

This Week

**Emily Hopkins,
 Executive
 Director
 Sidestreet Projects
 Program Host:
 David Smith**

The following information has been taken from the internet, and the *Sparks* staff has no way of knowing if it is applicable to this week's program.

Emily Hopkins works to develop sustainable, community-based systems that connect working artists directly to communities. She is an advisor to PUSD and, the Vice President of her Neighborhood Association. Hopkins has a BFA & MA from CalArts.



Side Street Projects is an entirely mobile artist run organization. Their mission is to give artists of all ages the ability and means to support their creative endeavors. All of our programs connect professional artists directly to communities to facilitate creative problem solving within a contemporary arts context. It was founded in 1992 and is an entirely mobile artist-run organization that gives artists of all ages the ability and the means to support their creative endeavors.



**Dialing
 In**

*By Steve Kerekes,
 President*



**It's Mom & Child Health Care Month
 Have You heard about these Programs?**

In the Rotary Calendar, April is Mother and Child Health Care Month. Rotary's goal is to improve access to essential medical services for mothers and their children. These efforts are aimed at reducing the number of children under age five who die each year because of malnutrition, inadequate health care, and poor sanitation. That figure is currently estimated at seven million. According to another estimate, more than 80 percent of maternal deaths could be prevented with access to reproductive health services and trained health care workers. Rotarians provide education, immunizations, birthing kits, and mobile health clinics to support these causes. Rotarians create projects that help teach mothers-to-be how to care for their newborn babies, prevent mother-to-infant HIV transmission, how to breast-feed, and how to protect themselves and their children from disease. Below are three of the recent projects conducted by Rotarians through-out the world:

- **Pre-natal health camp in Sri-Lanka**
 - The Rotary Club of Newtown, Pennsylvania sponsored a pre-natal and post-natal health camp on a remote island off the northwestern coast of Sri Lanka



called Delft Island. This was the fourth out of a series of five health camps which the Newtown Pennsylvania Club had sponsored. With the assistance of the Sri Lankan Navy, they set up a makeshift pharmacy, arranged medicines, and prepared the patient registrations and doctor's consultation areas. Mothers-to-be and mothers with infants and children registered and then met with one of five volunteer doctors from the Jaffna Province Government Hospital. Everyone who participated received multi-vitamins, folic acid, iron

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Greeter of the Week

- April 05
 Roger Fennell
- April 12
 Freddy Figueroa
- April 19
 John Frykenberg

Program Review

Club Level Dan Stover Music Contest



Many thanks to the Dan Stover Music Contest committee for their hard work, and congratulations for a wonderful club level competition last Thursday (March 29). Sarah O'Brien, along with her committee of Mike Noll, Theo

Clarke, and Maria Perez, found five (5!) talented local student musicians. In addition, O'Brien recruited three accomplished local musicians (l to r: Brad Rabuchin, Andy Suzuki, and Benedikt Brydern) to be our judges.



Our first place winner is guitarist Will Brownstein. Brownstein was accompanied by Joshua Wong on piano. He performed a wonderful jazz guitar piece by Thelonious



Monk. Our runner up is also a guitarist, Jadon Elliott. Elliott will represent the club

if Brownstein is unable to attend the regional competition.



Certificates of appreciation were also given to Jude Elliott (clarinet) and brother of Jadon Elliott, Maddy Freeman (violin), and Nivram Castro (violin). Jude Elliott and Freeman were accompanied by Nic Gerpe on piano, and Castro was accompanied by Yaping Wu, also on piano.

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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. 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, Treas. Bus. 626-683-0515

Directors

Mindy Kittay • Anthony Hill
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Tony Hill Youth Contests/Awards
Mike Zoeller Youth Projects
Ray Carlson Vocational
Editor, Design & Typesetting Foreman Graphics
Photography Jacque Foreman

April Mom & Child Health

Program Chair, David Smith

April 05 - Executive Director of Side Street Projects

Congratulations



Birthdays



03/08 - Jeri Cunningham
03/14 - Steve Cunningham
03/15 - Trish Robinson
03/15 - David P. Smith



Anniversaries



03/01 - Tim & Etta McCurry
03/13 - Steve Kerekes & Sunny Wu
03/30 Dennis Mehringer & Noriko Suzuki

A Place of Fellowship/ A Place of Service



Much study has been given to understanding why some people choose to belong to a service

club like Rotary. I believe the best clubs provide two key elements for their members:

- A chance for fellowship AND
- A chance to do meaningful service.

The Object of Rotary states the priority that club members know each other: "First - the development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service.". This is why we

meet weekly – it gives us many opportunities to come together, catch up with each other, share a meal, discuss issues, and have some fun.

In addition, we hold fellowship events. The whole purpose of these is to deepen our relationships and to introduce our significant others to the club. Our next fellowship event will be on April 21 at the home of Theo Clarke. Email invitations will be heading your way soon.

The additional focus of our club is service. Right now the Rotary Club is in the middle of a lot of service. We just completed

the Dan Stover Music Competition (see the Weekly Program Write-up). Committees are working right now on scholarship programs for PCC Vets, PCC Vocational Students, and High School JROTC students. We have a major effort to produce and promote 8 concerts at Farnsworth Park this summer. We are just ramping up an effort to do a hands-on project at Farnsworth Park.

For those who are involved in these projects ... Thanks! If you want to help, speak to Mike Zoeller or me, Craig Cox, and we can find a place where you can make a meaningful contribution. ○

Program

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O'Brien did a great job keeping the program flowing. Theo Clarke was in his element as he interviewed the students about how long they had been playing, where they go to high school, other interests, college plans, and to share *their bliss* with the club.

All club-level winners will go on to com-



pete at the regional level, and the regional winners go on to the final competition, which will be held at the District Conference in May.

The grand prize winner will receive a \$5,000 scholarship to continue his/her music education. Craig Cox ○



ROTARIANS
ON THE ROAD

Going on a Vacation?
 Why not share
 Your Adventures
 with your
 Rotarian Friends
 Back Home?
 < > < > < >
 Send us some
 Pictures
 and some Text.
 You'll get a
 By Line

Dialing

Continued from p. 1

tablets, worm treatment and other prescription medicines which were handed out under the supervision of a registered pharmacist who had also volunteered his services with us. Poor and under-nourished mothers-to-be and children received access to free doctors' consultation and medical care. The health camp treated more than 500 residents by noon. Additional medicines were donated to the only government dispensary on the island, to be used for ongoing prenatal and postnatal care. All participants over 30 years old also had their eyesight tested, and over 200 prescription reading glasses were issued for free.

- **Prevent injuries during childbirth in Nigeria** - The Rotary Club of Weissenburg, Germany – in conjunction with Rotary District 9125 in Nigeria – launched a project to reduce infant and



maternal mortality rates in Nigeria, which has one of the highest rates in the world. In Nigeria, seventy percent of births are home deliveries. If the labor goes on too long, a woman can suffer a fistula, an injury that often results in a stillborn baby, can cause chronic incontinence, and can lead to social isolation as well as infection, nerve damage, or death.

The chair for the project was a Rotarian named Robert Zinser, a member of the Rotary Club of Weissenburg, Germany. He is also an economist and retired president for Asia at the giant chemical company BASF and has spent his life analyzing and predicting future trends in medicine. He co-founded what has become the Rotarian Action Group for Population Growth and Sustainable Development and serves as its CEO. Using his skills acquired while at BASF, he helped develop a comprehensive approach to better preventive care and quality assurance techniques for pre-natal mothers. The project has helped reduce maternal mortality rates in hospitals by 60 percent. They've also repaired 1,500 fistulas since the program started in 2005.

- **Baby incubators to Hospitals in the Dominican Republic** - A Rotary Club

in Tennessee had sent members as part of a Rotarian vocational team to the Dominican Republic. While there,

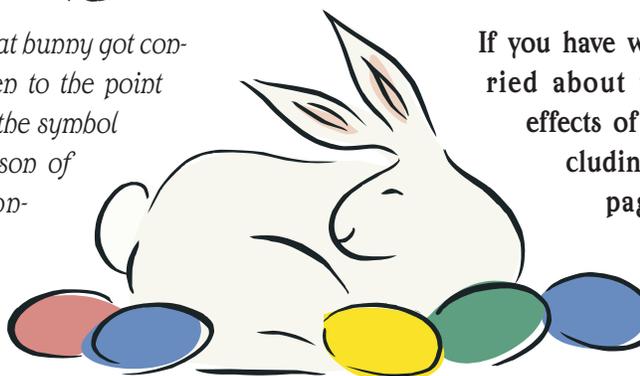


one of their members learned of a need for incubators to sustain newborn babies at several rural, underfunded maternity clinics in that country. That member got his club involved, and they worked with a hospital equipment provider here in the US to secure four incubators that are used for premature and underweight infants. They packaged the instruments and had them shipped to four clinics in need, where they were immediately put to use by local health professionals.

For more information on current Rotary projects either being developed or underway to improve mother and child health, go to https://maptrn.rotary.org/en/project/pages/project_showcase.aspx, choose *Area of Focus* and then pick *Maternal and Child Health* on the drop-down menus. ○

Form & Line by Jacque Foreman, Editor

Ever wonder how that bunny got connected to Easter – Even to the point that – for many – it is the symbol of Easter. and the season of spring. So I looked on-line and found several articles, but this one looked like it would fit the room I have to fill.



If you have worried about the effects of including a pagan

symbol into your celebrations of Easter and the Resurrection story, you can relax and Rejoice! It seems that the beloved Easter Bunny may, indeed, have very Christian origins. What follows are highlights from an article by Marshall Connolly (California Network), Catholic Online www.catholic.org.>

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Sparks - Altadena Rotary Club Newsletter

Form

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Rabbits are common and found on every continent except Antarctica. Rabbits are also prolific breeders, especially in the spring when they are most commonly seen interacting with one another. As a result of their fertility, rabbits have long been associated with spring and with new life.

Even the Greeks pointed out this connection. The ancient Greeks thought rabbits could reproduce as virgins. Such a belief persisted until early medieval times when the rabbit became associated with the Virgin Mary, who we know became pregnant without knowing man.

During the medieval period, rabbits began appearing in illuminated manuscripts and paintings where the Virgin Mary was depicted, serving as an allegorical illustration of her virginity.

The Easter Bunny was first popularized as a symbol of the season by the German

Protestants. It is likely they were the ones to invent the myth of the Easter Bunny for their children.

Even in earliest folklore, the Easter Bunny came as a judge, hiding decorated eggs for well-behaved children. The Easter Bunny followed German immigrants to the American colonies in the 18th century, and the folklore spread across the United States.

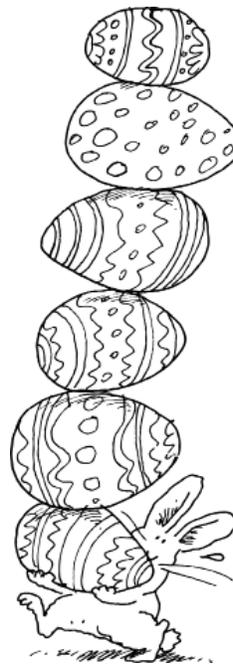
The notion that the Easter Bunny is a pagan symbol

developed in the 19th century. In 1835, Jacob Grimm, the popular collector of fairy tales, suggested that the Easter Bunny came from primitive German pagan traditions.

Once Grimm started the rumor, it began to spread, refined to suggest the Easter Bunny comes from the Saxon Goddess Eostre. However, there is no direct evidence of a pagan correlation. The first intimation of a connection arose from Jacob Grimm, and although he was a folklorist, he had no hard evidence other than his own speculation.

Conversely, there is considerable documentation that the rabbit was once associated with virginity, the Virgin Mary, and with the season itself, in a Christian context.

As a result, we must conclude, the Easter Bunny is a distinctly Christian symbol, and does not have pagan origins as occasionally claimed by those who despise the popular children's myth. ○



Second Saturdays

January 13	Kai Clark with special guests John York & Carla Olson	April 14	Kenny Sara and the Sounds of New Orleans
February 10	Gerry Rothschild Band	May 12	The Podunk Poets
March 10	DeRumba	June 9	Crown City Bombers

Ring in the New Year with **music** and **community!**

EVENT DETAILS ONLINE →

Altadena Libraries

ALTADENALIBRARY.ORG/PROGRAMS