



The Rotoscope

of the San Marino, California, Rotary Club



Events

December 24th

[Dark for the Holidays](#)

January 7th

[Weekly Meeting: GEORGE S. PATTON, JR., LOCAL HERO](#)

Speaker: Steve Ford, Former History Teacher @ SMHS

Subject: The Life and Times of San Marino's Most Famous General

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San Marino Rotary Rotoscope for December 12, 2020

THE LAST TWO WEEKS provided our Rotarians with outstanding program speakers. Coach Justin Mesa spoke on December 3rd about his team from last year, which finished with three straight wins, and about the prospect of playing this year. Coach Mesa talked about the type of training that his current players are doing, and said that he is participating in strength training four days a week with the players. Coach Mesa admitted that when school was in session, on campus, it was easier to do strength and maintenance training but added, ♦ Many of the students are doing a great job leading by example. ♦ Coach Mesa highlighted Glover Talk as one of the team leaders who is keeping the players motivated and working to prepare for the eventual season. As to gatherings, Coach Mesa mentioned that his players are ♦ going above and beyond ♦ safety procedures. Some players are meeting in small 12-person cohorts, in a safe environment, and are keeping an eight-foot distance. As of his talk Coach Mesa said the varsity team consists of 55 players, 15 of whom are freshmen. Best of luck, Coach Mesa.

THIS WEEK we had another amazing Titan as our program speaker. Juddy Talt mentioned Mitch Lehman, as did coach Justin Mesa, praising Mitch for Tribune articles and continued support. More, Juddy mentioned that as a writer he receives a lot of praise and criticism, perhaps more of the latter than the former. Juddy said that Mitch could understand. Juddy, son of Suzy and Brad Talt (Steve ♦s brother) spoke candidly about his dedication to writing. Juddy said he has five rules when it comes to writing for films:

1. Be delusional- don ♦ get caught up in negative thoughts or thinking your writing isn ♦ good enough.
2. Have an Academy Award- Juddy has a picture of one in his home, and it is his aspiration to win his own one day.
3. Don ♦ listen to critics.
4. Have great opening scenes for your films.
5. Accept your voice.

Juddy is a member of the Writer ♦s Guild of America (WGA), a successful screenwriter, and actor. He has several films that should be released next year. One film is a thriller, which is out of the norm for Juddy, but he said he felt compelled to try it. The other film Juddy is working on is similar to the movie ♦ The Apartment ♦ with Jack Lemmon. Juddy is a film buff and avid moviegoer. He is hopeful that Movie Theaters will make a comeback. He is working diligently each day and keeping regular hours, often writing for four or five hours each morning beginning at 6:00am. He is also in the habit of writing at sunset for an hour before closing his laptop and his Final Draft.

AARON GIL says that we will be DARK until Thursday, January 7, 2021 in observance of the holidays. However, **The Rotary on the Town is this coming Thursday, December 17th.** Grace reminds us that RSVP's for the party are due on December 11th for those wanting to include a meal. If not, you can RSVP up until December 15th.



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ROTARY READER NEWS: We are still looking for nominations of schools for the Rotary Readers program. Please contact Ginny Hsiao at ginhsiao@gmail.com if you have any nominations for local schools.

2020 BIKES FOR CHRISTMAS PROJECT: The bike project distribution was held on December 10th. The overall project was a great success thanks to efforts by Rotarians from San Marino, Pasadena, Pasadena After Hours and Altadena.

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT REPORT: Scout Gavin Hussain writes: "As of last week, the last of the units (a total of 31 completed hand washing stations) have been donated to all recipients. Funds donated to the Troop 351 bank account have already been transferred to the Rotary Club account for my project."

MEMORIAL FOR MERRILL FRANCIS: An online memorial for Merrill Francis will be held over Zoom, the online video conference platform, on Friday, Dec 18, at 6:15 PM Pacific Time. There will be photo slideshows, people sharing memories, and a chance for anyone to speak and share a few words.

You can access it through the following link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83435304699>

If you would like to speak, feel free to contact donald96frias@gmail.com

STAY SAFE! NEWS FROM PATCH: LA Reaches 500K Coronavirus Cases. 'Can We Stop The Surge?' For the third time this week, Los Angeles County set a record for new Coronavirus cases with 13,815 cases reported Friday. CONTINUE to stay home if you are not an essential worker.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7th, 2021 our program speaker will be Stephen Ford. Mr. Ford is a former history teacher from San Marino High School. He will talk about local hero, George S. Patton Jr.

Stephen Ford grew up in a middle-sized town in Nebraska called Grand Island, so named by the French Traders who thought the sandbar in the middle of the Platte River would make a good spot for a town. In high school, Steve participated in sports, speech and debate and was active in his church youth group while working a part-time job to help pay for college. Steve met his high school sweetheart Ginny back then and the two got married after attending the University of Nebraska in 1987.

Steve began teaching at San Marino High School in 1990 in the special education department, eventually transitioning to social studies where he has been teaching US and World History ever since. While at San Marino High School, Steve has served in several capacities including a stint in coaching where he assisted popular coaches such as Bill Maloney and Kevin Hall. Steve has also served as a negotiator for the San Marino Teachers Association, worked on the school safety committee and served on several hiring panels for school administrators. Steve was awarded Most Inspirational Teacher in 2007, San Marino School District's Teacher of the Year in 2017-18, as well as the San Marino Masonic Lodge Teacher of the Year for 2018.

In 2010, Steve suffered a massive heart attack that was nearly fatal. Steve believes that God must have had other plans for him since he's still with us. He is currently working on a Masters degree in political science with emphasis in national security. He has retired from teaching and hopes to launch a new career, which

would incorporate his love of history with current events, politics and faith.
(contributed via San Marino Rotary Website)