

Rotary Club of Altadena

# Sparks

OFF THE ROTARY WHEEL  
AN AWARD-WINNING NEWSLETTER



October 20, 2016

## This Week

**Steve Garrett,  
Boy Scout Counselor  
- Merit Badges  
Greater Los Angeles  
Area Council**

**Program Host:  
C. Ray Carlson**

Past District Governor Steve Garrett is the person to turn to for knowledge of how to govern a Rotary Club. He produces a monthly video on how the Board of Directors should be selected and policies that should be implemented to achieve a vibrant and growing club.

And, Garrett is an expert counselor to Scouts in earning Merit Badges for Entrepreneurship, American Business, and Personal Management. He has recently completed a series of 25 tutorial videos to help Scouts gain a deeper understanding of these important aspects of successful businesses. He even invites Scouts to his office for very personalized counseling, just as he does for his clients.

Many years of providing Financial services and counseling through his LPL Financial Services and Steve Garrett & Associates is what gives him the expertise and incentive to help the next generation.

*Please turn to This Week p. 4*



## Ways to Unlock a Child's Potential

*Taken from Parenting Solutions by Victor M. Parachin – Scouting Magazine, Sep. 2003*

**E**ncouragement from parents and significant adults can play a vital role in helping a child realize his or her infinite possibilities. Affirm children whenever possible, from their taking a first step to tackling a first job outside the home.

The following are some other ways parents can help unlock a child's potential:

### ***Openly Enjoy & Celebrate***

#### ***Your Children's Accomplishments***

Every child's life is filled with accomplishments and milestones that ought to be recognized within a family. Praise, affirm, cheer, endorse, or bless them whenever and however you can, as they rise to an occasion, meet a new challenge, or master a new skill.

#### ***Expect Great Things***

Too many people limit themselves because they have low expectations for themselves and others. Let children know they are capable of doing great things. Consistently and clearly remind children that "Life is what you make it."

#### ***Be Charitable when***

#### ***Children make Mistakes***

When children make a mistake, help

them get up from their fall and support them as they work to move forward.

### ***Teach Children to Make decisions and Solve Problems***

Choosing and deciding can be instilled in children at the earliest ages. Some simple ways of doing this include presenting a child with choices and decisions to make using these kinds of questions: Do you want to eat at 6 or 7 o'clock? Do you want pizza or spaghetti for dinner? Do you want to wear a jacket or a sweater? Begin this process early, and children will gradually develop their abilities to discern, make choices, and live with their decisions.

### ***Promote a Strong Worth Ethic***

*Please turn to Scout's p. 4*

## *Greeters*

October 20  
**Ed Jasnow**

October 27  
**Julius Johnson**

November 03  
**Mindy Kittay**

# Program Review

## Making Vocational Service Work



That was the focus of our speaker last week, Dennis

Franklin, who is the current District 5300 Chair of Training. He stated that Vocational Service – one of the Five Avenues of Service for Rotary – is using your profes-

sional skills and trades to help others. He described his background. He came from a family of six children, grew up in the Miami area, and found various ways to earn money. He sold mangoes and avocados, and sold golf balls that he found at a nearby golf course and washed. His first real job was as a dishwasher at age 14.

He eventually got into sales, became a seafood broker, then a stock broker, and then an account representative at Shearson-Lehman. He later became the CEO of a small credit union, where he was able to learn the entire business. He now serves as a financial advisor at Wells Fargo Bank.

He joined the Rotary Club of Monrovia for the purpose of helping the community. In addition to serving as President of that club, he has also served as Assistant District Governor for District 5300. In his current capacity as Chair of Training, he spends time training President-Elects for their upcoming terms. The District is currently planning on initiating a Rotary Leadership Institute. It will be for all new Rotary members, and will be conducted as three, one-day sessions, divided into six classes. This Institute will not only help these people become better Rotarians, but



it will help them become better employees, entrepreneurs, family members, and just become better people.

He reminded us that one of the purposes of Vocational Service is to value our skills and professions. We hope Dennis Franklin will be able to bring the Avenue of Vocational Service back out of the shadows, so we all can use our skills, trades, and professions to help our community. Ed Jasnow ☉

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### 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.....John F. Germ  
Dist 5300 Gov.....Luciano "Lu" de Sylva

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Tom McCurry .....Asst. Vocational

Editor, Design & Typesetting.....Foreman Graphics  
Photography.....Jacque Foreman

### October

#### Economic & Community Development

#### Program Chair, Ray Carlson

October 20 - PDG Steve Garrett, Boy Scout Merit Badge Counselor  
October 27 - Rosa Valdez, Project Director - LACOE

### Congratulations



#### Birthdays



10/08 - Susan Cox  
10/17 - Noriko Suzuki Mehringer  
10/20 - Charles Wilson  
10/24 - Jim Gorton



#### Anniversaries



10/01 - Freddy & Margarita Figueroa  
10/19 - David & Elsa Smith

## International Affairs and Foreign Policy Now

*Excerpted from the Foreign Policy Journal*



**US** For -  
e i g n  
policy

over the past two decades has been the most cataclysmic for American interests abroad in the entire history of the Republic.

First, there was the Iraq War. Without question, it was the greatest foreign policy catastrophe of the past 40 years. De-Baathification destroyed the Iraqi state, gave rise to a Sunni insurgency, and cost thousands of American lives and trillions of dollars.

Meanwhile, Iran offered to dismantle its nuclear program, assist the US in stabilizing Afghanistan and Iraq, cease its support of militants and even accept the existence of Israel. The Bush administration rejected it. Iran then tested a single ten-centrifuge uranium enrichment program which increased to over 19,000 centrifuges by 2014. Under the 2015 nuclear deal, that limit is now over 5000 centrifuges, which continue to enrich uranium for the creation of fissile material.

Then there is the matter of overthrowing governments friendly to the United States (such as Egypt). These governments ended up being replaced with the Muslim Brotherhood, dictatorship and chaos. The Arab uprisings – combined with the rapid withdrawal from Iraq – led to the formation of ISIS, which subsequently took over much of Iraq and Syria and is now found in 32 countries of the world ... funded by US ally Saudi Arabia.

There is also Libya. Gaddafi had previously given up his WMD program and sought to reconstitute himself into the international arena. The price he paid for this cooperation was severe. Relying on US assurances, Russia did not vote for UN Resolution 1973; enabling military intervention to protect civilians under the explicit understanding that this would mean No regime change

The US immediately reneged on the deal. NATO bombing in Libya led to Gaddafi's overthrow in favor of ISIS-style militants. Four Americans – including Ambassador Stevens – were murdered at the diplomatic compound in Benghazi. Today Libya is a failed state. Obama has since labelled this his single greatest failure as president.

So much for the *reset* with Russia. In the wake of our reneging on the Libya deal, Russia became hostile and resurgent in Europe. After the Georgia conflict, Russia reorganized its military and began fielding new medium-range missiles in violation of the INF Treaty. In 2014, Putin annexed Crimea and fueled the Ukrainian civil war in open defiance of NATO and the United States.

Then there's Syria. In 2011, the *Ad Assad must go* (six years later he's still in power) destroyed America's credibility around the world by imposing a *redline* on chemical weapons being used in Syria that the US was never willing to enforce. In the end, the US had to be bailed out by Russia, who

brokered a deal with Assad to have those weapons removed

Most damning in Syria is the Secretary of State's boast about how she strongly advocated arming Sunni rebels against Assad. Of course, ISIS later captured Mosul, seizing billions of dollars in US military equipment.

While the US was lurching from one failure to the next in the Middle East, massive challenges arose in Asia. North Korea has completed four nuclear tests and has made strides in long-range ballistic missile technology. As a consequence, the Administration bequeaths our next President with a North Korea that will have the capability to conduct a nuclear strike on the US within an eight-year term of office.

When George W. Bush went into Iraq, the US economy was eight times larger than China's. Today, China's economy is about three-quarters that of the US and will certainly eclipse it within a decade

China is America's greatest long-term challenge, and is fast reemerging as a global superpower that seeks to expel the United States from Asia. It commits cyber theft on an industrial scale, employs mercantilist trade practices and currency manipulation, and, of course, is asserting its expansive territorial claims by force. China has dredged 3000 acres of new land in the South China Sea for strategic military access, and the Administration has done nothing to stop them. The US Navy is increasingly unable

***Please turn to Chairmen, p. 4***

# Form & Line by Jacque Foreman

It's time to go back to one of my favorite little books, *The Unexpected Evolution of Language* by Justin Cord Hayes.

This time I'll discuss *Garbage* and *Garble*. And, if there's room, another word.

## Garbage

The *original definition* referred to the parts of an animal not eaten, worn, or in other ways useful, e.g., making tools of something useful or beautiful out of the bone.

Hayes asks us to consider medieval times when people had no paper towels, disposable diapers, entertainment magazines, those damnable plastic grocery bags which many say have created islands in the ocean, plastic bottles, and many other things that we nonchalantly toss out today.

Since I grew up in the 40s and 50s, I remember when things we toss today were fixed and not summarily thrown out: things such as radios, telephones, garden tools with broken handles, and torn clothes and socks with holes.

Anyway, for the early part of its life as part of the English language, *Garbage* referred mostly to parts of an animal that were not useful. In short, these animal parts were useless and *disposable*.

Hayes goes on to say that, somewhere around the 1600s, the meaning of the words *Garbage* and *Garble* became intertwined. *Garbage* already was associated with piles of useless stuff that even then were beginning to clog up our planet.

But there is something laudable about the garbage heaps left by older civilizations and beside structures that have been long abandoned. Without them, we would have no idea how the citizens of those now lifeless ruins lived. One wonders what future civilizations will think about us and the way we lived. But, let's pull these two words together if we can.

## Garble

The *original definition* was to *sift*, and referred specifically to spices. You see, a spice merchant would stop at a Mediterranean port and purchase a barrel of some spice. And, in order to make sure that he wasn't being cheated, he would carefully *sift* through the contents to make sure that they weren't filled with impurities or fillers.

If the merchant were dishonest, *sifting*

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## Scout's

*Continued from p. 1*

### *combined with Positive Thinking*

Consistently remind children that, while opportunities abound in life, they come to those who have a high work ethic coupled with an almost unbridled optimism.

### *Encourage Patience*

Most people have a tendency toward wanting immediate gratification. But because true satisfaction and lasting rewards come through diligent and persistent pursuit of a goal, the ability to handle delays en route to a goal should be instilled in children.

Here is a simple exercise to use when your child's patience is running out. Ask him or her to think of something that took a long time to learn, like riding a bike or swimming. Then ask: "Now that you've accomplished that goal, was it worth the wait?" Inevitably, the answer is "yes," and the value of being patient is appreciated.

Children come into this world filled with infinite possibilities, but some fail to tap into their potential because they lack encouragement from the significant adults in their lives.

Every parent, as well as other adults who interact with children, can play a vital role in helping unleash that potential. ○

or *garbling* the spice barrel would produce piles of various unrelated items – items that the merchant found useless for the most part and definitely disposable.

Today *garble* refers mostly to what we do with language such as song lyrics or lines of spoken poetry, *We sift through* words that are misunderstood and create meaningless phrases that are later thrown away. ○

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## This Week

*Continued from p. 1*

True *Service above Self* by a Rotarian who has an immense amount of business savvy to make a difference in the lives of young Scouts.

Bring a friend or two who may be searching for meaning to their lives and might help us reach out to Scouts by teaching them how to write Business Plans. ○

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## Chairmen

*Continued from p. 3*

to operate safely in the region, while China's military budget continues to grow at a double digits pace almost every year.

No matter where you look, whether it's Iran's expansion in the Middle East, Russia's aggression in Europe, nuclear proliferation in rogue states, or China's bid for regional hegemony, the verdict is in – those running American foreign policy have no idea about what they are doing!

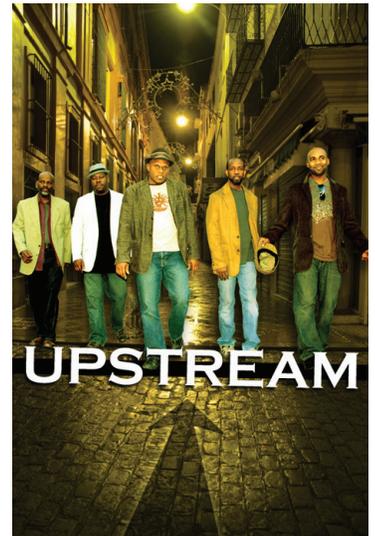
So what do we need? We need to be unafraid of bold reform where a changing global environment demands it; ensure scarce resources to support a cohesive strategy; exercise sober reflection with respect to past failures in order to avoid future disaster.

America's foreign policy establishment has developed a culture of failure without accountability – something that America can no longer afford. ○

# Returning in October New Second Saturday Concert Series

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 deserts from Sweeter Than Honey.



**UPSTREAM** has been spreading their message of love and positivity through their exhilarating Caribbean Music, namely, Reggae, Calypso, Soca and Steel Drum Music. [www.upstreammusic.com](http://www.upstreammusic.com). This concert is sponsored by Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich. **October 8**

**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](http://www.kkaremusic.com). **November 14**



**Aaron Atkins: Into the Cole.** A one man show, inspired by Nat King Cole. Atkins performs "Mona Lisa" with a twist of hip hop. A contemporary blend of jazz, urban and R&B. His new song, "God Made Women Beautiful" was just considered for a grammy. More at [www.IntoTheCole.com](http://www.IntoTheCole.com). **December 3 (First Saturday)**



**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/](http://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](http://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, '70s, '80s, '90s and all the way to the present with a few originals thrown in the mix. [www.Facebook.com/SplishSplashBand](http://www.Facebook.com/SplishSplashBand). **April 8**



**Altadena Library**  
600 East Mariposa  
Altadena | 626 798 0833  
[www.AltadenaLibrary.org](http://www.AltadenaLibrary.org)