

## This Week

**Levy Sun**  
 Public Information  
 Officer, San Gabriel  
 Valley Mosquito &  
 Vector Control  
 Guest Program Host:  
 Rene Amy

Levy Sun is the public information officer for the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District.



Levy graduated from Cal State Fullerton with a Master's in Non-profit Communications. Levy started his dedication to helping others at Braille Institute of America and then at MemorialCare Health System. It was in the hospital setting where he found his passion for promoting public health.

Fast forward to today: Levy has been in mosquito control for six years. To the dismay of mosquitoes, Levy is an advocate of public health and the shared responsibility for mosquito control. ○

## Were You Pranked?

It is April 1st as I write this. The weekend was spent updating our activities and achievements as a Club on DacDb. We are doing well – our programs and projects are making a difference in the community, and our new members are energetically and passionately engaged in a wide range of endeavours and the sharing of new ideas. Our international work is unique and involves both an independent collaboration (Cambodia) and partnering with other Clubs in a project supported by a Global Grant (Nepal).

We can do better in our Foundation work and the goal of being a 100 percent Paul Harris Club. This is more important to some than to others. We have a terrific matching system in our Club, so members do not have to donate the full amount. What really matters is where the money ends up, how it grows and the difference it makes throughout the world. Talk to long-standing members about the legacy we can be part of, or our Foundation Chair for more information, and please donate when you can. It goes a long, long way!!

Our visibility is increasing through Rotarians in Action wearing pins, shirts and hats if they have them! Many of our new members are actively promoting our Club on Social Media, and we hope to have our new website *live* soon. Please don't underestimate how important it is that the community sees what we do, and how photos and a few lines on your FB pages, and other platforms can reach huge numbers and generate interest in the Club and Rotary in general. If you

have never posted, why not start by uploading details of where



and when our club meets, or perhaps a few words about why you joined Rotary and what it is that you enjoy about our Club. Any photos of fellowship or activities go a long way, and you may be surprised at the comments and interest! If unsure, please ask some of our new members to share their expertise in this field. It was wonderful to see Jennifer and Nick post photos of Rotary Club signs on their recent travels. A reminder of the huge family we're a part of around the world!

We have been asked to increase the number of *profiles* of members on the *My Rotary* website. Myself included! Please enter your info and a photo in the Profile section when you get the chance. I plan to do so this week! <<https://my.rotary.org/en>>

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**Onto some fun now...**

**The Origin of April Fools' Day**

The origins of April Fools' Day are obscure. The predominant theory holds that

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## Greeter of the Week

April 04  
 Theo Clarke

April 11  
 Doug Colliflower

April 18  
 Craig Cox

# Program Review

## JPL to send a Robot to Traverse the Sands of Mars and a Helicopter to do a Flyover



One of the benefits of being part of the Rotary Club of Altadena is the close proximity to Jet

Propulsion Laboratory (JPL). A number of club members have been employed by JPL

as scientists, astronomers, and engineers. In addition, many of the scientists and others have made presentations to the club on the various projects and programs that are being pursued at JPL. This last Thursday afternoon was one of those programs.

Our speaker was Humphrey (Hoppy) Price. Price is the chief engineer of NASA's Robotic Mars Exploration Program. He has had many assignments in his career at JPL. He was the architect of the JPL minimal architecture for humans to Mars. He has led and participated in many formulation studies of spacecraft and advanced propulsion systems, including the Mars Sample Return, interstellar missions, solar sails and fusion rockets.

According to Price, the planet Mars is over 3 billion years old, and is similar to earth in size and geography. It has moons, and seasons. It has days and nights. It has many caves. Because of its similarity to earth and its proximity to earth, there has been much interest in sending missions to Mars and bringing back samples to earth for study and research.

The Mars Sample Return is a proposed mission to return samples from the surface of Mars to Earth. The mission would use



robotic systems and a Mars ascent rocket to collect and send samples of Martian rocks, soils and atmosphere to Earth for detailed chemical and physical analysis. The Mars 2020 Mission will involve the sending of a robotic rover which will gather samples from rocks and soil using its drill. After a sample is collected it will be placed in a special tube. The sample tube is then transferred back inside the belly of the rover. The tube is then sealed, at which point nothing can leave or enter the tube. The tubes are

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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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David Smith.....International  
To be Announced.....Asst. International  
Tony Hill.....Youth Contests/Awards  
Mike Zoeller.....Youth Projects  
John Frykenberg.....Vocational  
Editor, Design & Typesetting.....Foreman Graphics  
Photography.....Jacque Foreman

### April Mom & Child Health

*Program Chair: David Smith*

*April 04 - Levey Sun - Mosquito Abatement Division, LA County*

*April 11 - Charles Thomas - Executive Director, Outward Bound Adventures*

### Congratulations



**Birthdays**



06 - Candace Colliflower  
09 Judy Cunningham  
13 - Alice Hudson  
18 - John Frykenberg  
24 - Frank Cunningham  
29 - Mike Noll



**Anniversaries**



27 - Sterling & Olga Louviere

## Rotoractors reshape Refugee Camp



*After fleeing conflict in their own countries, a group of young Rotoractors is healing wounds and bringing cultures together in a Ugandan refugee settlement ...*

*By Jonathan W. Rosen;  
Produced by Kate*

*Benzschawel; Photos by Emmanuel Museruka*



**I**t's Monday morning in one of Uganda's largest refugee settlements, Nakivale, and the line at Paul Mushaho's shop is out the door.



***Paul Mushaho organized a team of volunteers and formed a Rotaract club in Nakivale, Uganda, to give refugees something constructive to do.***

Mushaho has lived in Nakivale since 2016, when he fled violence in his native Democratic Republic of Congo. After receiving death threats, he crossed into Uganda and joined a friend in the 184-square-ki-

*Sparks - Altadena Rotary Club Newsletter*

lometer settlement that serves as home to 89,000 people.

The soft-spoken 26-year-old, who has a university degree in information technology, runs a money transfer service out of a wooden storefront that doubles as his home.

Business is booming because he offers his clients – other refugees from Congo, Burundi, Somalia, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Rwanda, and South Sudan – the ability to receive money via mobile phone from family and friends outside Uganda.

He also exchanges currency, and his shop is so popular that he often runs out of cash. On this day, he's waiting for a friend to return with more money from the nearest bank, two hours away in the town of Mbarara.

Sitting behind a wooden desk, armed with his transactions ledger and seven cell phones, Mushaho grows anxious. He's not worried about missing out on commission ... he's worried about leaving his clients without any money.

"I don't like making my customers wait," he says, looking out onto the lively street of tin-roofed stores, women selling tomatoes and charcoal, a butcher shop displaying a leg of beef, and young men loitering on motorcycles. "There's nobody else around who they can go to."

As a young entrepreneur who is intent on improving the lives of others in his community, Mushaho is in many ways the



***Refugees fleeing war, genocide, and persecution find safety in Nakivale. New arrivals to Uganda are allocated a plot of land, are allowed to work and run businesses, and can move freely around the country.***

quintessential member of Rotaract, the Rotary-sponsored organization for leaders ages 18 to 30.

Yet his story and that of his club are far from ordinary. Established in late 2016, and officially inaugurated last July, the Rotaract Club of Nakivale may be the first Rotaract club based inside a refugee settlement or camp.

Its founding, and the role it has played in the lives of its members and their fellow Nakivale residents, is a tale of young people who've refused to let conflict stifle their dreams; of a country that sees the humanity in all the refugees who cross its borders; and of a spirit of service that endures, even among those who've experienced unspeakable tragedy.

***A place where  
refugees are welcome!***



# In Tune

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it dates from about 1582, the year France adopted the Gregorian Calendar, which switched the beginning of the year from what is now the end of March (around the time of the vernal equinox) to the first of January. According to popular lore, some folks, out of ignorance, stubbornness, or both, continued to ring in the New Year on April first and were made the butt of jokes and pranks (“poissons d’avril,” or “April Fish”) on account of their foolishness. This became an annual celebration which ultimately spread throughout Europe and other parts of the world. However, the earliest known historical reference to April Fools’ Day occurs in a Dutch poem published in 1561, which predates the adoption of the Gregorian calendar by some 21 years.

• • •

## ***A couple of famous pranks involved the BBC: The Great Spaghetti Harvest***

One of the great media hoaxes of all

time was perpetrated on April 1, 1957 by the BBC, which reported on its news program Panorama that Switzerland was experiencing a bumper spaghetti harvest that year, thanks to favorable weather and the elimination of the dread *spaghetti weevil*. Staged video footage showing happy peasants plucking strands of pasta from tall trees was so convincing that many viewers actually called the network to ask how they could grow their own.

### ***Jump Now!***

On April 1, 1976, famed British astronomer and radio presenter Patrick Moore announced over the BBC that a rare alignment of the planets Pluto and Jupiter would occur at exactly 9:47 am, during which the effects



of gravity would be nullified and everyone on earth would feel weightless for a brief moment. “At 9:47, Moore declared, ‘Jump now!’” writes Alex Boese of the Museum of Hoaxes. “A minute passed, and then the BBC switchboard lit up with dozens of people calling in to report that the experiment had worked!” But it was all a complete prank, of course, one of the most famous in history.

Whether you fooled, or were fooled, I hope the levity of the day can prevail throughout the month ... and do look up *The Great Spaghetti Hoax* on YouTube when you get the chance! ○

“The greatest lesson in life is to know that even fools are right sometimes!”

*Sir Winston Churchill*

# Program

Continued from p. 2

stored until the NASA team decides the time and place to drop the samples off on the surface. The spot of drop-off is called the “sample cache depot.” The depots will be well-documented with precise coordinates. The samples will eventually be retrieved by another mission for return to earth for analysis.

Part of the Mars 2020 program is the development of a special helicopter which will be firmly nestled under the belly of the Mars 2020 rover. The helicopter weighs no more than 4 pounds and is intended to go where the rover cannot go. One challenge to the development of the helicopter is that the Martian surface atmosphere is only one percent of the density of Earth’s surface atmosphere. That is the equivalent of 100,000 feet above the Earth. Another challenge is

that the gravity on Mars is much weaker than that of Earth – only 1/3 of Earth’s gravity. To test the helicopter, NASA is simulating the Mars atmosphere and gravity within a vacuum chamber.

The Mars 2020 rover – along with the Mars Helicopter – will launch on a United Launch Alliance Atlas V rocket in July 2020 from Cape Canaveral. It is expected to reach Mars in February 2021, approximately 7 months after launch. ○



## Two New Members earn their Permanent, White Badges



***Rene Amy (center) and Jennifer Hall Lee (right) are being congratulated by Frank Cunningham, Membership Chair, on their swift completion of the tasks necessary to earn their permanent badges.***

## Online Resources for 50+ Buyers and Sellers

When it comes to buying or selling your home, seniors often face more issues and decisions than their younger counterparts. Fortunately, many sites offer a wealth of information and resources on a wide variety of topics to help address these concerns. But each situation is unique and if you don't see what you are looking for below, please let me know as I have additional resources available.

- **AARP > aarp.org**

For information, advocacy and member benefits across a broad array of US senior issues, including health, work and retirement, money, home and family, entertainment, politics and more.

- **Age in Place > ageinplace.com**

Learn how to create an environment that is safe and easier to live in, including kitchen, bathroom and other home remodeling, senior cell phone choices, aging in place monitoring products and other helpful resources.

- **Alzheimer's Association > alz.org**

The Alzheimer's Association works on a global, national and local level to enhance care and support for all those affected by Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. Use their site to find local chapters, support groups, education,

resource providers, and the Alzheimer's Navigator for step-by-step guidance and custom action plans.

- **AMAC > amac.us**

AMAC is here to protect your interests, and to offer an alternative perspective on how to best solve the problems seniors face today. We stepped forward



with a mission to restore America's moral compass, to make America better.

- **MoveSeniors™ > MoveSeniors.com**

MoveSeniors™ is an online resource for families seeking assistance with late life home transitions such as moving, downsizing and remodeling. They also offer a directory of Certified Relocation & Transition Specialists and other senior professionals.

- **RetirementHomes.com**

North America's most comprehensive

and easy-to-use online senior living directory, spanning the care continuum from active to assisted living, Alzheimer's care, and everything in between.

- **Silver Planet® > silverplanet.com**

Silver Planet® helps Baby Boomers guide their parents towards safe aging in place options by providing information on services and products, housing options, and scam alerts.

- **SNAP for Seniors > snapforseniors.com**

This comprehensive U.S. database provides local resources for senior housing options, care at home, medical facilities and assistance, end of life resources and other sources for guidance and information.

- **The Senior List® > theseniorlist.com**

The Senior List® is a ratings and review portal for senior-related products and services. Use it to locate and read reviews for adult care homes, durable medical equipment providers, home care, move managers, skilled nursing and much more.

- **Starker Services > starker.com**

Protect real estate investment profits from capital gain taxes with the assistance of the most experienced independent 1031 exchange intermediary in the U.S.



**Altadena  
Libraries**

**Second Saturdays, 6:30pm  
at the Altadena Main Library  
600 E. Mariposa Avenue**

# Second Saturdays



**October 13\***

**Upstream**  
*Reggae, Soca, Caribbean*

**November 10**

**Past Action Heroes**  
*80s & 90s Covers*

**January 12**

**Pasadena Playboys**  
*Country*

**February 9**

**JazzZone**  
*Smooth Jazz, R&B*

**March 9**

**The Allan Wasserman  
Jazz Ensemble**  
*Jazz*

**April 13**

**Sangre Nueva**  
*Salsa*

**May 11**

**The Leapin' Lizards**  
*Rockabilly, Blues, Swing*

**June 8**

**Harbor Groove**  
*Latin Rock*

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*\*October 13<sup>th</sup>'s Second Saturday Concert is sponsored by the office of Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger.*