


May 29, 2014

## This Week

### PCC Awards PCC Veterans' Scholarship Awards Guest Program Host: Craig Cox

This week, coming off the Memorial Day holiday, we will honor four PCC Veteran Students with \$1500 scholarships made possible by the American Legion and administered through Altadena Rotary and the Altadena Rotary Foundation.

With the draw down of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, Pasadena City College now has over 900 veterans as students. These students benefit from one of the best Veteran Resource Centers in the state (if not in the country).

Come and hear about these students' service to our country and their plans for the future. 




**Dollar & Sense**  
by President  
Dennis Mehriinger

## Geneonology comes through Big Time

**A**nn Hunt was a regular American housewife with little interest in her past when her daughter decided to study the family ancestry. What she discovered was the veritable *Mother Lode* of Genealogy.

Hunt had been born in England in 1936, the fraternal twin of one Liz Hamel. They had been separated for 78 years completely unaware of each other's existence. They were separated at birth when their unmarried mother could not care for both. Hunt — the *prettier* sister — was given up for adoption because Hamel — the *less adoptable* baby — had been marked by scoliosis. Hunt and Hamel finally met with their families at the Marriott hotel in Fullerton, California on May 1, 2014. They have agreed to be part of a *Study of Twins* at the Twins Study Center that professor Nancy J. Segal directs at Cal State University Fullerton.

78 years is the known world record for reuniting twins after separation. The research possibilities are intriguing to scientists since these two ladies have at least half identical genes but almost completely different environmental backgrounds.

However, these scientific factors were of little concern when they shouted to each other "Sisters, how lovely" when they met on May 1. They also were able to spend a few days together before Hamel had to return to her home across the pond. 

## Greeters

May 29  
**Jim Gorton**  
June 05  
**Tony Hill**  
June 12  
**Boyd Hudson**

# Program Review

## Celebrating Achievement in the Vocational Arts



For over 30 years, the Rotary Club of Altadena has recognized outstanding students in the vocational arts from Pasadena City College. Each year, we work with the staff at the PCC Foundation office and the PCC faculty to identify the top students. Last Thursday's meeting was a continuation of this tradition. This is always a great event in the Altadena Rotary year and is a part of the award season we hold every year

in the spring.

This year we had the opportunity to recognize eighteen students from PCC. Of this eighteen, ten students actually came to the lunch to receive their award. Each attending student-recipient shared a little about him/herself. Many of the eight students who could not attend the luncheon, were already working at their chosen careers.

From the Business and Computer Technology Department, Alfonso Lopez and Sara Achterhof were present to re-

looking forward to pursuing a career in accounting.

Simon Ruan, a student in computer design technology spoke of how he came



l to r - Angela Nunez, Simon Ruan and Leonardo Sanchez

to this country from mainland China. He discovered the computer classes at PCC and found that he loved the course work and did very well. He is looking forward to a career in technology. Leonardo Sanchez studied electrical and electronics at PCC. He hopes to go to work for one of the major utilities like So. California Edison. Angela Nunez received her award for Construction Inspection. She spoke of her many years working in various positions in the construction industry.

Allison Klock was the recipient of the award for her studies in Dental Assisting and Dental Hygiene. Klock's grandfather was Frank Klock, who was a member of Altadena Rotary for many years. Uriel Eddie, a veteran of the US Army, received recog-  
Please turn to Program, p.3



l to r - Sara Achterhof, Patricia Erwin - Teacher and Alfonso Lopez

ceive their award. Both were accounting majors, and both were grateful for the education they received at PCC and were

### May No Designation

Program Chair, Mike Zoeller

May 29 - PCC Veterans' Awards - Craig Cox, Guest program host

### June Rotary Fellowship Month

Program Chair, Ed Jasnow

- Jun 05 - Mike Zoeller, Guest Host - Red Cross Disaster Preparedness
- Jun 12 - Dr. Andrea Donnellan, JPL Research Scientist - Predicting Earthquakes
- Jun 19 - Dr. Josh Willis, JPL Research Scientist - Climate Change
- Jun 26 - Demotion Party

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. .... Ron Burton  
Dist 5300 Gov. .... Miles Petroff

#### Officers

Dennis Mehringer, Pres. .... Bus. 626-577-9800  
Hal Yorke, Pres. Elec. .... Bus. 818-354-5515  
Julius Johnson, V. Pres. .... Bus. 626-797-1186  
Gordon Seyffert, Sec. .... Bus. 626-345-0658  
Mike Noll, Treas. .... Bus. 626-683-0515

#### Directors

Ed Jasnow • John Frykenberg  
Gordon Seyffert • Sterling Louviere  
Julius Johnson • Mike Zoeller • Hal Yorke

#### Chairmen

Hal Yorke ..... Administration  
Ed Jasnow ..... Foundation  
Jacque Foreman ..... Public Awareness  
Jacque Foreman ..... Acting Publicity  
Jacque Foreman ..... Sparks/Website  
Mike Zoeller ..... Club Projects  
Craig Cox ..... Community  
John Frykenberg ..... International  
Tom McCurry ..... Youth Contests/Awards  
Mike Zoeller ..... Youth Projects  
Ray Carlson ..... Vocational  
Steve Cunningham ..... Membership  
Editor, Design & Typesetting ..... Foreman Graphics  
Photography ..... Jacque Foreman

### Congratulations



**Birthdays**

04/13 - Alice Hudson  
04/18 - John Frykenberg  
04/29 - Mike Noll





**Anniversaries**

04/27 - Sterling & Olga Louviere



## A Spirit of True Generosity



At last week's meeting (May 22), you saw Craig Cox, last year's Foundation Chair, present multi-sapphire Paul Harris Fellow pins to Dennis Mehringer and David Smith. In that trio gathered at the podium, you were seeing three of Altadena Rotary's most generous members. A Paul Harris Fellowship is achieved each time a member donates \$1,000 to the Rotary Foundation. Craig, Dennis, and David have donated multiple thousands of dollars to the Foundation in honor of members of their families. As Dennis noted, his twins, Esther and James — at three days old — became the youngest Paul Harris Fellows in the history of the Foundation.

Why do they do it? It's because they recognize that the Rotary Foundation probably does more than any other organization in the world to improve the lives of people on this planet.

It has almost single handedly nearly wiped the scourge of polio from the Earth. It has provided fresh drinking water to villages where people were dying from drinking contaminated water. It reaches into every corner of the world to assist Rotary clubs in their projects to feed the hungry, heal the sick, and uplift the downtrodden.

This is the essence of the Rotary Foundation. You, too, can become a part of this generous movement.

If you aren't a Paul Harris Fellow, you



*l to r: David Smith, Dennis Mehringer, and Craig Cox*

can instantly become a sustaining fellow by donating \$100 to ARC earmarked for the Foundation. If you do that every month, you'll be a Paul Harris Fellow in less than a year. And, if you're already a Paul Harris Fellow, donate \$100 to ARC to start one for your spouse, or child, or grandchild. Each donation increases what the Foundation is able to do. And, isn't that the spirit of true generosity that is the essence of Rotary? ○

## Program

Continued from p.2



*l to r - Thomas Neiderer - Teacher, Anita Bobich - Teacher, Uriel G. Eddie, Allison Klock, Lori Gaglionch - Teacher, Barbara Kissel - Teacher, and Paolo Patinio*

nition for his outstanding work in dental laboratory technology. Paolo Paulino was

*Sparks - Altadena Rotary Club Newsletter*

recognized for his work in Radiology Technology. Finally Davaughn Potts and Kin Law were given the award as the outstanding students in Television Operation and Production.

Several faculty members were also in attendance and shared their comments



*l to r - Davaughn Potts, Barbara Naylor - Instructor, and Kin Law*

and observations about the students. We are grateful to David LeClaire, head of the PCC Foundation and his staff for their work on making this event a success.

Boyd Hudson ○



# MONEY by Linda Wilkes MATTERS

## Economic Update

### In The News — May 19, 2014

The combined construction of new single-family homes and apartments in April rose 13.2 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1,072,000 units, compared to the revised March estimate of 947,000 units. Single-family starts increased 0.8 percent. Volatile multifamily starts rose 39.6 percent. Overall, housing unit starts were up 26.4 percent in April when compared to the previous year. Applications for new building permits, seen as an indicator of future activity, were at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1,080,000 units, 8 percent above the revised March rate of 1,000,000 units.

The Mortgage Bankers Association said its seasonally adjusted composite index of mortgage applications for the week ending May 9 rose 3.6 percent from the previous week. Purchase volume fell 1 percent. Refinancing applications increased 7 percent.

The monthly National Association of Home Builders/Wells Fargo housing market index fell one point in May to 45 from a revised April reading of 46. An index reading below 50 indicates negative sentiment about the housing market.

Retail sales rose 0.1 percent to \$434.6 billion in April. This follows a revised 1.5 percent increase in March. Compared to a year ago, April retail sales have increased 4 percent.

Consumer prices rose 0.3 percent in April, following a 0.2 percent increase in March. Compared to a year ago, April consumer prices have risen 2 percent.

Consumer prices at the core rate — excluding volatile food and energy prices — were up 0.2 percent in April.

Total business sales increased 1 percent to \$1,325.7 billion in March, up 4.3 percent from a year ago. Total business inventories rose 0.4 percent to \$1,717.2 billion in March, up 4.7 percent from a year ago. The total business inventories/sales ratio in March was 1.3.

Initial claims for unemployment benefits for the week ending May 10 fell by 24,000 to 297,000, the lowest level since May 2007. Continuing claims for the week ending May 3 fell by 9,000 to 2.667 million. The less volatile four-week average of claims for unemployment benefits was 323,250.

Upcoming on the economic calendar are reports on existing home sales on May 22 and new home sales on May 23.

### Knowledge Builder How to Use a Plat Map

Plat maps convey information that is beneficial to Real Estate Agents and their homebuyers. A plat map is a diagram detailing boundary or property lines for a particular plot of land. For real estate purposes, a plat map will show a tract of land and how it is separated into divided parcels, indicating the placement and length of property lines, easements and right-of-ways on the land.

Drawn to scale, plat maps convey information that is beneficial to Real Estate Agents and their homebuyers. With a plat map in hand, you can know:

- Locations of the property's tract easements (power, water, sewer, phone,

etc.); recreation areas; roads; greenbelts; and monuments and dimensions for measuring and identifying lot boundaries

- Length and width and square feet of the parceled property, easement areas, parks, etc.
- Longitude and latitude lines of the property
- Lot tract numbers, builder lot numbers and parcel numbers
- Shape of each lot (parcel boundary) and its orientation (north, south, east and west)
- Where iron pins/pipes were set as property markers, and
- Other useful information

The more atypical the shape of the plot of land, the better the chance it could have an erroneous reading of the property's square footage on the county record. The plat map can help determine discrepancies with the square footage, which could be helpful in understanding a home's true value.

Also, plat maps are excellent visual tools that can help orient a buyer. For example, a review of the map shows the homebuyer which side of the house gets the sun first, neighbor proximity, yard size, etc.

Basic plat maps can be found online, but usually without the important measurement and location data. Detailed plat maps can be obtained from the property title company or at the county planning office.

Find Linda Wilkes on line: <http://www.myprospectmortgage.com/lwilkes>

# Flags fly for Memorial Day and Beyond

Photos and words by Jacque Foreman

When I arrived at the Presbyterian Church parking lot at 5p on Friday, May 23, most of those who had volunteered to put up the flags were already there, and



the flags were being divided between Mike Zoeller's

and Tony Hill's vehicles. The others there were Craig Cox, Tom McCurry, and Ed Jasnow. Gordon



Seyffert showed up not long after I arrived.

The gentlemen split up into two teams: Cox, McCurry and Zoeller on one team, and



Hill, Jasnow and Seyffert on the other. The Zoeller team went north on the east side of Lake from Woodbury Road to Altadena Drive, and the Hill team went south on the west side of Lake from Altadena Drive to Woodbury Road.

For the Zoeller group, Zoeller drove his vehicle which contained both the ladder and the flags, and Cox and McCurry walked from each flag space to the next.

I drove by myself so I wasn't tied to either team. My job was to take pictures of the flags as they were put up.

I started out with the Zoeller team as they went north on Lake. As soon as I had what I hoped were enough pictures of that team, I thanked the Zoeller team, closed my camera and went to where I thought

I could catch the Hill team as it moved south on Lake.



While I was waiting for the Hill team, I glanced over at the building behind the light post and saw a bed full of pansies and various other plants.



The Hill team — Jasnow and Seyffert — also chose to walk, but carried their



ladder, preferring to do that instead of folding and unfolding the ladder at each

flag location and taking it in and out of Hill's van.



## News on our Youth Programs: RYLA & Interact Update

Last week our guests included three of the four Muir High School Juniors we sponsored to the District's Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) program. They were Rudy Amaya, Logan Patton and David Smith (yes, another David Smith).

The fourth student, Perla Sanchez, was unable to attend as she had to take an exam that she had missed (poor kid). Dr. Nancy Gonzalez Heusser, a counselor at Muir also joined us. Heusser helps us every year by providing a selection of high school juniors who show a potential for leadership.



Each year volunteers from our Altadena Rotary Club interview these candidates and select two boys and two girls to join over two hundred other high school juniors from throughout our District 5300 to participate in a camp in Big Bear for a weekend. During that time, the participants listen to a variety of stimulating speakers and take part in many challenging activities — all geared to help each of them develop their leadership skills. As you who attended the last weeks meeting observed, these are high quality kids who show enormous potential and we are happy to help them prepare for their futures through this terrific RYLA program.

The week before last, Chris Anderson — who used to help us with our Interact program at Pasadena High School —

attended our meeting and brought with him Osvaldo Mejia, a teacher at Pasadena High School who has agreed to act as a teacher liaison at PHS with our Interact Club. Since Chris left this role to work at the PUSD District Office, our Interact Club at PHS has struggled.

Interact is a mini Rotary Club run by the high school students themselves. We, the members of Altadena Rotary, assist them as a resource to guide them, help them with their community projects and involve them in our community projects. Our Interact Chair works closely with the teacher liaison and the Interact Club executives to help make their Club a success. We look forward to getting our PHS Interact Club re-established in the fall with Mejai's assistance.

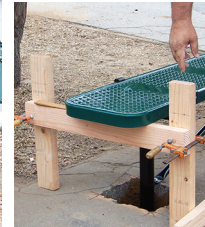
# Spring Community Project Completed

Most of this will be a photo essay on our Spring Community Project. However, just in case I missed photographing some of the volunteers, here is a list of the Rotarians who were there:

**David Smith,**  
*Project Coordinator*

**Craig Cox, Kimmit Haggins**  
**Tony Hill, Boyd Hudson**  
**Tom McCurry, Gordon Seyffert**  
**Santosh Srivastava**  
**Mike Zoeller, Jacque Foreman**

In addition, Mike and Susan Schwartz were there representing the Eliot PTA and John Smith came with his two step grandsons, Ricardo and Kevin Vega, both of whom attend the school.



*Please advance to page 7 for more photos*

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

**BOY SCOUT EXPO**  
**SATURDAY, MAY 31**  
**ROSEBOWL**  
**10a TO 3p**

**TALK TO RAY CARLSON**  
**TO ARRANGE FOR TIMES**

**>> NEXT BOARD MEETING <<**  
**TUESDAY, May 06, AT 6:15p**  
**260 S. Los Robles, Pasadena**  
**3rd Floor Conference Room**



# Thank You to All who Came and Worked





# 2014 ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA | 1-4 JUNE 2014

REGISTER NOW



WHY ATTEND

PLAN YOUR VISIT

PROGRAM

REGISTER

EXHIBITORS & SPONSORS

DOWNLOADS

## SYDNEY CONVENTION OFFERS FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY

Print Share

Join Rotary members from around the world in Sydney, Australia, 1-4 June. The 2014 RI Convention will bring together some of the world's leading experts on water, polio, and social media. You'll find new ideas for service – and perhaps a new partner for creating change – in the House of Friendship.

Plan now to make this convention a memorable family vacation.

REGISTER ONLINE

REGISTER BY FAX OR MAIL

[Learn more about registration and fees.](#)



Preview Sydney's cosmopolitan charm and natural beauty with RI President Ron D. Burton. As the capital of New South Wales, Sydney offers visitors beaches, parks, gardens, and scenic vistas. It also serves as the gateway to the outback.

LATEST NEWS

CALENDAR

**HUMAN NATURE TO PERFORM**  
The Australian quartet Human Nature will be the featured entertainment during the opening plenary session, Sunday, 1 June. Learn more about the [entertainment lineup](#).

**BRUCE AYLWARD TO SPEAK IN SYDNEY**  
Bruce Aylward, assistant director-general at the World Health Organization (WHO), will be a speaker at the 2014 Rotary International Convention in Sydney.

[more >>](#)

TWITTER

FLICKR

LINKEDIN

#ricon14

**John Hewko** @JohnHewko 4h  
RT @endpollionow: Join @rotarydownunder to break records while fundraising to immunize + 240,000 kids. [ow.ly/uAMTh #ricon14](#)  
Retweeted by Ann Lee Hussey

**John Hewko** @JohnHewko 4h  
RT @endpollionow: Join @rotarydownunder to break records while fundraising to immunize + 240,000 kids. [ow.ly/uAMTh #ricon14](#)  
Retweeted by District 9630

**John Hewko** @JohnHewko 4h  
RT @endpollionow: Join @rotarydownunder to break records while fundraising to immunize + 240,000 kids. [ow.ly/uAMTh #ricon14](#)  
Tweet #ricon14

### ABOUT THE PROGRAM



Thought-provoking speakers and world-class entertainers await you in Sydney. Get the full schedule of plenary and breakout sessions.

[Learn about volunteer opportunities.](#)

### ABOUT THE CITY



Casual yet cosmopolitan, Sydney has a natural beauty that draws visitors to enjoy the outdoors. Explore the city with a [free transit pass](#) courtesy of the New South Wales Government.

### SIGN UP FOR CONVENTION UPDATES

Get the latest news, updates, and deadline information about the Sydney convention.

SIGN-UP

### RESOURCES

[Download forms](#)  
[Future RI conventions](#)

### BEFORE YOU GO

[Travel](#)  
[Visas](#)  
[Housing](#)

### HOST ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Looking for more convention news and information? Visit the [Host Organizing Committee website](#) and discover Sydney.



### TRAVEL DISCOUNTS

[Sign in for promo codes](#). Learn more about travel to Sydney.



New South Wales Government – Proudly supporting the Rotary International Convention 2014





All **FREE** Concerts start at 7:00 PM in the Amphitheater at Farnsworth Park.  
 568 East Mt. Curve Ave., Altadena, CA 91001 for information: 626-798-6335  
 Visit: <http://www.altadenasheriffs.blogspot.com>

### 18th Annual Summer Concert Series Schedule - 2014

Downbeat Express (Big Band with Jennifer Gates)	Saturday, July 5th
Whiskey Hayride (Country music and much more!)	Saturday, July 12th
Hotsy Totsy Boys (Roarin' 20's)	Saturday, July 19th
Let's Go! (Tribute to the Cars & more)	Saturday, July 26th
Floyd & the Flyboys (R & B, Soul, Funk)	Saturday, August 2nd
Upstream (Reggae, Calypso, Soca & Steel Drum Music)	Saturday, August 9th
Delgado Brothers Band (Americana & Blues)	Saturday, August 16th
The MIGHTY Burnt Bacon (Stax Style Soul Band)	Saturday August 23rd

**And... For Our Grand Finale... Saturday, Sept. 6th**  
**Sgt. Pepper in a tribute to the Beatles!**  
 Presented By: Community Events & SSGA

*Thank You to our generous sponsors*



Rotary Club  
Of Altadena

MonteCedro  
The art of life in harmony



Georgia Rutherford  
In Memory of  
Don Rutherford

ALTADENA'S #1 TOP SELLING AGENT  
 Linda Seyffert & Associates  
 Tracy Lukas  
 Khatchadourian  
 Pooley  
 626.791.2800  
 626.712.5194



**ELPATRON**  
 Mexican Food Restaurant  
 www.elpatrononline.com

2555 Lake Ave.  
 Altadena, Ca 91001  
 626.296.2818