
Rotary

Club of Pasadena, CA

SPOKES NEWSLETTER

DISTRICT 5300 * Rotary Club 794 * March 29, 2024 * #01-0013
www.pasadenarotary.com

THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM

Vladyslav Golyk *“Rescuing Animals Affected by War in Ukraine”*

Introducer: Nevino Rocco



Born and raised in Kharkiv, Ukraine, Vlad has been living in the US since 2010 when he moved here to pursue his PhD in Physics at MIT. He currently lives in Los Angeles where he is a partner with McKinsey & Company.

With his immediate family living in Ukraine when war first broke out, Vlad has been close to various efforts to support Ukraine. His parents, who were stuck in the basement of an apartment building when the war started, were holding for their lives under heavy Russia artillery and rockets. They eventually were able to get evacuated to nearby Poland.

Since then, and almost by accident, Vlad has been involved in rescuing abandoned pets. He has been supporting a grassroots group of about forty volunteers who dedicated their livelihoods to this task.

Vlad will be sharing interesting stories about his efforts with Ukraine that will give us a better idea of the situation on the ground and how such efforts make an enormous difference.

WEDNESDAY – APRIL 3, 2024
UNIVERSITY CLUB - 12:00 pm

175 N. Oakland Ave, Pasadena 91101
RSVP Deadline: 4:00 pm MONDAY 4/1/24

University Club is providing one time
Complimentary Valet Parking this week!
(Pasadena Heritage "our overflow parking" has an event this week
and with Spring Break, parking space is difficult)

Reception: Jane Waas & Alan Schier
Lunchtime Pianist: Ann Louise Christensen
Song Leader: Don Andruess w/ Ann Louise
Inspiration: David McAlexander
Scoot Zone Reporter: Dean Billman
Photographers: Claudia Ponce de Leon & Hans Rosenberger
Technical: Frank Fish & Scott Carlson
Sergeant At Arms: Robert Lyons

Non-members are welcome - \$45.00 includes lunch

ZOOM is back and opens at 12:15 pm:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86515101523?pwd=dHhNZnV5c2ZqbzNQbWthbDNhYTladz09>

Meeting ID: 865 1510 1523. - Passcode: 667356

Future Flash

By President Justene Adamec



My goal for this year was to get the Club back where it was after the pandemic. Awesome people wanted big things and without participation by most of you, many big things wouldn't succeed.

Still, we have had some highlights. The parade of Past Presidents pleased most of you. Despite my doubts, the Global Scholar program was a success. (The board overrode my doubts and I am glad we did.) We also have another Global Grant partnering with a club in Brazil. More on that later.

Some firsts - the RYLA scholars are coming to the meeting on April 10 and in June, we're presenting our first Paul Harris community award.

Still, it's the fellowship of the meetings that remains our heart and soul. This week, there will be VALET PARKING. And, for those of you who can't break away for lunch, the Zoom portion of the meeting is returning.



Photo: President Justene seen hobnobbing with PP Mark Mariscal of Altadena Rotary.

Justene Adamec
626-806-2529
President@pasadenarotary.com

The Scoot Zone

By Past President Mary Lou Byrne, Bureau Chief

Photos by Ken Joe and Tammy Silver



President Justene Adamec rang the bell right at 12:30 and introduced **Past President Mary Lou Byrne**, just back from a long vacation, to lead the song. In honor of the fact that it was a nice sunny day, she led us in the Beatles' Here Comes the Sun, accompanied by Ann Louise Christensen on the piano. **Jan Sanders** provided the inspiration, consisting of quotes about writing and speaking from Ann Morrow Lindberg, Benjamin Franklin, and Dilys Liang.



We had a lot of guests this week! **Howard Raff**, **Alex Oscco**, **Lynne Sullivan**, and **Robin Salzer** all brought guests. We also had visiting Rotarians Mark Mariscal of Altadena Rotary and Ginny Hsiao of San Marino Rotary (and Ginny brought two guests of her own!).

Announcements: **Past President Mary Lou Byrne** announced that our **Centennial Past President Scott Vandrick**, who left the Club when he took a new job in Downtown Los Angeles, has been re-admitted to our Club as an Honorary Member. Hooray and congratulations, **Scott!**

Past President Phil Miles announced that there will be a Celebration of Life for Robert Oltman TOMORROW, March 30, at 2 p.m. at the Blinn House, 160 N. Oakland Ave.

George Falardeau encouraged everyone to help fill some Pasadena Rotary tables for the Mayor's Interfaith Breakfast on Thursday, May 2 at 7:30 am. Contact **Wendy Anderson** at office@pasadenarotary.com to reserve your spot.

President Justene, on behalf of **Past President Cory Brendel**, announced a cleanup project in the Arroyo on April 6. Details below. She then turned things over to **Bill Tilney**, co-chair of the Four Way Test Speech Contest.

First Bill reminded us of the origin of Rotary's famous Four Way



Test of everything we think, say, or do:

Is it the TRUTH?

Will it be FAIR to all concerned?

Will it build GOOD WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

This test was originated by Rotarian and future Rotary International President Herbert J. Taylor in 1932 and has been going strong ever since. You can read more about the history, in Herb's own words, here: <https://rotary5630.org/history-of-the-four-way-test/>

Next, **Bill** explained that today was the Group Round, which followed the Club Round, which took place in February. He acknowledged the Pasadena, Altadena, and San Marino Rotarians who participated in the earlier rounds, including co-chair **David McAlexander, Mike Bernard, Robert Lyons**, Altadena's Mark Mariscal and Roger McKee, and San Marino's Ginny Hsiao (who is also the chair of the Four Way Speech Contest for the entire District 5300).

PP Mary Lou Byrne introduced the distinguished judges for today's round:

Jan Sanders has been a Rotarian since 1997 and a member here since 2006. She has served as committee chair and leader of Rotary Readers. She spent the last 12 years of her happy and productive career as Director of Pasadena's 10 libraries. What fun! Although retired in 2016, Jan stays active through the community panel leading the update of the Central Library. She's also on the Pasadena Community Media Board and does daily water aerobics at the Rose Bowl Pool. Jan lives in Pasadena and enjoys spending time with her family including her daughter and granddaughter. She told the Committee "I'm eager to hear what these outstanding young people have to share."



Abraham Meltzer is a Superior Court Judge, presently assigned to a criminal courtroom in Pasadena. You may remember him from his presentation on "Fraud as Hyperreality" at our August 18, 2023 Rotary meeting. Before taking the bench, he worked at the U.S. Attorney's Office in Los Angeles for 17 years, where he was Chief of the Civil Fraud Section. Among other matters, he supervised the team that in 2020 recovered \$2 billion from Wells Fargo Bank for opening millions of fake accounts without its customers' authorization. Most notably, though, in 1982, he was the Rotary Club of Banning's Four-Way Speech Contest winner. He lives in Glendale with his wife and has two grown children.

Scott Phelps is a longtime friend of Pasadena Rotary, dating back to his selection as a PUSD Teacher of Excellence way back in 2001, when he was a math and science teacher at Muir High School. He was elected to the Pasadena Unified School Board in 2005 and served for 17 years. After leaving the board in December 2022, Scott went back to teaching in the PUSD, at its Center for Independent Study school. As he explains it, "Students take online courses, I mentor them through them, tutor them, push them along, lots of communicating with them. I enjoy it." Scott has also taught in the College of Education at Cal State LA and served as an advisor to teacher credential candidates at Claremont Graduate University, Cal State Northridge and Mt. St. Mary's College. He has also worked as a consultant in the program evaluation of schools and districts across California. He and his wife also live in Pasadena and have two grown children.



Finally, it was time for the students. Coincidentally, we had three young women this year.

Pictured Above: L2R: Paulina McConnell, President Justene, Sarah Lin and London Gray

Our first contestant was London Gray, an aspiring filmmaker who is a sophomore at Pasadena High School and hopes to attend USC film school. She was representing the Rotary Club of Altadena and her speech was about the epidemic of missing black women and children, and California's recent institution of the Ebony Alert to make it easier to help find them.

The second contestant, Sarah Lin, is senior at Southwestern Academy in San Marino and represented the Rotary Club of San Marino. She speaks six languages and hopes to attend college abroad and study business. Her speech was about even though we are living "in a time of unprecedented crises," creating hope in the world can achieve a better future.

Finally, Paulina McConnell, a junior at Pasadena High School, represented the Pasadena Rotary Club. She hopes to study environmental science and her speech was about climate change and the fact that 80% of climate refugees are women.

While the judges were tallying the scores, each contestant introduced herself and her guests. All the contestants brought at least one parent, and they also brought the teachers who encouraged them to enter the contest.

When the judges came back, the results were announced. The two runners-up each received a check for \$200, while the first-place winner received a check for \$400. Each contestant also received a certificate of achievement.

The winners were: Third place, London Gray (Altadena Rotary), Second place Sarah Lin (San Marino Rotary), First place Paulina McConnell (Pasadena Rotary). Paulina will advance to the Group Round next month and hopefully to the finals in May.

Congratulations to all our contestants and thanks to all who helped make this event a success!



L2R: Mike Bernard, Co-chair Bill Tilney, Paulina McConnell, President Justene Adamec, Sarah Lin, London Gray, Co-chair David Alexander, and Robert Lyons



DEADLINE TO RSVP:
BY MONDAY 4:00 pm 4/1/24
office@pasadenarotary.com

**CLICK HERE TO
RSVP TODAY**

Lunch is being catered by Tardino Brothers

Braised Boneless Beef Short Ribs
Smashed Potatoes w/ spinach garlic and
caramelized onions, Sauteed vegetables, Mixed
Green salad and Rolls

Or Vegetarian

ROTARY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
SERVICE ABOVE SELF



APRIL

ROTARY MULTI-CLUB SERVICE PROJECT for The ARROYO & FOOTHILLS CONSERVATION PROJECT

Sunshine! Fresh air! Exercise! New Friends! The Arroyo and Foothills Conservancy Service Project! Saturday, April 6th in the morning. **Sign-up deadline March 29th.**

Rotary Clubs of Sierra Madre, Altadena, South Pasadena, San Marino and led by Pasadena's Cory Brendel corybrendel@gmail.com - 2 Service Projects – **Sat. 4/6/24** - Trail repair on Cottonwood Canyon, easy work and Trail on Rubio Canyon, more substantial moderate work on damage from recent rains. Meet and work along side Rotarians from nearby clubs. **Sign-Up Deadline is March 29th.** (Email Cory for copy of the flyer).

CORY SAYS: YOU COULD BE IN THIS PHOTO!



MAY

CORAZON 2024 SUPERBUILD – Justene Adamec – president@pasadenarotary.com

Build a house in one day for a family needing a home in Tecate Mexico. May 4th. Costs include \$30 roundtrip bus from Chula Vista to Tecate site and hotel costs.

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 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!!

Peter Boyle	March 30th
Fred Soldwedel	March 31st
Marilyn Buchanan	April 1st
Royce Gilder	April 4th
Pedro Huertas	April 4th

HAPPY ROTAVERSARY

Eszylfie Taylor	3/30/16	8 + 2 Years = 10
Mel Cohen	4/1/87	37 + 12 Years = 49
Frank Fish	4/1/96	28 Years

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

April 10th - Glenn Barnett - "Polio: Good Riddance"
April 17th - Community Grants -Co Chairs: Diana Peterson-More & Mic Hansen
April 24th - Nagin Cox, JPL - Dare Mighty Things: Mars Rovers Paving the Way

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

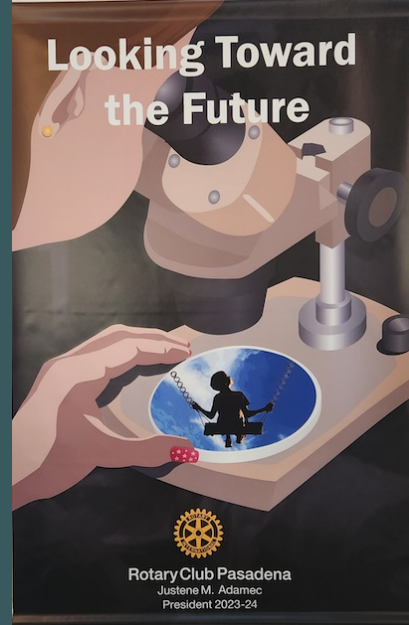
**Weekly Live Wednesday Meeting by RSVP
University Club Pasadena, 175 N. Oakland Ave.**

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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
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Mark Waterson.**

Rotary Club of Pasadena

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