



Rotary District 5300

The Highlighter



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NOVEMBER 2003



Barbara Risher Welch
District 5300
[District Governor](#)



Anne Donofrio-Holter
District 5300
[Newsletter Editor](#)

[Rotary Potpourri](#)

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A Few Words from the District Governor

Fall is here.....well it is supposed to be here. The weatherman says it will be in the 90's today, so I am not convinced that fall has truly arrived. Regardless of the weather, we do know that this time of year is special because we celebrate Thanksgiving. We as Americans have so much to be thankful for that it is a perfect time to reflect upon our many blessings. November is Rotary Foundation Month, which is also the perfect time to pass on our blessings to others less fortunate through the Rotary Foundation.

The Rotary Foundation is now 86 years old, and what it becomes in the future depends on us today. One of the best things that you can do as a Rotarian is to learn about, **and participate in**, the programs of the Rotary Foundation. When you realize what a difference we are making in people's lives, you can't help but want to be a part of the wonderful projects that the Rotary Foundation participates in.

Rotarians who know about the foundation, support the foundation. **You** should feel blessed that **you** have made a difference by helping to eradicate polio from the world forever by our centennial year in 2005. **"You"** is the most important word here. All of the humanitarian programs through the Rotary Foundation are accomplished at the club level by Rotarians just like you and I.

Here are ways to learn more about the Rotary Foundation:

- 1) Attend your club, district or zone Rotary Foundation seminar.
- 2) Serve on a Rotary Foundation committee, either at the club or district level.
- 3) Read about the Rotary Foundation in our publications or on the RI website at www.rotary.org.
- 4) Volunteer to work on a Rotary Foundation international service project.
- 5) Contact your district Rotary Foundation committee and ask them to share their knowledge and expertise with your club.

Rotarians, working with their foundation, are making a profound impact every day. Whether it is the mother whose child is protected from polio, or the father whose disabled child can walk for the first time, or the young man who can see thanks to cataract surgery, or the young woman who has been given a start in life thanks to a microcredit loan. These people and so many more are grateful to all that Rotarians are doing throughout the world. Speaking of volunteering on an international service project, please join the Rotarians of District 5300 as we donate 280 wheelchairs to those in need in Puerto Vallarta and surrounding areas at the end of April 2004. You can read more about this wonderful opportunity on the district website. Remember, November is the month to count our blessings, and since we have so many, let's pass our blessings on to others by lending a hand.

Counting my blessings,
Barbara Risher Welch
District Governor

District 5300

Clubs

Alhambra
Altadena
Apple Valley
Arcadia
Arcadia Sunrise
Azusa
Barstow
Boulder City
Boulder City Sunrise
Caliente
Chino
Claremont
Claremont Sunrise
Covina
Covina Sunrise
Diamond Bar
Duarte
East Los Angeles
El Monte-South El Monte
Five Points
Foothills Sunrise
Glendora
Green Valley
Henderson
Hesperia
Industry Hills
La Verne
Las Vegas
Las Vegas Central
Las Vegas Fremont
Las Vegas North
Las Vegas Northwest
Las Vegas South Sunset
Las Vegas Southwest
Las Vegas West
Laughlin
Mesquite Virgin Valley Sunrise
Moapa Valley
Monrovia
Montebello
Monterey Park
Ontario
Pahrump Valley
Pasadena
Pasadena Sunrise
Pico Rivera
Pomona
Rancho Cucamonga
Rancho Cucamonga Sunset
Rancho Del Chino
San Dimas
San Gabriel
San Marino
Sierra Madre
South Pasadena
Upland
Victor Valley Sunrise
Victorville
Walnut Valley
West Covina
West Covina Sunrise

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A Few Words from the Editor

I want to thank all the clubs that have been sending me newsletters either through the U. S. mail or via e-mail. I can tell by reading them that there are many interesting and worth while projects going on in our district.

Since most newsletters are written for the club members, sometimes it is difficult for an outsider, such as myself, reading the newsletter to get a good grip as to what a project is all about. There are many projects out there that I would love to highlight in our district newsletter, however, I cannot glean enough information from the newsletters themselves to put together a complete article. I encourage anyone who has a project that they would like to see highlighted in our district newsletter to let me know. The deadline is the 15th of the month preceding publication. To e-mail or send me additional information, [click here](#).

Also, check out the Special Club Events page on the district web site. Contact our district webmaster Chris Datwyler if you'd like to post events open to other club members.

Anne Donofrio-Holter
District Editor

Rotary Potpourri

Mexico Wheelchair Distribution

Dear Presidents, PDG's and District Leadership Team;

We have an **awesome** opportunity to be a part of an international service project in Puerto Vallarta and surrounding cities as District 5300 distributes 280 wheelchairs in that part of Mexico. President Rick Todd of Pomona has worked very hard at getting a chartered jet, the hotel, and has arranged for the distribution of wheelchairs through the Puerto Vallarta Sur Rotary Club.

Dates: Wednesday, April 28 - Sunday, May 2, 2004. Flight times: April 28, approximate 7:00 pm departure from Ontario International Airport and flying into the Puerto Vallarta airport. May 2, approximate midnight departure.

In my next communication, I will have a website for you to view the hotel. The prices quoted below are based on double occupancy. Prices are all inclusive including airfare, transportation, hotel, meals and drinks. The only item it will not include is a social event with the Rotary club there, which I would like to arrange. Coach seats are \$745.00 all inclusive. We hope to sell 137 more coach tickets to our district members. To encourage the "Family of Rotary" and allow our children to take part in this wonderful service project, the children's (any school age child through H.S.) price is \$450.00 all inclusive. The aircraft is a 757 and seats 180 passengers.

The Wheelchair Foundation gave us a deadline of October 31st to get our money in. Club presidents who told Rick their club's money would be in by that date are encouraged to overnight your check to him now. We CAN'T be short of money when he sends the checks in. Once our checks have been sent in to the Wheelchair Foundation, and our airline charter status is completely confirmed, we will be asking for a non-refundable 10% deposit to be sent to Rancho Cucamonga president Ed Biebrich, c/o Citizens Business Bank, 701 N. Haven, Ontario, Ca. 91764.

If you have any questions regarding this trip, please e-mail Rick Todd at rbtodd@gte.net.

What a dream come true for me! I selected the Wheelchair Foundation as one of my major projects this year, and then this wheelchair distribution trip fell into my lap thanks to president Rick. If you have ever wanted to take part in an international project, now is the time! It will change your life as you **lend a hand** to someone in need. Come aboard this District 5300 charter flight, and we'll have a lot of fun too!

Adios Amigos,
Governor Barb



PDG Joe Buckley

The Rotarians of District 5300 would like to extend their deepest sympathy to the family and friends of PDG (1985-86) Joe Buckley who passed away October 21, 2003. For additional information on the life of Joe Buckley, please visit the home page of the District 5300 website.

Open World Program Update

We are pleased to announce that RI has received additional grant money to host three economic development delegations from Uzbekistan in early December. We are seeking your assistance for two hosts or just one if a club would like to host two delegations at the same time (10 participants).

Hosting dates for the Uzbek group are Thursday, December 4, arrive in DC. Sunday, December 7, fly to host communities. Saturday, December 13, depart U. S.

The theme for the program in Uzbekistan is civil society focusing on economic development with emphasis on small businesses and women's entrepreneurship.

Rotary International is able to reimburse Rotary clubs for many of their hosting expenses.

The host Rotary club is expected to:

- 1) Provide for transportation to and from the airport.
- 2) Provide transportation during the visit.
- 3) Provide home hosting for seven nights.
- 4) See that the team participates in local celebrations or festivals.
- 5) Expose the team to local cultural and recreational events.
- 6) Take the team to a Rotary club meeting.
- 7) Hire an interpreter for all professional parts of the program
- 8) Arrange for one or more informal social events, e.g., a potluck dinner.

Home hosting is expected to be provided at no cost to the program. Money is available for additional hosting activities such as general costs related to the visit, e.g. rental of a mini-van to transport the visitors, purchase of tickets to special sporting or cultural events, allowable banquet costs, small gifts for the team.

Additional information, contact Natalia Sharova, RI Programs Division Open World Coordinator, 1560 Sherman Avenue, Evanston, IL 60201-3698, (847) 866-33-81, SharovaN@RotaryIntl.org.

R.I. Headquarters Visit

Bloome and Carlson during the Q&A session

In the quest to promote the eradicate poverty programs that have been initiated by Altadena Rotary and other clubs in District 5300, a visit was made by Tony Bloome, Jennifer Villalobos and C. Ray Carlson to the headquarters of Rotary International in Evanston, Illinois on July 25th.

District Foundation Summary

Fifty percent of donations to the Annual Programs Fund of the Rotary Foundation comes back to district control over how it is spent (district designated funds - DDF). The direction over these funds occurs three years after the money was first donated. For example, if clubs in the district donate \$100,000 to Annual Programs Fund in 2003-2004, the district will receive control over spending \$50,000 in 2006-2007. This money is what the district uses to provide funding for matching grants, since DDF receives a 100% match with matching grants and regular donations by clubs and Rotarians only receive a 50% match. District 5300 also uses DDF to fund the second half of our Group Study Exchanges, so we can continue to have both sides of the

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exchange in the same year. The other 50% of the money donated is what our foundation uses to provide matching money to fund the World Fund grant portion of Group Study Exchange and several other projects. Beginning this year, with the new grant structure of our Rotary Foundation, every district can apply for a District Simple Grant for up to 20% of the DDF. The district has direct control over writing checks (grants) using these funds. The funds must be used for humanitarian projects, but there is wide discretion given to the District Grants Committee over how it is used.

Questions? Contact Margaret Cooker, 760-243-5928, fax 760-243-8012, mcooker@rotarymail.net.

Rotary Float Scheduled for Test Run

A test run of the Rotary entry into the 2004 Tournament of Roses Parade is scheduled for 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 22. Location is the float barn for Charisma Floats located at 120 N. Aspan, Azusa. Contact the Pasadena Sunrise Rotary Club for additional information.

Rotary Foundation - 2004 Group Study Exchange Tours to Southern Africa and Mexico

Applications are invited for the following two Rotary Group Study Exchange teams that will be visiting Southern Africa (approximately April 16 - May 15, 2004) and Northern Mexico (approximately March 20 -April 18, 2004). Interviews for both teams will be held November 15 in Victorville.

Through the program, a group of young professionals from one Rotary district are hosted by Rotarians in another district for a period of four weeks, and in the following Rotary year, the exchange is reversed. The Group Study Exchange (GSE) program is a unique cultural and vocational opportunity for young business and professional men and women between the ages of 25 and 40. Local Rotarians in the host area provide for meals, lodging, and group travel within their district. Incidental and personal costs are the responsibility of the team members. Each team will be accompanied by a senior Rotarian who acts as the team leader. Mike Link from the Las Vegas West Club has been chosen to lead the team to South Africa. Charles Barr from the Upland Club will lead the team to Mexico. Team members must be American citizens who have no direct family relationship with any Rotarian.

Information and applications can be obtained on the District 5300 website www.district5300.org/gse. If all your questions are not answered you may contact Michael Fels, District GSE Chair, mdfels@cslanet.calstatela.edu, Margaret Cooker, mcooker@rotarymail.net, Mike Link, mlink41@aol.com, or Charles Barr, thecantina@mindspring.com.

Ambassadorial Scholars

It's time to begin thinking about identifying Ambassadorial Scholar candidates for 2004-2005. Interviews will be April 23-24, 2004. Contact James Frey at frey@unlv.nevada.edu for additional information.

Rotary Peace Scholar Candidate

District 5300 is please to announce our applicant for the 2004-05 Peace Scholar to Rotary International. Competition for the 70 slots is potentially among 530 candidates - one from each Rotary district in the world. RI will announce their selections to the districts in December and will make the selection public in March of 2004. Our candidate, Janelle Hodson, is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Glendora. She is currently attending the School of International Relations at the University of the Pacific specializing in international public relations. Many thanks to John Regan of the Claremont Club for chairing the search, selection and interview committee this year, as well as to Scott Hughes President of Glendora for finding the successful candidate and to Pat Carlton of Las Vegas West who prepared material for the Peace Scholar promotion and search last year.

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Rotary Peace Scholar Update

The Rotary World Peace and Ambassadorial Scholars, and host/sponsor Pedro Valora, wife Maria Carmen, and son. L to R - Sarah Hahn, Nacol Antigua, MandiJane Williams, Chantal Paydar, Marien Corea, Jenny Savich, Maria Carmen Valora, Pedro Valora, Enrique Valora, Jackie Bass, Ann-Marie Nguyen, Annie Bird, Margaret Carolla, and Conor Fortune.

Arcadia

Over 200 people attended the dedication of Fort Rotary at the Boy Scout camp.



Las Vegas

The Las Vegas Rotary Club has instituted the Wetzel Award in memory of long-time Rotarian Colonel Scotty Wetzel. Presented each quarter to three deserving Air Force enlisted personnel at Nellis Air Force Base, the award recognizes those individuals who work hard, are role models, but do not get formal recognition for their exemplary efforts. Each recipient receives a \$150 dinner certificate to be used at one of Las Vegas' premier restaurants and four tickets to a show. For further information about the Wetzel Award, contact Ted McAdam, at VegasS4S@Cox.net or 702-233-0939.

Mesquite Virgin Valley

District Governor Barbara Risher Welch presented several awards to club members during a recent visit including Alan Green, Bill McClure, and Marty Miller.

Moapa Valley

Rotarians served breakfast to over 1,000 residents of Moapa Valley during the annual 4th of July celebration. The club also made a cash donation to the 4th of July committee for the fireworks display.

Montebello

The Montebello club made a \$1,000 donation to the Montebello Literacy program.

Pico Rivera

The Pico Rivera club has changed its meeting location to the Dal Rea Restaurant, 9023 Washington Blvd.

Rancho Cucamonga

The Rotary Club of Rancho Cucamonga held its 8th annual golf tournament August 26. The tournament is held to benefit local charities including the LeRoy Haynes Children's Center. The tournament has raised over \$100,000 over the past five years for charity.

Sierra Madre

The Rotary Club of Sierra Madre, along with members of the community, turned out in force for the annual Relay 4 Life which raised over \$109,000. In addition, the club awarded \$1,577 to Sierra Madre School for use in a program that blends literacy with the arts. Funds will be used for the purchase of folk tale books from all over the world. The students will create scripts from these books for a reader's theater.

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[Do you have an article for the Newsletter?](#)

Anne Donofrio-Holter, newsletter editor for 2003-04, would like to encourage all the clubs in the district to send in its news articles and other items of interest for publication. Photos are especially encouraged, via e-mail, if possible. Anne would also like the clubs to continue sending her its weekly newsletters. Anne can be reached via e-mail at WriterAnne@earthlink.net, at fax (323) 832-0979, or by mail at 1012 W. Beverly Blvd., PMB 145, Montebello, 90640.

Anne would like to thank everyone for their support in making our newsletter enjoyable and informative for all Rotarians in District 5300.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact her. The deadline is the 15th of the month preceding publication.

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