



Rotary District 5300

The Highlighter



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2003 - 2004

JUNE 2004

A Few Parting Words from the District Governor



Barbara Risher Welch
District 5300
District Governor

Konichiwa or "hello" in Japanese! My family just returned from the Rotary International Convention in Japan. The first week was spent on the District 5300 tour led by past president Ed Wong of Monterey Park. Ed put together a great tour for 40 District 5300 Rotarians who traveled together from Tokyo to Osaka. We saw beautiful temples, shrines and castles, ate traditional Japanese food, slept on traditional Japanese matted flooring and were welcomed everywhere we went by the friendly and accommodating Japanese people. Our tour bus proudly displayed a District 5300 banner as we drove across Japan. The Rotary International Convention was held in the Osaka Dome and was attended by 46,000 Rotarians and family. 41,000 attendees were Japanese. We were treated to Japanese entertainment throughout the convention as well as inspiring speeches provided by Rotarian dignitaries.



Anne Donofrio-Holter
District 5300
Newsletter Editor

James Lacy, the Rotary Foundation trustee chairman and past RI president reported that in April 2002 the Rotary Foundation trustees set the goal for *Fulfilling our Promise: Eradicating Polio* at an ambitious \$80 million. To date \$123,179,693 has been raised and pledged to support this campaign which was launched to fill the funding gap in the eradication effort, and more than two billion children have been vaccinated against the polio virus. There are only six countries remaining where polio is endemic. By the time the world is certified polio free, Rotarians and friends of Rotary will have contributed more than \$600 million dollars to the eradication effort. If this doesn't make you proud to be a Rotarian, I don't know what would!

Another proud moment was when 60 District 5300 Rotarians and family traveled to Puerto Vallarta in May to donate 288 wheelchairs to the people of that area. The Puerto Vallarta Sur Rotary Club located those in need and their club members along with our district Rotarians were given the honor of placing people into their new wheelchairs. It was a fantastic and rewarding experience for all of us. The actual need was for 100 more wheelchairs and District 5300 pledged to send them 100 more to complete this project. The Puerto Vallarta club members took us to see two of their major projects, one of which was a Rotarian donated food program. They built a shelter near the local dumpsite where mothers were feeding their children. Now these children will receive nutritious food at least once a week. We were so moved by their efforts that our tour group donated \$2,000 to their cause. As I sat next to a past district governor from their club during the fiesta that night, with tears in his eyes he said, "you can't even begin to know what you have done here." My heart swelled.

The end of the Rotary year is a time for reflection and a time for celebration. We will do just that at our annual District Conference June 3-6 at the Irvine Marriott. I hope by now you have signed up to attend, but if you have not, please come and register on site. You really won't want to miss all that is planned for our celebration. We have had a wonderful year and that is owed to the great group of Red Shirt presidents we have had for 2003-2004. They worked very hard leading their club through a successful year and the clubs most definitely did "Lend a Hand" through their many projects. I am very pleased to say that District 5300 has met the majority of the goals we set forth at the beginning of the year. First, we are up over 4% in membership, not quite to the 3,000 mark we were shooting for, but we are not too far from it and may reach that number by June 30. This comes at a time when many districts are down in membership. Second, we have surpassed our \$100 per capita

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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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giving to the Rotary Foundation. Third, almost all clubs established a Family of Rotary committee to enhance their membership and help to retain members. Lastly, our goal to donate 1,500 wheelchairs through the Wheelchair Foundation was attained. I won't know what our final tally is until after District Conference, so stay tuned for this total number that well topped 1,500 wheelchairs.

It has been an amazing and rewarding year for me personally as your district governor and I thank you for the privilege. It will go down in my history book as a year full of memorable experiences. It has been a pleasure to work with the excellent executive AG's and AG's, the Executive Committee, the supportive PDG's and most importantly the club presidents. This entire leadership team made my job easier as district governor. Now that we have worked to "Lend a Hand" all year, we will turn to the new Rotary century and "Celebrate Rotary" under the great leadership of incoming centennial governor Roy York. I am positive it will be an exciting year as we celebrate Rotary's 100th anniversary in many different ways and leave a lasting legacy in our communities. Through our public relations efforts next year, we will show the world that Rotary cares and that is what makes Rotary International the greatest service organization ever.

Serving with the best,
Barbara Risher Welch
District Governor

A Few Parting Words from the Editor

As my term as district editor comes to a close, I want to thank our district governor Barbara Risher Welch for her support this past year along with a big thank you to all the clubs that supported our newsletter by sending me their press releases, newsletters and other items of interest.

Above all, I want to thank my husband, Larry, who not only designed our newsletter the past two years, but each month would format the newsletter, add the links, and get it ready for posting. His help made my job a whole lot easier.

Serving the Rotarians of District 5300 as newsletter editor the past two years has been a truly enjoyable experience and I thank you for the opportunity.

Anne Donofrio-Holter
District Editor

Rotary Potpourri

Lunch Fit For a King



Early May of 2003 was the beginning of what turned out to be a great experience for ten small Rotary clubs. The concept of developing a small club consortium to attract speakers was in its infancy but off to a great start. One Rotarian had an idea and asked another Rotarian for help. That was the meager beginning of what culminated in having Richard King, international president 2001-2002, as our guest speaker.

The clubs involved in this first of a kind power punch were Altadena, Arcadia Sunrise, Atwater/Silverlake, Azusa Provisional, Duarte, Glendale Sunrise, La Canada Flintridge, Pasadena Sunrise, San Gabriel and South Pasadena.



Once confirmation was received that Richard King had accepted our invitation to speak at a multi-club meeting we began to set up the machine that would provide us with an outstanding event. Club presidents were contacted, and each provided what they could in terms of manpower.

Rotarians met to develop the master plan. Goals were set, time lines structured, an operating budget and responsibilities issued which then gave us the man hours necessary to succeed. We wanted at least 200 people in attendance. The mix being 150 Rotarians and the balance invited guests from the community. Needing sponsors, we went to the community and asked business people and individual Rotarians to buy tables of ten. Those tables were filled with school principals, Interact members, not-for-profit organizations, a VIP table, and invited guests by our Rotary consortium.

We achieved our goals which included at least 10 strong Rotary prospects. We came in under budget and were able to donate money to the wheelchair foundation.

Packets are available, floppy disks with all the brochures, meeting agendas, flyers and letters, etc. If you have a desire to make this happen for your club, you don't need to re-invent the wheel. Contact David Smith 626-398-2010; he will send you a total planning packet. You can either receive the hard copy or it can be e-mailed to you. The packet will also include the chairman's planning guide which was used for the project.

Submitted by Jacque Foreman, Altadena

Group Study Exchange to District 5300 - May 7 - June 7, 2004

District 4110 - Chihuahua, Mexico



Javier Arredondo, Engineer

Alberto Sanchez, Architect

Saria Lopez, Educator

Mercedes Arellano, Team Leader, Candy Manufacturer

Elena Garza Business Administration

District 9350 - Cape Town Area, South Africa



Steven Nakana, Researcher

Trevor Tyers, Team Leader, Minister

Nirvana Bechan, Communications/PR

Gaynor Moodie, Art Director, Magazine Publishing

Lee Anne Pratt, Journalist

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District Simplified Grants

To clubs that received District Simplified Grants (DSGs) in 2003-04, please remember to submit your reports AND send in your commitment to the Rotary Foundation Annual Fund - SHARE. If reports are not received by the June 30 deadline, your club will not be considered for ANY DSG in 2004-05. The report form can be found on the district web site: www.district5300.org Foundation GrantsDSG. Electronic submission to me would be very helpful in legibility. Please submit clear and concise applications - fill them in on-line and print off for signatures for clarity. DO NOT use the form on the RI web site - that is the form the district uses to request the DDF to be allocated to us.

The deadline to receive applications for DSGs 2004-05 is July 31, 2004 - this deadline will NOT be extended. We have \$25,000 in DDF to allocate to successful grants. The committee will review all applications and determine priority for funding. Preference will be given to clubs meeting the goal of EVERY ROTARIAN - EVERY YEAR - \$100. The money for DDF 2004-05 comes from the funds raised for TRF Annual Fund SHARE in 2001-2002 and ALL of the money is available for Rotary educational, humanitarian and World Fund programs.

Margaret Cooker, District Foundation Chair
pdgcooker@verizon.net

Interact Symposium - October 8-10, 2004

The 7-district Interact Symposium deadline for Rotary clubs to submit their pre-registration/intent form for the participation of Interact clubs, Mideract/Youthact/Junior Interact clubs and Kideract clubs is drawing near! Money does NOT need to be sent with the intent form but note that there IS an "EARLY BIRD SPECIAL" for sending in the money.

The ideal team to send to the symposium is the Interact club president, the school advisor and the Rotary liaison. Additional candidates can be submitted including potential and current leadership of your sponsored clubs and interested Rotarians. These people will be given preference based on the order in which the money and completed INDIVIDUAL registration forms are received.

For additional details, see Interact Symposium on the district web site. Note that Kideract members (elementary school children) cannot stay overnight at the camp, but can come Saturday with prior arrangement with Dave Beltran.

Questions to registrar Dave Beltran, davidb_rotary@yahoo.com or chair Margaret Cooker at pdgcooker@verizon.net.

Need Money For Local Projects?

2004-2005 will see District 5300 receiving a DDF (District Designated Funds) check from Rotary International for the second year. This new program replaces the CAP Grant and the New Opportunity Grant programs and allows us to decide how this portion of our DDF will be spent (\$25,000 in 2004-2005). A district committee will review the grant applications and rank the applicants. Local projects will receive priority in funding (matching grants and individual grants are still available through RI for International projects). The deadline for applications to be received is July 31, 2004 - this deadline will NOT be extended. Forms and information are available on the district web site at www.district5300.org under the "Rotary Foundation" and "Grant" headings. If you received a DSG in 2003-2004 and have not submitted your report(s), your Rotary club's application(s) will not be considered. Report forms are found at the same location on the District site.

Margaret Cooker
District Foundation Chair

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Ski Week

Please note that the ISFR ski week will take place in Fernie, BC, Canada, February 5 to 12, 2005. Go to www.isfrski.org and www.virtualfernienie.com. For additional information, contact Ted Ralfe at tedlaw@elkvalley.net.

Alhambra

On April 23, 2004, the Rotary Club of Alhambra and the Emcore Corporation developed a partnership in an international club project and formally donated a quick attack fire truck to Muzquiz, Coahuila, Mexico. The town was in need of an operational fire truck that is able to respond on emergency incidents related to fire suppression and medical rescue. The donation was initiated by club president Gary Yamauchi, District Governor Barbara Risher Welch, the Muzquiz Rotary Club, and District 4110 Governor Guillermo Velazquez. Initially the fire truck was transported to the Rotary Club of Eagle Pass, Texas. They then coordinated with the Rotary Club of Piedras Negras, Coahuila, Mexico to move the fire truck across the border to its final destination. The new Rotary Club of Muzquiz put on a ceremony to receive the fire truck and to show their appreciation.



Altadena

The second annual Altadena Rotary Club pancake breakfast was held April 24, 2004 in Altadena's Farnsworth Park, raising over \$4,000. The proceeds will be divided between the Altadena Senior Center and Shoes that Fit for Edison Elementary in Altadena. The organizing committee extends a hearty thank you to all who helped with this fabulous event, and to all who came to the breakfast and enjoyed the good fellowship and good food.



At the recent District 9200 conference and assembly in Addis Ababa Ethiopia, James Tugume, past president of the Kampala Rotary in Uganda received on behalf of the Rotary Club of Kampala the Governor's District Vocational Service Award for the Rotary Youth IT & Micro enterprise project in Uganda. He dedicates this recognition to the Rotary Club of Altadena, among others.

Chino

Students from Butterfield Elementary School presented a check in the amount of \$1,233 to be used to purchase 17 wheelchairs. The Butterfield students shared that the money was raised by the school in one week. Butterfield principal and Rotarian Pat Miller said students at her school wanted to do something to help others. The club has collected money throughout the year and to date has raised enough money to purchase approximately 90 wheelchairs.

Covina

The Covina club has adopted as a centennial project a program presented to them by the Fullerton Police Department in conjunction with Drink Safe Technologies. Special "drug test" coasters imprinted with the club's logo are being distributed free of charge to those interested in maintaining the safety of the citizens in the community. If a "date rape" drug has been put into a drink, the specially treated coaster will alert the person before they ingest the substance. It is the hope of club members that this project will help eliminate the incidents of anyone being put in dangerous positions against their will.

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Industry Hills



On March 20, 2004 Industry Hills Rotarians said a tearful goodbye to a lot of items piled from their eternal resting places in garages, closets and attics, things that in a thousand years some future archaeologist may have unearthed and wondered - why. The \$1,000 raised will be used to support mini-grants, turkey baskets and special projects.



Montebello

The club held its 10th annual golf tournament on May 14. Proceeds from the sold-out event will benefit the club's many programs and activities.

The Montebello club held its 20th annual Teacher of the Year program. Honored this year was James Sams, a fourth grade teacher from Wilcox Elementary School. The club presented Sams with a plaque and a check for \$400. He also received recognitions from the City of Montebello and local assembly and congressional districts.



Pasadena

On May 22, 2004 club members helped paint the Pasadena Humane Society building.

Rancho Cucamonga

The Rotary Club of Rancho Cucamonga held its 18th annual city wide track meet for middle school children on Saturday, May 8, 2004. Over 500 participants were there representing 12 schools.



Sierra Madre

The Rotary Club of Sierra Madre honored outstanding students from local area schools at its May 11, 2004 meeting. These exceptional students were praised for their high academic standards as well as their polite and thoughtful actions inside and outside of the classroom. Each student received a certificate and a check. The Rotary Club of Sierra Madre congratulates the following outstanding students: Caitlin Skelly, Gooden School; Jessica Leon Bethany, Christian School; Ellen O'Conner, St. Rita School; Veronica Potes, Alverno High School; Aysa Hollins, Sierra Madre School; Ashley Aloj, La Salle High School; Kathryn Gross, Flintridge Sacred Heart Academy (not pictured).



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