Rotary Club of Altadena

OFF THE ROTAR

AN AWARD-WINNING NEWSLETTER



September 21, 2017

This Week

David Fields Executive Director St. Vincent de Paul Society Program Host: Mark Mariscal

For over 20 years, David Fields has been a dedicated volunteer member of St. Vincent de Paul of Los Angeles, a Catholic charity serving



the poor and homeless of any religious denomination free of charge. Fields began this volunteerism at Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic Church in Altadena and rose through the volunteer ranks to be hired by St. Vincent de Paul as Executive Director for the last 7 years. He also worked for Xerox Corporation for 25 years. Fields is a past president of the Central Altadena Little League and a member of the Altadena Community Garden. He is a proud citizen of the Altadena Community. He is married to Eleanor Fields. They have two sons, Richard and Jeff, and three grandchildren. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Please turn to This Week p. 3



Building Better Friendships A Short Taxonomy of Friendship Types Part II

The Four-Way Test beseeches Rotarians to think, say, and do that which builds goodwill and better friendships. Last week we began to explore the pillars on which most, if not all, friendships are grounded. This week's selection continues to explore the various kinds of friendship types that exist. It comes from the book Friendship – An Exposé, by Joseph Epstein (pages 6-10, Mariner Books, 2006)

$\diamond \diamond \diamond$

s one grows older, a relatively small difference in age four years in adotescence, say, or ten or twelve in early adulthood —once providing an unpassable obstacle to friendship, seems to matter less and less and then not to matter at all. And in dead-center middle age — fifty, say — one can sometimes feel more comfortable with someone in his late seventies or early eighties than with someone in his late twenties or early thirties. Unless one is committed to the notion that the world was a good place only when one was young, which will age a person faster than any other way I know, age differences seem to count for less as one advances into late middle and early old age, and so the possibilities for friendships correspondingly widen.

And yet there remains something to the obvious fact one's closest friends are likely to be drawn, at least for many years, from among one's contemporaries. In this wise, I have heard it said that, once one reaches eighty, everyone you me who is eighty or beyond is not merely a contemporary but automatically a friend, though I rather doubt it. A man or woman who was a creep at forty is unlikely to improve at eighty-five.

sht to ho

Perhaps it ought to be added that the old (or older) are pleased to the have the friendship of the young (or younger), which

Please turn to Dialing p. 4



September 21 *Kimmit Haggins* September 28 *Tony Hill* October 05 *Mendel Hill*

Program Review



There is probably no expanse of highway that carries as

much romanticism for Californians as Route 66. John Steinbeck called it *The Mother Road* in his iconic novel *The Grapes of Wrath*. Nat King Cole was the first to record Bobby Troup's famous song about getting

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. Raghada Khoury Officers Steve Kerekes, Pres.Bus. 626-796-5000 Sarah O'Brien, Pres. Elec.....Bus. 310-902-6547 Charlie Wilson, V. Pres......Bus. 626-351-8815 Mark Mariscal, Sec..... Bus. 323-816-6713 Mike Noll, Trea.....Bus. 626-683-0515 Directors Mindy Kittay • Anthony Hill Charlie Wilson • Dennis Mehringer James Gorton • Sarah O'Brien • Mark Mariscal Chairmen Sarah O'Brien......Administration David Smith Foundation Steve Cunningham.....Asst. Foundation Craig Cox......Membership Jacque Foreman Public Awareness Jacque Foreman.....Acting Publicity Jacque Foreman Sparks/Website Mike Zoeller Club Projects Craig Cox.....Community Doug Colliflower.....Asst. Community John FrykenbergInternational Tony Hill Youth Contests/Awards Mike ZoellerYouth Projects Editor, Design & Typesetting...... Foreman Graphics

Photography.....Jacque Foreman

your kicks on Route 66. Even Hollywood created a television show in 1960.

A Fascination with the Mother Road

For Scott Piotrowski his love for this 2400-mile road that traverses eight (8) states and three (3) time zones began on his trips from Oklahoma to Los Angeles. It was in 1980 in Flagstaff, Arizona where he met the *Angel of Route 66*, Angel Delgadillo. Angel had a barbershop, a love for Route 66, and an amazing memory. Every time Piotrowski traveled through Flagstaff, Angel remembered his name and told him someday he would make a movie about the road. Finally, Piotrowski said he was ready and asked Angel if he would agree to be in the film. *158 Miles to Yesterday* was completed in 1998.

As Piotrowski researched Route 66 in Los Angeles, there was no guide book or internet. The road was decertified as a highway in 1996. He discovered five (5) different paths that the road took over a 15-year period. After many conversations with people connected to the highway he completed *Finding the End of the Mother Road: Route 66 in Los Angeles County* in 2003.

September Education & Literacy

Program Chair, Mark Mariscal Sep. 21 - David Fields Sep. 28 - LA Sheriff Captain Vickie Stuckey

October Economic & Community Development Program Chair, Ray Carlson Oct. 05 - To be Announced Oct. 12 - To be Announced



Piotrowski is an active member of the California Historic Route 66 Association (CHR66A). The association is a non-profit dedicated to the preservation, promotion and enjoyment of Historic Route 66 in California. There is such an organization in each of the eight Route 66 states: Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California

Please turn to Program, p. 3





Rotary Foundation Celebrates 100th Birthday

This Rotary year – 2016-17 – our Rotary Foundation turns 100. That's a century of Rotary members changing lives and improving communi-

ties all over the world. And that's definitely something worth celebrating.

('hairmen's

orner

Through our Foundation, Rotary members have supported thousands of projects to provide clean water, fight disease, promote peace, basic education, and grow local economies. We've also been a leader in the fight to eradicate polio worldwide. The centennial is a perfect time to share this impressive record with the world. Join us in making sure that every Rotary member and people in every community know about the vital work of Rotary and it's Foundation.

We're marking this centennial with a year of festivities that began in Korea at the 2016 Rotary Convention and culminated at the Atlanta convention.

100 years of doing in the world, Arch Klumph's idea for an endowment fund dedicated to "doing good in the world" planted the seed of The Rotary Foundation in 1917. Thanks to his vision and staunch advocacy, and the extraordinary generosity of Rotary members worldwide, the Rotary Foundation has become one of the world's leading humanitarian foundations.

Now is the time to enable our Foundation to serve humanity for centuries to come by making sure it is financially strong and remains recognized internationally for its good work.

We've surpassed the \$300 million goal set to mark the Foundation's historic year. Your generous donations to the Annual Endowment and PolioPlus funds are empowering Rotary members to continue fighting disease, reducing proverty, providing clean water, promoting peace and advancing economic development in communities all over the world.

This Week Continued from p. 1

was founded in Paris, France in 1833 by a compassionate college student and for over 100 years Vincentian volunteers have served the suffering in Southern California. Assistance is provided to the needy to become self-sufficient by giving financial and emotional support, food, clothing, furniture, appliances, housing and by connecting the disadvantaged to helpful resources in LA, Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties. Donations to Society thrift stores make this work possible. The revenue from the stores also helps fund a homeless shelter for men on Skid Row, housing for homeless families in Los Angeles, homeless housing in Ventura County, food pantries, soup kitchens and a camp for underserved youth. The LA Society has volunteer groups in 148 archdiocesan parishes and over 2,500 volunteers serving the needy.

To learn more about St. Vincent de Paul's work in Altadena and Southern California come to hear David Fields speak this Thursday, September 21. O

Program Continued from p.2

Currently CHR66A is working with Assemblyman Chris Holden's office to introduce legislation in the California Legislature (HB 542) that mirrors a bill in the US Congress (HB 66) to create a centennial commission in all 8 states. They are also working to declare Route 66 a national historic trail which would create consistent signage along the route.

For more information on the California Historic Route 66 Association go to <http://route66ca.org>. Craig Cox 〇

Dialing Continued from p. 1

makes the older feel less out of the whirl of things. For many of the young -I know I felt this when younger than I now am friendships with older men and women buck one up, making one feel that, if people with long records of accomplishment behind them thought well of one, perhaps one is the person of high quality one has always, deep down, known oneself to be.

The ideal friendship - from Cicero to Montaigne - is generally posited as one between equals. Ideal it may be, but reality doesn't seem to leave much room to accommodate even near-perfect equality in friendships. Old friends who started out equal often enough find that the twists of life - good fortune, wretched luck, illness put one or another of them well ahead, at least as the world measures the race, though friendship is best viewed outside all competition. Good character may be required for the friend who has had the better run to remain loyal to his friend, now that they are separated by money, achievement, prestige; poor character will allow him happily to desert his friend without much afterthought. Character is also required, along with the suppression of envy, for the less fortunate of the two friends not to hold his old friend's success against him.

• • •

Other friendships start out unequal and remain so, equality never at any time having anything essential to do with the friendship. One may also befriend someone for qualities that are not obvious, or even knowable, until put to the test: loyalty, generosity, kindness, a good heart. Perhaps the person who has these qualities is always the one who holds an edge over the friend who is merely brilliant, attractive, or rich. Inequality, like beauty, may be only in the eye of the beholder.

Friendships between men and women

that exclude sex have become a more frequent feature of contemporary life. In my own experience, friendships between men and women can provide things that friendships between men do not. For one thing, the element of rivalrousness - sometimes present when with members of one's own sex - tends to disappear when with a member of the opposite sex on whom one has no romantic designs. For another, women, or a great many women I have known, seem more receptive to ironic and obliquely ironic points in conversation. A man can let his guard down a bit with friends who are women in a way that he is perhaps less likely to do with male friends. I can more easily imagine telling a woman that I think that clothes, far from being trivial, can be amusing or witty, and that the right clothes can on occasion make a person, man or woman, feel better than coming into possession of three fresh religious insights. Women (at least some women) are made less nervous about taking up a wider range of subjects than are men (at least most men).

...

The saddest category is that of ex-friends. Behind most broken friendships is a story of insensitivity, decisive sins of omission or commission, the outrages of fortune – the reasons for friendships breaking up are as manifold as those for their beginning.

Other kinds and permutations of friend-

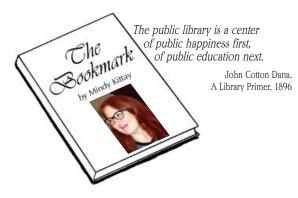
ship may be found, lots of them. At different times in one's life, one seeks out different sorts of friendships. Paul Valery said that a man "has as many friends as he has personalities within him." In youth friendships can be particularly intense. One of the consequences of marrying is that the nature of one's earlier friendships often change, though perhaps this is more true for men than for women. The degree to which one is absorbed by one's life's work will also alter the nature and number of one's friendships. The longer one lives, the fewer one's friends figure to be and one of the sadnesses of living into one's nineties is that usually all one's friends have departed, leaving one feeling alone on the planet. No one will be surprised to learn that studies have suggested that having friends tends to lengthen the life of the elderly by, among other things, extending their interests and getting them out of themselves. Something to it, no doubt, but then one remembers some years ago other studies that claimed that the lives of the very elderly are also enriched and lengthened by having a pet to care for, which may or may not be true. As for the status of friendship in the afterlife, all such studies and this book along with them, remain resolutely silent.

$\diamond \diamond \diamond$

Next week: The fastest ways to kill a friendship. O

MARK THIS DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 VOLUNTEER PLANTING DAY TRIANGLE PARK 800 E. ALTADENA DRIVE 9am to 12n

^{• •}



The Importance of Banned Books Week Celebrating the Freedom to Read at Altadena Library

Every year, the last week of September is known in the Library world as **Banned Books Week**. Founded in 1982, this important annual tradition highlights and celebrates the books that have, at some point, been banned or challenged.

One of the key freedoms that we enjoy as Americans is the right to free speech. Under the implications of this Amendment, libraries have a unique opportunity to offer free and equal access to a variety of ideas and beliefs through the materials our hallowed shelves hold. In one of the many trials regarding book censorship in the past century, Justice William Brennan aptly wrote in 1982 that the Library has a distinct role as the institution that "afford[s] the public access to discussion, debate, and the dissemination of information and ideas." At Altadena Library, we wholly believe this, including in our tagline the very mission of "Bringing People + Ideas Together."

A common misconception is that censorship of books is limited to historical periods of totalitarian governmental control, a prime example being the infamous burnings of tens of thousands of books under the Nazi regime in the 1930s. However, book censorship occurs around the world to this day, including in the United States. Books that are now considered American classics and are sometimes part of many English curriculums across the country, including: *The Catcher in the Rye, To Kill a Mockingbird, The Autobiography of Malcolm X, and Farenbeit 451*, have been censored and debated over the years. Take a moment with me and imagine a world where people have not been able to learn from the stories of such inspirational and revolutionary characters, real and fictional, as Malcolm X and Atticus Finch. Seems like a scary world to me.

We hope you will stop by our Main Library or Bob Lucas Branch Library between September 24 and 30 to explore our displays of Banned Books. Join us in this literary rebellion and read a book that has been deemed scandalous or controversial by our nation's censors.

If you have any questions about **Banned Books Week**, email me at **mkittay@ altadenalibrary.org>** or call (626) 798-0833 EXT. 103.

Tom Surnock exchanges Red Badge for White Badge

On September 14, Tom Surnock (center), accompanied by his sponsor, David Smith (r), traded in his red badge of Beginner Rotarian for his permanent, white badge. The white badge indicates that he has completed 5 out of 7 possible tasks, e.g., being on a committee, attending a board meeting, creating a flow diagram of how the club is organized, etc., through which he finds out how Altadena Rotary and Rotary in general work.

President Steve Kerekes (1) created a *special* ceremony the likes of which we have never heard just for this occasion. It began with Kerekes substituting a novel for a Bible because that was the book he could lay his hands on as he hurried from his office to get to the meeting on time. Surnock and Smith had difficulty keeping straight faces, but Kerekes – to his credit – maintained his composure throughout the entire presentation.



ALTADENA LIBRARY DISTRICT PRESENTS THE

AA

2017-18 CONCERT SERIES*

			and the second state of th
October 14	Upstream*	March 10	DeRumba
November 11	The Tone Brothers	April 14	Kenny Sara and the Sounds of New Orleans
December 2	Upbeat Swing Orchestra		New Orleans
January 13	Kai Clark with special guests John York & Carla Olson	May 12	Eli Locke Band
1	John York & Cana Olson	lune 9	Crown City Bombers
February 10	Gerry Rothschild Band	Suno S	Bonners



*October 14th's Second Saturday Concert featuring Upstream is sponsored by the office of Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger.

All other Second Saturday Concerts are supported in part by funds received from the **Pasadena Tournament of Roses Foundation**.

Free live music, delicious food and drink, and good friends... all right around the corner!



MADE POSSIBLE BY FUNDING FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE ALTADENA LIBRARY

SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW OUTDOOR LEARNING SPACE AT ALTADENA LIBRARY!



Saturday, September 23rd 7:00 - 9:30pm

Altadena Main Library 600 E. Mariposa Street, Altadena

TASTEOFDENA.EVENTBRITE.COM

