

# Rotary

## Club of Pasadena, CA



## SPOKES NEWSLETTER

DISTRICT 5300 \* Rotary Club 794 \* December 15, 2023 \* #23-1349

[www.pasadenarotary.com](http://www.pasadenarotary.com)

### THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM

## TAMMY SILVER

*Pre-Christmas Winter Traditions*

*Introducer: Past President Mary Lou Byrne*



Rotarian Tammy Silver is an enthusiastic celebrant of all holidays. She especially enjoys the winter holidays with warm and cozy celebrations bringing together friends and family.

Tammy grew up in Covina, California and has fond memories of driving to Yucaipa, and helping select a pine tree to cut and bring home. She also has fond memories of eating delicious latkes and lighting candles on the menorah night after night.

Tammy is active in organizations that sponsor student exchanges and has hosted students from Turkey, Italy, Yemen, Finland, Japan, France, and the Republic of Georgia. She is currently part of a welcome circle for an Afghan refugee family.

In addition to Rotary, she is a member of the Pasadena City College Board of Trustees, the president of the Oak Knoll Neighborhood Association, is a city commissioner, is active in the Tournament of Roses, and involved with the National Women's Political Caucus.

***\*\*Tammy asks members to bring a small flashlight with you on Wednesday.***

**WEDNESDAY – DECEMBER 20, 2023**  
**ALTADENA TOWN AND COUNTRY CLUB Must RSVP to attend!**

Reception: Jane Waas & Alan Schier  
Lunchtime Pianist: Ann Louise Christensen  
Song Performed by: Phil Miles  
Inspiration: PP Ken Joe  
Scoot Zone Reporter: Mary Lou Byrne

Non-members are welcome - \$45.00 includes lunch

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# Future Flash



By President Justene Adamec



Many of you are not familiar with our piano player, Ann Louise Christensen. She's not a Rotarian so she leaves after our opening song. If you get a chance, stop by before the meeting to say hello or thank you. She left CDs of Christmas music on the tables this week. CD players are a dying breed so check out her music on [Spotify](#) or [Apple](#) and visit her [website](#).

What a marvelous speaker this week! Jeff Pollack was involved in making my all-time favorite movie, *Groundhog Day*. He also spoke about the country singer, Charley Pride, singer of many hits such as *Kiss an Angel Good Morning*. He was one of my favorite singers when I was a kid. I thought the

song was about angels with wings. Pride was black. The industry tried to hide it and audiences often reacted negatively when he appeared. Jeff didn't recall which country music star stood up for Pride. I googled so you didn't have to – it was Willie Nelson.

Justene Adamec  
626-806-2529  
[President@pasadenarotary.com](mailto:President@pasadenarotary.com)

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## The Scoot Zone

By Staff Reporter Dean Billman  
Photographers: Jonathan Edwards & Hillary Schenk

"If you are going to play Contemporary Music – you have to play it all", said our speaker today, Producer Jeff Pollack, a multi-nominated and Oscar winning music producer. He was interviewed by member and Pasadena Media Director of Community Engagement **Jasiri Jenkins-Glen**, and it was a fascinating look at one of the most important elements of movie and television magic.

Our meeting at Altadena Country Club was rung in by **President Justene Adamec** and **Eric Olson** led us in a holiday favorite, Deck the Halls, accompanied by our lunchtime pianist Ann Louise Christiansen. **Scott Carlson's** inspiration was a reflection on how music is truly wired into





our lives and brains, and he quoted recent medical research on how music's beneficial effects to make us feel better and is important to society – it is even in this year's Rose Parade theme. Based on our speaker today who shapes movies with appropriate musical scores and songs, "music is truly a universal language."

**President Justene** had **David McAlexander** hold up her theme banner for the year, and reiterated her theme is not "Roll with the Punches" but is Looking at the Future. The new banner, to replace the one lost in our many moves this year, was re-printed by Dennis Juett, Jr. Our longtime member, Dennis Juett, designed and printed the banner every year until his death. His son is carrying on that service.

Guests:

- Guest of speaker, Alexis Scalice
- **Howard Raff** introduced his table: Ellen Batzel, John Lynch and Keren Karine Pettibone; Dani Yamamoto, and Ross Farrar
- **Tammy Silver** brought her husband, Michael Silver
- **Fred Findley** greeted previous member Deb Raupp, who missed us

Announcements: **President Elect Stephen Smith** had two

- Five Acres needs volunteers for projects, and they can be found on their website (President Justene said that we always are welcome to do service projects when we can find them)
- Pickle Ball: We got rained out last November for our inaugural member orientation, so here is a chance to learn the fastest-growing sport in America! It will be on January 13th in La Canada from 8am-11am. The 16 who originally signed up and anyone else - contact Stephen.

**President Justene** had a treat for us and decided that we needed to know **Deborah Lewis** better because she has a fascinating career that only she can best describe – so she came up and taught us a new world – the work of Live Audio Description. One of her main events is coming up, the 2024 Rose Parade, where an Audio Descriptor helps blind and low vision people "see" the parade through visual descriptions, often without a script but using colorful visual language. Her favorite was describing live a visit to the Statue of Liberty, and she has done many television shows like Master Chef, Masked Singer, A Farmer Needs a Wife, and Lego Masters, usually found on the SAP channel on your TV. The new trend is to use an App on your phone to tune into a live event while a person is attending, for a live way to "see" and enjoy. We were amazed and look forward to hearing her voice on future shows.



**President Justene** then thought our speaker today was so interesting that more time was offered, and **Jeff Pollack** was then introduced by **Jasiri Jenkins-Glen**, who did a wonderful job as a live Question & Answer format presenter – many commented afterwards that she had a smooth and easy demeanor and made the speaker feel comfortable telling us the hard and special work behind the scenes of movie making. Jeff has been in radio and music production

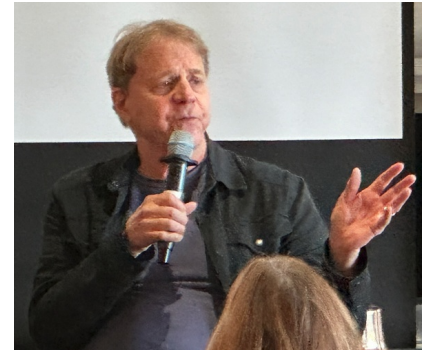
for decades, working on movies we all have loved and remembered: You've Got Mail, Sleepless in Seattle, Love Actually, Mo' Money, and the Sinatra film "All or Nothing at All"; and is especially



proud of the work on “Glen Campbell: I’ll Be Me” and the documentary “Laurel Canyon”; and his influence on steering Bryan Adams to an Oscar-nominated song “Everything I Do (I’ll Do For You)”. He did win an Oscar for Best Original Song “The Weary Kind” from the movie “Crazy Heart’s”.

Through Jasiri’s eloquent questions, Jeff explained how the process of being involved in a movie or show’s spirit is then left to the music producer to work with the directors and entire creative team to finish the experience, and it is not easy. He noted that the original music scored for a movie or show is usually after all the visuals are done, and a composer usually views the show for inspiration and then writes the score or chooses the music that fits the mood and emphasis of the scenes. He used his recent experience working with Glen Campbell and the producers and directors of “I’ll Be Me”, to create a whole picture of Glen’s courageous struggle with the quick onset of Alzheimer’s disease, and how he couldn’t remember his past family’s names, but once he picked up his guitar, could play to packed houses in over 100 cities and concerts – the transformation was amazing, but we still saw how he was struggling with the debilitation process of losing his mind. All Jeff could say of the experience was “how courageous Glen was.”

His life of music and personalities was colorful – he interviewed Paul McCartney in 1989, and decades later it was used in a documentary on the BBC, but he barely remembered it since he was involved with so many famous people, either alive or gone. “Laurel Canyon” was a mix of past and present interviews, Sinatra was researched, but Hip-Hop music is contemporary and live. He did comment that while we see music divided by genres and markets, today’s listeners are happier with a mix of old and new, and Hip-Hop is globally more popular than ever. And some artists, like Little Nas X is across several categories, so even artists are multi-generational or multi-marketable. If you want to see Jeff’s weekly “Top Five Songs” (what he is listening to now) go to his website [www.Pollackmedia.com](http://www.Pollackmedia.com) and check them out.



Like **Scott Carlson’s** inspiration today, Jeff noted that songs are emotional, and where it goes, what is says, usually make a movie be memorable and successful.



L2R: Jasiri Jenkins-Glenn, Jeff Pollack, Alexis Scalice, George Falardeau, Michael Silver, Tammy Silver, Dede Venkat

CLICK HERE TO  
**RSVP TODAY**



**RSVP DEADLINE: Monday at 12:00 Noon**  
[office@pasadenarotary.com](mailto:office@pasadenarotary.com)

### MENU

- Roasted Chicken with Pesto
- Grilled Petite Bistro Steak with Peppercorn Cream Sauce
- Roasted Pepper & Portobello Mushroom Sandwich (v)

*Check in Wed with Alan and Jane*

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## MEETING & EVENTS CALENDAR

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**Five Acres Annual Holiday Toy Drive/Volunteers**  
They are in need of some volunteers at the Holiday Dinner for their Residential kiddos.

**Five Acres: 760 Mountain View Street, Altadena - 626-795-6793 - Point Person: Jessica Paz**

Holiday Dinner for Residential Kiddos:  
12/19: 4:30pm – 6:30pm

Please add your name to any yellow box(es) that you are willing to volunteer for:

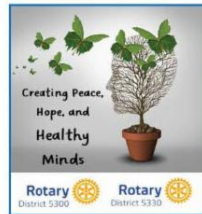
Live sign-up document:

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/11jfTxim24Ep4Q3aWitkXNfn0laUzqkfsJzLk\\_iYMMXk/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/11jfTxim24Ep4Q3aWitkXNfn0laUzqkfsJzLk_iYMMXk/edit?usp=sharing)

**DIAD Co-Chair: Stephen Smith - [ssmith.meridianappraising@gmail.com](mailto:ssmith.meridianappraising@gmail.com)**

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# Garbis Der-Yeghian 34th Annual Peace Conference

THEME: Creating Peace, Hope, and Healthy Minds



**Saturday, January 27, 2024**  
Registration Check-in/Continental Breakfast 8:00 a.m.  
**Conference Begins Promptly at 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.**  
Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum



**Keynote Speaker:**

**Brian Rusch**

CEO—Out for Equality

Founding Member of RI DEI Task Force

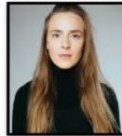
Vice Chair- RI Joint Advisory Council of DEI

Past President and Founder of Rotary eClub for Global Action



**Engaging Panel on Mental Health, covering:**

Destigmatizing Conversations, Raising Awareness, and Advancing Access



**Jenn Freeman**

Autistic American  
choreographer, dance  
performer, and educator



**Lora Illig**

Former Executive  
Director for NAMI  
Pomona Valley



**Chris Florendo**

Team Support Leader  
CalHOPE & NAMI Greater  
Los Angeles County



**Sally Sagario**

Operations Manager for  
NAMI Long Beach/  
Whittier

## Registration/Admission

(includes continental breakfast and tour of the museum)

**\$40.00:** early registration by January 26, 2024

**\$45.00:** at the door if seats are available

**Students/Interact Clubs/Rotaract Clubs free  
registration**

To **REGISTER** and for more information, visit the event website at:

<http://district5300.org/peace-conference/>



Scan for Event Page and  
Registration



Rotary District 5300  
District Governor  
**Michael Soden**



Rotary District 5330  
District Governor and  
Panelist Moderator  
**Jamie Zinn**



Conference Chair and  
Emcee  
Rotary District 5300  
**Mary Ann Lutz**

## POLIO PIG & COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS AT WEDNESDAY MEETING

### ALL ANNOUNCEMENTS MUST BE PRE-APPROVED!

Wish to "Show & Tell" us what you are up to or make an announcement (30 seconds) about your family, business or a favorite nonprofit or a Committee announcement? Email Wendy at [office@pasadenarotary.com](mailto:office@pasadenarotary.com) by Tues at noon. Minimum donation for Polio Pig Announcement: \$20 or for \$30+ which is billed to your account. Additional \$20 If you wish to leave flyers (in a stack on the table not individual) or a hand-out at end of meeting.

## RESIGNATION

Elliot Murphy as of 11/30/23 - Member since 11/1/83 - 40 Years

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

Howard Raff	December 15
Hillary Schenk	December 16
Sonia Lagomarsino	December 18

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Dec. 27th - **DARK** - HAPPY HOLIDAYS! HAPPY 2024!

Jan. 3rd -Alex Aghajanian - My Year As Tournament of Roses President

Jan. 10th - Michael Soden - Rotary District 5300 Governor

**SPOKES** is the weekly newsletter published by the  
Rotary Club of Pasadena

**Weekly Live Wednesday Meeting by RSVP at 12pm**  
Altadena Town and Country Club  
2290 Country Club Drive, Altadena

**Spokes Chair/Publisher/Editor:** Wendy Anderson  
**Bureau Chief:** Mary Lou Byrne

**Scoot Zone Reporters:** Mary Lou Byrne & Dean Billman

**Photographers:** Jonathan Edwards, Wende Lee, Hans  
Rosenberger, Hillary Schenk & Tammy Silver, Matt  
Bookman, Ken Joe & Dede Venkat.

**Proofers:** Mary Wilson & Kathy Meagher



**ROTARY CLUB OF PASADENA 2023-2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**MEETS** the 2nd Thursday of every month at 5pm

**PRESIDENT:** Justene Adamec  
**PRESIDENT ELECT:** Stephen Smith  
**IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT:** Mary Lou Byrne  
**SECRETARY:** Michele Ferroni  
**TREASURER:** Tony Phillips  
**PRESIDENT ELECT-ELECT:** Hillary Schenk  
**CLUB DIRECTORS:** Don Andruess, John Burt, Lisa Cavelier, George Falardeau, Frank Fish,  
Sandy Goodenough, J.P. Harris, Debi Kroman, Wende Lee, Tammy Silver,  
Cyril Vergis, Mark Waterson.

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