



Rotary Club of Altadena

Sparks

OFF THE ROTARY WHEEL
AN AWARD-WINNING NEWSLETTER



August 08, 2019

This Week Glenn Biasi, PhD Earthquakes & Earthquake Early Warning in California Program Host Tom McCurry

Dr. Glenn Biasi is a native of Southern California. He received a bachelor's degree from UC San Diego, served with the US Air Force in San Bernardino, and got his master's degree in geological sciences at UC Riverside.

Biasi transferred to the University of Oregon to study the deep earth structure under California and Nevada. After completing his PhD, he worked 22 years at the University of Nevada, Reno, working at the Nevada Seismological Network.

He has studied earthquakes, worked on fault structure on a range of scales, and developed new methods for seismic hazard estimation. He is a core member of the Working Group on California Earthquake Probabilities and contributed paleoseismic and fault studies to the most recent USGS seismic hazard estimates for

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Doing a Good Deed

Although you have heard it many times before, let me remind you what the official (from Wikipedia no less) definition is. Rotary International is an international service organization whose stated purpose is to bring together business and professional leaders in order to provide humanitarian service and to advance goodwill and peace around the world.

During the month of August, it is considered Rotary's Membership and New Club Development Month. This is a time to focus on Rotary's continuing need for growth, to seek new members and form new clubs. "How do we do this?" you ask?

- Educate members about the membership Procedure
- Invite Business acquaintances or friends to meetings
- Induct New Members
- Invite Rotaractors to join Rotary
- Consider inviting Local Personalities to be Inducted as Honorary Members (does anyone know Julia Roberts or Bruce Willis?????)
- Organize a Seminar or social gathering by inviting non-rotary friends and Rotary Alumni to emphasize the *Advantages of Joining Rotary*.

Last week I wrote about Sharing *your story ... our story* of Rotary in Altadena. One way we do this is during the greeting and passing out of the programs during



On the Mark

By Mark Mariscal, President

the Summer Concert Series. Individual examples are:

- Theo Clarke talking about our club while in other countries presenting about the JPL-Juno project,
- Jennifer Hall Lee who volunteered to staff a table promoting the Rotary Club of Altadena at the National Nights Out event on August 6 in conjunction with the Altadena Sheriff's Station at Farnsworth Park, or
- Sarah O'Brien who continues to post to our Facebook page although she is currently out of the country.

For those not present last Saturday night at the Concert, our MC — Jennifer Hall Lee — introduced and brought on stage a woman who was a devoted Pat Benatar music fan. At the same time, a man joined them on stage (Manuel) who had requested our assistance is setting the stage for a marriage proposal. He got down on one knee, asked her, and, of course, she said, "YES." We are *People of Action*. ☉

Greeter of the Week

August 08
Sterling Louviere
August 15
Tom McCurry

40 Years of Delicious Eating



That's what the Green Street Restaurant has been offering in Pasadena. Our speaker,

Bob Harrison, one of the co-owners of this Pasadena institution, gave us great insight into what it's like to run a major restaurant.

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Rotary Club of Altadena - #7183

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The restaurant used to be on Green Street, but moved to its current location in 1983. It's been re-modeled several times, and there have been several changes to the menu. For example, quinoa was not on the early menus.

The mission of the restaurant is to guarantee a return visit. Their motto is, *Great hospitality means treating people like they were at home, even if you wish they were.*

Their most popular item on the menu is the Diane Salad. It accounts for one-third of their sales. The salad was named after a friend who created the recipe. They told her that if she gave them the recipe, they would name it after her.

Another famous item offered exclusively at Green Street is their fabulous zucchini bread. It is baked daily and shipped all over the world. Harrison told an amusing story about a woman who claimed that she developed the recipe for the zucchini bread. They let her continue to say that, even though it wasn't true. One day, she called to say that her house had burned down and she lost everything, including the zucchini bread recipe. She asked Harrison if he could send it to her. He said they don't give out their rec-

ipes. She said, "But it's my recipe." Being very diplomatic, Harrison said their memories were different. She hung up.



Harrison said that they have to deal with some difficult customers. People come to the restaurant hungry, and that can make them impatient.

The restaurant has 85 employees, many having worked there 10, 20, and 30 years. The goal of the restaurant is to hire nice people and treat them well. Harrison pointed out the difficulties associated with accelerating the increase in the minimum wage from \$10 to \$15. They are faced with the issues of raising prices and cutting work

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August

Membership & Club Development

Program Chair, Tom McCurry

August 01 - Robert Harrison, Green Street Restaurant

August 08 - Dr. Glenn Biasi, Earthquakes & Earthquake Early Warning in CA

August 15 - To be Announced

Congratulations



Birthdays



02 - Phyllis Merrill
10 - Don Applegate
30 - Paula Mariscal

31 - Bruce Conroy (J. Foreman)



Anniversaries



23 - Garry & Dotty Clark

Concerts in the Park

We should be Proud



Our Rotary Club of Altadena does many benevolent things for our community including the

many scholarships awarded and the sponsored youth activities. However, our production and underwriting of the Summer Concert Series is most likely the highest profile and best-known activity we are currently involved in.

When our club considers opportunities

for *Community Projects* some of the benchmarks we strive to meet are:

- Local impact, will it make a difference in our community?
- Will it help bring the community together, Is there something for everybody?
- Will it get Rotarians out into our community and engaged with the residents?
- Does the activity reflect positively on Rotary, locally and internationally?

I'm sure I have missed a point or two, but I believe the answer to all questions is a resounding **YES!**

If we consider the size of the crowds we are drawing, including the many who come from outside of Altadena, we make the case for the first two points. Our club is 38 members strong and if I did my math correctly, 66% of us are actively involved in putting these shows on! The concerts are well organized and competently managed. The marketing and the branding of Rotary is excellent, it's inconceivable to me that anybody could leave Farnsworth Park after a concert and not know that Rotary is a vital component driving the continued success of our Altadena Summer Concert Series.

Congrats to all, we have much to be proud of!

Program

Continued from p.2

hours. They have had to cut 250 hours out of the work week.

The restaurant business is very challenging. There is a high turnover rate. Harrison talked about how the restaurant scene on South Lake Avenue has changed over the last 20 years. Instead of independent restaurants, there are quick food chains. He told the joke that if you want to be a millionaire, take six million dollars and open a restaurant. In one year, you'll be a millionaire.

Harrison brought up the subject of tipping. With tips, servers actually make \$40.00 per hour. Under what is known as

tipping credit, 43 states allow restaurants to pay servers less than the minimum wage. California is not one of those states. Additionally, there are payroll taxes and workman's comp insurance to pay. They also have to provide training regarding sexual harassment. Restaurants work on very thin profit margins.

Green Street also has a very large catering business for people who love their food.

Harrison encouraged us to eat at independently owned restaurants. It's for sure many of us will go to Green Street.

Ed Jasnow

This Week

Continued from p. 1

California. Two years ago he relocated to Southern California to join the US Geological Survey in Pasadena.

Biasi is currently working, with Caltech and other West Coast seismic centers, on implementing the ShakeAlert Earthquake Early Warning System in California and the west coast of the United States. He currently lives in Altadena, where he and his wife spend their spare time in landscaping and home projects.



ROTARIANS ON THE ROAD

Greetings & Photos from Wollaton Park in Great Britain

Past President Sarah O'Brien is still out of the country. From the evidence of these pictures, she is in England, where her parents reside. She gave no indication of when we would be seeing her, so she may

still be on tour. The photographs were taken last Wednesday, July 31, at the Wollaton Park Rotary Club meeting in Nottingham, England.

The photos show a gathering of Presi-

dents: Beverly Squire-Wiggins, President of Palm Bay Rotary Club, Florida with Chris O'Brien, President of the Wollaton Park Rotary Club and separately with our Past President, Sarah.



Form & Line

by Jacque Foreman

Here I am again with one of my favorite little books: *The Unexpected Evolution of Language* by Justin Cord Hayes. For today: *Amuse vs Bemuse*.

Good News! You're not the only one

who gets the definitions for *amuse* and *bemuse* mixed up. Nowadays, if something bemuses you, then in puzzles or bewilders you. At one time, something or someone *amusing* did the same thing – but now,

Amuse vs. Bemuse

amuse usually refers to something humorous. So the next time someone corrects you for using the wrong word, you can explain why you are not as bemused as you may seem. So ... are you bemused yet?

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



Altadena Rotary



AND Sponsors: Frank Cunningham of Gently Guided, a personalized senior living referral service;
Georgia Rutherford in memory of Don Rutherford, first president of SSGA;