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# Rotary

## Club of Pasadena, CA

### **SPOKES NEWSLETTER**

DISTRICT 5300 \* Rotary Club 794 \* October 11, 2024 \* #01-0041

[www.pasadenarotary.com](http://www.pasadenarotary.com)

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## ***PRESTON HOWARD***

**" Lending to the Deceased, those in Dementia and in Distress."**

***Introducer: President Stephen Smith***



My presentation discusses how financing can be provided to trustees, fiduciaries, families, and individuals when estates and conservatorships need liquidity to administer the affairs of a decedent, or when a trust needs funding to provide for the care of the incapacitated or when circumstances places families into unexpected states of distress. "

Rose City Realty, Inc. was founded in 1999 and incorporated in 2001 by Preston Howard, a California mortgage banker and licensed real estate broker, with the mission of providing real estate financing solutions with corporate knowledge – with a personal touch. By building a personal network of non-traditional resources to fund loans of \$250,000 to \$10 MM, he has become a valuable resource for hundreds of clients. Preston is known for his integrity, his ability to provide competitive terms for hard money loans (complete with the most reliable closing ratios in the market), and no pre-payment penalties.

In 2016, Preston was certified as an 'expert witness' for Probate Court, Los Angeles County, in areas involving real estate financing. Preston speaks five languages: English, Armenian, Spanish, Mandarin and Cantonese. His professional associations include: ProVisors, USC Real Estate Alumni and Friends (REAF) and the USC Alumni Association. He has an MBA from the University of Southern California with a specialization in Real Estate Finance.

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**WEDNESDAY – OCTOBER 16, 2024**  
**UNIVERSITY CLUB OF PASADENA - 12:00 pm**

175 N. Oakland Ave, Pasadena 91101  
**RSVP Deadline: 5:00 pm MONDAY**

**OVERFLOW PARKING:** Pasadena Heritage Blinn House  
Enter parking off Madison Ave. - Do not park in any reserved parking space

**Reception:** Alan Schier & Mike Bernard  
**Lunchtime Pianist:** Ann Louise Christensen  
**Song Leader:** Don Andrues - Accompanied by Ann Louise  
**Inspiration:** Kelly White  
**Scout Zone Reporter:** Wende Lee  
**Photographer:** Gui Bittencourt  
**Technical:** Scott Carlson  
**Sergeant At Arms:** Don Andrues

Non-members are welcome - \$45.00 includes lunch

**ZOOM is back and opens at 12:15 pm**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86515101523?pwd=dHhNZnV5c2ZqbzNQbWthbDNhYTladz09>

Meeting ID: 865 1510 1523. - Passcode: 667356

## Simply Stephen Smith's Spokes Speaks



We are getting close to the time of year when the Board of Directors of Pasadena Rotary will select a President-Elect-Elect, whose term as President-Elect shall commence on July 1 following the date of said election, and whose term of office as President shall commence during the Year immediately following his/her Year as President-Elect. Traditionally, the P-E-E is revealed at the Holiday Party. In this case it will be December 4th. I will also mention this topic to the members that attend next Wednesday's lunch. The Board meets every 3rd Thursday of the month, so in November that would be the 21st, which is when the decision will be made.

In order to be eligible for election, the candidate seeking election as P-E-E must have served as a Board member of the Club, whose service as a Board member may also include the ex-officio Board membership status associated with the officer positions of Secretary and Treasurer.

There are many talented people in this wonderful service club that would make a fantastic president. For those that qualify, I urge you to give strong consideration to "throwing your hat in the proverbial ring" (and please do it soon). Rotary pays for classes, meetings (zoom and non-zoom), seminars, and provides a plethora of material during your term as P-E-E and P-E, so that when you eventually become President, you should be up to the task.

**Stephen D. Smith**

**MEALS & SEATING ARE PROVIDED  
BASED ON RSVP'S WE RECEIVE**

**BUFFET MEAL**  
Chef Tony, The University Club

**PLEASE RSVP  
IF YOU ARE ATTENDING!**  
[office@pasadenarotary.com](mailto:office@pasadenarotary.com)

**CLICK HERE TO  
RSVP TODAY**



## PHOTO OF THE WEEK!

Each week our "Spokes Photographer" captures a 30 second moment on video from our speaker for our Rotary Tik Tok Account - which has been capturing a lot of likes! Today's photo taken by Mike Bernard is of our guest speaker, District Governor Mike Driebe speaking with Gui Bittencourt. Gui is a photographer and videographer by profession so when you see him coming....smile & pose!

To see this moment click on:

***Pasadena CA Rotary (@pasadena.ca.rotar4) | TikTok***



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## **ROTARY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES & EVENTS**

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# IMPACT CLUB EVENTS



## RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE HALLOWEEN COLLECTION DRIVE

UNTIL OCTOBER 16TH

Collecting Halloween **candy** and **new costumes** for families, Halloween-inspired **hats, headbands**, and size inclusive costumes for their Trunk or Treat.



Bring to the bin at Rotary meetings or email Amanda to arrange drop-off.

**H A L L O W E E N**

More social events and service projects coming soon!

Contact Impact Club Chair Amanda Pumilia with any questions at  
[apumilia@yahoo.com](mailto:apumilia@yahoo.com)

Want to be notified about upcoming service and social events?  
Join <https://www.meetup.com/pasadena-rotary-impact-club/>

# WORLD POLIO DAY

## 24 OCTOBER

Rotary 

**END  
POLIO  
NOW**

# Third Annual Pasadena Rotary World Polio Day Run/Walk/Ride Around the Rose Bowl

Thursday, October 24, 2024

Meet at Brookside Clubhouse 7:00 a.m.

We're doing 3 miles/5K to raise money for polio eradication. Walk, run, ride your bike, skateboard, or scooter! Pledge per mile, per step, per minute — it's up to you! Ask your friends to participate or pledge, too! BIG FUN !!



Contact Dean Billman ([dabillman@icloud.com](mailto:dabillman@icloud.com)) or Morgan Nadeau ([beck1enadeau@yahoo.com](mailto:beck1enadeau@yahoo.com)) to sign up or for more information

Order Your End Polio Now tee on or before October 4 — email [justene@gmail.com](mailto:justene@gmail.com) to order and for size info. \$22 (or so) charged to your Rotary account. Unisex sizes S-4XL.



## The Scoot Zone

By Staff Reporter Dean Billman  
Photographer: Gui Bittencourt

Our speaker today was our own **District 5300 Governor Mike Driebe**, and he has to be proud how everything he was trying to inspire clubs to do in his District – we are already doing: We paraded in front of him all of our upcoming community service projects, our induction of new members, greeting of many guests today, and our Walk for World Polio Day around the Rose Bowl on October 24 – we even showed a tremendous raising of hands for those in the club who already donated \$100 for the Polio Plus club – and all to show a vibrant club giving to the local community and beyond, with Service Beyond Self.

**President Stephen Smith** rang the meeting to order with the clang of the big brass Rotary Bell at 12:30pm, and without our usual piano accompanist Ann Louise Christensen, our song leader **Jonathan Edwards** led us singing The National Anthem *a cappella*, and we sounded pretty good!

**PP Howard Raff**, noting that our District leader was here today, shared several inspirations on Leadership: “Leadership is unlocking people’s potential to be Better.”



Recent Tyros graduate **Deb Raupp** inducted her long-time friend Martha Shenkenberg, whom she met 25 years ago when they both went through the Leadership Pasadena training together, and lately Martha was the Board Chair. A University of Virginia (UVA) grad with degrees in nursing and business, she just retired from Kaiser and is ready to become more involved in our community. Welcome to the club Martha – join us for a hike or raking leaves!

Welcoming guests!

- **PP Howard Raff** introduced prospective members Dan Fishman and Susan Perez
- **Dean Billman** introduced Ms. Nane Zadouri, a fellow Tournament of Roses member and former LAUSD administrator who works in Santa Monica but wants to find something closer to Pasadena where she lives.



**Sandi Mejia-Ramirez** introduced her friend, Jeannette O'Malley with the Pasadena Museum of History.

- Tyros member **Angie Pizano** introduced her friend.
  - **PP John Foulkes** introduced his helpful daughter, Debbie Foulkes
- District Governor Mike Driebe's guest was Wayne Herron.

### Announcements:

#### President Stephen's Public Service Announcements:

- All Announcements must be submitted to Wendy Anderson, our administrator, in advance.
- All Announcements shall be 30 seconds or less; "Be Brilliant, Be Brief, and Be Gone" (attributed to PP Cathy Simms)
- No flyers are to be distributed on the tables – set them up at the sign-in table.

**Dean Billman**, District 5300 Polio Chair, with co-chairs **Morgan Nadeau** and **PP Mary Lou Byrne**, reminded everyone that Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at 7am is the World Polio Day Walk Around the Rose Bowl, raising money to eradicate polio through efforts to beat back the rise of cases worldwide. Asking for a show of hands of those who have already given \$100 this year towards Polio Plus, a sea of hands went up – they all earned a red Polio Plus wristband!

**PP Justene Adamec** announced the Impact Club's Ronald McDonald House bin for Halloween costumes and candy will be available until next week – see above.

**Dede Venkat**, representing [www.Laist.com/vote](http://www.Laist.com/vote) and the City of Pasadena, pointed out flyers on everyone's tables to help understand the upcoming ballots going to people's homes now. She apologized for being the first person to violate President Stephen's table flyer ban, but it was for a good cause.

**PP Rob Fisher** asked if the new rules included extra minutes on the announcement docket for Past Presidents, and President Stephen took a few seconds to consider before allowing one more violation of his new rules – it is tough being a new President to this rowdy club. PP Rob then proceeded to promote a most wonderful and unique venture in two weeks – the accent up mountain roads to have dinner at Mt. Wilson and peak through the famous telescope at night. At

our table, **Dr. Paul Martin**, in his new 2024 mid-engine Corvette Stingray, was excited that he could race to the top before anyone else. **PP Rob** wasn't finished – he teased us with a Save the Date of our Holiday Party on December 4<sup>th</sup> at Jacob Maarse – a hallowed tradition that we have fond memories of Holidays past.

**Angie Pizano**, co-chair of Rotary Roamers, announced that the Mt. Baldy hike was back on this Saturday, delayed by the wildfires in early September.

Board member **David McAlexander** asked, “who wants to run away and join the circus?” – our next Done in a Day will be to help Don Benito Fundamental School Carnival on November 19<sup>th</sup> – to do whatever they need. No elephants.

**PP Cory Brendel**, wearing a white smock with Huntington Hospital logo, has been fully trained as a volunteer at the Hospital, serenading the patients with his therapeutic ukelele as their newest “Music Ambassador.” His singing is legendary (see “President Justene’s Demotion 2024 – Justene – Don’t Take my Mic Away”).

**President Stephen** then announced the premier of Herb Alpert’s documentary may have found an appropriate venue – the Rialto Theater in South Pasadena. South Pasadena Rotary President Dave Morales is working with us for a date.

Finally, **President Stephen** noted that Rotary International is coordinating a response to help victims of both Hurricane Helene, and now Hurricane Milton. And then he announced a new meeting for chairs and committee leaders for an overview of staffing and leadership goals.



It was time to hear from our **District Governor, Mike Driebe**, and he started with asking how many of us have participated in a cultural exchange trip - his was to India, where it changed his life.

DG Mike then awarded our club with two awards: the first was fundraising success of our Rotary International Polio Plus contributions; and the second was our club’s 100% participation to Rotary International Foundation, a feat uncommon among all clubs – 4,600 out of 46,000 clubs worldwide.

The first thing he asked was for President Stephen to turn to his camera and speak for a few moments on “What is Rotary?” and President Stephen, impromptu, said he was proud of being our

President and of the service projects the club offered our community.

DG Mike spoke of his service projects over the years – the impact of delivering new wheelchairs to paralyzed children in a small Mexican village outside of Puerto Vallarta, and the ongoing commitment as a member of Rotary for over 30 years. A lifetime in Professional non-profit fundraising, he relates to serving with a focus on commitment to the community, and “The Joys of Service and the Joys of Fellowship.”

It is the duty of every DG to spur us on every year to service, community, and growing membership; but the urgency to be relevant in today’s world, especially with all the Baby Boomer men retiring, was his main concern – he exclaimed that Rotary would be extinct by 2070. While noting that our club was over 104 years old, he urged us to get more involved in the community, more involved with service, and more fellowship opportunities.

Marketing is big, and he encouraged us to promote [www.comeseewhatwedo.org](http://www.comeseewhatwedo.org) to anyone looking for opportunities for community service, and the site will direct them to local Rotary clubs, and their local calendars, service projects and volunteer opportunities. He then encouraged us to update our club sites for these new visitors, with one or two paragraphs of our club and our meeting times. He commended us on our Impact Club for busy young professionals. We also got high marks for our participation in Ending Polio Now efforts, and our youth leadership opportunities as we supported the District music and speech contests, and the weekend Rotary Youth Leadership camp (RYLA). He commended **Hassan Kheradmandan** and our District Peace Conference and encouraged us all to attend the next one in January 2025.

He ended with his call to attend the District Conference at the most magical place on Earth –



Disneyland on April 11-12, and the Rotary International Convention in Calgary, Alberta, Canada (a growing list of Pasadena Rotarians are planning to attend – see **PE Hillary Schenk**). He left us with the power of his lesson when he attended his cultural exchange in India – with the Indian cultural idea that all guests are welcomed as sacred – “God is embodied as your guest.”

**President Stephen** called the meeting at 1:30pm.



L2R: PP Cory Brendel, Fred Findley (hidden), PP Phil Miles, Paul Roach, District Governor Mike Driebe, President Stephen Smith, Rob Fisher, Kelly White, Vivian Kambe, Nick Helms, Jan Sanders

## POLIO PIG & COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS AT WEDNESDAY MEETING

### ALL ANNOUNCEMENTS MUST BE PRE-APPROVED!

Wish to "Show & Tell" us what you are up to or make an announcement (30 seconds) about your family, business or a favorite nonprofit or a Committee announcement? Email Wendy at [office@pasadenarotary.com](mailto:office@pasadenarotary.com) by Tues at noon. Minimum donation for Polio Pig Announcement: \$20 or for \$30+ which is billed to your account. Additional \$20 If you wish to leave flyers at the Registration table or hand-out at end of the meeting.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

Kevin Bayley	Oct. 11th
Phil Miles	Oct. 12th
Anthony Russo	Oct. 15th
Josh McCurry	Oct. 16th
Janet Ramirez	Oct. 17th

# HAPPY ROTAVERSARY!

Ken Joe	10/14/15	9 Years
Jonathan Edwards	10/14/15	9 Years

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Oct. 23 - Vin Chee, Journey to USA (with a magic performance)
Oct. 30 - Marsha Rood - The Rebirth of Old Pasadena: The Untold Story
Nov. 5 - Brian Wong, CEO SGV Habitat for Humanity - Building Low Cost Housing in Pasadena
Nov. 13 - Stacie Takeguchi, Assistant General Manager of Pasadena Water and Power

SPOKES is the weekly newsletter published by the Rotary Club of Pasadena

Weekly Live Wednesday Meeting by RSVP  
University Club Pasadena, 175 N. Oakland Ave.

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# Making Magic

by doing Service

PROMOTING PEACE FIGHTING DISEASE

PROVIDING CLEAN WATER

SAVING MOTHERS AND CHILDREN

GROWING LOCAL ECONOMIES SUPPORTING EDUCATION

PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT.



Pasadena Rotary Club  
Stephen Smith, President 2024-25

**ROTARY CLUB OF PASADENA 2023-2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETS the 3rd Thursday of every month at 5pm - University Club of Pasadena**

**PRESIDENT: Stephen Smith**

**PRESIDENT ELECT: Hillary Schenk**

**IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: Justene Adamec**

**SECRETARY: Wende Lee**

**TREASURER: Tony Phillips**

**CLUB DIRECTORS: Don Andruess, George Falardeau, Frank Fish, Sandy Goodenough,  
J.P. Harris, Debi Kroman, Robert Lyons, David McAlexander, Claudia Ponce de Leon,  
Nevino Rocco, Tammy Silver, Dede Venkat**

**Non-Voting Member: Amanda Pumilia, Chair, The Impact Club**

# Rotary Club of Pasadena

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