

This Week

Steve Kerekes Demoted to Vice President

Guest Program Host: Charlie Wilson

No regular meeting today. Steve Kerekes has been waiting for almost 365 days for this evening's event. Today is the day that we demote Steve to Vice President and hail Sarah O'Brien as our new leader for the 2018–2019 year. At this same time, Mark Mariscal will be upgraded from President, elect, elect to President, elect.

Other than that, everything is a mystery. I have not even heard the usual muted laughter from our *Not-Ready-for-Prime-Time* players. The usual suspects are suspiciously quiet, and I have not seen any mysterious, large envelopes being passed from person-to-person. No loud whispering either.

My gracious, I can't even find out who might be taking part in any of the usual skits and tales. Don Applegate is usually one of the leaders – the Master of Ceremony – as it were. But he hasn't been seen hovering around the edges with his knowing smile and twinkling eyes, indicating that something is afoot.

We'll all just have to wait patiently to see what is going to take place. But I'm one who says, "God grant me patience, and I want it Right Now." And You? ○



**Dialing
In**
By Steve Kerekes,
President



WANTED: For the Death of Another Rotary Year

"Sed fugit interea, fugit inreparabile tempus."

*Virgil's Georgics,
Book III, Line 284*

◊ ◊ ◊

When you are busy and your mind is occupied, time flies. This year had wings. It reminds me of my freshman year in college. A lot of learning experiences. A lot of mistakes. A lot of memories made. It goes so fast. I'm happy I did it once. But would I want to do it again? That being said, it was much fun and a very rewarding experience. I got to work closely with a lot of members and learn more about them, and I also had a chance to make new friends with folks in other clubs in our district. And, although I will miss being President, I am looking forward to not having to write an article every Sunday for *Sparks*!

The great thing about our Club is that it was able to hand the baton to a rank novice like me and things still functioned seamlessly. I think that is for a couple of reasons: there is so much experience among our members, people are always up to volunteer for things, and everyone pulls in the same

direction.

First: a special thanks to the members who served on the Board of Directors:

- > Charlie Wilson,
- > Jim Gorton,
- > Tony Hill,
- > Dennis Mehringer,
- > Sarah O'Brien, and
- > Mark Mariscal

Thanks for spending an hour of your lives each month to discuss and plan so our club could have a successful year.

A Year of Many Firsts

This was a year of many firsts for our Club, including the following:

- Our Club took over the mantle of running the Summer Concert Series at Farnsworth Park from the L.A. County Sheriff's Support Group. This effort was

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Greeter of the Week

June 21

Demotion Party -- Evening Event

June 28

Mindy Kittay

July 05

Sterling Louvier

Program Review



Here in the San Gabriel Valley, we are blessed to have many resources available for services to the senior community. There are outstanding doctors and hospitals, along with well regarded senior living centers. However there needs to be services that can provide information to seniors as to what their op-

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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

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Mark Mariscal, Sec. Bus. 323-816-6713
Mike Noll, Treas. 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 Frykenberg International
Tony Hill Youth Contests/Awards
Mike Zoeller Youth Projects
Ray Carlson Vocational
Editor, Design & Typesetting..... Foreman Graphics
Photography..... Jacque Foreman

Autumn Years Providing Resources for Seniors

tions are. This last Thursday (June 14) we heard from the leader of an organization that provides free resources to seniors and their families. Our speaker was Mary Salcedo, Chief Executive Officer for Autumn Years Services Inc.

Autumn Years Services Inc. is a non-profit organization, and has been in business for over ten years. It has been connecting seniors with free resources and referrals to educate and inform seniors and their families. They provide assistance to families whose senior members need care for Alzheimer's Disease and dementia. They have access to durable medical supplies and equipment such as wheelchairs, walkers, hospital beds, canes, etc. The company regularly makes referrals to skilled nursing facilities, board and Care homes, and assistive living facilities.

Salcedo is proud of some of the programs they have established over the years. They have set up meals programs for seniors in several communities. These programs deliver hot meals to seniors in their homes on a regular basis. A successful meals programs exists in Temple City. Autumn Years has set up a taxi voucher program. It provides prepaid vouchers to seniors so that they can get to their medical appointments safely and on time.

Autumn Years also focuses on seniors nearing the end of their lives with referrals



to hospice and palliative care. It also helps families plan for the future with cremation and burial planning.

The mission of Autumn Years is to provide guidance and support through life's changing seasons, to educate families, and to maintain pride and dignity for seniors.

It is comforting to know that seniors and their families have good information resources such as Autumn Years to assist them in planning for the future.

Boyd Hudson ○

June

Mom & Child Health

**Program Chairs, Ruben Alvarado
& Roger Fennell**

June 21 - Demotion Party - Evening

Congratulations



Birthdays



03 - Kathleen Ann Fennell
08 - Theo Clarke
12 - Tom McCurry

23 - Margarita Figueroa
28 - Phyllis Soza



Anniversaries



05 - Mike & Wendy Davis Noll
18 - Charlie & Regina Wilson

Job Creation ... and Escape from Poverty



Rotary International's 6th Area of Focus:

The Creation of Jobs! Why?

What is the best way to help people to avoid poverty? ... here and around the world?

The government may have a moral obligation to address those who, through bad luck, or unfortunate circumstances can't help themselves. How to fulfill that obligation is the great divide between those we call progressives or conservatives today. Fredrick Hayek states that "...some minimum of food, shelter and clothing sufficient to preserve health and the capacity to work..." is not an unreasonable expectation from our government in a first world country or from our communities or ourselves for that matter (charity begins at home). Caring is important and particularly so the United States where our citizenry is the most generous on earth.

Differences we have in lifting folks out of poverty between our left, right and center, progressives and conservatives do matter, nonetheless. Since LBJ's *War on Poverty* in 1966 to the current day, the change in poverty levels within the US has dipped from 14.7 percent in 1966 to 13.5 percent in 2017 following the expenditure of \$20 Trillion on poverty programs (a statistically insignificant change). To be sure there has

been material progress in the interim and life expectancy has gone up but poverty remains. Elsewhere in the world the poverty level has grown despite eradication of much disease and increases in worldwide food production with a current population increase of approximately 125 million new births worldwide each year. Where will all of these people find work? Where will they find jobs? How will they survive? (They won't unless we enable them to *Make a Job*.)

The alleviation of poverty is not to make poverty merely *less miserable*, but to make it *escapable*! To *lift* people out of poverty, we have an obligation, not simply out of our compassion, but because, along with our wealth, good fortune and privilege, comes responsibility to our fellow mankind who are indeed *less fortunate*. This after all is one of the great goals of our brotherhood in Rotary.

More funding for government sponsored poverty programs and transfer of wealth is not the answer as evidenced by the great failures of socialism in the 20th and 21st centuries in Cuba, Venezuela, the former USSR and North Korea among other places. Income inequality and attempts to equalize outcomes through taxation and social justice programs have brought more grief than egalitarianism and greater pain and death than alleviation of poverty.

The answer of course is *more opportunity* for all. We do not live in a *zero based* economy with one pie to be shared by all. We can provide more by baking more pies! We do not measure success for all based upon how many people are on the public dole or how many people are on welfare, food stamps and other government *subsidies*, but by how *few* people are on the dole and on welfare and government programs.

Simply giving people money does not lift them from poverty. On the contrary, it can keep people locked into poverty — evidenced by today's *urban plantations* and inner city poverty that keep people trapped in a cycle of poverty from which there is no escape without *opportunity* and a *job*.

Getting things without working for them is a hard habit to break. Rather, earning one's way out of poverty is far more empowering and enduring than being maintained in poverty through government programs.

Under President Clinton, *Workfare* (a requirement to work to receive federal assistance), provided for both material immediate needs and an *opportunity* to earn success. Sadly, this requirement was left to die by the roadside.

Being useful is key to a dignified and fulfilling life; a *Purpose Driven Life* which requires one to strive for success and for survival (Note the baby chick breaking out

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Dialing

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led by Mike Zoeller with the help and assistance of his subcommittee chairs including Ben Green, Doug Colliflower, and Dave Campbell.

- We were able to find ways to allocate more money into our Scholarships program and start new scholarships for juniors and seniors at Marshall Fundamental High School, which we hope we will be able to continue each year.
- Charlie Wilson, chair of the Social Committee, introduced (or more correctly re-introduced) quarterly fellowship events at various venues.
- Jacque Foreman, the Public Image and Publicity Chair, is still putting the finishing touches on our new website. And, with the help of Dave Campbell, keeping us relevant in the 21st Century with a Facebook page.

Hats off to

Our Committee Chairs

A thank you to the Chairs of various Committees and Special Programs for all their hard work, including:

- **Craig Cox:** As the Membership Committee Chair, who added four new members this year (more than ten percent of our membership). As the Club's Community Chair, he also organized another wonderful year of projects that benefitted our local communities including: lighting and plantings at Triangle Park, Flags on Lake Avenue, and Bikes for Christmas
- **John Frykenberg:** Who concluded his long term as International Chair by making one last "crowning trip" (literally) to Nigeria to "teach the teachers" about

entrepreneurship. The Club also sent Dave Smith to India for ten days to take part building check dams to retain water in rural farming areas.

- **Dennis Mehringer, Tom McCurry and Ed Jasnow:** Who served as the Special Program Chairs, running the PCC Vocational Awards, Junior ROTC and Citizenship Awards, the Veterans Awards, and Teacher Mini-Grants to the well-deserving teachers in our school district.
- **Tony Hill and Mike Zoeller:** Who had another fantastic year as the Youth Services Co-Chairs. As a Club, we hosted and provided scholarship monies to students in our local communities during all the following events and contests throughout the year: Dewey Merrill (Business Plan) Competition, Four-Way Speech Contest, RYLA, and the Dan Stover Music Competition.
- **Sarah O'Brien:** who, as the Chairwoman for Club Administration, lined up a team of monthly speaker chairs who brought in many interesting and inspiring speakers throughout the year. She also made sure we were fed when the meetings were switched to the Smiser Boy Scout Center or the Altadena Library. Thank-you, Sarah!

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A Pause to Remember

Here I take the time to pause for a minute to remember the loss of long-time member Ray Carlson, who passed away suddenly. He had recently built a very productive rela-

tionship with the faculty of Rose Hills High School and its students. He mentored these students and led them to success last year ... winning the Business Plan Competition at our club level and at the area competition, beating out schools in San Marino and Pasadena. Unfortunately, he passed away this year shortly before this year's competition, and he did not have a chance to see how much he had helped them to accomplish. All of us admired Ray's positive attitude and enthusiasm and he will be sorely missed by the Club and District 5300.

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A Couple of Personal Thank Yous

- Let me take this opportunity to thank the person who helped me prepare the most to serve my year as President. I don't know how I could have been President without him - our Club Treasurer, Mike Noll. Mike, thank you for taking time throughout the year to educate me on the important points and pitfalls I could expect during my year as President.
- And to give a special thanks to Dave Smith, who was always front and center at all our community projects. Without him and his commitment to Rotary, many of our projects would either have been difficult to pull off or would not have happened at all. Thank you, Dave.

The Baton is Passed

Now it is time to pass the baton to Sarah O'Brien. I look forward to serving on her Board of Directors in the coming Rotary year, which will be her year as *Madame La Présidente*.
Steve Kerekes

Thank You, Steve A Very Successful Year!

Chairmen

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of the egg shell ... independently ... as a requirement for survival).

Our Rotary Club of Altadena has led the way in Rotary District 5300 in *Job Creation*, offering Hope to those with little *Opportunity* both here and abroad

and *Entrepreneurship* and fundamental economic learning for young people in our communities ... something in which we can all take pride! Our efforts have resulted in special recognition of the District's appointment of our late member Ray Carlson as

Chairman of *Job Creation* for District 5300 and recognition by Rotary International in the Rotarian Magazine of the importance of what we have accomplished both here and abroad by way of empowering others to *Make a Job ... !* ○



(18-June07) Ben Green (center) is awarded his white badge by Craig Cox (right), as President Steve (left) looks on, making sure that the frivolity is appreciated by all in attendance.



(18-June 14) President distributed his year-end thank you gifts to those board members, committee chairs, and others who were present. Addition gifts will be awarded at his Demotion Party and/or when he returns from his upcoming trip. Those present and receiving gifts were: (back row, l to r) Jim Gorton, Ruben Alvarado, and Dennis Mehringer; (center row, l to r) John Frykenberg and Ben Green; and (front row, l to r) Mark Mariscal, Susan Applegate, and the distributor of the gifts, President Steve Kerekes; on the other side of the camera, Jacque Foreman, also a gift recipient.

Celebrate His Life

You are
Invited to a
Celebration of
Ray Carlson's
Life

Saturday, June 30

1:30 pm

Westminster
Presbyterian Church
1757 N. Lake
Southwest Corner of
Lake & Woodbury

~

Followed by a
Reception at the
Church

Steve Kerekes

**RETIRES FROM
BEING PRESIDENT**

**AND BECOMES
VICE PRESIDENT**

**Thursday, June 21
6:30pm --- 9:00pm**

MonteCedro

**2212 El Molino Ave.
Northeast Corner Cordova & El Molino**

\$10 per Person



The annual Summer Concert Series is organized by the Rotary Club of Altadena, in association with the Sheriff's Support Group of Altadena, the LA Department of Parks and Recreation and LA County Supervisor Kathryn Barger. All Concerts are free.

Like us on Facebook at Concerts in Farnsworth Park...562 E. Mt. Curve Av.

22nd Annual Summer Concert Series Schedule - 2018

Kenny Sara & the Sounds of New Orleans	Saturday, July 7 th at 7PM
Susie Hansen Latin Band	Saturday, July 14 th at 7PM
Lisa Haley & the Zydekats (Americana/Cajun)	Saturday, July 21 st at 7PM
Mary Jane's Last Dance (Tom Petty Tribute)	Saturday, July 28 th at 7PM
déjà vu (Rock & Roll Dance)	Saturday, August 4 th at 7PM
Upstream (Steel Drum Reggae and Soca)	Saturday, August 11 th at 7Pm
Greg and the Gallows (Country/Americana)	Saturday, August 18 th at 7PM
The Blue Breeze Band (Motown, R&B, Funk)	Saturday August 25 th at 7PM

And... the Grand Finale... Saturday, September 8th

Who's Next in their Tribute to

THE WHO

Presented by B & E Promotions & the Sheriff's Support Group of Altadena

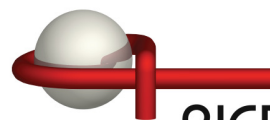


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