

THE HIGHLIGHTER

The Official Monthly Newsletter of Rotary District 5300

Christine Montan, District Governor 2006-2007

Index

1	D.G. Monthly Letter
2	District Foundation Report
3	"Amazing Grace" A Lesson for Rotarians
4	Snow in Montebello!?!
5	District Conference
6	Industry Hills Rotary Water Project Update
7	Rotary Peace Scholar Update So. Pas. Rotary and Ronald McDonald
8	Anecdote Request GSE Update
9	LV Northwest Rotary Community Partnership
10	Conference Sponsor Update
11	Conference Golf Tournament Update
12	Altadena Club is "Family of Rotary"
13	1 Editorial

Letter from Governor Christine:

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

"In like a lion, and out like a lamb" often is said referencing the weather, and we have had our share with cold and wind and rain across the District. Let's hope it doesn't also refer to our Rotary Clubs! So much has been accomplished! Meaningful service projects in our own local communities and around the world; clubs strengthened by new members, good club programs are being held; giving to the Rotary Foundation is strong.



In February, we completed another successful RYLA, with 288 teenagers from all parts of the District coming together to learn about themselves and about leadership. In this same program, more than 50 Rotarians serving as facilitators or committee members or lab leaders have this same experience. This year marked the twentieth (20th) anniversary of our first Rotary Youth Leadership Awards camp, and we have improved upon that original effort each year! Thank you to all involved and for the clubs that sponsored students.

March leads us into the final months of the Rotary year. But it's not too late to roar like a lion, not mew like a lamb. There are still opportunities for service: District and Club programs and activities in which to become involved. There are two great training opportunities to participate in: Board of Directors Training Seminars in March, and the District Assembly for 2007-08 club leaders. We need to continue our focus on membership development. Take action. Inviting someone to join the club is NOT the responsibility of the Membership Committee; it belongs to each of us.

"Great thoughts, reduced to practice, become great acts." Think about how you can be a part of making your Rotary Club stronger at the end of the year, than when we began, and then act on it. With four months to go, there is nothing we can't do if we have the interest and the will.

Chris

The Rotary Foundation (TRF) Monthly Report

By: Bob Novell, D5300 Foundation Chair

- **Southern California Foundation Dinner.** *The Magic of the Rotary Foundation* dinner was held on January 27th at the Royal Vista Golf Club in Walnut. Over 250 Rotarians and their guest came together on this night to celebrate the many ways that Rotarians in District 5300 use The Rotary Foundation to help others in need and promote peace and understanding. Fary Moini, our guest speaker from the La Jolla Sunrise Rotary Club, inspired us with her story of the many Rotary projects where she has worked with others to help refugees in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Her story is the story on how one person was willing to take one small step to help others. Schools, universities, and medical clinics, benefiting thousands of people, have all felt the impact of Fary's work. The dinner co-chairs Mike Zoeller and Sonia Lagomarsino reported that roughly \$15,000 was raised for the Foundation.



- **Ambassadorial Scholars.** Jerry Tessier (Pomona), Ambassadorial Scholar committee chair, reports that our three scholars for next Fall will be going to the following countries: Christina Des Vaux will be studying international development in Uruguay; Amanda Zeidan will be studying political science (diplomacy) in Turkey; and Cate Powell will be studying comparative religions in India. Jerry also reports that we are now accepting Ambassadorial Scholar applications (deadline March 31) for the academic year 2008-09.
- **GSE in 2008.** Charlie Barr, District Governor Elect, reports that our GSE team next year will be headed to D 9790 in Australia.
- **District Simplified Grants (DSG's).** Additional DSG's were approved in February which will benefit our local communities.
- **Rotary Foundation Contact Center.** Don't forget that the Foundation has created a Contact Center (email at contact.center@rotary.org or by phone at 1-866-976-8279) where one can call for requests for help.



Inspiration!
Motivation!
Celebration!

“Amazing Grace” Movie a lesson for Rotarians on “Leading the Way”

by C. Ray Carlson

The recently released movie “Amazing Grace” tells the story of how one young man, William Wilberforce, led Britain to abolish slavery almost 200 years ago. His commitment and perseverance is a lesson for all Rotarians on how to achieve a great change that was beneficial to all concerned, even though it took many years and is still in progress in parts of the world.

We Rotarians must address the enormous poverty in the world, locally and around the globe. The new slogan for 2007-08 is ROTARY SHARES. To this I have added - Business Savvy. ROTARY SHARES Business Savvy. We each have business skills of one kind or another that can be passed on to the next generation “the Youth” who must carry on. So let’s do it. Education, literacy, water, vaccinations are all important in prolonging lives, but they must not be left to suffer in crushing poverty. That is immoral. New jobs must be created. We here and partner Rotarians abroad can tackle this.

Youth Entrepreneurship Education was launched by Altadena Rotary in 1995 in Eliot Middle School, then in Armenia and Tijuana, with the help of other clubs and Matching Grants from The Rotary Foundation. This has been expanded to the Middle East and Africa. 200 youth in Zambia were trained over the past 12 months in computer technology, Internet, business plan writing, and healthcare services. They submitted 70 business plans, and the authors of the best nine of these will come to the US in coming weeks. Eight American experts, three of them Rotarians, were sent to Zambia as part of a Citizens Exchange program and grant from the US Department of State.

Our District’s 12th Annual Peace Conference will be held on Saturday March 31 and will focus on Youth Entrepreneurship Education in Latin America and among Hispanics in the US. This is our first step in carrying the poverty eradication program to the many in our midst and through them to Mexico and the rest of Latin America. We have arranged a program that will outline for Rotarians what can be done and then how to do it in afternoon workshops. A beautiful new auditorium at Azusa Pacific University will be used for the morning program. Then following lunch, four workshops will be held in the new Business & Management building. It’s all free for you and your Hispanic friends who might be interested in becoming Rotarians after seeing what we are doing. Your club will want to participate in a project in Mexico or beyond. Plan now to come. See <www.district5300.org> for details.

Frequently Asked Conference Question:

Should we plan to attend the meals? Yes! You don’t want to miss the District Finals of the 4-Way Test Speech Contest at Friday lunch, the Dan Stover Music Contest Finals at Saturday lunch, the keynote speech by Jack Canfield at Friday’s gala dinner, and the inspiring address by RI Rep Steve Wilcox at Saturday dinner. Not to mention the Saturday evening comedy show and the Gospel Brunch on Sunday morning. Each meal has been designed with a fabulous program you do not want to miss!

Montebello Rotary Co-Sponsors Snow in Montebello

by Anne Donofrio-Holter

Last month, along with the Montebello Gang Diversion Task Force, and other community organizations and businesses, the Montebello Rotary Club helped bring snow to Montebello City Park.

Over 400 children, as well as adults, were able to frolic in 27 tons of freshly blown snow as well as slide down a specially constructed snow slide on inverted rubber trash can lids. A special train provided rides around the park and there were free snacks for all who attended. In addition, a raffle was held.

"This is a wonderful, family-oriented activity giving kids, and others who might not have the opportunity, a chance to have some fun in the snow," said Montebello councilman Bill Molinari, who coordinated the snow delivery and snow slide set up.



"The Montebello Rotary Club is proud to partner with the Montebello Gang Diversion Task Force and others in bringing this wonderful event to our community," said Kathy Kohn, Rotary Club president.

This is the third year the Montebello Rotary Club has been a co-sponsor of this event. Club members in attendance included Pete Adriansce, Fernando Cuevas, Luis Trujillo, Kathy Salazar, Ralph Helm, Helio Altamirano, David Avirom, Anne Donofrio-Holter, Larry Holter and George Pacheco, who along with his son, served as DJs for the event, as well as students from Montebello and Schurr High School Interact clubs.

District 5300 Conference 2007**Conference Program and Tribute Book**

Would you like to honor your outgoing or incoming club president? Acknowledge the Rotarian of the Year for your club? Thank your Paul Harris Fellows? The possibilities are endless in The District Conference Keepsake Program and Tribute book.

The book will be about 7 x 9 inches in size and will feature the conference schedule, speaker bios, the winning George Hensel Ethics Essay, Dan Stover and 4-Way speech contestants, the Rotary Treasures game sheets, and much more. You will want to save this issue as the “yearbook” of our very special Rotary year!

The deadline for submissions is April 15, 2007. Submissions and checks (made out to Rotary District 5300) should be sent to Susanne Hayek at 11 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Arcadia CA 91006 If you need assistance designing your ad, the program book team will be glad to help! Just e-mail me at susannehayek@earthlink.net Below are some prices and ad ideas...

**The Rotary Club of
Tuneville
Is proud to Present
the
2006-2007**



**ROTARIAN OF THE
YEAR**

Full Page \$100

**The Rotary Club of Tuneville
Is proud to Present the
2006-2007**

New Paul Harris Fellows:

Donald P. Duck
Mickey Mouse
Minnie Mouse
Goofy
Pluto

Half Page \$50

**The Rotary Club of Tuneville
Thanks
Donald P. Duck**

**Club President
2006-2007**

Donald P. Duck

**You are a great dad and a great
Rotarian...You'll be a great
President!**

Love, Lucy and Joey

Quarter Page \$25

The Fernando Lores Water Project 2007

The primary purpose of this project conceived in 2004 is to bring a source of clean drinking water to the 14,000 rural inhabitants of the District of Fernando Lores in Amazonia, Peru. In 2005 we set out to build a rainwater catchment system using the tin roofs of the government sponsored schools in the district.

With the successful completion of the water tank at Nuevo Progreso in 2005 and subsequent observations, we now know that Amazon rainwater can provide a source of clean water separate from the river, streams and puddles. Now we can move further out into the district of Fernando Lores and build more rain-water catchment systems for the local people.

Through a Rotary International Matching Grant and the cooperation of six Rotary Clubs from 3 districts we have raised \$45,000 to build 3 more water tanks. Participating clubs are Industry Hills and Apple Valley from District 5300, Santa Rosa Sunrise, Santa Rosa West and Sebastopol from District 5130 and Iquitos Sur from District 4460, Peru. Both District 5130 and District 5300 provided generous matches from DDF.

Gina Low and Pablo Guerrero of our cooperating organization, APECA Peru are anxiously waiting for the final funding commitments to transact and the transfer of money to Iquitos. Managing the funds in Peru for Rotary International is Rafael Gomez of Iquitos Sur Rotary club. All the financial transaction requirements are proceeding well and should be complete by April.



This summer work should start at Nuevo Esperanza where they have already begun to collect the sand for the concrete structure. The villages of Amor Fino and San Francisco de Angamos have been selected as sites for the other two tanks. More to come as we secure the financing and break ground in the near future.

Dr. Andy Crawford, International Director, Industry Hills Rotary Club.

Picture Caption: Girl carrying water from tank at Nuevo Progreso.

Picture Caption: One year later water still gushes out of the tank at Nuevo Progreso.

Rotary International Accepting Applications for two Programs in Peace and Conflict Studies

Rotary World Peace Fellows are graduates of the Rotary Centers for International Studies in peace and conflict resolution program. They will be a part of tomorrow's solution in promoting greater tolerance and cooperation among people worldwide. Rotary World Peace Fellows, who are chosen from a wide variety of countries, can help future leaders advance knowledge and understanding.

Located in eight leading universities around the world, Rotary Centers provide Fellows the chance to study in a master's level program in conflict resolution, peace studies, international relations, and other related disciplines.

Rotary World Peace Fellows work toward mediation, conflict resolution, and peace where there is war. Understanding where there is disharmony. Food security where there is hunger. Health care where there is disease. Education where there is illiteracy. Conservation where there is environmental degradation, and sustainable economic development where there is poverty.

Read more information about the world-transforming program, and [apply now](#) for a chance to make a difference.

Application Deadline is July 1, 2007 for the 2008-1010 Program

http://www.rotary.org/foundation/educational/amb_scho/centers/index.html

From: www.rotary.org



What happens when you cross Kids, Rotarians, and a big clown?

Here are photos of several members of the Rotary Club of South Pasadena with their families and Ronald McDonald at the 3rd Anniversary of the Pasadena Ronald McDonald House on Feb 10. Executive Director Marchelle Sellers is also a South Pasadena Rotarian. The Club has "adopted" the Pasadena Ronald McDonald House as one of their local charities and have built a swing set and a fence and have supported several fundraising efforts. The Pasadena Ronald McDonald House provides long term residential housing in two beautifully restored Craftsman homes for family members of children being treated at neighboring Huntington Memorial Hospital, and other hospitals in the area. The reunion was for the more than 500 families that have resided at the house in the last 3 years. The Rotarians and their families that attended got to see some of the benefits of their efforts through the eyes of the family members and children that have benefited from the Pasadena Ronald McDonald House.



Courtesy of Dan Watson

Rotary Anecdotes: Sharing Personal Rotary Adventures

In the spirit of our “*Share the Adventure*” theme, and to liven up our District Conference and District Newsletter, we are asking each club in District 5300 to submit an anecdote to share with other clubs.

We spend a lot of time talking about our successes and giving ourselves awards for exceptional performance but, we don’t take enough time to “Humanize” Rotary by showing members and prospective members that, to join Rotary is to also have fun and feel really, really good about participation, in a very close-knit and fraternal group like your local Rotary Club.

Therefore, we’d like to ask each club to share a “story” about a member or an incident that particularly reflects the “human” side of your Rotary Club. Please use the space on this Word Document to give us the details of a humorous or human interest anecdote about a club member.

The best anecdote will result in a \$100 contribution to your club’s treasury for Community Service; and the best 5 anecdotes will be read during the meals sessions in the main ballroom at this year’s District Conference at the Rancho Las Palmas Resort and Spa. The sharing of the story will include acknowledgement to the Club that submitted the anecdote and recognition for the individual Rotarian(s) involved. The rest will be used and read from time to time in the District Newsletter.

Judging of the winners will be done by the undersigned. Please do not send jokes or stuff you find on the internet – *we’re only interested in the real life experiences of our members.* Send your entries to frank@frankhall.com

Thank you,

Frank Hall

Rotary Club of Sierra Madre

District 5300 Conference M.C.

Frank@frankhall.com

GSE Team Member 2006—Update



This photo is of one of the GSE members who visited our District in '06 - Masa Ostruh. She reports that she has just become a judge (she was an attorney). Congratulations to Masa! Thanks to Susan Nunnery, with whom Masa stayed when she was here, for keeping us connected!



Sherry Eason (NALA), Paul Wexler, and Dennis Ortwein (LVNWRC) at tour of NALA 8/28/06 taken by Dennis Filangeri

NALA PROJECT—JOINT COMMUNITY SERVICE

One of the easiest ways to get involved in a community service project is to partner with another community agency. The Las Vegas Northwest Rotary Club did just that and has now completed the first phase of the three part project.

In late July 2006, Paul Wexler, our community service director, working with club member Paul Workman, made contact with the Nevada Association of Latin Americans (NALA), located on Maryland Avenue.

NALA was in desperate need of assistance with their pre-school playground. The Board of Health was threatening to close down the facility because of code violations and the deteriorated condition of the playground.

Since the mission of the LVNW Rotary Club focuses on helping children in the community, this seemed like a suitable project for the LVNW Club to pursue. NALA invited us to have one of our weekly breakfast meetings at their facility. The breakfast was well attended by both club members and notable members of the community. After breakfast and a tour of the facility and playground, the club formed a committee to work out the details.

Working closely with NALA and Glenda Failla, NALA's project manager, the project was divided into three phases—the first of which was to get the playground off the Board of Health's hit list. The club also hosted a website for NALA on which to post the progress of the project and to solicit additional community support (see

www.lvnwrotary.org/nala). The project committee was able to muster

additional support from local businesses to demolish the old playground and replace the deteriorating equipment. Phase I was completed at the end of January.

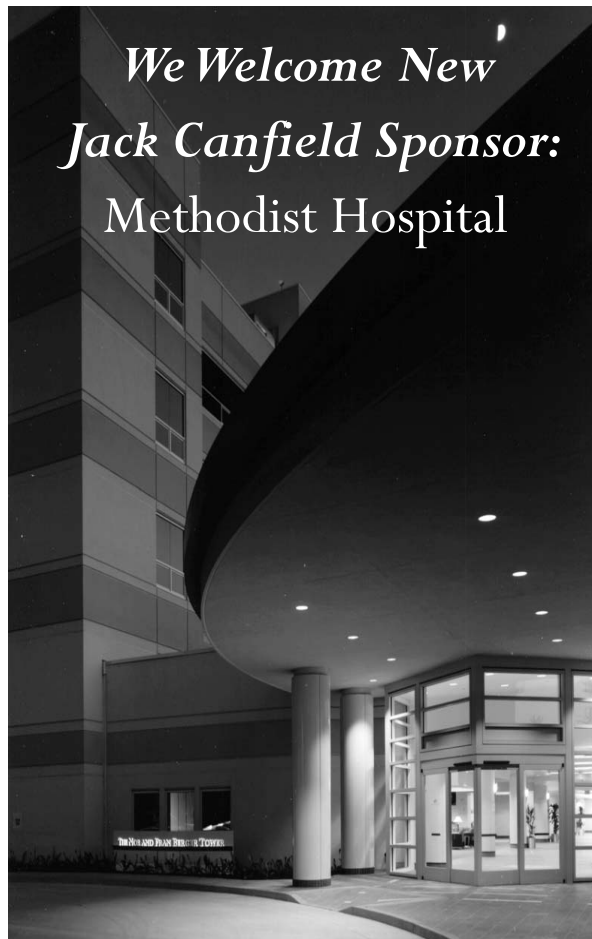
The project is now going into Phase II, in which the playground walls need to be refurbished to keep the play area safe and provide additional security from trespassers. The Las Vegas Northwest Rotary Club and NALA would welcome any additional Rotary support for this terrific project.

Projects like this not only provide benefit to the community, but promote Rotary and have the potential to bring in new members.

Courtesy of Dennis Filangeri



Children back at play (NALA) 1/25/07 taken by Paul Wexler



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For more than 30 years, Jack has been coaching individuals, entrepreneurs, educators, and corporate leaders how to accelerate the achievement of their personal and professional goals, live their dreams, and create more joy in their life on a day-to-day basis."

From www.jackcanfield.com

District 5300 is excited to be able to present Jack Canfield at the 2007 District Conference. We thank our Jack Canfield Sponsors for their invaluable assistance in bringing Jack to us. **Tom Brady**, The Destination Group, **Imy Dulake**, Coldwell Banker Arcadia, **The Las Vegas Hilton**, and **Methodist Hospital**.

District 5300 Conference Golf Tournament

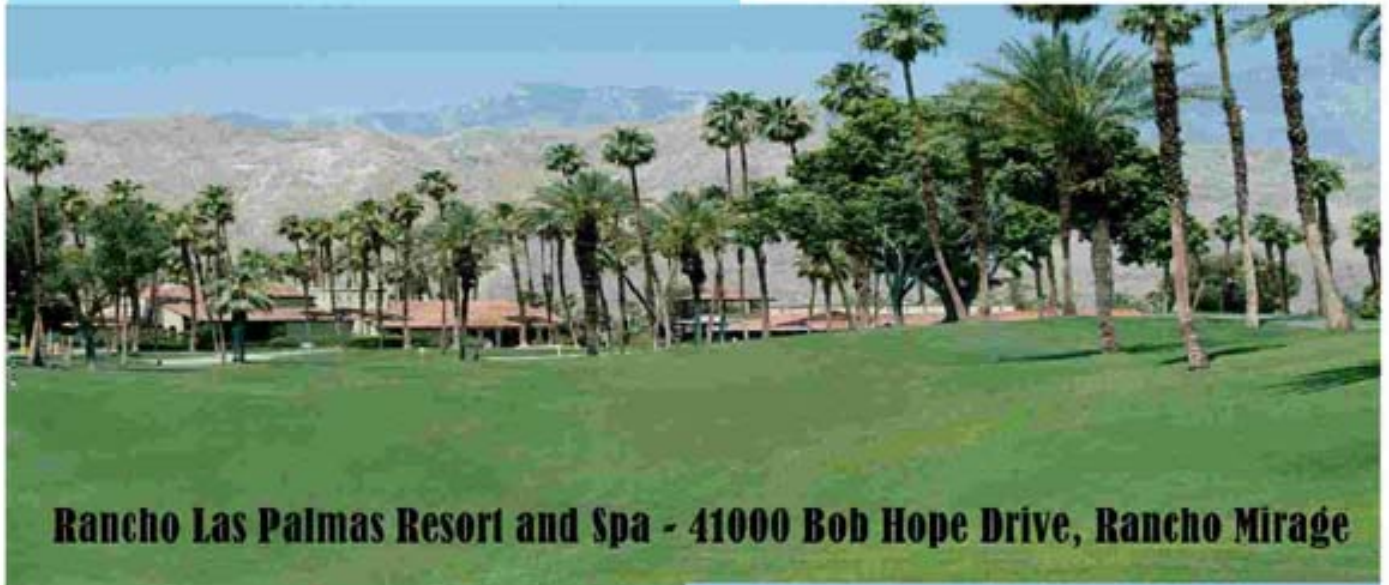


May 24, 2007 - 11:00am Shotgun! Four person shamble

\$135.00 per person includes:

**Golf & Cart
Box Lunch
Tournament Awards Prizes
On course prizes
Cocktail party (with no host bar)
Golf Awards Dinner (see below for details)**

**This is a great opportunity
to visit with other clubs
and share fellowship with
Rotarians around our
District!**



Rancho Las Palmas Resort and Spa - 41000 Bob Hope Drive, Rancho Mirage

**Space is limited and the last day to
register on line is**

May 1, 2007

**Go to www.district5300.org
or contact Dave Mans at (626)449-7379
manslaw@earthlink.net**

After your golf outing...

Plan to "Share the adventure"

**with District Governor Christine as well as
all of the Past District Governors and our
RI representative at the golf awards
dinner...**

Altadena Club Epitomizes “Family of Rotary”

By: Jacque Foreman

Altadena Rotarians say “Good-bye” to long-time member, Bud Railsback, as he prepares to leave California to live with his daughter in Virginia

After their Thursday, February 1, meeting, many Altadena Rotary members dropped by Park Marino, a nursing home in Pasadena, to say their good-byes to long-time member Bud Railsback who was leaving the following Sunday to live with his daughter, Nancy Barron, in Virginia.

They presented him with a plaque and honorary member certificate and a chenille throw to keep him warm during this cold Virginia winter. Bud was overcome with emotion as he saw all of them stream into the room. They told him how much they missed his jokes, orchids and rounds of golf. They wished him a safe journey, fast recovery and expressed their happiness that he would be with family.

Leigh (Bud) Railsback became a member of Altadena Rotary in September of 1957, twice served the club as president -- 1963-64 and 1983-84 -- and for many years came early every week to set the room up and stayed late to strike it down. Bud's primary hobby was growing orchids, and week after week, when they were blooming, he would bring several plastic vials, each with its own orchid or spray of orchids. Many times these were given as gifts for special occasion guests. Nobody ever had to ask, he would just show up with them.

In speaking with Dick Railsback, Bud's son, President Mike Noll was told that Altadena Rotary was pretty much Bud's Altadena family, and it showed on this special day. Again, this moment gave the members pause to appreciate the family of Rotary. This is one of the greatest hidden benefits of being a participating member: consistent fellowship builds lasting friendships and closeness akin to (and sometimes better than) family. Thank you to all who took some time out of your day to make a dear friend feel loved and appreciated.



INSPIRATION MOTIVATION CELEBRATION

BY SUSANNE HAYEK, EDITOR

I've been agonizing over what in the world to write about this month. I don't know if I have a case of writer's block or if my brain is just swirling with too much going on. To be honest I can't think of much else besides the upcoming District Conference. My husband, Rudy and I, as co-chairs of the conference, have put in more than a year planning this massive event. To deny that I am nervous would not pass the Four Way Test but now that we are a mere 83 days away I am also filled with pride and excitement.

Somehow the universe conspired in our favor when Rotary International President Bill Boyd asked Steve Wilcox to act as his personal representative. Steve's "outside the box" approach to business consulting is a perfect fit with Jack Canfield's message. I know that we will all benefit from hearing Jack and Steve. Inspiration and Motivation are not just buzz words with these two individuals.

I personally had such a blast last year at PDG Stew Anderson's conference at the Palm Springs Hilton. I really came away renewed and rejuvenated in Rotary. I trust that this conference will do the same and the committee has worked so hard to that end. So I hope you will all check out www.sharetheadventure.org and register for the conference and meals!

AND EDUCATION...

Check out www.district5300.org for information about the upcoming Board of Directors Training Seminars (March 24th and 31st) as well as the 2007 District Assembly, Saturday April 21st. These two events will provide you with invaluable Rotary education!



Photo by Amanda Kallis

The District 5300 Highlighter is the official monthly publication of

Rotary International District 5300.

Deadline for submissions is the 20th of the month.

The Highlighter is edited by Susanne Hayek, Rotary Club of Arcadia.

Submissions should be sent as Microsoft Word files and should include photographs, as .jpg, with photo credits and names of persons appearing in the photograph. Submissions should be sent to: susanne-hayek@earthlink.net

Susanne can also be reached at 626-355-9323 or 626-353-1266