



# The Rotoscope

of the San Marino, California, Rotary Club



## Events

### December 2017

12/21 - Luncheon Meeting: CRAFT TALKS

12/28 - Luncheon Meeting: D A R K

### January 2018

01/04 - Luncheon Meeting: D A R K

01/11 - Luncheon Meeting: STATE OF THE CITY

01/12 - Board of Directors Meeting - San Marino Rotary Club

## DECEMBER 21, 2017

### Lunch first, then our party for needy kids

### MEET NEWER MEMBERS AT NOON

### THEN HELP LA CASA AT 3:00

## Club Leaders



**Denise Wadsworth**  
Youth Service  
Chair, President



**Fang Fang Ho**  
President-Elect



**Gilda Moshir**  
iPast President



**Paul Brassard**  
Secretary



**Dennis B. Kneier**  
Treasurer



**Kenneth Veronda**  
Bulletin Editor



**Lucille F. Norberg**  
Sergeant-at-Arms



**William H. Bortz**  
Club Director, Rotary  
Foundation Chair



**J. Leland Mothershead  
III**  
Club Director



**Fary Yassamy**  
Club Director



**Leonard Therrien**  
Club Director, Community  
Service Chair



**Gregory F. Johansing**  
Administration Chair, Club  
Director



**John Donovan**  
Club Director

SHORTEST DAY OF THE YEAR - but the Solstice is a busy day for San Marino Rotarians.

LAST LUNCH MEETING FOR 2017 with two newer members introducing themselves:

RICK POLITTE joined our club after previous service with Thousand Oaks Rotary as the LA Metro Y shifted him to management of our local South Pas/San Marino YMCA. Rick has spent 35 years with the "Y", starting in St. Louis that he'll tell us about this Thursday. Hope he'll also tell us of the beautiful Dalmatians he and his family rescue and raise.

MAZI YARAHMADI left his troubled Iran 31 years ago. In his business he had trouble shipping products, so he started "Quick Movers - Pack and Ship Solutions". All boomed until 2008's Great Recession, when shipments slowed. Ever resourceful, Mazi moved "Quick Movers" to Alhambra while he and his wife are raising two boys nearby in San Marino.

AT 3:00 P.M. ON TO LA CASA, a mile south of Community Church but a world apart in lifestyle. Our now-traditional Christmas party and gift-giving to underprivileged children and their families will be late Thursday afternoon, and a few more volunteers are very much needed to help set up at 3:00 on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, serve the families as they arrive, and stay to clean up, probably by 6:30. I've learned that Gene Orlosky is chairing this year's La Casa party. Gene says he's understaffed, and begs your help.

IF YOU WILL DONATE just a few hours Thursday afternoon to volunteer at La Casa, please email [gorlowskydc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gorlowskydc@sbcglobal.net) or leave word with one of his office staff at 626-441-2264. Gene would appreciate your time, and so would worthy kids in our neighborhood.

MEMBERS WHO ATTENDED LAST WEEK'S 8<sup>th</sup> grade student-lead meeting received an important envelope: a reminder that "every member, every year" is asked though not required by RI in sustaining Rotary Foundation support. All club members have so contributed since last century, making us a very special "100% Club", thanks to the gentle badgering of John Harris and our Foundation Committee. This year Will Bortz is chairing our efforts, but do it as a salute to John! This week for 2017 tax credits, or early next year for 2018, please send or give your share of \$100 or more to keep our impressive record.

JOHN HARRIS WAS DELIGHTED TO HEAR of Will and John's old committee carrying the torch for another 100% year. John answered a newer phone number than the one in last week's bulletin: 287-6332, in our 626 area but ringing through to the beach facility below



**Molly W Woodford**  
Club Director, Membership  
Chair



**Deborah A. Herbert**  
Club Director



**Shody Chow**  
International Service Chair



**Steve Garrett**  
Public Image Chair



**William L. Payne**  
Public Image Chair



**Tony Chou**  
Vocational Service  
Chair, Youth Service Chair

LAX where John is behaving himself and steadily mending with rehabilitation after his second fractured hip. He has family around him through the holidays, but I know he'd really enjoy your call – with your pledge of “every member, every year” support, of course.

WILL BORTZ WILL BE MAILING the committee’s reminder to members not present last week, but he wants to be sure that all have heard our “Global Grants” project has been approved for funding by RI. The plans are to build a field for youth soccer players in Tijuana that will cost \$130,000 in all. San Marino Rotary’s leadership grant is \$15,750, saved over recent years. All hard work is from the International Projects Committee, part of our Foundation and chaired by Shody Chow with big help from J.P. Mainguy and Rob Fiedler.

A SMALLER BUT SUSTAINING International Project of our club that’s now a highly anticipated tradition was the delivery of four gallons of homemade cranberry sauce to a growing Thanksgiving Dinner fund-raiser and tradition-teacher by the Antigua, Guatemala, Rotarians. Of course Thanksgiving and turkey and stuffing and cranberries and pies is an all-US holiday, I think our country’s very best, not known as such in most of the world. The Antigua club, mostly Guatemalans but several educated in the USA, started important turkeys and preparing a traditional feast some 16 years ago, with proceeds supporting the pre-school “head-start” type program initially funded by San Marino Rotary in 1988. Now turkeys from North Carolina and Mrs. Cubbison’s boxes labeled “stuffing” on one side and “dressing” on the other are in Guatemala supermarkets in November and December. But cranberries are unknown. So San Marino Rotary sent down 22 pounds of fresh cranberries, three pounds of Trader Joe’s baking-size walnut pieces, and California raisins to simmer with Guatemalan oranges, sugar, and water for a day and night, placed in big bowls on the holiday table with San Marino’s “Happy Thanksgiving” greetings alongside our Blue Boy banner.

THE CAREER DAY FEBRUARY 14<sup>th</sup> for Huntington School’s 8<sup>th</sup> graders is coming into focus. Chair Linda Wah and our Vocational Service Committee asks you to give your Valentine’s Day morning to talk of your career. Please step up and email Linda at [lswah@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lswah@sbcglobal.net) to tell her you’ll come from 8:00 to 12:30 on the 14<sup>th</sup>.

RICHARD SUN IS REDUCED to being just another Old Grey Mayor after his seven years of volunteer service with our San Marino City Council. Richard, Dick Ward, and Alan Yung left office last week in a blaze of glory, with a marvelous coming-together of former mayors and council members, present and former city commission members and supporting staff members, as well as city, county, and state leaders, our incoming three council members, and the four good people who had also volunteered to be on last month’s ballot. As mayor-to-be (if he defeats the other Steve in the council’s vote) Steve Talt put it, summing up an evening of praise and memories, the evening showed clearly why our little town is such a fine place.

AARON GIL AND SMILING VOLUNTEERS complete the best part of the club’s new bike project for underprivileged kids as San Marino, Altadena, and Pasadena Rotarians presented the right-size bike and a good helmet in the distribution day this week. Aaron will tell us how it went, but we can envision the great smiles among the 300 families so helped.

BERKELEY AND MARIA JOHNSTON were big parts of our little town for a number of years before moving to their ranch home in Jackson Hole with its magnificent view of the Grand Tetons. Berk joined Rotary in 1975, brought into our club by another dynamic Foundation chair Bill Knoke. For a quarter century, Berk would light up our meeting room as he strode around greeting everyone, nattily dressed waist-up in Brooks Brothers’ best, waist-down with Levi’s worn by a saddle and not some stress machine. Proud of his Stanford, successful with his financial planning advice, Berk was a club stalwart, radiating his joy of life just as long as everyone remembered to put the “t” in JohnsTon. In 2000 Maria and Berk moved full-time to the ranch and Berk transferred his membership to Jackson Rotary, but for years he continued to receive, comment on, and keep every one of the over 2000 Rotoscope editions written by me (Berk said he kept the file intact for the commemorative stamps we used to mail that old-fashioned way, but he really liked and contributed to the printed words). When internet allowed Berk to do all his advising and market-watching from the Hole, with children gone, Maria and Berk moved there but visited us often.

BERK JOHNSTON HAS SLIPPED INTO the full hold of Alzheimer’s, we learned this week. He is well cared for in a Jackson facility, Maria faithful in sickness as she was in health, but not recognizing once-close friends. His lean, wiry body is strong, but his thoughts are in

the mist. We can't find a way to send best wishes to Maria, but if you've a way and remember the Johnstons, please add them to your prayers and send a note to Maria.

December 28<sup>th</sup> and January 4<sup>th</sup>: "Cheers" Cancelled, You're On Your Own

January 11<sup>th</sup>: Next Rotary, with a new young Mayor reporting on San Marino

January 18<sup>th</sup>: Why Earthquake Insurance? [Maybe because it's coming any time?]