

**ROTARY DISTRICT 5300  
THE HIGHLIGHTER  
NET TEXT EDITION  
(Web address: <http://www.district5300.org>)**

Highlighting the World of Rotary,  
District Activities,  
Club Events and the People that make it Happen!

ROTARY 2001-2002: MANKIND IS OUR BUSINESS  
VOLUME 74 NO. 6 GOVERNOR MARGARET COOKER December, 2001

**FROM "De Guv"**

As we enter into that period of time when we wish for Peace throughout the world, let us concentrate on world peace and understanding. In a small way, we foster this by our sponsorship of a Rotary Peace Scholar. Chantal Paydar is one of more than 210 candidates being reviewed by a Rotary panel to select the 70 Peace Scholars that will start the two-year Master's Program at one of the seven Rotary Centers for Peace Studies throughout the world. The successful candidates will be notified by December 15 BUT no public announcement will be made until March or April when Rotary International will have a worldwide publicity campaign on this program and the 70 Peace Scholars.

This is the first class of Peace Scholars. The cost per student is \$50,000. Any donation of \$1,000,000 will allow the donor to perpetually endow a Peace Scholarship and also name it. DDF (District Designated Funds) have been transferred from the Pioneer Districts – we are not one of those Districts due to the limited undesignated Foundation Funds that were available to me to assign. This is only one of the many reasons why I ask you to continue to give to the Foundation, to make Rotary International an additional beneficiary in your life insurance policy and/or will, and to contact those you know who might consider a major gift to the Foundation.

Tony and I wish you Peace and Joy.

## **Everything you wanted to know about District Conference (but were afraid to ask).**

*By Roy M. York, Chair, 2002 District Conference*

### **1255 Rotarians are already registered!**

**Where is it going to be held?** At the Primm Valley Resort located in Primm, Nevada, just on the California and Nevada stateline, on Interstate 15.

**When will it be held?** June 6, 7, 8, and 9, 2002. Many participants will arrive on the 6th to rest and be ready for the Golf Tourney which starts at 7:00 am on the 7th. Many just arrive early to relax. The Conference officially opens at lunch on Friday with guest speaker, **General Steve Ritchie, the last American War Ace**, and the only man known who shot down 5 enemy migs. It ends with the passing of the Rotary leadership from this year's District Governor, Margaret Cooker to District Governor Elect, Lee Harlan. In between there is lots of fellowship, district activities, speakers, meals, Rotary Forums, etc., etc.

**Why should I go?** If you've never been to a District Conference, this is your chance to meet other Rotarians and celebrate the Rotary year with the District Governor and the District Avenue of Service Chairs. In addition, you can pick up new and helpful ideas from all the other clubs participating. Awards are given to those clubs and persons who best exemplified Rotary during the year and the finals of the Dan Stover Music Scholarship Award and the 4-Way Speech are held at district. If you've been to District Conferences in the past, you'll like this one. I promise a District Conference that will be talked about for years.

**Can I bring my family?** You bet! Many Rotarians and their spouses bring their children, just remember, this year it is being held at a Gaming Resort, but all the rooms and facilities are away from the casino, as well as the conference itself. The conference tends to be more adult oriented, but there are things for the kids to do. There's swimming, a roller coaster, golf, a shopping center and a variety of other interests including horseback riding, etc., etc.

**How much will this cost?** Good question, and while this will have to be formatted to your particular situation, the rooms will average about \$60 per night single or double occupancy, \$5 extra for each additional person, plus taxes. Most people spend two nights, Friday and Saturday. Spa suites or larger suites will cost about \$129 per night. Meals will cost \$155 per person for all six meals inclusive, when a meal package is selected. (Individual meals can be selected at slightly higher prices). **That's it. As little as \$430.** Any other costs you incur will be your own personal expenses while shopping, golfing, playing games of chance, valet parking and so on. All in all, this will be the lowest cost conference in years, perhaps never again to be seen at these prices. There will be hospitality suites at night for those looking for comraderie, excitement, fellowship, and oh yeah, complimentary cocktails served by various clubs.

**OK! Roy, you've convinced me! How do I register?** First, you may be registered through your club. Check with your club president to find out if the club has registered as a whole. If they haven't, there is still time to do so. Margaret Cooker and I have stretched the incentives of registering individuals for \$5 apiece until December 31, if the whole club is registered. If you aren't registered through the club, you may register individually for \$10 until December 31, 2001.

Club and Individual Registration forms are available for download at the District Conference site at the District Website [www.district5300.org](http://www.district5300.org). After that, the price goes to \$15 and eventually \$25. Once you are registered you will have to select a meal package for you and any guests you are bringing. Meal Package Selection Forms are available for download at [www.district5300.org](http://www.district5300.org). Just click on the District Conference information and it's right there. A lot of other information is located there also. If you aren't connected, or so inclined to use the internet, contact District Conference Chair Roy York. Roy can be reached at 702-873-5459, faxed at 702-263-9337, mailing address: 1149 Piazza Navona, Henderson, NV 89052, and by e-mail at [roy.m.york@worldnet.att.net](mailto:roy.m.york@worldnet.att.net).

**Let's make this the biggest and best Conference in District 5300's history. Let's celebrate our past Rotary year and herald the arrival of the new one. It is never going to be cheaper, and it may never be more fun! Don't miss this one!**

### **“A Spin Around the Wheel”**

*By Anne Donofrio-Holter (Montebello)*

This feature provides a brief summary of club activities from around our district compiled from club bulletins. If you'd like your club's events included in “A Spin Around the Wheel,” please send your weekly bulletins to:

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Montebello, CA 90640  
Or via E-Mail to:  
[WriterAnne@earthlink.net](mailto:WriterAnne@earthlink.net)

Again this year, **Alhambra Club members** delivered a Thanksgiving feast to the families staying at Ronald McDonald House. The house is next to Children's Hospital in Los Angeles and serves as a place to stay for the families of children who are being treated at hospitals in the area. The Alhambra Club donated money to furnish one of the rooms in the house. The room is designated by a plaque with the Rotary logo and recognition of the contribution from the club.

**Duarte Club members** served Thanksgiving breakfast to 90 seniors. Almost 100% of the members participated in cooking and serving at the club's annual event.

The **Montebello Club**, along with members of the Montebello Lions Club, delivered 150 Thanksgiving baskets to needy local residents.

At a recent prison graduation ceremony, the **Las Vegas University Club** presented an outstanding graduate, an inmate who will be eligible for parole in 2002, with a \$1,000 scholarship to be used to further his education in computer science.

Through their participation in a 5K run and pancake breakfast, **Covina Club** members raised \$10,000, which will benefit the local YMCA and teacher mini-grant program. Both runners and sponsorships exceeded last year's totals. Club members also assisted in serving dinners to seniors in celebration of Oktoberfest.

The **Monrovia Club**, along with members of the Kiwanis and Quota Clubs, pooled resources to raise a banner over Myrtle Avenue at Foothill Boulevard that reads "God Bless America." The banner matches one put up the city at the corner of Myrtle and Huntington Drive.

The **Victorville Club** made a \$1,000 donation to the New York Rotary Foundation of the Rotary Club of New York to assist those affected by the September 11 tragedy.

The **Altadena Club**, along with the support of the **Arcadia, Pasadena Sunrise, Sierra Madre** and **South Pasadena Clubs**, has raised \$880 from the sale of 84 Twin Towers t-shirts. The money raised will be donated to the Rotary Clubs of New York City.

The **Apple Valley Club**, along with other High Desert Rotary Clubs, secured a matching grant allowing for the donation of three retired fire trucks to the Puruandiro, Mexico Fire Department. The department previously had one fire truck to serve 30,000 residents. Three days after the new trucks arrived, a dam broke in the small community of San Martin flooding 150 homes. The water level was higher than the road and the only way firefighters were able to get across was in one of the newly donated trucks.

The **Chino Rotary Club** has donated a truck to the Oldtimers Foundation, which will be utilized to bring hot meals to homebound seniors who are unable to travel to the Chino Senior Center for lunch. In addition, the club, along with Buena Vista High School, dedicated three murals depicting scenes from nursery rhymes, which were painted on the walls of the school's childcare center. Club president Craig Watkins presented a plaque to principal George Gonzales commemorating the dedication.

**Las Vegas West** has formed a new partnership with the Agassi College Prep School serving 150 third, fourth and fifth grade "at risk" students. The club is currently assessing the school's needs and what role the club will play.

The **Arcadia Club** has partnered with a local elementary school to serve as reading tutors for students in primary grades. Volunteers will attend a three-hour training session in preparation for the Rolling Readers Program beginning early next year.

**Las Vegas Rotarians** and guests raised \$28,000 of which \$18,000 will be used to purchase 120 wheelchairs. The funds were generated from ticket sales to a private performance of "The Honky Tonk Angels," a country music tribute show.

**Don't forget to checkout the latest news at:  
<http://www.roti.org/news/>  
Serviced by ROTI (Rotarians On The Internet)**

## **Editor's Column**

Rose Ann Rabiola Miele  
Rotary Club of Boulder City

Best wishes from Boulder City, Nevada to all of you during this holiday season. I know this is supposed to be a special time for children, so I must be a kid at heart because I do love the holidays. Yet, when I'm at our weekly Rotary Club meeting each Wednesday and we join in song, I get that tingling feeling like the one you get when carols ring out, church bells chime, the smell of baking is floating in the air and lights are twinkling on the tree.

On November 28, our Rotary meeting was even more special since our "Guv" Margaret was with us. And, of course, Tony was a part of the meeting, getting to know our members and snapping pictures. Speaking of pictures, I have a few really good ones that I will share with all of you.

I generally don't write about our two Boulder City Clubs, but since it's the holiday season, I thought you might indulge me as I let you in on a few things we have been doing.

In November, a few dozen of us got together to add some landscaping to the Boulder City Cemetery. We paid for and planted trees and ground cover.

The Rotary Club of Boulder City has increased its ranks with more than a half dozen new members who have "hit the ground running." Thanks to new member Boulder City Police Sgt. John Chase, our junior high school has a Junior Interact Club. Our town now has Kideract (Cobras Making a Difference) at Martha P. King Elementary School, Junior Interact at Elton and Madeline Garrett Jr. High, and Interact at Boulder City High School. The Sunrise Rotary sponsors the Interact Club, which has grown this year to nearly 100 members. On December 18, Kideract and Interact will prepare gift shoeboxes to be distributed to kids and seniors throughout the community.

Both Rotary Clubs were busy during our town's holiday activities supplying hot chocolate at the annual tree lighting event and the luminaria. Santa and Mrs. Claus rode on the Rotary float in the Boulder City Electric Light Parade.

On Christmas Day, the Boulder City Senior Center will host a dinner so no one is alone on this special day. New Rotarian Kevin Polk is organizing this event with a little help from yours truly and my husband Mickey who will be preparing a few turkeys, hams and all the

trimmings. I've gotten a number of calls from fellow Rotarians who will be a part of this party.

Enough for now. Please e-mail your club's activities to me so we can share with each other. (I really enjoy reading Anne's column that highlights projects from around the district.)

Have a wonderful holiday season that spills over into 2002.

### **From the North Las Vegas Rotary Club**



Michelle Lee is a 33 year-old mom with three children. She is afflicted with spina bifida. Michelle was the first recipient of a wheelchair from the Wheel Chair Foundation of the North Las Vegas Rotary Club. Michelle is pictured here with Brent Anderson, who with Charlotte Leas, delivered the chair to Michelle on the Monday before Thanksgiving. According to Charlotte, "We all had lots to be thankful for on Thanksgiving."

### **Brazil Selects Their GSE Team**

Our exchange district in Brazil has selected a team of Ambassadors of Good Will. The team leader is Alberto Brandao de Freitas Bitencourt (59), a Rotarian for more than 15 years. He has always been involved with the Rotary Foundation and works in the District for many years. Alberto is a civil engineer.

Team members are Alvaro Antonio Bandira Ferraz (36), a medical doctor. Alvaro has a Ph.D. and has done Post Doctoral work in the field of human organ transplantation. He has published more than 60 articles in scientific magazines, more than 20 book chapters and has been invited to many international congresses. He is married and has two daughters.

Isac Almeida de Medeiros (36) is a pharmacist with a Ph.D. in pharmacology of medicinal plants. Isac has had more than 20 articles published in international scientific magazines. He is married and has one daughter.

Marcia Ferreira da Silva (35) is an English teacher at a secondary school. Marcia has a strong involvement with teaching English for students at a large

secondary school in Natal where she lives. She is divorced and has one daughter.

Viviane Afonso Mergulhao (31) is a dentist with a master's of science in the field of endodontics. She has her own private clinic in the city of Recife where she lives.

All the members speak English very well.

### **Wow!! A New Kideract Club!!!**

*From Dave Beltran*

This will be the third active Kideract Club in our district. The other two are in East LA and Boulder City, NV. Las Vegas Northeast (?) is also working on starting one, but I have not heard from them in a while.

My Kideract Club meets weekly. Once a month I invite a guest speaker. One to two meetings a month, we do a community service project. Today we took gifts to the senior citizens at Alta Med. The kids had gone there previously. Once a month we just play a game, like when the speaker doesn't show up. About once every other month, we go on a field trip. Last Thursday, we went to the Imax Theatre to see the new movie on the human body. Kideract is more fun for me than Interact or Junior Interact (Mideract to some of you – yuk, ugly name).

Please remember Kideract is a Rotary Project and not just a school project. Rotarians must attend every meeting. I truly believe no other service club can offer these young students as much as Rotary has to offer.

If the Alhambra Club would like a presentation or suggestions at any kind of meeting, I will make myself available. I am also sure the principal of the Fourth Street School would be available if requested. He did a presentation on Kideract for me at the district assembly recently when I could not attend.

A joint Kideract meeting could be held when the Brazil GSE team arrives. I bet I know a really neat district governor who would attend. Wayne Whistler attended three Kideract meetings his year as governor!

Most excitedly, Dave Beltran

P.S. So what's the to do with a Rotary solar oven. Are we cooking kids?

## **Rotary Reading By Nine Literacy Program**

*Jack Gabig, District 5300 Literacy Chair*

I know there hasn't been much information forthcoming on this year's Rotary Reading By Nine Literacy Program yet, but LA 5 is finally mailing out the application information to you. For those not familiar with the program, this is the third year Rotary and the *Los Angeles Times* have partnered to provide low cost books to students in kindergarten through third grade. Books are provided at an extremely low cost, approximately \$1.60 each, by Scholastic Publishers.

Last year, District 5300 has 27 clubs contribute \$62,000 to purchase over 40,000 books. This year, District Governor Margaret Cooker has set a goal of 45 clubs contributing a total of \$100,000 to purchase approximately 60,000 books. Although the Rose Hills Foundation's matching program of \$1,000 per club has not yet been renewed, we are optimistic that these funds will be available before the January 1<sup>st</sup> deadline for submitting your Reading By Nine order.

If your club has participated in past years, I am sure you will be continuing again this year, given the success of the program so far. If your club has not participated in the past, I urge you to consider funding the program at the \$1,000 level or higher in order to maximize the Rose Hills Foundation's matching funds. It is an easy project to administer and involves partnering with one or more elementary schools in your area. If you need any assistance or have any questions, call or e-mail me.

I will be in touch with you again before the book orders are due on December 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Sincerely,**  
**Jack Gabig**  
**District 5300 Literacy Chair**  
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## **From the District 5300 PR Resource Committee Chair**

*Ron Hutson, Sierra Madre*

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Would you ask your club president or the PR Chair to help us? We are seeking complete contact information on the radio, cable TV and print media that services your community. Here is what's needed:

Editor/Publisher name

Reporter(s) covering your area

Mailing address, telephone, fax and e-mail addresses for these individuals

Why are we asking for this information? It will be posted on the district web site giving your club direct access to media contact information. This will make it easier for you to send releases and develop relationships with the media and increase your exposure locally.

The District PR Resource Committee is making a strong effort to help increase every club's exposure, but we need your help.

## **Public Service Announcements**

Rotary International is in the process of developing a new television Public Service Announcement (PSA) that will be distributed nationwide next spring. In order to best tell the Rotary story, we are looking for interesting projects to highlight in this campaign. The project can be current, ongoing or a past undertaking. Below are some of the elements we are looking for.

- ✓ The project must involved a club or district from the United States
- ✓ The recipient of the project can be from both inside and outside the US
- ✓ Rotary members must have hands-on involvement in the project
- ✓ Strong visuals – for example, a new building, kids, surgeries.

Please write a brief summary of the project a give a name, phone number and e-mail address of the contact Rotarian. We hope to have responses to review with our vendor by December.

Thank you for your assistance and as always please let me know if you have any questions or story ideas.

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