

Rotary

Club of Pasadena, CA



A CENTURY OF SERVICE



SPOKES NEWSLETTER

DISTRICT 5300 * Rotary Club 794 * January 8, 2021 * #21-2

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This Week's Program

RICK GOULD & BILL BOGAARD

"Two years ago, One Arroyo Foundation was launched with strong City support to enhance maintenance and assure preservation of Pasadena's unique park and open space resource, the Arroyo Seco. The Foundation offers a new paradigm for funding the Arroyo by supplementing City support with public grants and private donations. The presentation is a progress report on this effort."

Introducer: Mic Hansen



RICK GOULD retired in December 2017 after 17 years as the Director of the City of Santa Clarita's Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department, overseeing over 110 full-time and 400 part-time employees, an operating budget of approximately \$22 million, and a growing capital budget for new facility development in Los Angeles County's third largest city.

He sat on the boards of Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Council, United States Lifesaving Association and the Boys and Girls Club of Santa Clarita Valley. He is a representative of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.

In 2018, California Parks and Recreation Society honored him with the Award of Excellence for Professional Service and included in the Fellowship/Hall of Fame for CPRS. The United States Lifesaving Association recognized his over 30 years of contributions to the national organization.

Rick has over 40 years of Parks and Recreation experience, City of Pleasanton, City of San Ramon and, the City of Santa Cruz.

He currently consults on various Parks and Recreation related projects, including the Arroyo Advisory Group with the City of Pasadena and the One Arroyo Foundation as well as aquatics-related programs in various locations in the state.

BILL BOGAARD was Pasadena's first directly elected mayor, serving from 1999 to 2015. Previously, he was EVP and General Counsel of First Interstate Bancorp, until its merger in the late 1990's with Wells Fargo & Co.

Before joining First Interstate, he was engaged in private law practice as a partner in a Los Angeles law firm. In 1987, the LA County Bar Association named him as Outstanding Corporate Counsel, and in 1997, he received the Arthur Noble Award, Pasadena's most prestigious recognition for community service.



He is a Board Member of the Huntington Hospital, A Noise Within, and the Pasadena Community Foundation. He serves as chairman of Pasadena Bioscience Collaborative, a life sciences incubator and workforce development program, with partners including Pasadena, CSU Los Angeles, Keck Graduate Institute, and Pasadena City College.

He and his wife, Claire, a founder of Pasadena Heritage, are parents of four children: Michele, Jeannine, Joseph and Matthew.

11:45 am: Greeters Scott Carlson - Jane Waas - Elisabeth Browne
Song Leader: **Eric Olson** - Inspiration: **JP Harris**

Scout Zone Reporter: **Justene Adamec**
Tech Team: **Frank Fish - Robert Lyons - Don Andruess**

Zoom Team: **Scott Carlson - Kat Rogers - Frank Fish**
Tammy Silver - Elisabeth Browne - Wendy Anderson

**** NEED HELP WITH ZOOM****

Tammy Silver - tamamsilver@gmail.com - 626-744-9533



Pasadena Rotary invites you to its Weekly Wednesday Meeting
January 13, 2020 at 12:00pm - 1:15pm

** All or part of our weekly Rotary meeting may be recorded to assist with documenting donations, input, or other Pasadena Rotary business.*

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84583324183?
pwd=R3p1bEtTWHp4R0FjLy82VIFKR0x3Zz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84583324183?pwd=R3p1bEtTWHp4R0FjLy82VIFKR0x3Zz09)

Meeting ID: 845 8332 4183

Passcode: 073016

NOTE:

IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE AND COUNTY MANDATES AND FOLLOWING PHASED IN REOPENING OF GATHERED GROUPS, AND IN CONSIDERATION OF THE SAFETY AND WELL-BEING OF THE PASADENA ROTARY CLUB MEMBERSHIP:

PASADENA ROTARY IN-PERSON MEETINGS ARE POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

THIS MAY CHANGE, AND AS THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA'S PLANS TO REOPEN BUSINESSES AND GROUP MEETINGS UNFOLD, WE WILL KEEP EVERYONE UPDATED ON THE STATUS OF PASADENA ROTARY CLUB'S IN-PERSON MEETINGS.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



DONE IN A DAY (DIAD) - PASADENA RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE

Hello Pasadena Rotary,

Happy 2021! I hope you had a peaceful and safe holiday. As we enter this year, I look

forward to our journey and adventure together. I also look forward to our next service project together. Stay safe and stay strong!

I am always available to you for a socially distant cup of coffee!

In Your Service,

Ken

THE SCOOT ZONE

By **PP Mary Lou Byrne**, Bureau Chief Emeritus



It was business as usual at Pasadena Rotary as **President Ken Joe** called the Zoom meeting to order right on time for "the first day of our 101st year."

Ross Jutsum led us in "If I Could Talk to the Animals" in honor of our guest speaker from the L.A. Zoo, followed by America the Beautiful and the pledge of allegiance.

Michele Ferroni gave the inspiration, consisting of this awesome original poem:

You might remember the last time I inspired with a little ditty.
Way back, at Mary Lou's final meeting, at a time more giddy.

We had more fun
with Scott for a while, along the way,

Not knowing what lay ahead, to a time
with darker days.

Our lives to be disrupted because of a
pandemic
For as we now know this fight against
humanity is quite epic

While individually we have had our struggles to weather
As a proud Rotary Club we stood strong together

To be sure, at every corner, we were met with gloom,
Only to find strength and unity in meeting through Zoom.

We still assembled the bikes, fed the homeless, did done in a day,
No matter the obstacles this Rotary Club found a way!

So as we approach this wondrous but uncertain New Year,
It is hoped that in the past we lay our fear
To once again toast our glasses to hear the sounds of cheer.

President Ken announced a slight change to our agenda going forward: Q and A will directly follow the speaker, and our breakout sessions will be at 1:00 p.m.

He then presented the day's poll question: Will you take the COVID 19 vaccine? (Ed. Note: HECK YES.) 80% voted yes, which **President Ken** commended as our Club doing the right thing.

Tammy Silver introduced our guests including one Zooming in from Orlando Florida and a local guest of **Past President Diana Peterson-More**.

Deborah Lewis, co-chair of the Community Grants Committee, announced that the applications for Community Grants just went online. This year's category is Arts and Culture. Grants will be between \$2,000 and \$6,000 and applications due online on February 10. Email Deb or Sheryl Guerrero with questions. The applications and grant guidelines can be found on our Club web site (see below) .

Robert Lyons announced that the Human Trafficking Awareness Committee will meet with the Summerlin Rotary Club's Sex Trafficking Committee on Monday, January 11. Link below. If you have already signed up for the committee you will be invited automatically.

Kat Rogers made a contribution to the Polio Pig and announced she is looking for a 3 bed, 2 bath rental house for "under 4, 5, 6 thousand dollars a month" for her family. Text or email Kat ASAP if you have a lead for her.

Eric Duyshart presented his Pasadena in Five report: He began with the COVID-19 report. Average Daily infection numbers in Pasadena. In October it was 7 per day, 10 per day in November, 40 per day in December, and an astounding 200+ per day in January so far!-

Healthcare workers continue to save lives - working very hard to keep the death rate in check, but as you have heard, there is a high level of anxiety that we cannot sustain this near breaking point of staffing hospital beds. He urged everyone to stay safe: "Most of us still need the occasional short trip to the store, get food, and to get out and enjoy the weather. - but do so with masks, hand sanitizer, and vigilance regarding distancing --don't breathe on other people, and don't let them breathe on you!"



Michele inspires!



Vaccines are getting out, but it will take a while . . Pasadena's Health Dept is managing the vaccine distribution process and will be following guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the California Department of Public Health. Healthcare workers and residents of nursing homes and other long-term care facilities are currently receiving the vaccine. Both the Pfizer and Moderna vaccine require two doses and provide the same efficacy

We are in the first phase of distribution -**Tier 1A:**

- Healthcare workers providing direct care
- Residents and staff of long-term care facilities

1B Tier One:

- People ages 75 years and over;
- People at risk of exposure at work - is sectors like education / childcare services, other emergency services, and people employed in food distribution and agriculture.

1B Tier Two

- People ages 65-74 years; other congregate care facilities
- Those at risk of exposure at work in transportation and logistics; industrial, commercial, residential and sheltering facilities and services; and critical manufacturing

As Rotarians, we are well aware that there are several support organizations in Pasadena, so if you need help, know of someone that needs help, or if you can donate... now is the time to reach out.

Eric noted that normally in January we celebrate our beautiful weather, but this year there was no parade or game. But, he said, we can still celebrate nature by (safely) visiting our local nature sites including Arlington Gardens, Huntington Library, Arboretum, Descanso Gardens, Caltech campus, Eaton Canyon. Or consider a refresh to your garden or Patio - Nurseries - Lincoln, Kettles, Magic Growers, Bellefontaine, Armstrong, and several others.

Stephen Smith introduced our speaker. Denise Verret is a Pasadena area native and director of the L.A. Zoo. She was sworn in on July 1, 2019 (same day as President Ken!) and was very excited.



Speaker Denise Verret

The Zoo is 133 acres in Griffith park with 1400 animals in 270 species, 58 of which are endangered. Before the COVID-19 shutdown, annual attendance was more than 1.8 million, which makes it one of top 10 paid attractions in the area and more than the Lakers, Clippers, and Kings combined! It is also the site of the North Hollywood High School zoo magnet program.

Obviously, said Denise, life changed in March 2020. The Zoo was changed on March 13 and had to adapt and be flexible. Denise said it required empathy and trust among the members of the Zoo team. Operations had

to be adjusted by limiting staff to only critical onsite staff necessary for animal care and facility maintenance. Everyone else worked from home.

Operational impacts included the necessity for staff needed temperature checks and PPE daily. Contact with animals was minimized as much as possible because it turned out some species are vulnerable to COVID - for example tigers at the Bronx Zoo and National Zoo tested positive. In an effort to reduce close contact, the zoo adjusted staff duties so they could work alone rather than in teams.

Did the animals notice the public was no longer visiting? Denise walked around the zoo daily and found that some animals didn't seem to notice at all while some seemed to be very very aware. For example the giraffes would come right to the edge of the exhibit and want to interact with her. "We'd have a quiet conversation and they'd seem to hang on my every word." But other animals such as the big cats were unfazed.



Denise explained that nonessential staff served as disaster service workers in a variety of roles including senior citizen call centers, homelessness relief, food distribution, election center staffing. She noted that "Every single one of these people expressed gratitude and humility for the opportunity to give back to the community."

May 2020: Life changed again as the racial justice protests erupted. Denise noted, "We need to be brave enough to ask difficult questions and lean into the answers including in our own organization. We spent a lot of time listening, reflecting, and reimagining. We made operational adjustments to our organization or confronted our own history as it relates to racial justice." It turns out," said Denise, "that we were completely uninformed. We had never engaged the community and let them guide our programs. [Now that we are more informed we are working towards diversity, equity, inclusion, access, and justice." She explained the difference between equality (assume everybody benefits from the same support), equity (everybody gets the support they need), and justice (the cause of the inequity is addressed). For example, "maybe people need transportation help so they can work for us."

"Our path forward is a culture of inclusion," said Denise. "We were updating our mission statement pre-pandemic and now are being more concerned with inclusion including doing a survey of our staff and volunteers about their baseline level of information to help us build resources."

Community engagement: Denise said "We are asking ourselves 'do we know our community?' Do we have real community engagement? The answer is no. We need to have a real relationship with our community - not just going out to the community and then leaving. We are aiming for meaningful and lasting, mutually beneficial relationships. It's going to be person centered and people focused." While the zoo was closed closed it planned its reopening, spending months figuring out how to comply with all protocols. The zoo finally re-opened on August 26 after a historic 166 day closure. "It was pretty amazing when we finally reopened," said Denise. "We were thanking the visitors for returning and they

were thanking us for reopening and providing a little bit of normalcy back to their lives!"

Unfortunately the zoo had to close again on December 7 due to recent surge. It has lost close to \$1,000,000 in revenue and isn't eligible for CARES Act relief, but the City of L.A. is covering the shortfall and so far nobody has been laid off. However Denise noted that "furloughs are definitely on the horizon."

What is the zoo's future? Denise called it "A very ambitious vision plan we developed pre pandemic to completely transform every aspect of the zoo. We are having conversations on how to finance early phases with an eye to have some of it finished by 2028 summer Olympics." It will focus on six fundamental principles:

- Animal welfare
- Sustainability
- The Visitor Experience
- Creating a World Class Destination
- Operational Excellence
- Conservation

The zoo hired its first ever director of conservation recently. "We have a commitment to conservation," said Denise. For example, "on our watch the California Condors have grown from 22

with none in wild to more than 520 today due to our captive breeding and release program. We also support projects around the world. We are proud of many of our accomplishments but with new leadership in place entering our 5th decade we knew we needed a strategic approach. We will be focused on social justice, which is inextricably woven into conservation."

After Q and A, President Ken thanked Denise for her talk and said the L.A. Zoo was one of his favorite places to take his kids when they were little. Denise invited us to do a Rotary event at the Zoo when it's safe to do so and he enthusiastically accepted.

President Ken closed the meeting with condolences to Joshua Levine Grater, whose dad passed away from COVID 19 this past week.



COMMITTEE EVENTS & CALENDAR

TYROS MEETING

Mon. - 1/11/21 at Noon. Info: Sheryl Guerrero -thesherylshow@gmail.com

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS

Robert Lyons, Chair of the Human Trafficking Awareness Committee

(robert@lyonsdesignandbuild.com) invites members interested to attend the Summerlin Rotary Club (Las Vegas) - January 11th National Sex Trafficking Awareness Day Webinar from 6:00pm-7:00pm led by President-Elect Michael Turner. Here is the link to the

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Mon. - 1/11/21 - 4:00 pm. Info: Leah Snell - leahthomsonsnell@gmail.com

BUSINESS ALLIANCE MEETING

Monday, 1/18/21 at 4:00 pm. Info: Wendy Anderson - wowproductions2@gmail.com

COMMUNITY GRANTS COMMITTEE

Co-chairs Sheryl Guerrero and Deborah Lewis are pleased to announce the 2021 Pasadena Rotary Club's Community Grants Application & Guidelines are now online at <https://pasadenarotary.com/community-grants/>.

This year the committee will consider applications from non-profit organizations (501)(c)(3) that serve residents in the Pasadena area in arts or culture. This focus will be on providing financial support to address organizational needs that have arisen as a result of the Covid-19 Pandemic. Grants will range from \$2,000 to \$6,000. The full application packets must be submitted by Wednesday, February 10, 2021 by 5:00 pm.

Since 2004 the Rotary Club of Pasadena has issued more than 370 grants totaling \$703,659.00 to over 140 organizations.

POLIO PIG ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wish to show a photo & tell us what you are up to - Wish to make an announcement about your family or your favorite nonprofit. Email **Wendy** at office@pasadenarotary.com by **Tues afternoon**. Minimum donation: \$20.00

ADOPT-A-MEAL PARTICIPATING RESTAURANT

Show appreciation to restaurants/caterers supporting our monthly Adopt-A-Meal Program for Union Station Homeless Services Family Center

- **CABRERA'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT**, 655 N. Lake (Orange Grove) 626-795-8230 www.cabrerass.com
- **UNIVERSITY CLUB OF PASADENA**, Click on Calendar for their "to go menu" and other virtual & live events. 626-793-5157 www.universityclubpasadena.com
- **GREEN STREET RESTAURANT**, 146 Shoppers Lane, 626-577-7170 www.greenstreetrestaurant.com
- **KETCHEF with Benjamin Berard** 213-458-8854 MyKETCHEF@gmail.com
Brings the restaurant experience to your home. www.KETCHEF.com
- **MIJARES MEXICAN RESTAURANT** Celebrating 100 years in Pasadena, 145 Palmetto Drive, 626-792-2763 www.mijaresrestaurant.com

Happy Birthday To These Rotarians!

Brandon Ito	January 9th
Estela Richeda	January 9th
Kelly White	January 10th

Rotaversaries!

Tammy Silver	January 8, 2020	1 year
Ken White	January 8, 2020	1 year
Jennifer Berger	January 8, 2020	1 year
Michelle Balian	January 9, 2019	2 years
Lisa Cavelier	January 9, 2019	2 years
Sonia Lagomarsino	January 10, 1990	31 years

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

January 20	Victor Gordo, Mayor, City of Pasadena
January 27	Dr. Michael Alexander, "Naming a Child"

SPOKES is a weekly newsletter published by the Rotary Club of Pasadena.

Mailing Address:
Rotary Club of Pasadena
556 S. Fair Oaks Ave. Suite 101 #379
Pasadena CA 91105

Weekly Meeting Address:
The University Club
175 N Oakland Avenue
Pasadena CA 91101
*Complimentary Valet Parking

Should you have questions regarding this publication, please call us at 626-683-8243 or send us an email to office@pasadenarotary.com.

WEBSITE UPDATE:

Chair Paul Martin - www.pasadenarotary.com

Looking for Spokes go to the website, scroll down the homepage to [This Week in Spokes](#).



