Rotary Club of Altadena

OFF THE ROTARY

AN AWARD-WINNING NEWSLETTER



November 17, 2016

This Week

Catching Up with Two of our Stellar Members A Continuation of Craft Talks after 30 Years of Membership Program Host: Jim Gorton

I could tell you who they are, but let's test your knowledge first. These two gentlemen are our *Youth Services Chairs*. One of them is a practicing divorce attorney in Pasadena, and the other owns a manufacturing company in Alhambra. Any guesses yet? OK, keep going, and it will become obvious.

For our occasional program of catching up with longtime members of the Club, we'll have Mike Zoeller and Tony Hill updating their craft talks for us – this will be their craft talk, part 2. Zoeller joined the Club in 1983, so he's got almost as many years to cover in part 2 of his craft talk as he did in part 1. Hill, who joined the Club in 1988, is not too far behind!

Let's turn out and hear what these two gentlemen – Tony Hill and Mike Zoeller – have been up to in the 30 or so years since they joined the Club.





Teaching Children that Failure is an Option

decade ago, a teachers' union in Great Britain floated a proposal to eliminate the word *failure* from educators' vocabulary; they wanted to use the term *deferred success* instead. Although the proposal didn't go anywhere, it demonstrated how much well-meaning adults fear failure in young people.

And that fear isn't limited to British teachers, says Dr. Tim Elmore, author of 12 Huge Mistakes Parents Can Avoid (Harvest House Publishers, 2014). The president of the Atlanta-based nonprofit, **Growing Leaders**, Elmore recalls a conversation from a soccer field. "I recently heard a mom say to another mom after her kids lost a soccer match, 'Let's just tell them it was a tie.'"

That lie might have been comforting – assuming the kids bought it – but it wouldn't have been constructive. "While we parents hate seeing our kids fail, I don't think we can truly mature without facing it in life – and the earlier, the better," Elmore says.

In fact, he argues, failure is a friend, a

coach and a teacher. Without it, kids grow up to fear failure (because they've never experienced it) or to lack motivation (because they've received too many trophies just for showing up). And that's not all. "Kids who've never tested their abilities grow into emotionally brittle young adults who are more vulnerable to anxiety and depression," he says.

There might even be a connection with the phenomenon of boomerang kids. Elmore says he's lost track of the number of college deans who've told him that 26 is the new 18. "When kids move back home, it's generally not a sour economy that's to blame. I graduated into a horrible economy

Please turn to Scout's p. 3



November 17 *Tom McCurry* November 24 *Thanksgiving: No Meeting (Dark)* December 01 *Dennis Mehringer*

Program Review





n November 10, 2016 we were invited to a joint meeting with the San Marino Ro-

tary Club. There we were privileged to meet the 2017 Rose Queen and her court and to learn something of these young women. They are remarkable.

Princess Autumn (Autumn Lundy – Polytechnic School) is the soccer captain

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Rotary Int. PresJohn F. Germ Dist 5300 GovLuciano "Lu" de Sylva
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of her school. She is also involved in reading partners as a mentor for the dyslectic. She plans to major in human biology and become a nurse prac-

titioner.



Princess Audrey (Audrey Cameron – Blair High School) is active in track and cross country at her high school and she is a member of the com-

munity orchestra. She foresees a future in medicine.



Princess Emi (Lauren Emiko Powers – Arcadia High School) volunteers in the ICU at Arcadia Methodist Hospital. She teaches English to Spanish speak-

ers. She plans to attend Syracuse University and enter a career in broadcast journalism.



Princess Maya (Maya Kabn – Arcadia High School) told us of her culturally mixed household. Her father is a Muslim and she herself is a Lutheran.

She wants to enter nursing in service to the military or to veterans. My advice to her was to contact a military recruiter as soon as possible. She'll need a commission and will find tuition assistance more than helpful.

November Rotary Foundation

Program Chair, Jim Gorton November 17 - Mike Zoeller & Tony Hill bring us their Craft Talks 2nd eedition November 24 - Thanksgiving - Dark Uncle Sam definitely wants her.



Princess Shannon (Shannon Larsuel – Mayfield Senior School) has set very high goals for herself. She wants to enter Yale and become a pediatric oncolo-

gist, a medical specialty that in some ways entails more fortitude and dedication than the others. We need her here. If she reads this, I would inform her that our medical education in Southern California is second to none and she won't need a plane ticket or a winter coat to get it.



Queen Victoria (Victoria Castellanos – Temple City High School) is actively involved with the Humane Society and the American Legion, remind-

ing us of her patriotism the day before Veterans' Day.

These young women will be the foundation of the welfare and prosperity of our community for the coming half century. May God bless them and lead them to persevere in their ideals. We were sorry to miss Princess Natalie (Natalie Petrosian – La Canada High School. Roger Fennell O





by Mike Zoeller, One of our Youth Services Chairs

Intereact at Muir Thanks to Tony Hill and Steve Cunningham



fter declining interest in Altadena Rotary's Interact activities

at Pasadena High School, a new Interact club at Muir High School appears to be taking off like a jet under the mentoring of Tony Hill and Steve Cunningham. The club will be joining our Rotary clubs at our pancake breakfast and bike assembly project this Saturday, and they have participated in several previous events in the past year. This club has just officially begun this school year and is already participating like an experienced service group.

Of course, high school clubs like Interact generally don't succeed without enthusiastic

Scout's Continued from p. 1

but never dreamed of moving back home," Elmore says. "We have done a better job protecting than preparing our kids for the future. Real love requires us to equip them for life."

So how can you equip your kids for life and keep them from moving back home at age 26? Elmore offers three strategies.

Create a Safe Place to Fail

- The first strategy is to create learning laboratories where failure is welcome.
- Show the Benefits of Failure
- Point out the benefits of failure, perhaps by telling your kids about your own

adult leaders, and this club has one of the best. Carina Jacob of the John Muir High School Alumni Association is working with the Muir Interact Club and is doing an outstanding job of getting the club up and running and keeping the club fully engaged. Jacob has been lobbying for Interact at Muir for several years, and we are fortunate to have her as the inaugural club adult mentor.

For our newer members, Rotary Interact is a high school club for youth ages 12-18, who want to connect with other young people in their community or school. Interact club members have fun while carrying out service projects and learning about the world.

Interact clubs organize at least two

service projects a year: one that benefits their community and one that encourages international understanding. Interact is also an opportunity for members to connect with community leaders, develop leadership skills, make international connections and discover more opportunities to connect with Rotary, including Rotaract, RYLA, and Youth Exchange.

While Rotary clubs sponsor them, Interact clubs are largely self-sustaining, requiring little or no financial support from the sponsoring club.

If you want to know more about – or get involved with – Interact or any of the Altadena Club's many Youth projects, contact Tony Hill or Mike Zoeller. O

struggles or about famous failures from history.

Help Make Failure Their Friend

- We need to change our scorecard for success with our kids.
- We must evaluate and affirm good effort, whether or not they fail in the process.

Elmore continues, "Once kids realize the goal of life is not to avoid failure, they will embrace it more readily. What gets rewarded gets repeated."

Of Tollbooths and Roadblocks

Elmore points out that everyone encounters obstacles along their path. The challenge is to see those obstacles as tollbooths, where you pay the price and keep moving forward, rather than roadblocks, where you get stuck. The earlier kids learn that lesson, the better off they'll be

"We must prepare our kids to be resilient," Elmore says. "We must prepare the child for the path, instead of the path for the child." And the best way to do that is to let them fail.

Going back to the Professional Association of Teachers: Their proposal was right; they just had it backwards. *Failure* really is another word for *deferred success*. O



Job Creation by C. Ray Carlson, District Chair, Job Creation Entrepreneurship

Scouting's Merit Badge of Entrepreneurship **Deserves Rotarian Support**

At the recent Youth Expo of Boy Scouts at the Rose Bowl, I was amazed by the enthusiastic response of three mothers of Scouts. They asked if I could come to their sons's troop and teach Entrepreneurship. "Which troop is that?" I asked, interested but worried that it would be too far away. "JPL." Excitedly, I answered "YES!" Then

they informed me that they only meet there an evening each week because JPL needs all their premises daily for their usual activities. The thought flashed into my mind, "Sons of some of the worlds great space scientists. Wow!"

Then a Scout leader from near San Dimas asked about the training of his Scouts,

"I've always wanted my scouts to achieve the Merit Badge of Entrepreneurship! Can you come?" "Yes, and I'll approach San Dimas Rotary about members taking over after the first meeting." "Oh good, they have asked us to help them, a few times." Later, looking in the District directory, I noted that it was

Please turn to Job Creation, p. 5



Job Creation

a very small club but sponsor of the Interact Club at San Dimas HS: A good sign, that they were already actively involved with the youth of their community. May be, they can recruit new members that are already interested and involved with Scouting. I recalled another club that had recruited the principal of the school where they conducted our entrepreneurship program.

After conducting Entrepreneurship classes in public schools since 1995, I have witnessed how teachers and principals become interested in Rotary when we get personally involved with their students, conveying our business-savvy to them. Also, when we

invite community business men and women to come and teach a class that involves their expertise, they frequently become interested in Rotary. That's how Julius Johnson, JD came to be interested at Eliot Middle School, joined Altadena Rotary, and eventually served as president. He even taught a class of 5th graders one of Junior Achievement's programs over a span of five weekly classes. I videotaped his last class and was thrilled

Merit Badge Class and Counselors at Greater LA Scout Headquarters

by his enthusiastic presentation and the excited response of his students, especially when he called their names to receive certificates of completion.

> In October 2015, we launched our first class for the Merit Badge of Entrepreneurship at the headquarters of Greater Los Angeles Area Council. They had emailed their Scouting families, and the room was filled with parents

and scouts sitting at round tables, each with a Rotarian as counselor. Five of the Rotarians gave presentations on the various aspects of entrepreneurship. Then the Scouts filled out the form based on the manual that each had purchased (\$5) and brought to the meeting. Their Counselor asked questions from each section of the form, involving every Scout – one by one. At the conclusion, each Scout received a blue card that confirmed their successful completion of all the requirements for the Merit Badge.

In February, I was asked by Scoutmaster Mike Emerson of Troop 4 to come and teach 14 Scouts at Westminster Presbyterian Church on successive Monday nights. It was exciting to see the interest and enthusiasm of the Scouts.

On the final night, each one gave an oral presentation of his/her Business Plan. After I appointed the first one, and the presentation was finished, I asked "Who's next?" They all screamed "Me, me, me!" When we started to go overtime, they all insisted on remaining until every one had spoken. Their mothers had to wait.

Our club is uniquely gifted to become the promoter of the above to our Rotary District 5300 and beyond: President Charlie Wilson, executive of the GLAAC, Eagle Scouts Craig Cox, Mike Noll, Boyd Hudson, active counselor Steve Kerekes (our President-elect), and many involved in early years. Let's mobilize a District 5300 Scouting Task Force and make a difference!! We need to launch it for Girl Scouts, too!



Flags go Up and come Down for Veterans' Day

Thursday afternoon – the day before Veterans' Day – about 4p, I drove into the Presbyterian Church parking lot at the corner of Fiske and Woodbury. Craig Cox was already there. As I drove up, he took the flags out of the hatch back of his car in preparation for putting them in someone else's car.

Soon Tom McCurry drove up. We put the flags in the hatch back of McCurry's car, and he drove off to the first light post with a bracket and waited. Shortly thereafter, Cox and I arrived with the ladder in his car.

I took a few photographs and then helped the guys put up the flags. We had 48 flags to put up onto 24 light poles. It took about two hours, and I drove into my driveway about 6:30 pm.

Then, on Saturday, November 12, we went back again and took the flags down. We were to meet in the parking lot at 10a. This time when I arrived, Tony Hill was already there. Soon Tom McCurry and Craig Cox arrived in their cars, and David Smith brought his truck and a ladder. Tony Hill had a ladder in his car.

This time we split up into two teams: I rode in Hill's car, while Cox walked the ladder from pole to pole. We went north. McCurry and Smith made up the second team, and they came south from Altadena Drive.

After I took a few photos of the flags coming down, I helped roll up the flags and put them into Hill's car.

The *going north* team finished first, and then we went off to catch up with the *going south* team so I could get a few photos of them.

Soon Craig was walking the ladder again. Hill drove me to a couple of spots so I could take pictures of the second crew.

As we finished taking down the flags,

Hill left. I was offered a ride to the parking lot in Smith's truck, but it's too high for me to climb into. Cox - who had walked the ladder first up and then down Lake – took the offer of the ride and McCurry walked



with me to the parking lot.

Wondering how to tell if the flags are going up or coming down? The position of the flag is usually the clue. It's up when the flags are going up and visa versa. O

Sparks - Altadena Rotary Club Newsletter

Second Saturda Concert Second Saturday's [mostly] from 6:30 to 8:30 pm



Listen to great music as you sip beer and wine from The Ale House; savor grilled eats from El Patron; and sample delectable desserts from Sweeter Than Honey.

Kenny Sara and the Sounds of New Orleans returning to the Altadena Library playing New Orleans music along with various other styles and favorites. Raised in New Orleans, Kenny lives in Altadena with his wife.



www.kkaremusic.com. November 12

Young Dempsey Sprinkle in music from the 50s to 80s with dancing and you get that explosive concoction known as Young Dempsey -a band of "dudes" made up of Drewin Young, Josh Jones, Mac Lake and Marc Doten - that bring back that hot-rodded nostalgic doo wop and country sound.. December 3 [First Saturday]

Todd Washington Trio will entertain with a mix of blues, folk, rock, soul and gospel. The band's lead singer, TMax, has performed with Chaka Kahn, Katy Perry, Earth Wind & Fire, Taj Mahal, Sarah Brightman, Michelle Shocked and other top artists. January 14, 2017

Louis Van Taylor Quintet. Louis has performed with Kool and Gang Band and The Gerald Wilson Orchestra. Louis played in June with JazzZone at the Library and it was fantastic don't miss it! www.plazanoir.com/louis-van-taylor-2/ February 11

DeRumba Bringing the sound of the Spanish guitar to the beat of the gypsy rumba - these musicians are AMAZING! www.facebook.com/Derumba March 11

Splish Splash Band is an acoustic classic rock, folk 'n blues band made up of Pierce Brochetti and Dolores D'Angelo. They take you through time playing tunes from the '60s to the'90s and all the way to the present with a few originals thrown in the mix. www.Facebook.com/SplishSplashBand. April 8

Michael Haggins Band combines funk and smooth jazz with a taste of old school, having been inspired by Stanley Clarke, Isley Brothers, George Duke, Earth Wind & Fire, and many others. www.MichaelHaggins.com May 13







Altadena Libraries

600 East Mariposa Altadena | 626 798 0833 www.AltadenaLibrary.org



You are cordially invited to our Christmas Carty



6:00 to 9:30pm

Cinocchio's 1449 N. Lake Avenue

Casadena

\$25 per Person Register on Club Runner

Clan to join your fellow Rotarians with your Pignificant Other for an evening of Tellowship and Merry Making as we Celebrate the Holidays A