



Rotary Club of Altadena

# sparks

OFF THE ROTARY WHEEL  
AN AWARD-WINNING NEWSLETTER



June 20, 2019

## This Week

### Lori Touloumian Principal, Eliot Arts A Challenging Past, A Thriving Present, An Exciting Future

Our speaker for June 20 is Lori Touloumian, Principal of Eliot Arts Magnet Academy. Touloumian became the Principal of Eliot Arts Magnet Academy in 2015 and, since then, the junior high school has been under continuous change.



A federal Magnet Schools Assistance Program grant was awarded to Eliot in 2013, and Principal Touloumian has been the guiding force over these last four years, transforming Eliot from simply a junior high into an arts magnet school. She is the key behind Eliot's change process and it's no secret – in 2018, Touloumian was named Principal of the Year for the Pasadena Unified School District.

Her high-spirited energy and leadership have combined to establish Eliot Arts Magnet as a school that offers an array of music, dance, theater arts, and visual arts courses in state-of-the-art facilities, including a large theater and costume and art studios, where students learn

*Please turn to This Week p. 3*

*I feel a very unusual sensation ... if it is not indigestion, I think it must be gratitude.* Benjamin Disraeli

◆ ◆ ◆

Soon we shall begin a new Rotary Year, with new leadership and positions to be filled. As the Rotary wheel continues to turn, we shall move forward, building on the momentum we have gathered and accelerating with new ideas, energy and enthusiasm to serve and make a difference – both locally and internationally. Some programs are ongoing, most are expanding, and we will, I hope, embark on new, exciting endeavours as we enter our 2019-2020 year with the motto: **Rotary Connects The World!**

I shall not list here the many names of Altadena Rotarians to be thanked for their service over the past year, since there will be that opportunity at our upcoming meeting and Demotion Event. However, I am deeply grateful to all who have offered their support to me and shared their advice during a challenging year ... to say the least! The list includes Board Members, Officers, Committee Chairs, ARC, all who help set up and pack away at meetings, the Country Club Staff and many members who modestly serve in many ways, expecting no acknowledgement in return. Also, Rotarians from other Clubs who have made me feel welcome and involved me in their programs at both Club and District levels.

If I had known I was about to embark upon motherhood and undertake a 60-city tour at the start of my Presidency, I would have probably re-considered! There is much

more I would like to have accomplished with more time (and sleep!), but

the experience has taught me a lot about service, community involvement, Club dynamics (good and bad!) and fellowship. In the future, I look forward to getting together with members for that glass of wine we discussed or afternoon tea I so often yearned for, and I regret that I have not been able to attend concerts, or events involving our members that I would have previously enjoyed, before the logistical challenges of finding a babysitter, or falling asleep from exhaustion before 9pm!

Rotary is a supportive organisation – people rarely say "No." when asked for help, and this makes life easier during challenging times. I have welcomed the experience and expertise of long-term members of the Club, former Club Presidents and our fantastic Secretary, Jim Gorton, and Treasurer, Mike Noll, who truly keep the Club afloat.

Others are diligent and meticulous in organizing budgets, programs, outreach and public relations, and they shall be recognised personally for their tremendous efforts. All

*Please turn to In Tune p. 5*

## Greeter of the Week

- June 20  
*Boyd Hudson*
- June 26 (Wednesday)  
*Demotion Party -- Evening Event*
- June 27  
*Dark -- No Meeting*



## In Tune

*by Sarah O'Brien, President*

# Program Review



**T**hat's the purpose of one of the best kept secrets in Pasadena: the Salvation Army's Adult Rehabilitation Center. Located behind their donation center on West Del Mar Boulevard, this is a residential environment that assists the recovery of those men and

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](http://www.altadenarotary.com)

Meets: Thursday, 12:10p

Altadena Town & Country Club

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626-794-7163

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Dist 5300 Gov..... John Chase

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Jacque Foreman..... Sparks/Website  
Mike Zoeller..... Club Projects  
Doug Colliflower..... Community  
David Smith..... International  
To be Announced..... Asst. International  
Tony Hill..... Youth Contests/Awards  
Mike Zoeller..... Youth Projects  
John Frykenberg..... Vocational  
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Photography..... Jacque Foreman

women who are battling addiction to drugs and alcohol. Our speaker, Christa Chriasco, detailed how this vital operation performs this valuable service.

In 1865, William and Catherine Booth established the Salvation Army in London. They implored impoverished and homeless people to come to church. When they did come, they felt uncomfortable, so the Booths decided to bring the church to them. Today, the Salvation Army performs many charitable services, such as paying bills, providing help, and outreach to the most needy.

The main purpose of the Adult Rehabilitation Center is to restore hope. It features a six-month recovery program. It has a 107-bed facility for men and a 12-bed facility for women. They have discovered that a six-month program is the least amount of time required to make a difference and achieve a full recovery. The eligibility requirements to enter the program are: You must be

- Between 21 and 62 years old,
- \* Fully detoxed from drugs and alcohol,
- Physically able to perform tasks,
- Psychiatrically stable,



- Willing to commit to the full six months of the program,
- Willing to participate in Christian chapel services, and
- Willing to commit to the 12-step recovery program.

The activities of the program are simply eat, sleep, and work. The facility serves 11,250 hot meals per month. The program consists of four phases:

*Please turn to Program, p. 4*

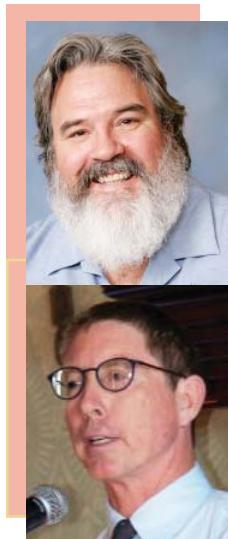
**June**  
**Rotary Fellowship**  
**Program Chair, Mike Zoeller**  
June 06 - Steven Kwon, PhD - President,  
Nutrition and Education International  
June 13 - Terry Masango - Captain, Salvation Army, Pasadena Tebernale (to be confirmed)  
June 20 - Lori Touloumian - Principal, Eliot Arts Magnet Middle School  
June 26 - Demotion Party - Evening Event  
June 27 - Dark

**Congratulations Birthdays**  
03 - Kathleen Anne Fennell  
08 - Theo Clarke  
12 - Tom McCurry  
23 - Margarita Figueroa  
28 - Phyllis Soza  
**Anniversaries**  
05 - Mike & Wendy Davis Noll  
18 - Charles & Regina Wilson

# Chairmen's Corner

Brought to you by Mark Mariscal, Assist. to David Smith, International Chair

## From Our Representative at the Rotary International Conference



**O**ne way to write an International Article is to experience International Travel. Well, I write this while just finishing up being the club's delegate to the 110<sup>th</sup> Annual Rotary International Convention. The convention was held in Hamburg Ger-

many. This is the first time I have been in the country.

While at the conference, I was able to meet about 125 of the 20,000 plus Rotary members in attendance. A few really stood out. I met and had a picture taken with this year's Rotary International President Barry Rassin and it included Brenda Cressey, the first woman to be the Chair of the RI Foundation. She is a member and long time resident of Paso Robles. Another with the RI President for 2019-2020 year, Mark Mallony and his wife. The third picture is with

Holger Knaack, the RI President Nominee who will be President during the 2020-2021 Rotary year.

As I write this, I have just met up with my wife Paula in Brussels. She was not able to attend the conference since her school district was still in session.

My wife and I will be traveling by train and car to towns in Germany (Cologne, Dusseldorf and Bonn), in Brugge Belgium and the "Hague" area of Amsterdam. I look forward to seeing our club members at the meeting on June 20. ○



(l to r) Rotary International President Barry Rassin, Brenda Cressey, New Chair of the RI Foundation, and Yours Truly



(l to r) Yours Truly, the Wife of the incoming RI President, and Incoming RI President, Mark Mallony



(l to r) RI President Nominee Holger Knaack and Yours Truly

## This Week

*Continued from p. 1*

from professionals. Professional partners, including Light Bringer Project and Lineage Dance, mentor teachers and students in the classroom through ongoing artist residencies. Students learn math, science, social

studies, and English through arts-infused demonstrations and performance tasks.

Touloumian has been with PUSD since 1999 and was assistant principal at Pasadena High School as well as having been a high

school teacher. She loves being the Principal of Eliot and says, "I am the luckiest principal in the world because I work with Eliot Arts administration, faculty, staff, parents and community each and every day." ○

# Program

*Continued from p.2*

- Phase 1-Recovery: This is the initial six-month program.
- Phase 2-Re-entry into society
- Phase 3-Employment
- Phase 4-To Bridge: House residential facility

The curriculum of the program consists of education, counseling, chapel, and extra-curricular activities. There are over 100 Adult Rehabilitation Centers across the United States. Their successful graduation rate is three times the national average.

Chriasco then called up one of the successful graduates of the program, a young man named Sonny. Sonny described his life as a result of making poor choices. Raised in the Antelope Valley, he rejected what



he felt was a punishing Catholic God. He turned to drugs and alcohol, not realizing the consequences of such actions. At some

point, he decided to make a change, but was unsuccessful. He really didn't accomplish any spiritual change. He enrolled in a short-term program that didn't work. He lied and manipulated through the program.

Finally, he came to the Salvation Army. There, he talked to a man who'd had the same experience as he had had. It made him realize that he had a chance to recover. Sonny turned to a more merciful God.

Chriasco ended the program by showing how all the proceeds from donations go directly back into the charitable work of the organization. They look for in-kind donations, job and housing opportunities. This was a very inspiring program, demonstrating that there is, indeed, hope for lost souls. ◎

## Welcoming a New Member; The Earning of a White Badge



Thursday, June 13 was a big day for Membership Chair, Frank Cunningham (on the right in both pictures): we welcomed new member Mike Thatcher, a local publicist and awarded a permanent, white badge to Shlvia Vega, a local residential realtor. In the picture on the left, we have (l to r), President Sarah O'Brien, New Member Sponsor, Maria Perez-Arton (holding a New Member Packet), New Member Mike Thatcher, and Membership Chair, Frank Cunningham. In the picture on the right, we have (l to r) President Sarah O'Brien, Member Sponsor Dorothy Brooks, our new White Badger, Sylvia Vega; and Membership Chair, Frank Cunningham. We apologize to Sylvia for making her wait to receive her White Badge because all of May and the first part of June are filled with awards given to students from our local schools.

# In Tune

*Continued from p. 1*

have been forgiving for many oversights on my part and have picked up the slack when I couldn't, especially President Elect Mark Mariscal.

New members have been a source of joy and a breath of fresh air – certainly a highlight of my experience, and Frank Cunningham – with Dorothy Brook's help – has welcomed each with great style! I no longer feel like one of the youngest members of our Club, and one of only four women when I joined. I have enjoyed the new members' enthusiasm to learn more about Rotary, contribute new ideas, collaborate with others, and embrace a new organisation with no ego or judgement.

A positive and hopeful attitude is at the core of Rotary – at Club level and beyond – and the warm greetings and lively conversation exchanged at our meetings have not been dampened at all by our rainy Thursday meetings! We have a fun, fresh new energy in the Club, and that can only mean great times of service



and fellowship lie ahead!

Whether softly spoken or louder than most, all members have something to say... and deserve to be heard. Let's provide a supportive forum for them to share those

thoughts and help develop areas of service as a result. Old ways are not necessarily the best ways always, and our Club is secure enough to adapt and embrace change. Flexibility makes us strong, while traditions remind us of what works well and our connection with those who have served before us.

As the French proverb says: "Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose" ... usually translated as "the more things change, the more they stay the same," (Les Guêpes, July 1848)

I find this comforting, like the singing of Auld Lang Syne. ... Whatever lies ahead in the years to come, the values of Rotary that connect and inspire us, remain at the heart of our involvement.

Thank you all for the privilege of serving Altadena Rotary.

It's truly been a wonderful year in many ways, and more acknowledgements will follow ... don't think I've forgotten!

Isabel and I look forward to seeing you at the Demotion Event soon! ○

# The Dawson Dialogue

by Bill Dawson  
Roving Correspondent

## Thoughts on D-Day Normandy 1961

.In 1961, when I was 19 years old (and not yet a Rotarian), I was in Europe, newly-arrived in France, and on my own. Lacking much in the way of funds, but eager to see this famous battlefield, I hitchhiked and walked much of the 50 miles of the Normandy D-Day beaches. My guide was a map that Michelin had republished with descriptions of which armies had landed where, how many troops were involved, and other aspects of the battleground.

.I kept a diary, which has since been lost in my many moves over the years. But it was an unforgettably beautiful spring day, chilly but sunny. Puffy clouds cast large gray shadows on the blue, wrinkled sea. Thumb out, and with an American flag showing on my backpack, I was driven by unfailingly friendly French locals in Citroëns and Deux Chevaux from Juno, Sword, and Gold beaches in the north, to Omaha beach in the south. The little towns and the beaches themselves looked very much like the pictures taken at the time of the battle. Museums – surprisingly small – showed some of the military equipment and uniforms worn by the various soldiers engaged in the battle.

.Having stopped at a café along the way for croissants and café au lait (an addiction that lasts to this day), and contemplating the serenity of the place, it was difficult to imagine that such a beautiful seaside location could host the largest military invasion in history: Operation Overlord. On June 6, 1944, 5,000 ships filled the horizon, 24,000 men landed, and vast amounts of tanks, guns, and trucks poured across the landscape.

.Soon I stood inside a German bunker

at Omaha beach. Still intact and many feet thick, this gigantic concrete structure looked and felt impregnable. I peered through a narrow slot, several feet wide, that provided a complete view of the hillside and beach below. It wasn't difficult to imagine a team of German gunners with a machine gun chattering, destroying anything and everything within the range of that slotted window. Erwin Rommel, the German general in charge of defending the French coast, had arranged all the bunkers and artillery to be able to similarly and lethally defend the beaches.

I walked along the nearby hill of Pointe du Hoc, a bluff overlooking Omaha beach, where it was believed that large German artillery guns had been placed. It had been bombarded relentlessly by the Army Air Force and US Navy (the biggest German guns, it turned out, had been previously moved miles back). The shelling had turned the missing gun emplacements into huge fragments weighing tons, and tossed them in the air like toys. They lay there that day – and probably still do – at odd angles, covering the shattered hilltop. It was hard to imagine the horrific violence that had occurred in this very small space.

Later in the afternoon I stood amid the serene field of green grass and endless white crosses of the American cemetery. ... A breathtaking view of the ocean completes the solemnity, serenity, and exquisite beauty of a place where 10,000 soldiers lie. (Many of those soldiers, I couldn't help but notice, were at or about my age.) The movie *Saving Private Ryan* depicts a D-Day survivor standing before a grave of a friend at this

cemetery, causing him to recall the events of his friend's death. Many such individuals were no doubt there on the same day as my visit.

I have been to Normandy twice since. The first time was to take my children so they would understand something about World War II. The second time was to take a friend who had read about – but never seen – the D-Day beaches. The museums are now larger, the roads better, and various new monuments and statues in place. But it is still very much like it was when I first visited, and even – as photographs indicate – when the soldiers landed.

Stephen Ambrose, in his magisterial book describing those events – *Citizen Soldier* – comments that Americans did not have to invade and liberate Europe. They could have protected England – our most natural ally – and left the rest of Europe to the slaughterhouse. Instead, America poured every available ounce of treasure and manpower into an uncertain venture. The only reason for risking all on D-Day was a moral one – to free Europe from the most savage war machine the world ever known.

That the landing could succeed, that Europe could survive, and it could then go on to 75 years of peace – after centuries of war – was not known. Only the greatness of the risk, and the sureness of the difficulty, was known. But if future historians designate that those who fought this war were our Greatest Generation, then this surely was – borrowing Churchill's words – **Their Finest Hour**.

Your roving correspondent,  
- Bill Dawson

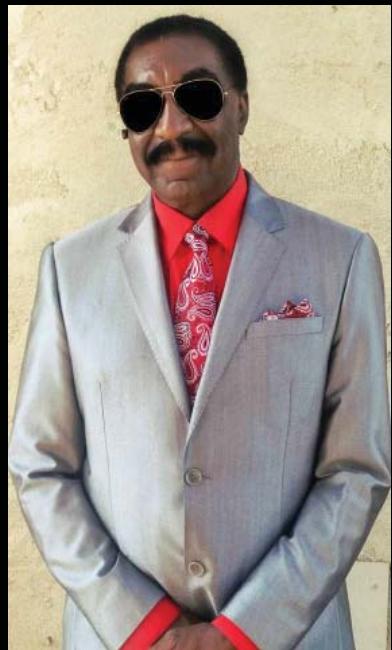


THE *Mixx*



**Tuesday, July  
2nd is the next  
BLUES CHANNEL  
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down to The  
Mixx for dinner,  
drinks and  
music from 8-12.**

**443 E Colorado  
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Pasadena 91101**





**Altadena  
Libraries**

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



<b>October 13*</b>	<b>Upstream</b> Reggae, Soca, Caribbean	<b>March 9</b>	<b>The Allan Wasserman Jazz Ensemble</b> Jazz
<b>November 10</b>	<b>Past Action Heroes</b> 80s & 90s Covers	<b>April 13</b>	<b>Sangre Nueva</b> Salsa
<b>January 12</b>	<b>Pasadena Playboys</b> Country	<b>May 11</b>	<b>The Leapin' Lizards</b> Rockabilly, Blues, Swing
<b>February 9</b>	<b>JazzZone</b> Smooth Jazz, R&B	<b>June 8</b>	<b>Harbor Groove</b> Latin Rock

**MADE POSSIBLE BY FUNDING FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE ALTADENA LIBRARY**

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

# **Sarah O'Brien**

**RETIRES FROM  
BEING PRESIDENT**

**and is DEMOTED to  
VICE PRESIDENT**

**Wednesday, June 26  
Starts at 6:00pm**

**MonteCedro**

**2212 El Molino Ave.  
Northeast Corner Cordova & El Molino**

**No Charge for Members or a Member with One Guest**

The Rotary Club of Altadena Presents

# Concerts in the Park

In Cooperation with LA County Parks & Recreation



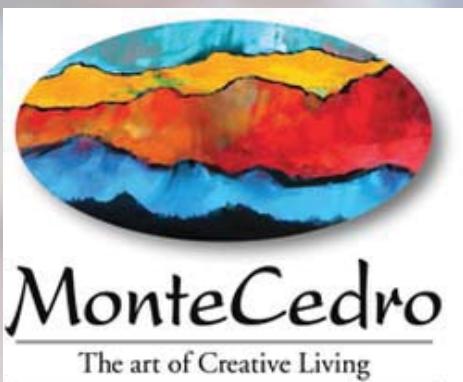
PEOPLE  
OF ACTION

All concerts are FREE and start at 7:00 PM in the Amphitheater at Farnsworth Park  
568 East Mt. Curve Ave., Altadena, CA 91001 • Visit: Our Concerts in the Park FaceBook Page

## 23rd Annual Summer Concert Series Schedule - 2019

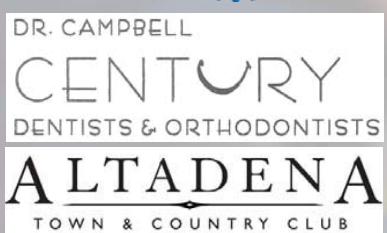
The Answer to Classic Rock (Classic Rock) .....	Saturday, July 06
Blue Breeze Band (Motown, Funk, Soul, R&B) .....	Saturday, July 13
Floyd & the Flyboys (New Orleans R&B, Jump, Swing, Blues, Roots Rock)	Saturday, July 20
ReLoVe (Reggae, Soul) .....	Saturday, July 27
Live > From Earth (Pat Benatar Tribute).....	Saturday, August 03
Upstream (Reggae, Soca, Caribbean Tunes) .....	Saturday, August 10
My Generation (British Invasion Genre Rock) .....	Saturday, August 17
Dog N Butterfly (Heart Tribute).....	Saturday, August 24

And ... For The Grand Finale ... Saturday, September 07  
Tribute to **THE WHO**  
**THE WHO EXPERIENCE**  
Presented by the Sheriff's Support Group of Altadena



Thank You to our Generous Sponsors

## Altadena Rotary



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THE PASADENA COMPLEX

Kathryn  
BARGER  
5<sup>th</sup> District Supervisor • County of Los Angeles



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