



# Rotary District 5300

## The Highlighter



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



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

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### A Few Words from the District Governor

Happy New Year! The beginning of a new year usually brings about a time of reflection and a time of planning and goal setting. January is Rotary Awareness Month, a perfect time to refresh our knowledge of Rotary International and the Rotary Foundation. Rotary awareness isn't only about our organization's history. President Jonathan Majiyagbe says it's about our future. "If Rotary clubs want to attract new members, seasoned Rotarians must be prepared to share their knowledge. Prospective members want to know about the opportunities for service and the resources available to them if they join a Rotary club." As past RI president Richard L. Evans once said: "A man may have a great truth, he may produce a great product, he may make a great discovery, but if he dies and no one benefits, it's because he did not share."

January is a time for clubs to take a good look at what has been accomplished in the first six months of this Rotary year, and to move ahead with goals already in place, or make adjustments as needed. Not only is this being done at the club level, but we have a district strategic planning committee consisting of the two most immediate past district governors, the current district governor, the district governor elect and the district governor nominee. As soon as the DGND (DG nominee delegate) is selected, that person will join this committee. We are in the hopes of providing continuity from year to year, and long range goals for the district. This committee meets quarterly and will be having its' first ever retreat in January.

District 5300 is doing its' part in promoting awareness for the Rotary Foundation. Past RI president and current Rotary Foundation chairman James Lacy of Cookeville, Tennessee, will be our keynote speaker at two foundation dinner events coming up soon. Past RI president Cliff Dochterman has already honored us with his presence at the successful High Desert Rotary foundation dinner. James Lacy will be in our district on Tuesday, January 20, 2004 at the Tuscan Suites in Las Vegas and on Saturday, February 7, 2004 at the Montebello Country Club. We are trying three major dinners this year in the three geographical areas to promote attendance and, of course, giving. I would love to present James Lacy with the opportunity to award many major donors, Bequest Society members, benefactors and Paul Harris fellows. If you have been considering making a donation to the Rotary Foundation, now is the time! The opportunities are rare for a past RI president to present the awards. Rotary's general secretary, Ed Futa, shares that "despite weakened economies in many parts of the world, Rotarians once again demonstrated great generosity in giving to the Rotary Foundation, providing overwhelming support to the polio eradication fundraising campaign. Total contributions to the Foundation **exceeded** those of any prior year in Rotary's history."

This is truly wonderful news and a great motivator to keep up the good work. Typically, "when the chips are down," Rotarians rise up and **Lend a Hand** to those in need all over the world.

Serving with the best,  
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

### Rotary District 5300 International Foundation Dinner



February 7, 2004, Montebello Country Club. 5:00 pm – special VIP reception with Jim Lacy for major donors & Bequest Society members. 5:30 pm – added to afore mentioned VIP's – Paul Harris fellows, multiple PHF's, Paul Harris Society members & benefactors. 6:00 pm - cocktails & silent auction featuring one-of-a-kind items for purchase. 7:00 pm - dinner. 8:00 pm - program: Past RI president Jim Lacy. 9:00 pm – dancing.

Cost: club table of 10 - \$850, individual tickets - \$100 each.

Dress: black tie, business, or "southern style" dress is encouraged.

This is a GREAT opportunity to introduce prospective members to Rotary. Buy a "club table" and save money! Come join us for a great meal, a FANTASTIC program, fun and dancing at the beautiful Quiet Cannon, located at the Montebello Country Club.

An invitation will be sent to all of the club liaisons for distribution to each club member. If you have any questions, please call either event co-chair Carmen Thibault, 626-355-1600 or Sonia Lagomarsino, 626-356-2019 or talk to your club's liaison.

### 9th Annual Rotary International Peace Conference - March 27, 2004

March 27, 2004, Fuller School of Psychology, Travis Auditorium, Pasadena, 8:30am - 3:00pm. The theme of the conference is PROMOTE PEACE - CREATE JOBS: Strategies for Eradication of Poverty.

The eradication of extreme poverty is the number one objective of RI president Jonathan Majiyagbe and the UN's millennium development goals, with a reduction in half desired by 2015. Clubs in District 5300 have been actively pursuing the stimulation of entrepreneurship through economic education that leads to job creation in the Middle East, Africa, Mexico, among Native Americans, and in local schools.

Speakers representing the World Bank Institute, World Vision International, Pasadena Unified School District, Fuller Theological Seminary, and others, will explore the parameters of the theme, followed by a plenary of experts on programs currently being tried by Rotary clubs. The World Bank representative will present a new program - AIDSWEB - which couples HIV/AIDS education with the Youth IT micro enterprise program currently being conducted in Uganda in partnership with District 5300.

The objective will be to develop strategies for actual implementation by Rotary clubs, both in international service and in vocational service locally. PDG Garbis Der Yeghian is the conference chair and moderator. Committee members include C. Ray Carlson, Gary Chapin, Tom Polenzani, PDG Jim Speer, Niru Vangala, PDG Dr. Tim Keen Siu and PDG Conrad von Bibra. For additional information contact Garbis Der Yeghian, <mashdots@aol.com> or program coordinator C. Ray Carlson, 626-797-5462, fax 626-797-7524.

### **District Foundation Approves Grants**

PDG Conrad von Bibra, president of the Rotary District 5300 Foundation, Inc. announced nine grant applications, coordinated by PDG Lee Harlan, have been approved. Eight are Lefler Grants in memory of Claremont Rotarian Ronald Lefler, made possible by donations from his widow Claremont Rotarian Marla Lefler, and their son Paul.

One grant helped provide speaker Scott Greenberg at this year's TLC camp for middle school students. Other Lefler matching grants of up to \$1,000 each have been awarded to Alhambra Rotary for their fitness and swimming project for 135 third grade children, to Caliente Rotary for their Wheelchairs for Youth project, to East Los Angeles Rotary's 4th Street Elementary Kideract Club, to Pasadena Sunrise Rotary's work with homeless youth at Union Station, to Las Vegas NW Rotary Club's work with West Care Nevada to remove homeless and troubled teens from the streets, to Monterey Park Rotary for the Boy Scout "Learning for Life" program, and to Monrovia Rotary to help provide a scoreboard bearing Rotary's name at the Youth Center. Lefler matching grants are primarily for youth or community service where up to one thousand dollars can make a difference.

In addition, Glendora Rotary will receive a Whistler Grant of \$1,000 for their proposed Vivian's Closet program to assist young women in their quest to obtain employment. This grant was made possible from donations to the Foundation in memory of PDG Wayne Whistler and past president Vivian Whistler Bradvica.

### **Zone 22 Newsletter - Membership Matters**

A link to the Membership Matters newsletter from Zone 22 has been posted on the district website. To view, click on the Membership link on the home page.

### **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.

### **Arcadia**

The club provided Christmas dinner and gifts for three needy local families.

### **Duarte**

Duarte Rotarians, along with Duarte High School Interactors, held their annual Breakfast with Santa at the Duarte Community Center. Fifty children had their picture taken with Santa and participated in a free crafts session. Money raised from this event will go to various club projects.

### **Las Vegas**

One hundred eighty-four underprivileged children participated in the Santa Clothes project sponsored by the Las Vegas Rotary Club, with assistance from the North, West, Central and Northwest Las Vegas Rotary clubs. The children met at J.C. Penny for a shopping spree. Each child had a Rotarian or Interact student assist them in purchasing \$125 worth of clothing. Upon completion, the children were transported to the University of Nevada at Las Vegas. Here they met members of Rebel sports teams who worked with the children on athletic skills and sportsmanship.

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Several athletes spoke to the children about the importance of setting goals, saying no to drugs, and staying in school.

The Las Vegas Rotary Club presented Wetzel Awards to three deserving airmen at Nellis Air Force Base. Recipients were Sergeant Michael Clayton, 57EMS, Airman Aisha Smith, 99AMDS, and Airman Jamison Smith, 99SSS. These awards are given quarterly in memory of long-time Rotarian Scotty Wetzel. Those selected must have demonstrated excellence in the performance of their duties and a commitment to the defense of our country.

### **Las Vegas Southwest**

On Thursday, December 18, 2003, club members delivered 39 pairs of shoes and socks to the children at Sunrise Acres Elementary School. Participants included Susan & Will Crowe, Jeri Malan, Nancy Chase, Joanne Jackson, Chris and LeAnn Publow, Tom Martin, Donnie Garitano, Gwen Fukumoto, Patricia Waddell and Tim Murphy.

### **Las Vegas West**

Las Vegas members turned out "in force" to participate in the Santa Clothes event, providing clothing to underprivileged children, sponsored by the Rotary Clubs of Las Vegas. Local Rotarians contributed over \$8000 in support of the project. Las Vegas West club participants included Tom Novotny, Jan and Mark Myers, Marilyn and Jerry Kops, Steve Halvorson, Kathy and Brett Grant, Sandy Johnson, Jan and Patrick Carlton, among others.

### **Montebello**

Montebello Rotarians Richard Adams, David Avirom, Anne Donofrio-Holter, Gabriel Garza, Ralph Helm, Ted Jones, Robert Jugan, Byron Lee, Mary Ellen Melendez, Robert Monzon, Richard Reyes, Kathy Salazar, and Luis Trujillo helped serve lunch to more than 2,000 needy local residents at the 16th annual Christmas at the Cannon program held Christmas Eve.



Spearheaded by Robert Jugan, Rotarians Dennis Katangian, Ralph Helm, Luis Trujillo, and Helio Altamirano delivered a wheelchair to an 11-year-old suffering from fetal alcohol syndrome. As of December 1, 2003, the Montebello club has donated \$11,400 to the project.

### **Pasadena Sunrise**

On November 29, 2003, club members served lunch at Union Station for the homeless in Pasadena.

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### **Rancho Cucamonga**

The Rotary Club of Rancho Cucamonga proudly partnered with the West End Literacy League to help fund local literacy programs and to participate as tutors. The club donated \$1588 for literacy materials for tutors and learners and purchased trophies and plaques for the Learner and Tutor Recognition Literacy Celebration.

### **Rancho Cucamonga Sunset**

Rancho Cucamonga Sunset Club, assisted by the Rancho Cucamonga noon club, provided more than 100 underprivileged children from the local community with a \$100 Target shopping spree.



### **Sierra Madre**

The club recently awarded several mini-grants. The funds will be used for a field trip to the Aquarium of the Pacific, the Pivotal Point Unity in Diversity classroom project, the Sierra Madre Community Garden, and other projects.

### **Victor Valley Sunrise**

The club treated 40 children to a clothes shopping spree at a local Target Store on December 6.



### [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@charter.net](mailto:WriterAnne@charter.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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