Rotary Club of Altadena

OFF THE ROTARY

AN AWARD-WINNING NEWSLETTER



May 23, 2019

This Week Cynthia Bergston Budzyn

Program Host: Ed Jasnow Helping Our Veterans when They arrive Back Home

That's the goal of our speaker this week, Cynthia Bengston Budzyn. Budzyn serves as the Executive Management Consultant of an organization called Leadership Pasadena, a 501(c)(3) charity that creates the next generation of leaders for the greater Pasadena community. She will show us how this important organization helps civilians and veterans alike become valuable leaders of our community.

Growing up in a small town in Illinois, volunteering was always a part of her life, but her *real* charity work began when she created the Big Sisters of Los Angeles in 1979 at the age of 25 to serve at risk girls trapped in dysfunctional and dangerous families. *Big Sisters* merged into **Big Brothers/Sisters** of LA in 2000; it serves *Please turn to This Week p. 4*

Memorial Day A Bit of History

Brought to you by Jacque Foreman for Sarah O'Brien

Three years after the Civil War ended, on May 5, 1868, the head of an organization of Union veterans – the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) – established Decoration Day as a time for the nation to decorate the graves of the war dead with flowers. Maj. Gen. John A. Logan declared that Decoration Day should be observed on May 30. It is be-

served on May 30. It is bethat date was chobecause flowers would be in bloom all over the country.

The first large observance was held that year at Arlington National Cemetery, across the Potomac River from Washington,

The ceremonies centered around the mourning-draped veranda of the Arlington mansion, once the home of Gen. Robert E. Lee. Various Washington officials, including Gen. and Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant, presided over the ceremonies. After speeches, children from the Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphan Home and members of the GAR made their way through the cemetery, strewing flowers on both Union and Confederate graves, reciting prayers and singing hymns.

Local Observances Claim To Be First Local springtime tributes to the Civil War dead already had been held in various places. A same

One of the first occurred



in Columbus, Miss., April 25, 1866, when a group of women visited a cemetery to decorate the graves of Confederate soldiers who had fallen in battle at Shiloh. Nearby

were

sen

DC

the graves of Union soldiers, neglected because they were the enemy. Disturbed at the sight of the bare graves, the women placed some of their flowers on those graves, as well.

Today, cities in the North and the South claim to be the birthplace of Memorial Day in 1866. Both Macon and Columbus, Ga., claim the title, as well as Richmond, Va. The village of Boalsburg, Pa., claims it began there two years earlier. A stone in a Carbondale, Ill., cemetery carries the statement that the first Decoration Day ceremony took place there on April 29, 1866. Carbondale was the wartime home of Gen. Logan. Approximate-

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Greeter of the Week

May 16 John Frykenberg May 23 Ben Green May 30 Kimmet Haggins

Program Review



They! All \$ 13,000 Worth! Blair High School

JROTC

C/LTC - Anayeli Rodriguez..... \$2000 Did not attend the ceremony. C/Maj. - Alisson Guinada.......\$1000 C/Cpt. - Jacqueilin Gallo.......\$1000 *Muir High School*

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. John Chase Officers Sarah O'Brien, Pres.....Bus. 626-796-5000 Mark Mariscal, Pres. Elec.....Bus. 310-902-6547 Steve Kerekes, V. Pres.....Bus. 626-351-8815 Jim Gorton, Sec..... Bus. 323-816-6713 Mike Noll, Trea.....Bus. 626-683-0515 Directors Mark Mariscal . Ed Jasnow John Frykenberg • Dennis Mehringer David Campbell • Sarah O'Brien • Mike Zoeller Chairmen Mark Mariscal......Administration David Smith Foundation Charlie WilsonAsst. Foundation Frank CunninghamMembership Jacque ForemanPublic Awareness Jacque Foreman.....Acting Publicity Jacque Foreman.....Sparks/Website Mike ZoellerClub Projects Doug ColliflowerCommunity David Smith.....International To be Announced Asst. International Tony Hill Youth Contests/Awards Mike Zoeller.....Youth Projects John FrykenbergVocational Editor, Design & Typesetting...... Foreman Graphics Photography.....Jacque Foreman

(Americanism)

High School			
Marsball Fundamental STEM			
Salomon Cooper	. \$2000		
Natalie Noyola Gomez	. \$2000		

Eliot Arts Magnet Academy		
Hunter Davis	\$ 500	
Claudio Reynoso	\$ 500	
Chris Gonzalez	\$1500	
Jalen Marquez	\$1500	

	-
Corita Kahler Rickman	\$ 500
Ishmael Asturias	\$ 500

So... Why For?

Hard work, promise, patriotism, being helpful, just caring! Reasons enough! To encourage, to inspire, to reach beyond ourselves and to leave those whose lives we touch a little better for our acquaintance and passing with a smile, a kind word, an encouraging thought and a pray can and does make the difference in indifference!

These young people, everyone was chosen for our JROTC and Americanism Awards for their leadership, unselfishness, willingness to pitch in, lend a hand, or leg in service to their schools, churches, communities. And so we honor them! We invest. We make their way a bit easier by opening some door, some path, some avenue of continued service to human-kind, to society, to our country and our community.

John Frykenberg 🔿



JROTC & Americanism

Awards



To Our New Members Welcome to Altadena Rotary!



Itadena Rotary is proud to welcome you into our global community of more than 1.2 million men

and women dedicated to building a better world.

You make Rotary stronger. By adding your skills, experience, and enthusiasm to our club, you can advance communities at home and on a global scale. Together, we can eradicate polio, train more skilled peacemakers, and provide lasting solutions for communities fighting disease, hunger, illiteracy, and poverty.

Through the Rotary community, you can exchange ideas and build lifelong friendships with people who share your passion for service. Take advantage of the resources and activities available through our club, district, and Rotary International to make your experience with Rotary both rewarding and fun.

Getting Started on Your Rotary Journey

Get the most out of your membership by participating in club projects and activities. Here are some ideas:

 Serve on a club committee where you can use your skills. Sylvia Vega is a good example of that, she is helping David Smith with International Projects. Dorothy Brooks and Maria Perez-Arton serve on the Membership Committee.

- Identify a need in our community and suggest a hands-on project to address it. Rene Amy is a good example of this with the most recent Rotary fundraiser at the Grocery Outlet. He is also our *Shelter Box* club Representative
- Work with a youth service program sponsored by our club, e.g., Rotaract or Interact. See Steve Kerekes or Kimmit Haggins to get involved.
- Host a Youth Exchange student ask Mike Noll and/or Craig Cox if you are interested.
- Help organize our district's Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) programs. Talk to Tony Hill to get envolved.
- Recommend a colleague or friend for membership in our club

Meet other Rotarians ... here are some Ideas!

- Rotary's global network provides a great opportunity to expand your contacts and friendships to other countries while creating a foundation of support with communities around the world.
- Explore Rotary's global opportunities: Ask David Smith about opportunities in this aspect of Rotary
- Attend Rotary's annual convention Every New Member should do this at least once ... it will give you a sense of the bigger picture and help you to see how very global the Rotarian reach is both

locally, regionally and internationally

- Connect with Rotarians around the world who share your hobbies and personal interests or your service interests. Good examples of fellow Rotarians to ask about this are John Frykenberg and Theo Clark ... who have shared their interests overseas.
- Talk with Ed Jasnow, Dennis Mehringer or Jennifer Hall Lee about some of the opportunities we provide for local youth.
- Get involved with our club's international service projects. We give a number of grants of differing amounts for overseas projects in India, Nigeria, England and elsewhere. This year Altadena Rotary donated to a district project to help children with cleft lips and palates to smile again – through Rotaplast – where local Rotarians and doctors who donate their time are going to Mexico this year. If you haven't seen the results of these life-changing surgeries, it is very touching and is just another example of the work Rotarians do!

I am proud that we have done so well recruiting new members this year; however I encourage all of the members to get involved in our club. Not only do you breathe new life into our club but it also provides this club leadership for our future!

> Frank J. Cunningham Membership Chair

In Tune Continued from p. 1

ly 25 places have been named in connection with the origin of Memorial Day, many of them in the South where most of the war dead were buried.

Official Birthplace Declared

In 1966, Congress and President Lyndon Johnson declared Waterloo, N.Y., the *birthplace* of Memorial Day. There, a ceremony on May 5, 1866, honored local veterans who had fought in the Civil War. Businesses closed, and residents flew flags at half-staff. Supporters of Waterloo's claim say earlier observances in other places were either informal, not community-wide or one-time events.

By the end of the 19th century, Memorial Day ceremonies were being held on May 30 throughout the nation. State legislatures passed proclamations designating the day, and the Army and Navy adopted regulations for proper observance at their facilities.

It was not until after World War I, however, that the day was expanded to honor those who have died in all American wars. In 1971, Memorial Day was declared a national holiday by an act of Congress, though it is still often called Decoration Day. It was then also placed on the last Monday in May, as were some other federal holidays.

Some States Have Confederate Observances

Many Southern states also have their own days for honoring the Confederate dead.

Next Month's Programs

June

Rotary Fellowship

Program Chair, Mike Zoeller June 06- Steven Kwon, PhD - President,

- Nutrition and Education International June 13 - Terry Masango - Captain, Salva-
- tion 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

Mississippi celebrates Confederate Memorial Day on the last Monday of April, Alabama on the fourth Monday of April, and Georgia on April 26. North and South Carolina observe it on May 10, Louisiana on June 3 and Tennessee calls that date Confederate Decoration Day. Texas celebrates Confederate Heroes Day January 19, and Virginia calls the last Monday in May Confederate Memorial Day.

Gen. Logan's order for his posts to decorate graves in 1868 "with the choicest flowers of springtime" urged: "We should guard their graves with sacred vigilance. ... Let pleasant paths invite the coming and going of reverent visitors and fond mourners. Let no neglect, no ravages of time, testify to the present or to the coming generations that we have forgotten as a people the cost of a free and undivided republic."

The crowd attending the first Memorial Day ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery was approximately the same size as those that attend today's observance – about 5,000 people. Then, as now, small American flags were placed on each grave – a tradition followed at many national cemeteries today. In recent years, the custom has grown in many families to decorate the graves of all departed loved ones.

The origins of special services to honor those who die in war can be found in antiquity. The Athenian leader Pericles offered a tribute to the fallen heroes of the Peloponnesian War over 24 centuries ago that could be applied today to the 1.1 million Americans who have died in the nation's wars: "Not only are they commemorated by columns and inscriptions, but there dwells also an unwritten memorial of them, graven not on stone but in the hearts of men."

To ensure the sacrifices of America's fallen heroes are never forgotten, in December 2000, the US Congress passed – and the president signed into law – *The National Moment of Remembrance Act*, P.L. 106-579, creating the White House Commission on the National Moment of Remembrance. The commission's charter is to "encourage the people of the United States to give something back to their country, which provides them so much freedom and opportunity" by encouraging and coordinating commemorations in the United States of Memorial Day and the National Moment of Remembrance.

The National Moment of Remembrance encourages all Americans to pause wherever they are at 3 pm local time on Memorial Day for a minute of silence to remember and honor those who have died in service to the nation. As Moment of Remembrance founder Carmella LaSpada states: "It's a way we can all help put the memorial back in Memorial Day."

from the VA Office of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs

This Week

over 1500 young people a year with a 95 percent high school graduation rate and an 85 percent college acceptance rate.

Professionally, Budzyn held significant leadership positions in Employee Benefits, ERISA, and Financial Compliance for 30 years with ARCO and then BP. A consumer science and economics graduate of Purdue University, she has years of estate tax, employee benefit, pension economics, mediation and legal professional training as well.

She has been a member or Board member of 20 nonprofit and charitable organizations. Let us welcome Cynthia Bengston Budzyn as she talks about Leadership Pasadena. She may be introducing us to a *graduate* of the Leadership Pasadena program.

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Golden Properties

Your Hastings Ranch Neighborhood Real Estate Office Invites You to Our:

SHRED EVENT

Let's get Started with Our Spring Cleaning by safely shredding your old documents! Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Golden Properties is having a **FREE** Shred Event for You!

Must RSVP...spaces are limited - (626) 204-2301

WHEN: Saturday May 25, 2019 TIME: 10am-1pm

LOCATION: 482 N. Rosemead Blvd Pasadena, CA The shredding truck will be in our upper parking lot off the corner of Rosemead & Greenhill Road.

Serving Coffee & Donuts while You watch or Drop-Off.



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THE Mixx



Saturday, June 1st is BLUES CHANNEL Night at The Mixx! Dinner, drinks and music from 6:30 to 9:30. No jam, just us!

443 E Colorado (@ Los Robles) Pasadena 91101









Sparks - Altadena Rotary Club Newsletter



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

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

MADE POSSIBLE BY FUNDING FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE ALTADENA LIBRARY *October 13th's Second Saturday Concert is sponsored by the office of Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger.



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

