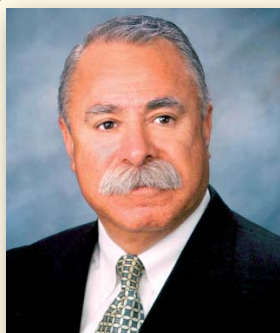




“Caravan of Dreams”



the Highlighter

The Official Monthly Newsletter of Rotary District 5300

Eugene J. Hernandez, Governor 2008 - 2009

Volume 82, Issue 5

Foundation of Hope....

A Portrait of One Man's Vision

November is “Foundation” Month in the Rotary International calendar and gives us another opportunity to highlight the life blood of Rotary – charitable giving. It all started with Arch Klumph’s idea*. As RI president in 1917, he told delegates to the Atlanta convention, “Carrying on as we are, a miscellaneous community service, it seems eminently proper that we should accept endowments for the purpose of doing good in the world.” It was hardly a stirring call to action or a motivational moment for those present. But it was the first pebble in what would later become a landslide of support that would improve millions of lives. And as happened so many times before in Rotary, it began in the mind of one man.

That man – Arch Klumph – was a remarkable fellow. Born into a poor family in Conneautville, Pennsylvania, in 1869, Klumph moved with his parents and two brothers to Cleveland, Ohio, while he was a child. To supplement the family income, he left school at the age of 12 and went to work. At 16, he became the office boy for the Cuyahoga Lumber Company. At his own initiative, he enrolled in night school; after a hard day’s work, he would walk four miles each way to school to save the tram fare.

When business began to fail, Cuyahoga Lumber made Klumph manager. He turned the company around and made it one of the most profitable firms of its type in the Midwest. He subsequently bought the company. Eventually, the self-educated former office boy became president or vice president of several other business enterprises, including a bank and a steamship line.

In 1911, Klumph became a charter member of the Rotary Club of Cleveland with the classification of “Lumber – Wholesale and Retail.” His Rotary path followed his brilliant



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business and personal record of accomplishments. Arch became club president in 1912 and president of the International Associations of Rotary Clubs for 1916-17.

In his final address as club president, Klumph suggested “an emergency fund should be built up which will enable the club in future years to do many things.” He went on to become chairman of the committee that wrote the new constitution for Rotary International, and it was his idea to divide Rotary into districts, create the office of district governor, and establish the annual district conference. But he never forgot his concept of a fund to expand the good works of Rotary.

The Rotary Endowment Fund, as it was called at first, came to Klumph as “a vision, a little inspiration all of a sudden one day that the organization was peculiarly adapted to the purpose of accepting endowments to do great things.” The RI Board approved his idea but did not provide a mechanism to fund it. Indeed, for the next decade, Rotary’s leaders went along with Klumph’s proposal, but without any tangible action or enthusiasm.

As Klumph’s presidential term wound down, the Rotary Club of Kansas City, Missouri, collected contributions for a gift for the retiring association president. When the club closed out that account, they discovered a surplus of \$26.50 and decided to donate that money to start the Rotary Endowment Fund. The first seeds had been sown for the fund known today as The Rotary Foundation of RI.

The Rotary Foundation has been so effective because it matches money with people. In the words of Arch Klumph:

“Money alone does little good.

Individual service is helpless without money.

The two together can be a Godsend to civilization.”

*Excerpts from “A Century of Service”, written by David C. Forward

Rotary Club of Sierra Madre Receives City Award

by **Susanne Hayek**

The City of Sierra Madre honored the Sierra Madre Rotary Club with its Wistaria Award, at the annual Sierra Madre Honors Dinner on September 18 at 6:00 PM. The presentation was, fittingly, held at the Alverno Villa where the club celebrated its charter in June of 1997.

The Wistaria Award recognizes "a City/Community partnership and is presented to a local business or organization whose major contributions to the City and Community of Sierra



Kris Poulsen accepting award

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Madre have demonstrated a true partnership which assists in and provides services, programs and enhances the general welfare of the Community as a whole.”

Accepting the award was charter member Kris Poulsen and Rotarians on hand were Walt Poser and his wife Nancy, Peggy Beauregard, Wayne Walters, Tom Brady and his wife Julie, Rudy and Susanne Hayek, Marilyn Diaz, Lynn Cirino, Kris Poulsen’s wife Sue, and Cathy Hundshamer.



Peggy Beauregard, Wayne Walters, and Lynn Chino



Walt & Nancy Power and Kris and Sue Poulsen

Bikes for Tykes

by Joe Germain & Judith Filangeri, Rotary Club of Las Vegas Northwest

A team building project for a large international company paid off big time for twenty-two kids from two at-risk elementary schools here in Las Vegas, thanks to the efforts of the Las Vegas Northwest Rotary Club and past-president Linda Myoshi.

LVNW Rotary has Kideract Programs, a Rotary leadership program for fifth graders, at two local elementary schools serving at-risk students, Kermit R. Booker Sr. Empowerment Elementary School and Bertha Ronzone Elementary School. Linda’s company, PRA Destination Management, was coordinating a local team building project with a client. Linda hearkened back to her Rotary Club even though she had had to give up membership due to scheduling issues a couple of years ago. She reached out to us to ask us to supply the children who could use, but not afford, these bikes.

The club went into action. John Krakauer, Kideract Program Chair, worked with the principals of the two schools, Cathy Conger at Ronzone and Beverly Mathis at Booker. The principals arranged for an essay contest to pick the winners. Judith Filangeri, Communications Chair, worked with PRA to communicate LVNW’s service mission to the client. LVNW Rotary Project Chair Jim White arranged with WalMart for the donation of bicycle locks

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for each winner.

Twenty-two teams of ten employees each in this company assembled bicycles with a specific child's name in mind. They came up with signage for each child to welcome them to their table. They designed a cheer in the name of the child and welcomed the children with that cheer.

On October 2nd, the children were bussed to the event, provided with snacks and name tags and brought into the Valencia Ballroom to a cheering crowd of several hundred people. They found the table that built their bikes and slipped on helmets as they rode their bikes around the room with the biggest smiles you ever saw.

Twenty-two deserving, low income children walked away with smiles and new bicycles. Three hundred business people were introduced to Rotary and some of the children our club helps every day. It was a great event!

Leverage Your PolioPlus Efforts

by **Dennis Filangeri, Webmaster Las Vegas Northwest.**



Looking for a way to boost your Club's PolioPlus challenge? RI has a webpage for PolioPlus that allows folks to learn more about our efforts to eradicate polio and gives them a chance to make a donation in your club's name. Just visit: <http://rotary.org/en/ServiceAndFellowship/Polio/Pages/ridefault.aspx?housead> to see the page.

Now leverage that. We made an End Polio Now button (see illustration) that we placed on our club webpage and to be used in email. We linked this button to our own foundation donation page to collect donations for PolioPlus.

You can get this image from our website (www.lvnwrotary.org) and place it on your own webpage. Just link that button to your own foundation page or the RI site.

As club members use the button in their personal and business email or as visitors to your websites see the button, they become more aware of the PolioPlus challenge and make donations to the foundation in the club's name.

It's easy and it doesn't cost anything.

To download the image, go to our website and (www.lvnwrotary.org), right-click on the button and save the picture as (SAVE PICTURE AS)a ".gif" file to your own web directory. Feel free to use it in your own business and personal email or on your personal, business, and club web pages. Link it to the RI site (see URL above) and you're good to go.

Good luck. Together we can put an end to this horrible disease.



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Lost in Translation

by **Hal Yorke, International Chair, Altadena**

In the arena of International Service, communication between individuals with different cultural backgrounds and languages is a must. In North America, we have become accustomed to using English everywhere in the world with the expectation that we will be understood. My daughter, Colleen, unbeknownst to her, has recently reminded me of some of the principal difficulties of translation.

Colleen is currently finishing up her Master's thesis at the Free University Berlin in theater and film. [The phrase free university is perhaps a misnomer, but this is still the best translation of the German Freie Universitaet.] She is writing her thesis on the difficulty of translating Bertold Brecht into English.

Brecht is best known in the US for his Threepenny Opera and one of its songs, Mac the Knife. (Kurt Weill wrote the music; Brecht wrote the lyrics.) The German title of the opera (actually it is more like a musical) is Dreigroschenoper. "Drei" translates into "three"; "oper" translates into "opera"; but "Groschen" does not translate into "penny." A "Groschen" is a tenpenny (zehn fennig) and probably should have been translated into the American word "dime." But would the British like that title? "The Three Tenpenny Opera," "The Three Dime Opera" or "The Thirtypenny Opera" somehow don't quite work as well as the commonly known English title.

Colleen is concentrating on the translation of two of Brecht's works: The Good Soul from Setzuan (Ewen's title) and The Caucasian Chalk Circle. There is considerable debate on how even the title of the first play (Der Gute Mensch von Sezuan) should be translated. Eric Bentley translates the title into The Good Woman of Setzuan, but he is giving away the result of the gods' search for a good person/soul. John Willett uses The Good Person of Szechwan. This is just a mere taste of the difficulties encountered when translating literary works into another language.

Mistranslating can really be a problem in the diplomatic arena. Immediately following the surrender of the Germans after World War II, they were asked: "What do people need right away to avoid starvation?" The answer was: "corn." The Germanic term corn and the latinate grain both generically refer to any edible grass seed (e.g., millet, sorghum, barley, rye, oats, wheat, maize).

English speakers commonly apply the word corn to whatever the predominant grain happens to be in their region and/or diet. When you refer to corn in England itself, folks think you are referring to wheat. It is in this sense that the word is used throughout the

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King James version of the Bible.

The Germans thus received shiploads of maize (what Americans commonly refer to as corn), which - without wheat and baking powder - was almost impossible to use. The infamous bricks made out of maize and water in an attempt to make corn bread are still talked about today in Germany.

Arcadia Rotary Club Honors Teacher of the Year

by **Anne Donofrio-Holter**

The Arcadia Rotary Club honored Spanish teacher, Margarita Ortiz, the Arcadia School District Teacher of the Year, at a recent meeting.

"A consummate professional, Ms. Ortiz highly matches our vision of an exemplary teacher," said Superintendent, Dr. Joel Shawn. "Walking into her classroom is entering into the Spanish-speaking world. You meet a warm, hospitable teacher who embodies the Hispanic culture, is happy to see you and greets you in Spanish with a big smile."

A teacher for the past 31 years, Ortiz received her degree from the University of Puerto Rico. Before coming to the Arcadia School District, she taught in Puerto Rico public schools, Dominican Republic University and American overseas schools.

Currently at Arcadia High School, Ortiz has served as an academic mentor, advisor for CSF and the Hispanic Booster Club as well as chair of the Foreign Language department.

Ortiz's Spanish language classes also integrate cooking and Mexican art. Her students visit museums and write about the works of 20th century Mexican painters.

On a personal note, Ortiz loves animals, loves to read, crochet, take long walks and cook. She is currently working on a cookbook of family recipes for her daughters. She enjoys working with the elderly and donates her time at a convalescent home and Arcadia Methodist Hospital. A Eucharistic minister, she gives communion to many of the elderly. She is proud of her pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela where she completed a 160 kilometer walk.

"The Arcadia Rotary Club is pleased to recognize Ms. Ortiz on her selection as Teacher of the Year," said Bruce McCallum, Arcadia Rotary president.

"I am very honored to have been selected Teacher of the Year," said Ortiz. "I want to thank the Arcadia Rotary Club for recognizing me here today."

"We also want to thank the Arcadia Rotary Club for being the first community group to honor Ms. Ortiz," added Shawn.

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In addition to honoring the district's Teacher of the Year, since 1991, each month the club selects one of the district's teachers for recognition. Debbie Bump was honored for the month of September and Kelli Hille for October.

"We are pleased to recognize these outstanding teachers that are so dedicated to the education of our children," said McCallum.



Margarita Ortiz

Vocational Service: 75 teachers in District 5300 to be trained in Entrepreneurship & Job Creation

by **C. Ray Carlson, Chair, Youth Entrepreneurship Education**

Jobs are on everyone's mind these days and the future looks grim. But for high school and college students, finding a job is even more problematic. Their chances may improve if they understand some basic business principles and, especially, what 'the bottom line' means and why it is so important to employers. Some youth will actually create their own jobs by becoming entrepreneurs. Huge industries have evolved from small businesses created by young men like Bill Gates and Paul Allen (Microsoft), Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak

(Apple), and others who started doing as teenagers what became their careers. Skills at innovation and entrepreneurship can actually be nurtured early by exposure to the concepts, and especially how to write a business plan.

A 10-year program by Altadena Rotary has been teaching middle and high school students how to write business plans. This will be expanded District-wide through three workshops during November and December for the training of teachers in Pasadena, Pomona and Clark County school

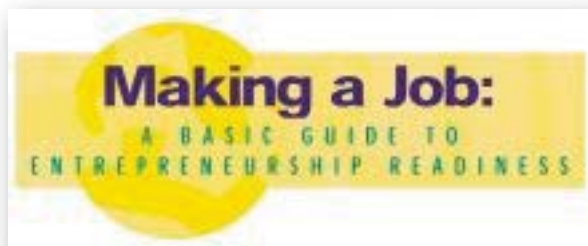


Final Certificate

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districts. A grant by the National Council on Economic Education - NCEE, will enable the training of 25 teachers at each site on how to teach "Making A Job," a curriculum written by Dr Marilyn Kourilsky, Professor of Urban Schooling, UCLA Graduate School of Education. When the actual middle and high school classes take place next year, Rotarians will be urged to volunteer as their Vocational Service and assist the teachers by explaining their own careers. Business Plan competitions will be conducted within and between school districts, with oral presentations by the best at local Rotary Clubs, as Altadena Rotary does annually. And maybe even culminating in a final competition at the District 5300 Conference in 2009 or 2010! Let's help to Make Dreams Real for our youth! If they see no hope for a job one day, they are more apt to drop out of school. Rotarians are business-savvy in many fields and can become mentors to budding entrepreneurs - a great way to exhibit Vocational Service to our communities.



Making a job logo

For more information contact

C. Ray Carlson, <ray@rotapreneur.com>,

Tel 1-800-448-3456.

"Montebello" Lives to Fight Another Day!

by **Anne Donofrio-Holter**

Montebello Rotarians Ted Jones, George Pacheco and Fernando Cuevas recently made a trip south of the border to support the Ensenada Rotary Club's annual fundraiser.

"Several years ago, when I was the Montebello Rotary Club's International Service Chair, I asked the president of the Ensenada Rotary Club how we could best support their charitable efforts," said Montebello Rotary President Jones. "At that time, he asked if any of our members might be willing to purchase a ticket to their one major fundraiser, their annual bullfight. Each year we have a few members who do help out the club."

This year, as the Montebello Rotarians took their seats in the bullring, they noticed a sign being held high in the arena - it read "Montebello."

"We couldn't believe it," said Jones. "The bull's name was Montebello!"

Well, Montebello proved to be a very brave and noble bull, repeatedly taking on the matador and knocking the picador and his horse over several times.

Jones, after securing the "Montebello" sign, led a chorus of 'Let Montebello Live!'

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among the spectators just as the matador was about to end the life of the bull.

"Pretty soon we had a large chorus joining us to spare him," said Jones. "Something that is very rare."

The referee, turning the decision over to the matador, honored the will of people leaving Montebello to fight another day – or rather, live out his days on a stud farm.

Following the bullfight, the Montebello Rotarians dined on the traditional foods of Mexico at L. A. Cetto Winery in Guadalupe Valley and, following dinner, the culture of Mexico came alive with the expert footwork of Flamenco dancers dressed in an array of colorful costumes.



(Left to right) – Unidentified Local, Montebello President Ted Jones, Montebello Rotarian George Pacheco, Jeff Solowitz

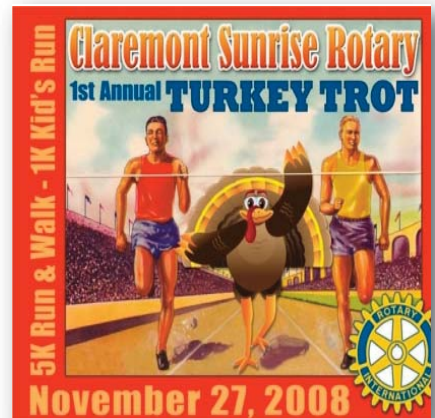
"We are always pleased to have our American Rotarians join us," said one Ensenada Rotarian. "And we are very glad, in this case, that "Montebello" was spared."

Claremont Sunrise Rotary Kicks off Thanksgiving Morning with 5K Run

This coming Thanksgiving Morning, Nov. 27, Claremont Sunrise Rotary will be staging their 1st Annual Turkey Trot 5K Run/Walk.

This highly publicized regional Inland Empire signature event provides the opportunity for Claremont Sunrise Rotary to tap into this geographical area for fund-raising and help youth in both our local community and around the world.

Over 1500 participants, from professional runners to aspiring athletes, and young children and their families are expected to attend. This year's event will include separate races for runners and walkers and a 1K "Dash to Catch the Turkey" for children, encouraging family participation.



Claremont Sunrise Rotary Turkey Trot 2008

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Local Project:

- * Claremont Sunrise Rotary Youth Sports Scholarship Fund

This newly formed fund will be directed to provide needed funds to children in Claremont who are in need of uniforms, equipment or help with registration fees. There is a great need from youth sports to high school sports to provide this support to our community to make sure everyone gets to play!

International Projects:

- *Polio Eradication Worldwide-through Rotary International in conjunction with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.
- *Land Mine Removal in Afghanistan
- *Prosthetic Hands for land mine victims
- *Clean Water Projects in Africa

For more information on how you or your club can participate, or how your own business can sponsor this event please go to our club website at

www.claremontsunriserotary.org

Sunrise Rotary Dedicates Sculpture to Boulder City

by **President Goldie Begley**

Boulder City Mayor, Roger Tobler, presented a proclamation and Key to the City to Sunrise Rotary President, Goldie Begley, at the dedication of “The Relationship” sculpture presented to the city in honor of their 20 years of community service.

“The bronze eagle sculpture will become part of the permanent display in historic downtown Boulder City hosted by Boulder City Public Art Scape (BCPAS) and the City of Boulder City’s art walk project to attract visitors and beautify the area for the residents of Boulder City,” said Rotarian City Manager, Vicki Mayes.

Rotarian and chairman of the BCPAS, Darlene Burk, and husband, Vern, accepted the donation on behalf of BCPAS. Burk said, “The piece seems especially fitting in light of “the relationship” Sunrise Rotary has had with the community of Boulder City for all of its existence. Particularly noteworthy is the annual All Night Senior Graduation Party which has, over the years, spared countless young



Boulder City Mayor, Roger Tobler, Boulder City Sunrise President, Goldie Begley, BCPAS representatives, Vern and Darlene Burk

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people and their parents the tragic outcome of graduation night as it had been practiced in year's past. Additionally, many other established charities and beneficial organizations are recipients of your generosity each year. Boulder City Art Scape offers its profound thanks for this, another of your many thoughtful acts, the purchase and presentation of "The Relationship" to Boulder City for the permanent collection of visual arts."

Charter member, Darrell McGarvey, spoke proudly about Sunrise Rotary's beginnings in 1988. Joining McGarvey as charter Rotarians still active in the club are Charter President Bert Hansen, Mayor Robert Ferraro, Fire Chief Bob Sears and Architect Alan Stromberg.

President Goldie Begley said, "I was reading a book of Native American Blessings when I made the decision to ask our club to purchase this sculpture in celebration of our 20th year of community service. This was the blessing that touched me, "May you have the strength of eagle's wings, the faith and courage to fly to new heights and the wisdom of the universe to carry you there."

To fund the sculpture, Sunrise Rotary hosted a very successful "KenDucky Derby" on September 13th. The Derby included a corporate golf tournament, 1,000 golf balls being dropped from a helicopter for a hole in one and 2,000 racing ducks down the lower streams of Cascata Golf Club.

For more information about the hard working but fun, exciting and zany members of Boulder City Sunrise Rotary please see our website at www.BCSR.org.

Good Works

How small businesses have found creative ways to incorporate Vocational Service

by **Jacque Foreman, Sparks Editor, Altadena**

This is a review of an article by Mindy Charski in the October 2008 issue of the Rotarian. Charski is a Dallas-based free-lance writer specializing in business.

Is there a way that you or your company can carry out some Good Works, no matter how small? What can you start that others can join and make bigger?



*Photo is under the name of Charski,
the original author of the article*

Charski starts her article talking about the Gathering Fabric Quilt Shop in Woodinville Washington. When Susan Webster, the owner of this particular quilting shop, asks her customers to help and participate in a charity project, she gets a good response. (Webster is a member of the Rotary Club of Woodinville.)

Her last project had her customers buying a \$24.99 kit and the materials for creating lap blankets that fold into a pillow. Once finished, these quilts are distributed to local organizations, e.g., a domestic violence shelter and a hospice. Each quilter who participates gets a charitable tax deduction.

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Charski does suggest that the easiest way to perform Vocational Service is to follow the basic tenet of being an ethical professional. And goes on to say that it is obvious that Vocational Service can be demonstrated by lawyers who handle pro bono cases or a doctor who volunteers at health clinics.

You and other small business owners whom you know may have to be a bit creative to find ways to serve others - and it could end up being good for business, too. But that can't be the motivating factor.

The next Charski example is a 35-employee award and ad specialty business in Kansas City, Mo. This small company encourages its employees to do volunteer work without docking pay or vacation time. Co-owner Chuck Vogt (past president of the Kansas City Rotary Club) says that this way the company doesn't have to choose one or two favorite charities or nonprofits, to the neglect of all others. Vogt continues that, by allowing each employee to choose a project that reflects his/her passion, makes for very happy team members and creates good employee relations.

In Canfield, Ohio, there is a 16-person accounting firm ~ Yurchyk & Davis - that puts on a month-long campaign each March to help America's Second Harvest, a hunger-relief organization. In this instance, clients and employees alike can bring in food or donate money. And the employees can pay for the privilege of wearing jeans on Fridays.

A small 4-person company in Santa Barbara - Santa Barbara Axxess - does a lot of school fundraising. Owner, Karim Kaderali (member of the Santa Barbara Rotary Club) says that students sell \$30 membership cards that are good for discounts from hundreds of advertisers, including local spas, pet stores, restaurants and even Disneyland. Each membership card brings \$10 to the school the student attends. In five years, the students have raised almost \$300,000 which have gone to fund school supplies, a science camp and even keep a librarian employed.

Business coach, Susanne Ferguson (member of the Three Rivers Rotary Club in Pittsburgh), warns that this type of model is not good if the employees are not behind it. If they only grudgingly go along with the idea, it is not truly Service.

In the end, Charski goes back to her first example and quotes Webster who encourages owners of small businesses to think positively, "Your whole mission can go to the next level. If you have [service] in the back of your mind, then your business can do a little bit more in your community than just providing the service that you provide."

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Interact Symposium

The Interact Symposium, chaired by Dave Beltran from the Rotary Club of East Los Angeles, once again, turned out to be an outstanding experience for our young Interact and Mideract Club leadership members and their faculty advisors. The plenary sessions proved to be educational, insightful, and heartfelt. Our Rotoract members also assisted as workshop presenters and did a very impressive job.

Polio awareness was presented by Rotarian Shirley Pozzuoli of the Rotary Club of



Interact Symposium Class 2008, October 17-19, Astro Camp, Idyllwild, CA.

Pomona, and helped educate all present about the PolioPlus Campaign to eradicate polio from the face of the earth. Dr. Clive Houston Brown, also from the Rotary Club of Pomona, gave a stirring presentation on the importance of clean water and its impact on third world countries. The National Immunization Day (NID) presentation, highlighting polio eradication efforts in India, was presented by DG Gene Hernandez, DGN Roger Schulte, and AG Greg Jones. These are just a sampling of all the outstanding presentations.

A special note of thanks to the leadership of District 5300 for their attendance and support including DG Gene Hernandez, DGE Tom Novotny, DGN Roger Schulte, PDG Margaret Cooker, PDG Charlie Barr, and DG Pam Russell from District 5340. Without the dedication and commitment of the Interact Symposium committee and facilitators, this worthwhile event would not be possible for our youth. Their appreciation is evidenced by some of their comments noted below.

What one thing I'll take from the Symposium:

- The stuff that I learned at the workshops such as the fundraising & team development. I plan to continue my plan to increase club spirit and to start new projects.
- One thing I will take away from the Symposium is several ideas for new projects. This will be applied to my club b/c we'll use these ideas to raise \$ for important causes.
- How to provide water sources to 3rd world countries & how to get involved.
- I learned a lot: mostly ideas for fundraising (e.g. car wash) and learned about polio (a cause to donate to).
- How much we can do to help the world. ... We can start or continue an international project.

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- I learned that there are really meaningful projects out there worth doing. x2
- Friends!!! I will apply this to my club by making it more Fun, Friendly, personal, and long lasting.
- While staying here I learned that my Interact group should create goals (short & long term); that we must accomplish them by the end of the school year.
- See how other Interact clubs work at other high schools.
- I will take away a good idea of international projects and how big Rotary is.
- Ways to make a club work during “storming” time.
- There are many community service projects for different causes w/out having to stick to the norm.
- What I’ll remember the best of the Symposium would be of how many ways I can help make a better world w/ just a little bit of people and w/ dedication.
- I will remember the speakers who really gave us a sense of how Interact and Rotary can make an impact. For example, the life straws can save a mother from losing her baby.
- I’ll take back with me how much change Interact and Rotary brings to the world and how much everyone involved cares.

Getting Ready to Vote

by **John Frykenberg, President, Altadena Rotary**

They are watching; the Middle East, Africa, Europe, Asia. They are all watching. When we sneeze, they often catch cold. Sub-prime mortgages in the US go under, trust waivers, banks don’t lend to banks at any rate anyone wants to pay, and investors pull back from the market.

So what about those investors and those folks watching from around the world?

An American tourist decides to cancel a safari to Africa and drive less, not go out to dinner so often or buy that beautiful African print. A tour company somewhere in Zambia lays off a tour guide working for a fraction of what US workers make. A Zambian mother cuts down on some necessary staples needed to feed her children and her option to send her children to school is scrapped. (These are not exaggerations)

The citizens of many nations observe with awe our imperfect democracy that is still able to carry on peaceful national elections and elect a leader whose domestic and foreign policy decisions can positively or negatively impact the people of the world, how they eat, what kind of work they do, what kind of opportunities they will have. We don’t run these countries or set their policies or govern their decision making. Many do not even

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like us. But our money, our markets, our decisions matter to them.

We do not have to win a popularity contest, we do not have to cater to the needs of the less fortunate or the disaster traumatized or war torn or oppressed, but... we can care and we can offer hope and we can lead by example and encourage the world and demonstrate, by our generosity and involvement, what a better world can look like and what it can be.

Rotarians - always ready to lead by example - can partner with destitute women in Guatemala working in a free trade coffee coop. Rotarians can teach entrepreneurial skills to youth in Kaduna, Nigeria so they can make a living for themselves and others. Rotarians can support open dialogue and the exchange of ideas, pragmatic, workable ideas to grow, to manufacture, to distribute, to hire and fire, to sell and to take part in governance at every level. And Rotarians can stress the importance of honesty, integrity, truthfulness, hard work, creativity in the marketplace and at home. And Rotarians can also encourage all peoples in free societies to get out and vote.

"The only action necessary for a free society to fail is for good men and women to do nothing." Power loves a vacuum just as nature loves a vacuum. Something or someone, not always good, will fill that vacuum if we fail to step up to the plate. And it is inherent upon all those with knowledge in their respective societies to take on the responsibilities which are requisite to leadership, wealth and power.

With rank comes responsibility. With power and wealth comes stewardship of resources for the commonweal. And, while power and wealth can corrupt, it is not integral to possess either. It is consequently essential for the well meaning, educated and all people, the powerful and the dependent, the dreamer and the warrior to step up to the voting booth to be heard. Their collective voices will be heard around the globe by those who are watching, watching to see if we will make a difference in their lives and fortunes.

"To whom much is given, much is expected." We, Rotarians, have been given everything. It is up to us to make a difference... "Viva la Difference!" Be sure to Vote on November 4!



Foundation Thoughts – What’s Happening?

by **Bob Novell, Rotary Foundation Chair**

We are now one quarter of the way through our 2008-09 Rotary year. Each Rotary year brings its own unique opportunities to share in the fellowship of being a Rotarian, as well as the new and continuing opportunities to help others within our communities (either at

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home or abroad). In the Rotary world, Rotary International (over 32,000 Clubs, roughly 1.2 million members) with the support of The Rotary Foundation (roughly \$800 million in assets, over \$130 million in annual spending) combine as powerful forces for doing good in the world. So what's happening with our District 5300 Rotarians and The Rotary Foundation?

- Giving. District 5300 has in the past been one of the top 20-30 giving Districts in the Rotary world, and we again expect the same generosity will come forth. Our challenge this year is to support both our annual unrestricted giving commitments to the Foundation plus also support the Bill and Melinda Gates PolioPlus Challenge in our final effort to eliminate polio. Early giving results look good, and each Club's Polio Pigs have been growing fat with the weekly support of loose change and dollars bills by our donating Rotarians.
- International Matching Grants. Clubs throughout the District continue to reach out to Rotary Clubs in other parts of the world to partner on clean water projects, literacy projects, healthcare initiatives, job training and production efforts, and other innovative projects. For these matching grants, Club dollars are combined with District dollars (called District Designated Funds) and Foundation dollars to be used to do our matching grants. Our expectation is that our efforts in the matching grants area this year will result in close to \$400,000 in projects.
- District Simplified Grants. These smaller grants can be used to perform projects within our District but also can be used for smaller overseas project. Our expectation is that our efforts in the District Simplified Grant area this year will result in close to \$100,000 in projects.
- Group Study Exchange. Team leaders (Doug Fowler and alternate Firat Tuncay) have been picked, team members have also been picked, and training and preparation is now underway for our exchange next spring with District 2430 in Turkey.
- Ambassadorial Scholars. We presently have five recently graduated college students who we have selected for scholarships and are now studying in other parts of the world. Five additional students, now mostly seniors in college, are using this year to receive training and prepare for their assignments next Fall.

What's happening at the moment with The Rotary Foundation and our Clubs? Quite a bit, and most importantly, it is work that will help others and make the world a better place.