariscal

09/13 - Boyd & Alice Hudson

## Rotary Fellowships



There are many benefits to being a Rotary member. Through the local club and district you are connected to a diverse group of professionals and community leaders who share your passion to give back.

Other benefits of membership are the Rotary International Convention (this year June 23 -27 2018 in Toronto, Canada), Rotary Global Rewards, Rotarian Action Groups, and Rotary Fellowships. In this

article I will explain Rotary Fellowships and how to participate.

If you go to [www.rotary.org/en/our-programs/more-fellowships](http://www.rotary.org/en/our-programs/more-fellowships) you will see that "Rotary Fellowships are independent, social groups that share a common passion. Being part of a fellowship is a fun way to make friends around the world." These groups are open to Rotarians, family members, program participants and alumni. A directory is available listing all current Rotary Fellowships.

If you don't see an existing fellowship

that captures your interest you can also form one. Start by finding others who share your interest. Join discussion groups, start new groups, or promote your idea by using Rotary's presence on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn. When your fellowship group is up and running make sure you apply for official recognition. This will make sure your group is in the official directory so others with similar interests can find you.

More information is available on the newly redesigned Rotary website. Check it out when you have a chance. ○

## Program

*Continued from p.2*

they provide funds to allow people on the edge to stay in their homes.

The Society also owns the Circle V camp in Santa Barbara, which provides a wonderful camping experience for underprivileged children. The experience for these children is transformative. Last year a forest fire forced the evacuation of both children and staff. Parts of the camp were destroyed, but will be re-built in time for the next camp session. Fire fighters told the staff members that the Hand of God



prevented further damage and resulted in no injuries. The fact that the fire stopped right at the Chapel just reinforced this fact.

The Society also runs the Cardinal Manning Center on Skid Row – literally next to the downtown high-rises. Its purpose is to get people off the streets. Last year, the

Society helped over 300,000 people and touched the lives of 600,000 more. Fields encouraged us to donate to the Thrift Shops to help fund their charitable work. Indeed, the St. Vincent de Paul Society is much more than a Thrift Shop.

Ed Jasnow ○

## This Week

*Continued from p. 1*

Department began in 1985. After graduating from the Sheriff's Training Academy as a deputy sheriff, she worked at Sybil Brand Institute for Women and then moved on to a patrol assignment at Norwalk Station where she worked a variety of assignments. She was promoted to Sergeant in 1997 and was assigned to Transportation Bureau and Carson Station. After she was promoted to Lieutenant in 2007, she was assigned to

Century Regional Detention Facility, Lomita Station, Compton Station, and the Office of the Assistant Sheriff.

Stuckey holds an Associate of Arts degree from Compton College and a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from California State University, Long Beach and she enjoys running, reading, cycling, quilting, traveling, and spending time with her family and friends. ○

# Dialing

*Continued from p. 1*

person rather than another, at least when such friendships are made deliberately and not by accident? And so many friendships are, it would seem, made by accident, or near accident: he sat next to me in class; she took her child to the same park I took mine to; we both worked in the advertising department at Sears, and so on.

• • •

“A face that only a mother could love” was an expression of my mother’s generation that applied to homely children, and there are people so selfish, ornery, and otherwise disagreeable that one wonders how they could have any friends at all. Yet ... often enough they do. One can only speculate as to why. Do they attract equally unpleasant people as friends? Or merely people who use friendship as an outlet for their masochism? Or are all the friendships of such people built on the strictly utilitarian grounds of mutual – and temporary – usefulness? We are in the midst here of another of life’s manifold mysteries.

Not that some among these people are without their own odd allure. When I was younger, I myself fell for a few of them. As a high school kid, I ran for a brief spell with a boy eighteen months older than I who had astonishing freedom backed up by lots of money (owing to a newly rich and less than fully interested father) and a taste for corruption. Running around with him made life seem thrilling: lots of gambling, sexual adventures, entree to places whose doors were usually closed to teenage boys. But the understanding here was that I was without any prospect of ever being his equal. Yet subordinating myself ... for a short while ... was all right – it was worth the price of glimpses of a different and exciting world that came as the dividend. But genuine friendship was not a real possibility.

• • •

In World War II, men said of certain

fellow soldiers that they were the men they wanted with them in their foxhole. By this they meant that these were guys whom they could count on absolutely for courage and honor; they would be there when needed; they would never let you down; they would come through under the worst of circumstances.

I know people whom I would want in my foxhole but whom I do not consider close friends ... or even friends at all. And I have friends, good friends, whom I would not want anywhere near my foxhole, because courage and loyalty under pressure aren’t things for which I would ever count on them, though they have other excellent qualities.

• • •

One of the comforts of friends is shared references; one can allude to certain things – historical events, song lyrics, cultural phenomena – without having to supply either footnotes or a glossary. Yet I cannot claim that all, or even many, of my friends could respond to my mentioning Lord Berners or Robert de Montesquiou, or could fill me in on the lyrics to Louis Armstrong’s *I Guess I’ll Get the Papers and Go Home*, just as I could not respond to their mention of things that are specialties in their homes. But we all find things to talk about; and above and beyond these things we have in common certain unspoken assumptions about what is and what isn’t important in life. This makes it possible for us to laugh together. Unless you have settled morals – Virginia Woolf wrote – you can’t know what to laugh at. At this stage in life, it would be difficult for me to have anything approaching a close friendship with someone who isn’t sure what he or she ought to find amusing.

• • •

Emerson ... writes that “a friend is a person with whom I may be sincere. Before him I may think aloud. I am arrived at last

in the presence of a man so real and equal, that I may drop even those undermost garments of dissimulation, courtesy, and second thought, which men never put off, and may deal with him with the simplicity and wholeness with which one chemical meets another.” To reduce the high-octane content in Emerson’s language, if not entirely slip back into “those undermost garments of dissimulation”: he is obviously right when he says that a greater candor is permitted among friends. Friends are often able to talk to each other in a spirit of freedom, in a happy *let’s-cut-the-crap* atmosphere not generally permitted among nonfriends or acquaintances. And I suppose that one of the things one looks for in a friend – or when considering taking on a new friend – is the possibility of easy candor in conversation.

• • •

People I consider for friends – leaving aside the question of their wishing to consider me for a friend have a quality that I can only call seriousness, adding that this seriousness does not preclude great good humor, whimsy, even clownishness. Seriousness has, though, to do with recognizing, if rarely enunciating, that the human drama is about trying to determine what is and is not significant in a finite life. Seriousness has to do with attempting to make sense of one’s experiences, not least one’s sufferings and setbacks. Seriousness lends gravity to a man or woman, gravity that, if this not be a physical contradiction, does not weigh them down.

• • •

Which leads me to what ought to seem obvious, but until this moment hasn’t seemed obvious at all to me: the criteria for friendship can be set down only in so rough a way that they are all but useless. One might begin by saying that one’s friends

*Please turn to Dialing, p. 5*

*Sparks - Altadena Rotary Club Newsletter*

## Words that Change Their Meanings

So here I am again with some column inches to fill. And I have turned to one of my favorite little books: *The Unexpected Evolution of Language* by Justin Cord Hayes.



Let's look at the word *Nabob*. The Original Definition is: *deputy governor in the Mogul Empire*. The New Definition is: *someone of great wealth and importance*. (See *Mogul* below.)

The late political columnist William Safire once was a speech-writer for Vice President Spiro Agnew. In that capacity, he penned Agnew's most-remembered phrase: "nattering nabobs of negativism." Folks who ran to their dictionaries learned that a *nabob* is a person of great wealth and importance. But before that, a nabob was a very *specific* person of wealth and importance. The Mogul Empire controlled most of the Indian subcontinent during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The Moguls controlled so much that they required many deputy governors to look out for the empire's interests. These deputy governors were called *nawabs*, which English speakers transformed into *nabobs*. These government officials practiced the time-honored tradition of using their positions to line their own pockets. Thus, they became extremely wealthy and important.

When the British East India Company began to wrestle power away from the Moguls in the late eighteenth century, an English play-write decided the company's director acted a lot like *nabobs*. They made money – often by allegedly illegal means and wielded tremendous power.

Thus, Samuel Foote wrote a play in 1772 called *The Nabob*, which satirized the British East India Company. The play helped popularize the word *nabob*.



Now let's turn to the word *Mogul*. The Original Definition is: *mongol emperor*. The New Definition is: *a rich and powerful person*.

A nomadic group of central Asians call the Mongols – led by Genghis Khan – conquered China and much of Asia in the early decades of the thirteenth century. In what we now call the Middle East, the Mongols effectively committed genocide, killing up to three-fourths of the region's men, wom-

en and children. Iran's population did not reach pre-Mongol levels until the twentieth century!

Gradually, the Mongols lost some of their power, only to be rallied again by Tamerlane ( aka: Timur). Tamerlane died, and once again, it looked like the Mongol empire was over. Then, in 1526, a Tamerlane descendant named Babar (or Barbur) invaded and conquered portions of India, calling it the Mogul Empire. *Mogul* is from a Persian word for the Mongols. ○

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### Dialing

*Continued from p. 4*

must be honorable, fair, decent, good-humored, generous, and kind. But inevitably some of one's dearest friends won't quite pass the test. They will have some of these qualities, or one or two in sufficiently attractive form, to make up for not having the others, or perhaps have them only in short supply. Nor, the truth be known, is oneself (and myself) likely to possess the criteria of virtue required by the perfect friend.



From which two points arise:

- **First** – friendship is almost never ideal, and imposing ideal standards on it is

almost always a poor idea.

- **Second** – we enter into friendships largely through instinct – something about this man or woman that I like, though I can't at the moment say exactly what it is – and find our reasons for our attraction to them in an ad hoc or improvised and after-the-fact way. (In this, it is like love.)



*Few things are more likely to kill a friendship quicker than a careful and strictly adhered-to theory of what qualities are needed in a friend.* ○

MARK THIS DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30  
VOLUNTEER PLANTING DAY

TRIANGLE PARK  
800 E. ALTADENA DRIVE  
9am to 12n

## How to Avoid Falling in Love with a Money Pit Home

There are many of us who dream of owning an older home, full of character and personality. We imagine gorgeous woodwork, wrap-around porches, arched doorways, ornate fireplaces and sweeping carved staircases. All those dreams can come true, but be careful to evaluate the work and expense that can go along with owning an older home.

*Inspect, inspect, inspect* – did I say inspect? I can't emphasize enough the importance of having a thorough home inspection. For an older home experts recommend two inspections: a standard inspection and a structural inspection. Being informed of any problems can put you in a position to negotiate repairs with the Seller in case significant or dangerous problems are discovered. Here are some problems that might be discovered.

### ***Foundation and Structural Issues***

Even meticulously built homes can shift over time, causing cracks in foundations and walls. Doors and windows may jam; chimneys may need realignment and stonework might need attention. Moisture creeping in over time can cause dry rot or corrosion, which can lead to mold or mildew. Older homes have a high risk of termite damage which can devastate floors, structural supports and drywall. This is where having a structural inspection is key. The inspector will discover whether or not the home has any of these problems.

### ***Hazardous Materials***

If the house was built before 1978, it may contain lead based paint inside and out. Professional paint removers can be hired if you are uncomfortable living with lead paint, especially if you have young children. Old lead pipes pose another issue. A water filtration system for the entire house or at least the kitchen faucet is the most cost-effective fix, but you might be faced with replacing all your pipes.

Asbestos was commonly used in insulation and fireproofing material until the mid-1970s. Old popcorn ceilings probably contain asbestos too. Removal costs vary greatly, depending on the size of the project. If you are planning to remodel, asbestos removal is recommended.

### ***Unsafe Electrical System***

Find out the age of the home's electrical system. If it is still the original knob-and-tube wiring, you should get a quote to replace it. Insulation for the wiring needs to be intact and the electrical panel and circuit breakers should be up-to-date. If the original wiring has already been replaced, it must be up to code to be safe and efficient. Check for code with updated plumbing as well.

### ***Old Appliances and Mechanics***

Kitchen and laundry room appliances, air conditioning systems, furnaces and water heaters all have an expected lifespan. Your home inspector will check the age of every unit and determine how much longer it should be operational so you can create a reasonable replacement schedule.

Figure that into your household budget for the coming years if you decide to purchase the home.

### ***Trees, Leaves and Roots***

The beauty of a long-established neighborhood is usually a big plus when buying an older home. Towering trees and mature flowering shrubbery have great appeal, but keep in mind the price that comes with them. Trees need to be trimmed regularly or you risk damage due to broken limbs or fallen trees, especially during wind storms. Old, tall trees have long roots that can crack foundations and sidewalks or grow into plumbing systems. Be sure the Seller has stayed on top of keeping tree roots out of the plumbing systems. Have the sewer lines inspected for any roots or cracks.

### ***Closing thoughts***

The purpose here is simply to make you aware of potential hidden costs when you find your perfect antique dream home. There are plenty of excellent reasons to buy older homes. They are usually in wonderful locations and you are likely to find a long-established, close-knit community with lots of history. Old houses are in limited supply and if you have a gem in a desired part of town, it will likely always be in demand when you decide to sell.

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*The original article by Maria Mastrolonardo, a Realtor in Naperville, Illinois, has been modified to fit our local market conditions in the Altadena/Pasadena area.*



ALTADENA LIBRARY DISTRICT PRESENTS THE

# Second Saturday

## 2017-18 CONCERT SERIES\*

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



\*October 14<sup>th</sup>'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.

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