

Rotary

Club of Pasadena, CA



SPOKES NEWSLETTER

DISTRICT 5300 * Rotary Club 794 * October 25, 2024 * #01-0042

www.pasadenarotary.com

MARSHA ROOD

The Rebirth of Old Pasadena: The Untold Story

Introducer: TAMMY SILVER



Former City of Pasadena Development Administrator, Marsha Rood, is the recipient of;

- The International Downtown Association's Downtown Achievement Award
- The National Main Street Center's Great American Main Street Award
- The California Local Government Commission's Livable Communities Award for Old Pasadena
- Pasadena Beautiful Foundation Award for the DeLacey Avenue Parking Facility in Old Pasadena
- Pasadena Foothill Chapter of the American Institute of Architects' Preservation Advocate Award
- U. S. Congressional Certificate for Special Recognition for Outstanding and Valuable Service to the Community
- Distinguished Service Award from the Los Angeles Section of the American Planning Association.

In addition, the Pasadena Museum of History, the California State Senate and the State Assembly named her a Living History Maker in 2003. Marsha is a Fellow of the American Institute of Certified Planners; only 614 out

of 44,000 planners in the United States have that distinction. She holds a BA degree from Stanford University, a Masters in Planning degree with honors from USC's School of Planning, and completed course work for her PhD in Urban Studies at USC. Rood is a graduate of the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Certified Main Street Manager and is a graduate of Leadership Pasadena.

As part of her community work, Marsha is co-founder of the Downtown Pasadena Neighborhood Association, the Pasadena Coalition for a Common Vision, Pasadenans for a Livable City, and the Pasadena Civic Center Coalition. Marsha serves as a Trustee and Property Committee Chair of the Pasadena Presbyterian Church. Marsha recently has been appointed to Pasadena Senior Center Board of Directors. She is also a member of the Women's Committee of the

WEDNESDAY – OCTOBER 30, 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
Song Leader: Eric Olson - Accompanied by Don Andruess
Inspiration: Charles Kiu
Scout Zone Reporter: Dean Billman
Photographer: Gui Bittencourt
Technical: Scott Carlson
Sergeant At Arms: Robert Lyons

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

Proposal to change our lunches from Wednesday to Monday

At our lunch meeting on Wednesday I relayed a proposal to our members from Robert Hartstein, General Manager/CEO of the University Club of Pasadena. Mr. Hartstein's proposal was to see if the Pasadena Rotary Club would be interested in moving our lunches from our traditional Wednesday to Monday. If the Board ultimately passes this proposal, it would not become effective until 07/01/25. This would coincide with PE Hillary Schenk becoming the President of Pasadena Rotary. I had conversed with three (3) prior PP's and all unanimously agreed that bringing this proposal to the "regularly attending lunch members" would be the proper thing to do.

A financial incentive to move to this new day is the all-inclusive lunch would drop to \$30 per person, without compromising the quality and service we have come to expect. As in most things, there are positive and negative ramifications that one must consider. The lower price might be attractive to some members, and the lower price might also potentially bring in more members. The downside from this is that many people who travel typically like to wrap a Friday and Monday into the trip, thus potentially lowering attendance. Additionally, many holidays are on a Monday, thereby decreasing the number of lunches throughout a fiscal year. We took a vote on the matter last Wednesday and will take three additional votes on Wednesday lunches so as to include those folks who were away on a trip, or sick, etc.

The Board meets on the 3rd Thursday of every month, and therefore will meet again on 11/21. To be clear, it is the Board that ultimately makes the final decision on this matter. Bringing feedback from the "regularly attending lunch members" should allow the Board to make an informed decision.

Stephen D. Smith
President 2024 - 2025
Rotary Club of Pasadena
Cell 310.908.1779

**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

**CLICK HERE TO
RSVP TODAY**



George Falardeau and Nevino Rocco check in with Alan Schier & Jeannine Bogaard

ROTARY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES & EVENTS

TYROS Rotary



HAPPY HOUR

**TUES
OCT 29**

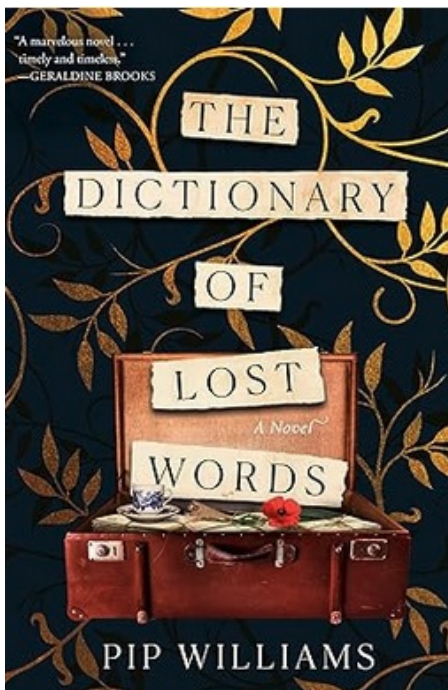


**4:30-
6PM**

EL TORITO

3333 E FOOTHILL BVD., PASADENA

APPETIZERS INCLUDED, DRINKS ON YOU—UNLESS YOU'RE A TYROS MEMBER, THEN YOUR FIRST DRINK IS ON US! COMPLIMENTARY APPS END AT 6:00 PM WHEN WE CLOSES THE TAB, SO DON'T BE LATE!



ROTARY READERS

Rotary Readers will meet
November 4th at 6 pm.

Mary Lou Byrne will review Dictionary of Lost Words by Pip Williams.

Bring something to share for dinner.

You do not have to have read the book. Please contact Cathy Simms at simmsie1@pacbell.net for location and more information.

Please RSVP!

"For Immediate Release"
"Run Away and Join the (Service Project) Circus"



WHAT: Our next fun and rewarding Service Project and Rotarian-Team-Fellowship-and-Bonding-Adventure will be helping set up for the 14th Annual Don Benito Fundamental School PTA Autumn Carnival, their signature fundraising event.

We will help set up tents, fencing and game areas. Coffee, bagels and sunscreen provided. Hats and work gloves encouraged but not required. Friends, Significant Others, Clowns and non-Rotarians welcome!

WHEN: Sat. Nov 9, 2024, from 9am to Noon (informal no-host Group Brunch afterward...)

WHERE: Don Benito Fundamental School, 3700 Denair St., Pasadena CA 91107

Questions and (Optional) RSVPs: DIAD Chair David McAlexander 323-794-9294 email: David_McAlexander@onebox.com

COMING (Service Project) ATTRACTIONS:

"Pasadena Rotary Joins the 'Turkey Tribe' as a sponsor of Union Station's Thanksgiving in the Park for the Homeless in Pasadena.

Don't miss the Wednesday club lunches coming up on Nov 6 and/or 13 for an exciting and entertaining opportunity to pledge your financial commitment and/or volunteer services to support this worthy cause via our dynamic 'open outcry auction' led by our club's very own professional auctioneer, Robert Lyons.

Bid for the right to serve the most under-served members of our community, to win sponsorship naming rights for a whole Turkey, a Punkin' Pie, or a 10 pound block of Velveta Cheese!

Fun for the whole family plus spiritual renewal thru donating to your Rotary Club's community partnership efforts!



The Scoot Zone
Staff Reporter: Wende Lee
Photographer: Gui Bittencourt

Ding, ding, ding! At 12:31pm sharp, **President Stephen Smith** gave that brass bell a solid ring, kicking off our meeting with energy! **Jonathan Edwards** stepped up to deliver today's inspiration, and boy, did it pack a punch! His message was all about courage: *"Inaction breeds doubt and fear. Action breeds confidence and courage. If you want to conquer fear, don't sit at home—get out there and get busy!"* Wise words from Dale Carnegie. And wouldn't you know it,

First-Time Scoot Zone Reporter, **Wende Lee**, pointed out later that this inspiration perfectly tied into our guest speaker's story! Talk about synchronicity!



We didn't have too many guests today (Howard Raff went MIA along with his guest, Stanley Parkhurst—hopefully we'll catch them next week!). But **PP Justene Adamec** was here to introduce one of her longest-time friends, Deborah Saxe. Fun fact: their daughters were BFFs back in elementary school.

Moving on to announcements, **President Stephen** recapped the Mt. Wilson event, which was canceled due to windy weather. But fear not! Plan B was a success with everyone enjoying the delicious food at his house, leaving full bellies and happy hearts.

Exciting news: the search for our next Rotary President Elect-Elect kicks off at the board meeting on November 21. If you've served on the board and dream of leading, now's your chance! The big reveal will happen at the holiday party, and in 19 months after that, you could be president! Interested? Reach out to **President Stephen**, Club Administrator **Wendy Anderson**, or Club Secretary **Wende Lee**. Don't miss the November board meeting for a chance to shine!

Dean Billman, our District 5300 Rotary Polio Plus Chair, is rallying everyone for a morning of fun that happened Thursday. Join him for a walk, run, or bike ride around the Rose Bowl. He's hoping every table will be represented, and as an added incentive, breakfast is on Dean right after the activity! Wear your Polio shirt, Rotary gear, or whatever makes you feel festive. **PP Justene Adamec** can't be there but is generously donating \$10 for each person who shows up! (Thanks, Justene—go Polio Pig!)

Cathy Simms reminded us about Rotary Readers. If you're interested in joining but aren't receiving her monthly emails, it likely means you're not on the Committee List. Don't miss out—reach out to Cathy via email or give her a call (she's listed in the directory and on the DACdb Rotary website).

David McAlexander shared two volunteer opportunities: Don Benito Middle School Carnival on Saturday, November 9th, and Union Station's Thanksgiving in the Park. Check out the "ads" at the top of the Scoot Zone for all the fun details!

PP Rob Fisher teased us with details about the holiday party on December 4th at Jacob Maarse Florist Shop. Picture a festive atmosphere, holiday scents, and a chill in the air (because that's how California does holidays!). Expect delicious food and fun entertainment—mark your calendars and budget for tickets priced between \$100 to \$110!

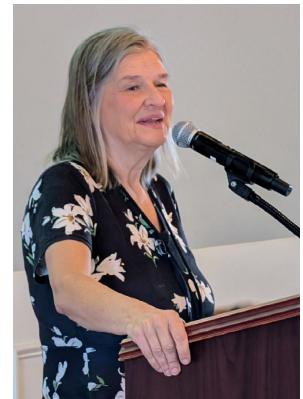
Eric Olson, donning his Dodger Blue hat, delivered his "GET OUT AND VOTE" polio pig announcement! If you're unsure about the judges on your ballot, he's got you covered with printed pages detailing their backgrounds. Hand outs are on the check-in table or email him if you'd like him to send it to you.

Eric also shared a fond memory of watching Fernando Valenzuela with his son 43 years ago, honoring the baseball legend.

The atmosphere buzzed as **President Stephen** shared a proposal from the University Club. They've suggested moving our meetings from Wednesday to Monday, and as a sweetener, lunch costs would drop to \$30 per person, leading to a reduction in monthly dues! To gauge interest, he handed out ballots asking, "Yes, we're okay moving to Monday" or "No, we're not." A lively discussion followed, with many eager to vote! If you missed today's meeting, don't worry—you can still weigh in by attending one of the lunches in November before the board meeting on November 21st! Remember, while the board will make the final call, **President Stephen** is eager to capture the vibe of our members. So, let's keep the conversation going!

Then, we moved on to the highlight of the day—our enchanting guest speaker, **Vin Chee**. Introduced by **PP Justene Adamec**, who met Vin at a restaurant and was instantly captivated by his charm and talent, Vin had everyone on the edge of their seats.

Vin kicked things off with a powerful video about his journey from Malaysia to America, overcoming self-doubt and a heart attack at just 24, to become the phenomenal entertainer he is today. His story was nothing short of inspiring, proving that second chances can lead to extraordinary things.



For his first trick, Vin asked a Rotarian **Paul Roach** in the red tie to pick a color (red), **President Stephen** to pick a suit (hearts), and **Mel Cohen** to pick a number (10). With a flourish, Vin pulled out a deck of cards—every card facing the audience except one. You guessed it: the Red 10 of Hearts! The crowd erupted in applause. □

Vin's magic didn't stop there. He wowed us by turning paper into money, magically twisting a fork in **Claudia Ponce de Leon's** hand, and even setting his wallet on fire (in the best way possible). The room was filled with gasps and laughter as Vin shared his incredible journey, from buying a one-way ticket from Malaysia to acting in "Crazy Rich Asians."



During the Q&A, Vin revealed fascinating details about his life. He's been performing in California for two years, loves close-up magic, and even attended a magic school in Vegas where he met his idol, David Copperfield. Vin speaks five languages and finds joy in making people happy—especially since happy Americans are great tipplers!

Vin's philosophy on life is equally magical: seize every opportunity, embrace every curveball, and always show up. His resilience and zest for life left us all inspired to make the most of every moment.

President Stephen wrapped up the meeting by presenting Vin with our legendary magic cup, which changes colors with temperature (just don't microwave it!). With a final "poof," the meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM, leaving us all in awe and ready to tackle whatever comes our way!



L2R: Debbie Saxe, PP Justene Adamec, Vin Chee, Marsha Rood, Matt Bookman, Armida Baylon, PP Rob Fisher, President Stephen, PP Scott Vandrick

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 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!!

Mike Farrand	Oct. 26th
Gary Kearney	Oct. 26th
Mic Hansen	Oct. 28th
Wende Lee	Oct. 28th
Mary Chalon	Oct. 29th

HAPPY ROTAVERSARY!

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Catharine Rajan	10/26/22	2 Years
Fiona Rajan	10/26/22	2 Years

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

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
Nov. 20, 2024 - Ellen Snortland - Storyteller/Humorist
Nov. 27, 2024 - DARK - HAPPY THANKSGIVING!
Dec. 4, 2024 - DARK - No Lunch Meeting
Dec. 4, 2024 - HOLIDAY PARTY - Jacob Maarse Florist

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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Mike Bernard, Dede Venkat & Gui Bittencourt.

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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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