

# Rotary

## Club of Pasadena, CA



## SPOKES NEWSLETTER

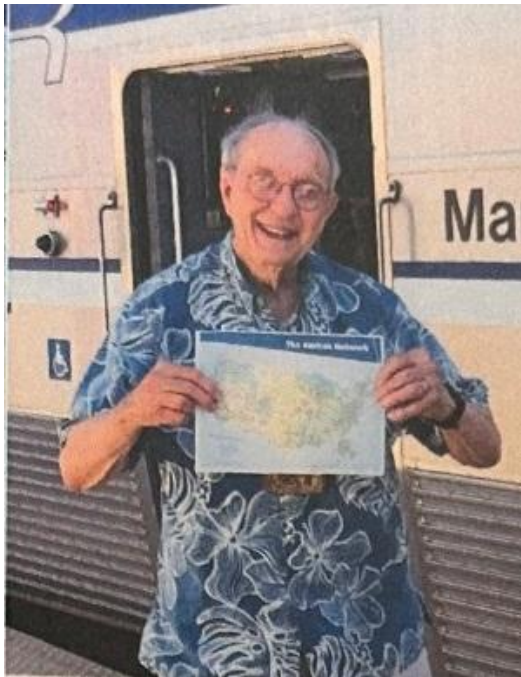
DISTRICT 5300 \* Rotary Club 794 \* February 9, 2024 \* #01-006

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

### THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM

## NAT READ

*84 Years Later Nat Read Completes all 21,400 Miles of Amtrak*



Nat Read has spent a life fulfilling goals. One goal was participation in the Pasadena Rotary Club. Another was national recognition in July for completing all 22,400 miles of the passenger rail system of the U.S.A. Two weeks ago he could say he had ridden on both the northernmost (Fairbanks to Anchorage) and southernmost railroads in the Americas. (The train to the end of the world in Argentina).

Other milestones have been:

**Visited** 110 countries

**Visited** all seven continents

**Stood** at both poles of the earth (one of fewer than 100 people in history to do so)

**Flew** the Goodyear Blimp, submerged in both conventional and nuclear subs

**Performed** aerobatics in a sail plane (glider), bi-plane and a Navy warplane

**Landed** on the water in a sea plane and was catapulted from an aircraft carrier

**Was** an exchange student to the Soviet Union by train through what is now Ukraine, Georgia, Uzbekistan, Czech Republic, Slovakia, East and West Germany and

Poland

**Was** arrested by the KGB

**Held** news conferences for Ronald Reagan, Jesse Owens, Perry Como, etc., etc.

**Marched** with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

**Retired** as a U.S. Navy captain

**Wrote** six books, and articles in dozens of magazines and newspapers, including the *Wall Street Journal*, *Reader's Digest*, and *L.A. Times*

**WEDNESDAY – FEBRUARY 14, 2024**

**UNIVERSITY CLUB - 12:00 pm**  
**175 N. Oakland Ave, Pasadena 91101**  
**Must RSVP to attend! RSVP Deadline: Friday 2/9/24**

Reception: Jane Waas & Jeannine Bogaard  
Song Leader: Don Andruess & His Band  
*Ann Louise Christensen - Joe Totomasi - Gino Escarrega*  
Inspiration: Mic Hanson  
Scoot Zone Reporter: Dean Billman  
Photographers: Tammy Silver & Wende Lee  
Technical: Frank Fish & Scott Carlson  
Sergeant At Arms: Robert Lyons

Non-members are welcome - \$45.00 includes lunch

# Future Flash

By President Justene Adamec



So - I'd like to know what you thought. Was it worth shortening the first part of our meeting in order to give the speaker additional time?

It was wonderful to be back in the University Club (and so many familiar faces on staff). Everyone who attended RSVPed. Bravo!

I owe the Club an apology. Because of the current setup, we only get one meat entree and a vegetarian entree. I chose pork for the meat entree, without being sensitive to the fact that a number of our members do not eat pork for religious reasons. The vegetarian option was a passable but not the best choice. I'm sorry and I'll do better going forward.



*Photo: The Koi and Pond in President Justene's new home fared well through the torrential rains.*

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

## The Scoot Zone

By Past President Mary Lou Byrne, Bureau Chief

Photos by Ken Joe and Hans Rosenberger





It was a happy, happy day as Pasadena Rotarians returned to our home at the University Club of Pasadena after a six month exile due to a fire in the U Club's kitchen. The dining room was looking great and our spirits were particularly high because the sun was shining after days of torrential rain! **President Justene Adamec** rang the bell at 12:30 and **Past President Phil Miles**, accompanied by **Don Andruess** on guitar, led us in a mashup of Shenandoah and You Are My Sunshine (the latter, according to Phil, as a tribute to the weather). **Armida Baylon** gave the Inspiration, reminding us that "your destiny is to fulfill those things on which you focus most intently," so make sure to focus on the positive.

We remained standing while **Past President Kathy Meagher** announced that Marion Cameron, wife of Past President Don Cameron, passed away this week. Services will be today, Friday, 11:00 am at Pasadena Presbyterian Church, 585 E. Colorado Blvd. Pasadena. And, in a demonstration of the Four Way Test in action, Kathy confessed that she bumped into a car in the parking lot with her car and will make things right with the owner.

**Jennifer DeVoll**, **Bob Risley**, and **Desiree Alvarado** brought guests this week. **President Justene** reminded us that if we mention Rotary to a friend, she will give us a sticker at next week's meeting!

*Photo Below: Scoot Zone Reporter PP Mary Lou Byrne capturing the meeting*



Announcements:

**Past President Mary Lou Byrne** is soliciting volunteers for the Four Way Speech Contest. There are two ways to help: By contacting high school students or speech coaches to get contestants, or to be a judge at the preliminary round on February 28 in Pasadena. Contact co-chairs David McAlexander [David\\_McAlexander@onebox.com](mailto:David_McAlexander@onebox.com) or Bill Tilney [bill@afpasadena.org](mailto:bill@afpasadena.org) for details.

**Jennifer DeVoll** contributed to the Polio Pig in honor of **Past President Mel Cohen**, who solved a problem for the Pasadena Community Foundation, of which Jennifer is Executive Director. It seems someone donated a house to PCF, but it wasn't insured! Jennifer contacted Mel and he got it insured within three days! Hooray and thank you, Mel!

**President Elect Stephen Smith**, co-chair of Done in a Day, solicited volunteers for Elizabeth House and hinted at another upcoming project. Elizabeth House details below.

**Desiree Alvarado**, co-chair of RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards), offered an all-expense-paid trip to the lovely Big Bear Mountains for those interested in facilitating the RYLA weekend. It's the last weekend in March and it is fun and rewarding. Contact Desiree for more information: [desiree@pasadenapromos.com](mailto:desiree@pasadenapromos.com)

**Jan Sanders** reminded everyone that the deadline for grant applications is TODAY, February 9. Applications and more information here: <https://www.pasadenarotary.com/community-grants/>

**Jennifer DeVoll** introduced our speaker. Juan Bastos is an internationally-renowned portrait painter who was born in Bolivia, grew up in Bolivia, and came to the United States when he enrolled in Georgetown University in 1979.

Juan started his presentation by showing us a video of the history of portrait painting by art historian Raichel Le Goff, showing the evolution from profiles to full-figure images. You can see it here:



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IFYyVxzbKDY&ab\\_channel=RaichelleGoff](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IFYyVxzbKDY&ab_channel=RaichelleGoff)

Speaking of his own motives for painting portraits, Juan explained, “It’s a magic act – creating the illusion of life in two dimensions.” He said, “Photography can reproduce, but the artist reinterprets!”

We were treated to a survey of some of his favorite subjects:

- Author Gore Vidal
- Actress Patricia Morison, whom he painted when she was 99 years old
- Artist Don Bachardy, whom he painted in front of a portrait of Bachardy’s partner Christopher Isherwood
- The late Charlie Munger, whom he painted in his 90s, and who “wanted to look MUCH younger!”

Other tidbits:

- Painting children is very hard because you don’t want the finished product to be too sentimental. You have to find the balance so that the portrait is “pleasing without being over the top.”
- Juan painted portraits of many prominent art collectors, and he likes to pose them in front of one of their favorite paintings. Here is an example: <https://www.juanbastos.com/w1.htm>
- Sometimes he is asked to alter a portrait after it is finished. He showed us a lovely portrait of a young girl that he altered to add her beloved pet dog.
- When painting a family portrait with two children, Juan suggested making a diptych (a set of two paintings) so that when the children grew up, they could each inherit the painting of themselves with one parent.
- One of Juan’s clients asked to have herself painted in the style of the Virgin Mary and the Annunciation. It turned out very dramatic with New York’s Central Park in the background!  
<https://www.juanbastos.com/g3.htm>





- It's possible to paint from photos, but it's very helpful to have at least one session with the subject sitting live for the painter. Fun fact: Juan often borrows the subject's clothing and has it on a mannequin while he paints.

After reviewing many of his portraits (which can be seen at [www.juanbastos.com](http://www.juanbastos.com)), we had a lively Q and A session in which we learned that Juan has painted 340 commissioned portraits and perhaps another 160 or so for himself, for a total of about 500 paintings over his career!

**President Justene** presented Juan with his speaker gift and the meeting was adjourned to great applause at 1:30.





*L2R: PP Mary Lou Byrne, Juan Bastos, Tom Parry, President Justene, Jennifer DeVoll, Sherry Dewane, Bob Risley*



*Phil Miles & Cyrus Afshin check in with Alan Schier & Jane Waas*

**CLICK HERE TO  
RSVP TODAY**

### **No RSVP-No Lunch**

**Lunch is being catered this week  
by Tardino's so we need the RSVP!**

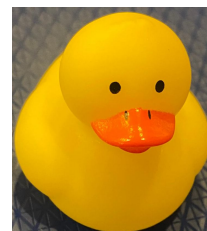
**Herb Roasted Pork Loin with Apple  
Chutney, Orzo, Steamed Vegetables,  
Spinach Salad, Dinner Rolls  
or if you wish Vegetarian!**

**DEADLINE TO RSVP: FRIDAY 2/9/24**  
[office@pasadenarotary.com](mailto:office@pasadenarotary.com)

## **TYROS "Rain Downpour" Meeting**

**Kudos to the Brave Tyros & Committee Members who braved the  
torrential rains last Monday to attend. Co-chair Wende Lee had  
"rubber duckies" for all.**

**L2R:** Angie Pizano, Mike Bernard, Jasiri Jenkins-Glenn, Young Lee Hertig,  
Wende Lee, Alan Schier, Harrison Gulla, Dean Billman, David McAlexander,  
PP Mary Lou Byrne, PE Stephen Smith, Howard Raft, Bill Tilney, Alex Oscoco.  
Not Pictured-taking the photo :PP Ken Joe







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## MEETING & EVENTS CALENDAR

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# Done in a Day

### SEEKING VOLUNTEERS FOR "DONE IN A DAY" PROJECT

**Elizabeth House - February 24 (Saturday) - 8:00 – noon**

Looking for volunteers for light outdoor maintenance. Located at 559 N. El Molino Ave.

**CONTACT: PE Stephen Smith- [ssmith.meridianappraising@gmail.com](mailto:ssmith.meridianappraising@gmail.com)**

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## RYLA IS BACK!!!!

District 5300 will be conducting the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards Camp 2024 the weekend of March 22-24 in Running Springs, CA.

The Pasadena Club will be sponsoring 8 high-school Juniors for the event. We are currently seeking applicant students! Please consider any high-school Juniors you or your friends may know and have them apply!

**LOOKING for volunteer facilitators for 1 or 2 days.**

***Please contact Co-Chairs Desiree Alvarado (213) 400-1502 or John Burt (720) 235-9370 for more information.***





**Attention 11th Graders**  
 You Are Invited to  
 Apply For A  
**Rotary Youth Leadership  
 Award (RYLA)**



**CAMP CEDAR  
 CREST**  
 Running Springs,  
 California  
 March 22-24, 2024



**WHAT IS RYLA**

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is an intensive training program for High School Sophomores and Juniors. Talented young people attend a 3 day seminar organized by the Rotarians of District 6300 of Rotary International. All of the participants' expenses are often paid by sponsoring Rotary clubs.



**WHAT DOES RYLA OFFER**

Develop Leadership Skills  
 Increase Self Confidence  
 Gain exposures to a variety of issues & people  
 Improve career skills & knowledge  
 Meet community leaders & members  
 Have a lot of fun  
 Meet other people your age from  
 Southern California & Southern Nevada



**WHO PARTICIPATES IN RYLA**

RYLA events are for young adults with proven leadership experience and potential leaders from diverse backgrounds. If you are a High School Junior you will learn, grow, have fun and make friends. The RYLA experience prepares young people to be leaders in their community, profession, and other facets of life.

**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.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!**

Cory Brendel	February 9th
Cathy Simms	February 9th



Phyllis.Mueller	February 9th
Helen Baatz	February 10th
Jan Copley	February 12th
Alan Schier	February 13th
Lisa Cavelier	February 15th

## ROTAVERSARIES!

Ariel Drachenberg	2/10/10	14 Years
Phyllis Mueller	2/10/16	8 Years
Jan Copley	2/13/13	11 Years
Wendy Anderson	7/11/12 - 5/11/16 2/14/18	10 Years

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Feb. 21st - Michele Zack - Altadena Historical Society - Owen Brown: His History & Memorial In Altadena
Feb . 28th - Joel Stern - "The Beauty, Fun, and Magic of Origami"
March 6th - Lance Davis - Parson's Nose Theater -"My Life in the Theatre"
March 13th - Pasadena Mayor Victor Gordo

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

**Weekly Live Wednesday Meeting by RSVP  
University Club Pasadena, 175 N. Oakland Ave.**

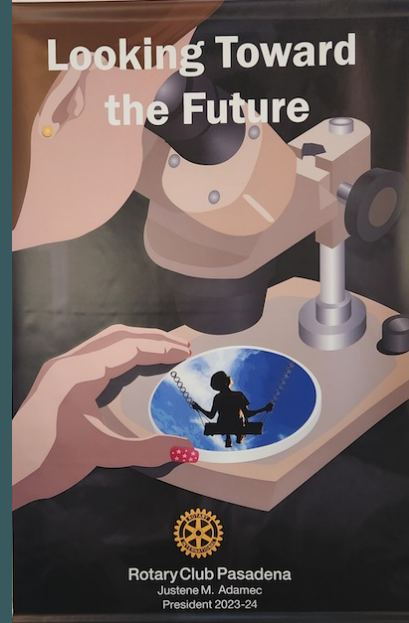
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**ROTARY CLUB OF PASADENA 2023-2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**MEETS the 3rd Thursday of every month at 5pm - University Club of Pasadena**

**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, George Falardeau, Frank Fish, Sandy Goodenough, J.P. Harris, Debi Kroman, Wende Lee, Tammy Silver, Cyril Vergis, Mark Waterson.**

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## Rotary Club of Pasadena

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

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