

The Middie

The Mid-Month Newsletter of District 5240

Volume 2 Issue 8

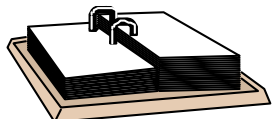
February 15, 2008

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District Calendar



February – World Understanding Month

- Feb. 23 Master PRLS 3 (Facilitation Skills) CLU, Thousand Oaks**
- Feb. 23 Rotary Work Day**
- Feb. 28 – Mar. 02 SoCal/Nevada PETS, LAX Hilton**

March

- Mar. 08 District Staff Meeting (2008-09) Simi Valley**
- Mar. 15 Master PRLS 4 (Situational Leadership) CLU, T.O.**
- Mar. 15 Foundation Gala, Marriott, Ventura**
- Mar. 29 Master PRLS 5 (Project Management), CLU, T.O.**



Matching Grants Committee Update

By Bruce Howard (Cambria)
District Matching Grants Committee Chair

What a great year we are having in this District! As we on the Grants Committee have the opportunity to review each and every grant application that comes through — Matching Grants, District Simplified Grants, Volunteer Service Grants and District Travel Grants — it amazes us what *good* the clubs in our District are doing: Outfitting an outpatient facility in Korea, a fire truck to the Philippines, supplies for a children’s hospital in Tijuana, a rain water harvesting system in Uganda, bikes for a local Girls and Boys Club, health care in Honduras. You are all truly amazing!

The good news is, we still have a great deal of YOUR money available for your good work in your communities and in this world. Please keep in mind that the deadline for submitting Matching Grant applications is March 31st, and it would be very helpful if you can have your applications in at least two weeks prior to the deadline. Deadlines for the District Simplified Grants and District Travel Grants are June 30, but again, please try to get your applications in early in order to ensure their timely review and

processing. Thank you for the work you do!



Forty Years of Rotaract!

(From the District 5240 New Generations Newsletter)

Each year, the week of March 13 marks World Rotaract Week, in commemoration of the first official chartering of a Rotaract Club in 1968.

Forty years deserve something special in those clubs which sponsor a Rotaract Club.

Perhaps a service activity followed by a social event is appropriate. Maybe your club can incorporate the number “40” in some special, commemorative way: plant forty trees; donate forty winter coats to the needy; deliver forty CARE packages to people who might appreciate the gesture.

Whether your club sponsors Rotaract or not is beside the point when it comes time to learn that **Liz Werhane**, President of the Rotaract Club of Santa Barbara, has been selected as one of ten Rotaractors (the only one from the US) to participate in the “Northwest Italy Rotaract Roundup,” starting this month with a trip through nine towns in northern-middle Italy. Rotaract Clubs in each of the small cities will serve both as guides and hosts to the travelers.

The trip is free for all guests!
And we have one of our District
5240 Rotaractors on the trip!
Are we HOT or what!



Ambassadorial Scholarships

By Dan Giordano (Bakersfield East)
Foundation Scholarships Committee
Chair

HOW TO APPLY

An applicant for a Rotary
Foundation Ambassadorial
Scholarship must apply through a
local Rotary Club of District 5240.
Interested Rotary clubs that may
have potential applicants in mind
should begin the process as soon as
possible. Only one applicant per
club is allowed.

Deadlines for applications are
Friday May 16. The interviews for
the applicants will be held
Saturday May 31 and Sunday June
1 in Ventura at the Pierpont Inn.

PLEASE DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE

Applications can be found by
going to the Rotary International
web-site...and to the Download
Center under Ambassadorial
Scholarships.

Let me know your questions:
dgiordano@bak.rr.com



From Team Nigeria 2008

By Team Leader Bruce Howard
(Cambria)

We have our team set for a
return visit to Northern Nigeria to
participate in this month's IPD
(Immunization Plus Days). As you
may know, the area of Northern
Nigeria that we travel to is
responsible for one third of the
world's polio cases. Nigeria is the
"epicenter" for the remaining polio
virus cases in the world. Only
India now has more cases of polio.

As you may also know, when we
began our polio eradication
campaign in the mid-1980's, there
were 1,000 new cases of polio
each and every day! Last year we
recorded 1,261 all *year*, world-
wide!

The project is not over,
however. We must not put this
project away until we have
completely wiped polio off the
face of this earth. And we are
close, ever so close.

Thank you for your two
decades of efforts! We are almost
there.



DOCHTERMAN IN BAKERSFIELD

Past R. I. President Cliff
Dochterman, one of only a very
few true orators in Rotary, will be
speaking to a Seven Club luncheon
at 11:30 on Wednesday February
20th, in Bakersfield at the
Doubletree Hotel on Rosedale
Highway just off Interstate 99.

Cost is \$25.00 per person paid
at the door. For those who have not
had the privilege of hearing him
speak, I urge you to take the time
to attend.

The by-date for registration for
the luncheon is February 18 with
Daphne Harley, President of the
Rotary Club of Bakersfield at
daphne_harley@bak.rr.com.



Publicity

**The Wisdom of Rotary
Presidents:** "It is essential that
self-effacement characterize a
Rotarian... Rotarians do things
because they need doing and when
they need doing, without thought
of self-glorification or personal
reward, or without any desire for
publicity or thought of arrogance.
The best publicity that Rotary can

obtain resounds from deeds well
and unostentatiously done."
Crawford C. McCullough, 1921-
1922

Is that the way we are? Not in
very much Rotary I've ever been
around! Indeed, we thrive on
publicity! We gain new members
immediately following publicity!
Our best leaders may be those who
bullied us into doing charitable
things we wouldn't otherwise have
done, and who have used "self-
glorification" and the hope of
personal recognition as tools.

Past RI Presidents are often
quoted in this slot. That doesn't
mean that things haven't changed
in our world and the world in
general since they were in office.
They would have adopted were
they present in today's world. We
are in today's world. We've got to
get with it!



This Month in Rotary's History

During the first Rotary club
meeting on 23 February 1905 in
Chicago, Paul Harris, Gustavus
Loehr, Hiram Shorey, and
Silvester Schiele met to talk about
their personal experiences. Harris
then unfolded his general plan for
their club meetings.

This was the simple beginning
of the world's first service club,
the Rotary Club of Chicago. It was
created because of Harris' wish to
capture in a professional club the
same friendly spirit he had felt in
the small towns of his youth. The
Rotary name derived from the
early practice of rotating meetings
among members' offices.

In honor of that first club,
Rotarians have preserved its
original meeting place, Room 711
in Chicago's Unity Building, by
re-creating the office as it existed
in 1905. For several years, the Paul

Harris 711 Club maintained the room as an exhibit for visiting Rotarians. In 1989, when the building was scheduled to be demolished, the club carefully dismantled the office and salvaged the interior, including doors and radiators. In 1993, the RI Board of Directors set aside a permanent home for the restored Room 711 at RI World Headquarters in Evanston.



Action is King!

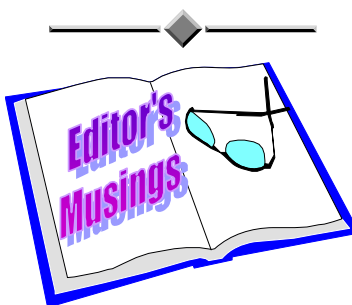
If anyone went to the trouble of trying to list the “best” clubs in the District over the years, it wouldn’t take long before you’d see a pattern – Simi Sunrise, China Lake, Westlake Village, Westlake Village Sunrise, Bakersfield East, Simi Sunset – it’s a pretty short list of those who appear almost every year.

Well, let’s not forget Santa Barbara Sunrise. In President **Dennis Johns’** report to Ass’t Gov. **Deepa Willingham** last month, the following International Service activities and projects are noted:

- 550 wheelchairs to *each* country: Panama, India, South Africa, Bangladesh and Brazil.
- Tools and equipment to a high school in the Philippines.
- Medical equipment to Zambia.
- Books and computers to Thailand.
- Aiding Engineers w/o Borders and Visiting Nurses in Peru and Zambia.
- Dental chairs to Mexico.
- Sponsorship of a member of the District’s GSE Team.
- Hosting visiting GSE Team members from India.
- Membership in the club of last year’s winner of the District-level John Padilla Humanitarian Award (**E. Russell Smith**), the sitting

District Chair of the Group Study Exchange Committee (**Janet Napier**) and the DGN (**Luz Maria Ortiz-Smith**).

What did anyone expect? International Service Committee Chair **Bill Ringer** has had his work cut out for him in the midst of all these luminaries.



“May the meditations in my life find a welcome in your eyes.”

Naming Rights

As this issue of “*The Middie*” goes to press, there’s a huge flap in Los Angeles concerning USC’s now-acquired ability to sell naming rights to anyone they want for up to \$5 million per year. It’s the mere continuation of a trend granting naming rights around the country for stadiums, courts, buildings, arenas, etc. – all for big bucks, all for fleeting publicity.

In Rotary, we’re behind the times, I guess, because the “naming rights” we offer extend only to those whom we intend to honor for their selfless service and for the content of their character.

The annual District-level **Dr. John Padilla** Humanitarian Award is one of those recognitions, as are Thousand Oaks’ **Otto Stoll** and **John Conlan** Awards.

Fifteen years or so ago, one of Westlake Village’s members, **Homer Dickerson**, died. In his memory and in recognition of his life and character, the club started awarding “Homer Dickerson Business Ethics Awards.” That morphed into its current form, “The Homer Dickerson Youth Ethics Conference.” This is an

annual gathering of Rotarians, Chamber of Commerce members and high school students, during which ethical problems are discussed and solutions determined.

This year’s event co-chair, **Russ Stone**, also the Club Service Director, researched **Homer Dickerson’s** life, trying to tap the superannuated brains of those who knew **Homer** before he died in 1990. The result was presented as a club program last week, and was honored by the presence of **Homer’s** daughter and of his original sponsor into Rotary.

The resulting manuscript and program were/are remarkable.

The club didn’t get \$5 million for the naming rights, nor did **Homer’s** daughter or his Rotary sponsor.

I’ll tell you what everyone *did* get, though – a sense that another good guy’s name, reputation and personal ethical strengths will be remembered longer than his body.

There are many of those good guys who no longer reside on this side of the clouds.

Do them, and your community, a favor by looking into the possibility of naming a club event or award after them. **Dr. John Padilla** and **Homer Dickerson** are not unique. In an organization chock full of members whose personal ideals of “Service Above Self,” there are many other examples of true moral superiority.

Send them to me. We’ll print the basics of every last one.

Jocko717@yahoo.com



District 5240 January 31, 2008 Membership & Attendance Report

Club Name *	7/1/07**	1/31/08	YTD Net	Atten % Mo.	Atten % YTD	Rank
Agoura Hills - Oak Park	13	11	-2	80.00%	83.2%	20
Arroyo Grande	53	55	2	68.79%	64.9%	56
Atascadero	74	74	0	91.00%	76.7%	31
Bakersfield	190	190	0	65.26%	68.1%	50
Bakersfield Breakfast	84	90	6	74.78%	78.3%	29
Bakersfield East	85	80	-5	90.82%	84.2%	15
Bakersfield North	38	36	-2	82.10%	67.5%	54
Bakersfield South	34	37	3	78.43%	80.1%	27
Bakersfield West	85	86	1	87.00%	86.4%	10
Buellton	14	18	4	67.32%	59.0%	62
Camarillo	75	76	1	67.91%	67.9%	51
Camarillo Breakfast	30	35	5	74.00%	63.1%	58
Cambria	65	66	1	73.41%	83.4%	19
Cambria Sunrise Cent.	25	22	-3	80.00%	79.9%	28
Carpinteria	38	36	-2	73.38%	69.7%	47
Carpinteria Morning	33	32	-1	79.00%	76.6%	32
China Lake	50	49	-1	84.65%	83.9%	17
Conejo Valley	21	25	4	72.92%	70.3%	45
<i>Conejo Valley Centennial*</i>	26	26	0		60.1%	60
Delano	14	13	-1	70.80%	72.2%	40
Fillmore	16	16	0	61.00%	43.7%	72
Fillmore Sunrisers	18	17	-1	93.00%	89.0%	9
Frazier Pk & Mtn. Comm.	16	16	0	61.00%	74.3%	38
Goleta	26	27	1	84.00%	53.9%	68
Goleta Noontime	19	21	2	95.00%	98.1%	1
Grover Beach	23	23	0	85.22%	82.0%	23
Inyokern	10	9	-1	98.00%	97.6%	2
Kern River Valley	17	20	3	80.00%	56.4%	66
Lompoc	48	51	3	70.50%	59.1%	61
Los Olivos	31	35	4	84.00%	84.1%	16
Los Osos	26	26	0	75.00%	77.0%	30
<i>Montecito *</i>	49	51	2		45.9%	71
Moorpark	62	66	4	83.50%	69.9%	46
Morro Bay	74	69	-5	92.66%	69.5%	48
Newbury Park	51	47	-4	70.70%	72.2%	41
Nipomo	42	40	-2	82.12%	84.3%	14
Ojai	75	79	4	81.72%	85.5%	12
Ojai West	45	46	1	84.10%	83.0%	22
Oxnard	44	46	2	72.86%	58.1%	63
Oxnard Sunrise	23	25	2	68.00%	67.6%	53
Paso Robles	104	118	14	82.30%	83.2%	21
Paso Robles Sunrise	30	28	-2	92.59%	85.7%	11
Pismo Beach / Five Cities	52	57	5	87.99%	73.6%	39

District 5240 January 31, 2008 Membership & Attendance Report

Club Name *	7/1/07**	1/31/08	YTD Net	Atten % - Mo.	Atten % YTD	Rank
Port Hueneme	14	7	-7	100.00 %	95.7%	3
San Luis Obispo	125	131	6	93.00%	92.4%	6
San Luis Obispo Daybreak	44	48	4	96.00%	91.7%	7
San Luis Obispo de Tolosa	92	87	-5	95.30%	71.1%	65
Santa Barbara	140	143	3	93.40%	57.5%	64
Santa Barbara North	41	40	-1	84.00%	83.9%	18
Santa Barbara Sunrise	56	55	-1	90.10%	93.4%	5
Santa Maria	72	72	0	65.00%	63.1%	57
Santa Maria Breakfast	67	69	2	90.50%	74.9%	35
Santa Maria South	35	40	5	80.84%	81.5%	25
<i>Santa Paula*</i>	79	82	3		55.2%	67
Santa Ynez Valley	65	61	-4	72.79%	70.4%	44
Shafter	23	27	4	66.67%	65.8%	55
Simi Sunrise	122	124	2	82.41%	82.0%	24
Simi Sunset	28	27	-1	93.96%	94.0%	4
Simi Valley	64	64	0	70.45%	68.2%	49
<i>Solvang *</i>	68	66	-2		50.6%	70
Taft	42	39	-3	74.35%	71.3%	43
Tehachapi	24	26	2	77.88%	75.4%	34
<i>Templeton*</i>	33	29	-4		62.0%	59
<i>Thousand Oaks *</i>	124	130	6		71.9%	42
<i>Vandenberg Village *</i>	33	33	0		52.6%	69
Ventura	130	130	0	82.66%	89.1%	8
Ventura East	64	66	2	74.00%	75.4%	33
Ventura Marina	12	9	-3	82.00%	85.1%	13
Ventura South	42	44	2	75.00%	74.7%	37
Wasco	38	42	4	78.00%	74.8%	36
Westlake Village	75	75	0	80.65%	67.6%	52
Westlake Village Sunrise	65	65	0	72.50%	80.4%	26
Totals	3765	3771	6			

* Clubs in italics not received