



The Rotoscope

of the San Marino, California, Rotary Club



Events

June 2018

06/14 - LUNCHEON MEETING:
DEMOTION PARTY
06/21 - LUNCHEON MEETING:
THE FUTURE, SAN MARINO
ROTARY, SOCIAL MEDIA

JUNE 14, 2018

“DENISE HERE”

Club Leaders



Denise Wadsworth
Youth Service
Chair, President



Fang Fang Ho
President-Elect



Gregory F. Johansing
Administration
Chair, President Nominee
Elect, Club Director



Gilda Moshir
iPast President



Paul Brassard
Secretary



Dennis B. Kneier
Treasurer



N. Christian Datwyler
Webmaster



Kenneth Veronda
Bulletin Editor



Lucille F. Norberg
Sergeant-at-Arms



William H. Bortz
Club Director, Rotary
Foundation Chair



Deborah A. Herbert
Club Director



**J. Leland Mothershead
III**
Club Director



Fary Yassamy
Club Director



Leonard Therrien
Club Director, Community
Service Chair

THURSDAY IS FLAG DAY. Along with waving a flag for Old Glory, we are also waving flags of THANKS DENISE and WELCOME FANG. Denise’s term isn’t over until midnight Saturday, June 30th, but we salute early her enthusiastic leadership of our service through another memorable Motor Classic. Then both Denise and Fang are off to Toronto and Rotary’s international convention from June 23 through 27, so while “DENISE is HERE!” and Fang too celebrate both. It’s a regular meeting at our regular time and place, but a very special one planned by immediate past president Gilda as Ms. Moshir’s happy last duty. Come say thanks, Denise – and salute Fang as our new president too.

A QUICK REPORT ON Sunday’s Seventh SMMC will be part of Thursday’s meeting too, though of course treasurer Dennis’ final accounting will take more work on his abacus to calculate and complete. But wasn’t it great fun, however much we made for the Humane Society, the USC Band, and of course our Rotary Charities!

DENNIS HAS CLOSED OUR BOOKS through May, one month to go this Rotary year, and we’re more or less right where we should be with income and expenses – a couple of collections due, some bills still to come, but in balance. Membership is something else we need to review. We opened the year with 114, and we’ve welcomed five new members so far. But ... we’ve lost ten members, and it looks as if we’ll close the year with 109 (the usual attrition and growth has averaged twelve each, to hold us steady – we have lost fewer than usual, but gained fewer than we need!).

LEN THERRIEN IS PROUD to report that Google tells him a full thousand people world-wide have been counted checking out our “Red Car” mural on the old Tribune’s wall!

THE “CAREER EXPO” PROJECT of our vocational service committee, working with local chambers and the Foothill Workforce Development Board, is on for Tuesday morning, June 19th, and chair Linda Wah could use more volunteers to help. Don’t be shy – write Linda at lswah@sbcglobal.net and join, or come to the committee’s meeting on Friday morning, June 15th, 7:00 a.m. at Southwestern Academy’s Governor’s Room.

LINDA’S NEXT VSC MEETING will be next Friday, June 15th, seven a.m. at Southwestern. It will be in the Governor’s Room at the front of Pioneer Hall by the parking lot on the west side of the campus. Linda promises to have you out within the hour. If you’re on vocational service, or into vocational service, please come and join in the brainstorming of how to help the area’s unemployed and our local employees with open jobs to match up.

VOCATIONAL SERVICE will be talking at Friday’s meeting about the 7th Veteran’s Forum. Our two local members of congress, Judy Chu and Grace Napolitano, join with our county supervisor Kathryn Barger with this open house to tell all returned service members of benefits available to them through the Veterans’ Administration, including GI Bill help with college tuition, housing, and health. Know a young vet? – in your family, your neighborhood, your office or around town? Please help them by talking about this year’s Forum, to be at the National Guard Armory in Azusa on Saturday, June 30th, from eight a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (an opening program is at 8:30, though the tables with lots of helpers will be there all morning and



John Donovan
Club Director



Molly W Woodford
Club Director, Membership
Chair



Shody Chow
International Service Chair



William L. Payne
Public Image Chair



Tony Chou
Vocational Service
Chair, Youth Service Chair



Steve Garrett
Programs Chair

early afternoon). The Armory is at 1357 West Sierra Madre in Azusa, an easy shot out the 210 on a Saturday morning. More information is at

<https://vetforum2018.eventbrite.com>

SHE STILL NEEDS THEM, and Jim Miller has a great offer for you. Debbie Priester begs for more convertibles to carry all the important folk down to Lacy Park in our Glorious Fourth Parade, which Debbie has scheduled for the 4th of July – not very far away. So far, only a couple of convertibles have been offered. This is where Jim Miller’s offer comes in. Our friendly and sweet-smelling plumber’s crew has welding torches available to help out. If you don’t have a convertible, Jim will get you one – bring any hardtop in running condition to the Merry Folk at San Marino Plumbing, and Jim will cut off the roof while you wait. Otherwise, should you know ragtops otherwise available, stay away from our Merry Folk and get a factory-installed convertible to Debbie at Titan Travel (626-440-1959).

MIKE DRIEBE ESCORTED a Group Cultural Exchange team for a month in India, and gave us a brief but glowing report about it. Mike has written his experiences in a short summary for THE ROTARIAN magazine. It’s beautifully done. Take a few minutes and read:

WHEN I WAS A CHILD and feeling restless or bored my dad would often tell me, “Read a book! Learn something and expand your mind.” When I followed his advice I usually found myself enthralled with tales of far off places and wondered how a small boy from Virginia would ever make his way to the exotic countries he read about. To my young mind one of the most mysterious of those far off lands was India and my sense of wonder about it and the people who lived there never left me. In fact, as I grew older, I often said it was on my “bucket list” and given half a chance I would go to experience it for myself. That chance finally came to me through Rotary’s Group Cultural Exchange (GCE) program.

WORKING WITH MY District Governor, Raghada Khoury, we began corresponding with her counterpart in RID 3261, District Governor Harjit Singh, his district’s GCE Coordinator, Biswajit “Bulu” Pati, as well as, my district’s GCE Coordinator, Adrienne Cox. We settled on a time frame in April when both teams could travel, one to eastern and central India and the other to Southern California and Nevada. As a result of careful planning on both sides, an amazing experience awaited the teams.

PREPARING TO LEAD my team to India, I studied the culture, history and current events of the places I would see. I wanted to be sure that my team got the most from this exchange and I wanted us to be ready. None of that study, however, truly prepared me for what I would actually experience. As is so often the case, our perceptions of other people and places, are based on our own biases and the stereotypes gleaned from books, films and documentaries. In other words, on the perceptions of others ... perceptions that are typically misinformed.

WHAT I ACTUALLY EXPERIENCED was beyond what I could have imagined. I found India to be a place of deep spirituality. Rather than being remote because of its long standing in India’s culture, the sense of connection with the divine was evident in everyday life - from home shrines to neighborhood temples. The evening prayer services at the Narmada River was a highlight for me, not only because of the sights and sounds, but because this service had been taking place on that very spot every evening for thousands of years. It made real for me the very strong bond many Indians have with their faith and their history.

WHILE INDIA MAY BE an ancient land with many ancient aspects to her culture, it is also felt to me like a very young nation. I was impressed with the sense of vitality. Having grown from half a billion people forty years ago to 1.2 billion today, the country has a powerful drive to achieve and succeed. The sense of entrepreneurialism among those I met was palpable. Here in the U.S. it might be enough to open and run one business, but in India, I met people who ran several of them. Whether they were operating companies once held by their fathers and grandfathers, had started their own companies, or were doing both, each had a strong drive to realize their dreams and provide for their families.

HAVING SEEN A SHARP RISE in population, there is much to do in India, but there is much to appreciate, as well. It was wonderful to see the natural beauty of the countryside, the majesty of Kenha National Park and the display of animals at the Nandan Van Zoo and Jungle

Safari in Raipur. It was also heartening to see how proud the Indian people were of these irreplaceable resources and their willingness to do what it took to preserve them. The same holds true for the ancient monuments and archeological sites. From the Taj Mahal to Mahasamund, and from the Maharaja Sawai Man Singh II museum to the Amber Palace and Fort in Jaipur, it is clear that India is proud of her historical heritage.

FINALLY, NOTHING COULD HAVE prepared me for the incredibly warm and welcoming hospitality. I knew as a Rotarian I would be well cared for, but to be treated as a long lost family member who finally comes home after a long absence in a faraway land was more than I could have dreamed. Many cultures share the desire to treat guests well, but I can think of very few that give such care to their visitors as I experienced in RID 3261. Whether it was the amazing food, or the wonderful activities, or the fact we couldn't spend a rupee from our own pocket while we were in the care of our hosts, it was clear that the hospitality didn't come from a sense of obligation, but from the hearts of the families who opened their homes. They shared their lives with us, their hopes, their dreams and their amazing sense of service to their community. We were privileged and honored by their welcome and their care.

IF THE GOAL OF the Group Cultural Exchange was to open the hearts and minds of the young people who came to India, to help them understand that no matter who we are or how we know and worship God, that we all want the same thing – a better future for our children, the chance to prosper by the sweat of our own brow, peace today and for future generations and the hope that the world will be a better place for our having been here – then this exchange was an unqualified success and I am grateful to Districts 3261 and 5300 for the opportunity to participate in it. May this be the first of many such exchanges and may it help to make real Rotary's hope for "peace through understanding."

--by Mike Driebe, June 2018

June 14th: CELEBRATING DENISE'S YEAR OF LEADERSHIP

June 21st: MIDSUMMER'S WITH STEVE GARRETT ABOUT THE FUTURE

June 28th – SAN MARINO SCHOOLS FOUNDATION REPORT

July 4th – HELP NEEDED WITH GLORIOUS FOURTH PARADE

July 5th – NO MEETING OVER LONG 4th WEEKEND