
Rotary

Club of Pasadena, CA



SPOKES NEWSLETTER

DISTRICT 5300 * Rotary Club 794 * May 3, 2024 * #01-0018

www.pasadenarotary.com

THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM

ROBERT HORI

Huntington's Japanese Heritage Shoya House – A Traditional Model of Sustainability

Introducer: PP Mary Lou Byrne



Robert Hori is the Associate Director for Cultural Programs. For the past seven years, he oversaw the relocation of a 320-year-old residence and garden from Marugame, Japan, to a two-acre site at The Huntington. He oversees programming for the Huntington's Botanical Gardens with a special emphasis on the Japanese Garden and Japanese garden arts including landscape design, tea ceremony, flower arranging, stone viewing and bonsai.

He organizes lectures and cultural experiences for the public, and has curated exhibitions including *Nuestro Mundo*, artwork created by young Latino artists in response to the historical exhibit *Visual Voyages: Images of Latin American Nature from Columbus to Darwin*, *Out of the Woods & Amazing Trees*, *FloriLegium: Folded*

Transformations for the Natural World by Robert J. Lang, *Gifts from Japan – Flora Japonica* through Botanical Art and *Ice & Stone – The Art of Viewing Stones* for the Portland Japanese Garden.

Prior to coming to the Huntington, he was the program director at the Japanese American Cultural & Community Center in Los Angeles, where he produced national tours of *The Grand Kabuki*, *Bunraku – the National Puppet Theater of Japan*, *Nomura Kyogen*, and contemporary programs including the *butoh* master Ohno Kazuo.

WEDNESDAY – MAY 8, 2024

UNIVERSITY CLUB - 12:00 pm

175 N. Oakland Ave, Pasadena 91101

RSVP Deadline: 4:00 pm MONDAY

OVERFLOW PARKING: Heritage House - Enter parking off Madison
Do not park in any reserved parking space

Reception: Jane Waas & Alan Schier aka Badge Master
Lunchtime Pianist - Ann Louise Christensen

Song Leader: Don Andruess
Inspiration: Lisa Kroese
Scoot Zone Reporter: Dean Billman
Photographer: Tammy Silver
Technical: 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

Once upon a time, in a land not so far away, companies had a commitment to the community that included sending their employees off to service organizations without a direct expectation of business. Once upon that same time, in the same not so far away land, businesses got business by developing relationships without a direct expectation of business.

Some of that is still true today but the pressure to receive some business directly attributable to Rotary weighs upon many members and potential members. The usual answer that you can't expect business is only partially true. Joining any organization expecting to get business quickly is ill-advised but Rotary isn't just a service organization. In its opinion requiring Rotary International to admit women, the California Court of Appeal recognized that "[t]here is no doubt that there are substantial business benefits to be gained by belonging to an organization such as Rotary which is comprised of community business and professional leaders."

Over the next two weeks, I'm going to talk about two ways in which Pasadena Rotary is responding to the membership's need to balance business and service. This week, I am focusing on one that has been around for a long time. The Business Alliance Committee, formerly Rotarian to Rotarian, organizes events focused on business networking. Over the years there have been unstructured events like mixers and more structured events such as meetings where one of the members shares what their business does. Over the last year, we have had mixers at the Langham, hosted by **Carmen Choy-Surdam**, Director of Catering Sales, and at Pasadena Media, hosted by **George Falardeau**, **Chris Miller**, **Bobbi Ferguson**, and **Jasiri Jenkins-Glenn**.

Look for a schedule of upcoming mixers and meetings coming soon.

How active the Business Alliance Committee is depends on the Rotarians who get involved with it. If you are interested, contact one of the co-chairs, **Cyril Vergis** and **Wendy Anderson**.

Next week, I'll talk about a brand new program - the Pasadena Rotary Impact Club.

Justene Adamec

The Scoot Zone

By Past President Mary Lou Byrne, Bureau Chief

Photos by Hans Rosenberger & Tammy Silver



President Justene Adamec rang the bell at 12:30 and turned the floor over to **Past President Mary Lou Byrne**, song leader for the day, accompanied by backup vocalist **Don Andruess** and Ann Louise Christensen on the keyboard. In honor of our pioneering woman speaker, we sang Helen Reddy's "I Am Woman," and Mary Lou announced that because May 1 is Law Day, it was also going out to honor Clara Shortridge Foltz, the first woman lawyer in California, and Mabel Walker Willebrandt, the first female U.S. Deputy Attorney General. After the Pledge of Allegiance, **Deb Raupp** gave the inspiration, consisting of three quotes about horses including this from Ronald Reagan: "There's nothing better for the inside of a man than the outside of a horse!"



President Justene welcomed two new corporate members from Union Station who were joining us for the first time. Venice Dunn is the Advancement Officer and Mario Galeano is the Vice President of Development. **John Foulkes** and **Alex Oscoco** brought guests this week to enjoy the program.

We inducted FOUR new members this week! Hooray!

Membership Committee Chair and **Past President Howard Raff** introduced **George Ricciardella**. George is the Director of Development at Impact Drug & Alcohol Treatment Center. Prior to that, he was a stay-at-home dad to his two sons for several years, and before that he was a television producer, and before that he was a high school teacher in New Jersey. George and his family, including wife Allison who works in the entertainment industry, live in Burbank. "Thank you so much for this honor," said George. "I look forward to getting to know each and every one of you."

Howard also sponsored **Anthony Russo**. Anthony's wife is a former Moorpark Rotarian and she suggested Anthony contact our Club, which he did, and Howard immediately invited him to lunch

and now here he is as a new member! Anthony has been a member of the Pasadena Police Department since 2004 and is currently a Lieutenant in the Special Operations Division, where he leads the traffic team, the SWAT team, and co-leads the Firearms Training Team. He was born and raised in Simi Valley and now lives in Moorpark with his wife Harmony and two young children. "I'm excited to be here," said Anthony, and assured us all that he is our conduit to the Pasadena Police Department.



Finally, **Howard** introduced **Anthony Rezek**, who is one of our youngest new members. He began his career in mortgage loans, but recently made the jump to personal finances. He expects to become a Certified Financial Planner within the next two months and is currently employed as an agent at New York Life Insurance Company. In his spare time, he has many interests including golf, cooking, movies, music, video games, board games, basketball, comedy, and cars. "I appreciate everybody here," he said. "It's been nothing but friendly faces and open arms from the start, and I look forward to meeting the rest of you."

Nevino Rocco sponsored new member **Gui Bittencourt**, who has been a member of Rotaract Clubs in Brazil since 2009. He has a bachelor's degree in nutrition and is also a photographer/videographer, dietician, and IT technician. Gui is also a young Rotarian, who recently celebrated his 30th birthday! "Thank you so much," he said. "I am looking forward to making friends and serving the community."

Department of Announcements Department:

Wende Lee announced a Tyros Happy Hour on May 20 – details below. Everybody is invited including spouses and plus-ones.

Past President Phil Miles made a \$100 donation to the Polio Pig and announced that his daughter Brenna and her band B.Miles will be appearing at the Moroccan Lounge on Saturday May 25 at 6:30 p.m. Tickets available here: <https://www.ticketmaster.com/b-miles-los-angeles-california-05-25-2024/event/0900605AE95750EE> Phil promised to buy the first drink for everybody who shows up.

President Elect Stephen Smith, in his capacity as Co-Chair of Done in a Day, solicited volunteers for the next project on May 7 at City Hall. Details below.

Catherine Haskett Hany reminded everybody that nominations for the Paul Harris Community Award are due TODAY, Friday May 3. More info here: <https://www.pasadenarotary.com/home/paul-harris-fellow-award/>

Alex Oscoco, the new co-chair designate of Done in a Day (replacing Stephen when he becomes President on July 1), reminded us we still need volunteers to help with the Five Acres gala on May 18. Details below.

Jan Sanders reminded the Rotary Readers that we will be discussing The Rose Code at **Florence Helmberger's** house this coming Monday, May 6. Please contact **Past President Cathy Simms** to be added to the Rotary Readers roster.

Past President Howard Raff had an exciting announcement: We have established a new category of membership! "You saw the four new members we inducted today," he said. "But you didn't see the 12 people who said 'no' because they couldn't make it to regular lunch meetings." Many people want to serve but can't attend all those lunches. The new IMPACT Club is designed to accommodate those people who want to help our community by serving. **President**

Elect Stephen Smith learned about IMPACT Clubs at his president elect training course and brought it to the Board, which approved it at last month's meeting. Our first member is First Daughter **Amanda Pumilia**, who is a kindergarten teacher and obviously can't leave her students unattended while she comes to lunch, but who wants to serve the community! And we already have our second member as well! If you know somebody of good moral character who would like to serve but can't attend weekly lunch meetings, contact Howard.

Marsha Rood introduced our speaker. **Ada Gates Patton** is the first woman farrier licensed to shoe thoroughbred racehorses in the United States and Canada. She shared her story of growing up in a "big fancy house in Long Island," where she was one of 8 children, and her mother was a socialite, and her father was a Vice President at Steuben Glass. Ada was always crazy for horses and as a young girl she won prizes in horse shows and even moved on to fox hunting. Upon her mother's insistence, she came out as a debutante and moved to New York City, where she was a model and aspiring actress



When her acting career fizzled, Ada went to work for a prominent music manager and found herself on the stage at Woodstock, just feet away from Janis Joplin! During that time, a friend suggested a road trip to Colorado, and Ada fell in love with the country and stayed. She got a job as a waitress and bought a horse, but she couldn't find a reliable farrier (horse shoe-er). So she decided to learn how to do it herself: "Me and 49 men in the class." She recounted how the instructor was much harder on her than on anyone else in the class, because he knew she'd have to be better than anyone else to make it.

"My mother was appalled, my father was proud, [and] I was absolutely terrified," said Ada. But she began making a living as a farrier, "and then the press began," and she found herself something of a celebrity with press coverage and appearances on TV shows such as What's My Line and To Tell the Truth.

She decided to specialize in racehorses, but had no luck with the East Coast farriers, who all rejected her.

A friend called from Los Angeles, and Ada decided to try Santa Anita Racetrack. "I applied to the great Harry Patton, head of the union, to take the test [to become a licensed racehorse farrier]." To Ada's surprise, Harry said "yes" and coached her for months for the six-hour test. She passed and became the first woman in the US and Canada to shoe thoroughbred racehorses. "Trainers are in the business of winning," Ada said, "so they got over my being a girl because I kept their horses running." She showed us a thrilling video of the 1984 Breeder's Cup Classic, in which the horse she shod, Wild Again, won the race.

But, she said, "the best thing I ever did, was marry my mentor, Harry Patton. . . . I'm so lucky he loved me." He opened a supply shop in Monrovia, and they had 23 wonderful years together before he died in 2023.

Ada closed by showing a clip of her appearance on David Letterman, during which she tried to show Dave how to shoe a racehorse! https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1JtP8su-P0c&ab_channel=bean5 It was a great comical note on which to end a very enjoyable meeting



L2R: Royce Gilder, Wende Lee, Ada Gates, Marsha Rood, Venice Dunn, Mario Galeano, President Justene



DEADLINE TO RSVP: MONDAY 4:00 pm
office@pasadenarotary.com

**CLICK HERE TO
RSVP TODAY**

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RSVP TODAY**

**BUFFET MEAL PROVIDED BY
Chef Tony, The University Club**

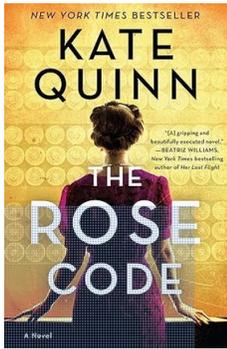
Garden Green Salad
Cole Slaw (Vegetarian)
Southern Potato Salad
(Vegetarian)
BBQ Glazed Chicken
Polynesian Pulled Pork
Mac and Cheese (Vegetarian)
Baked Beans (Vegetarian)
Roasted Asparagus (Vegetarian)
Jalapeno Corn Bread (Vegetarian)
Chef's Choice Dessert

ROTARY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES SERVICE ABOVE SELF

MAY

CALLING ALL TYROS (that's YOU if you have been a Rotarian for less than a year). We will meet at El Torito's **Monday 5/6/24 at noon**. Please come! You don't need to RSVP. Bill Tilney of the Ambassador Foundation will give us his craft talk along with President-Elect Stephen Smith to talk about a new program starting during his year.

CALLING ALL MEMBERS/SIGNIFICANT OTHERS who want to meet our newest TYROS. Join us on **Monday, May 20th**, at El Torito's for Happy Hour. From 4:30 to 6:30, appetizers will be provided, and no-host bar will be available. There is no need to RSVP.



ROTARY READERS

On **May 6th** at 6 pm Diana Peterson-More will review *The Rose Code* by Kate Quinn. Meeting will be at the home of Florence Helmberger.

Bring something to eat or drink to share. We eat between 6 and 6:30 pm and then start the discussion.

If you have any questions, please email Jan Sanders at janinpasadena@gmail.com or Cathy Simms at simmsie1@pacbell.net.

DONE IN A DAY - Help Celebrate Our Schools - Tuesday, May 7th. 5-7pm at Pasadena City Hall Courtyard, 100 Garfield Ave., Pasadena 91101. Assist Pasadena Educational Foundation and Pasadena United School District with this event that celebrates Pasadena public schools. Volunteers needed to set up, assist staff, students and families with the behind-the-scenes work. (Move tables, put up decor, direct traffic flow, set up and wrap up.) Pre-Event Google Meeting - May 6th at 4:30-5:00 pm - More info: <http://pasedfoundation.org/support/celebrating-our-schools/> - Stephen Smith ssmith.meridianappraising@gmail.com - David McAlexander - david_mcalexander@onebox.com

DONE IN A DAY - 5 Acres Annual Gala - California Dreaming - May 18th at a private estate in Sierra Madre-
TWO SHIFTS: 4:30pm-7:45pm: Registration, Opportunity Drawing, First Aid, Silent Auction, Step & Repeat and **7:30pm-10:30pm:** Auction Spotters at dinner, First Aid Station, Check out. Alex Oscco - aoscco37@gmail.com - David McAlexander - David_McAlexander@onebox.com



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!!

Pat Wright	May 4th
Lynne Sullivan	May 4th
Bill Opel	May 9th

HAPPY ROTAVERSARY

Robert Lyons	5/5/10	14 Years
Akila Gibbs	5/6/09	15 Years

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

May 15th - Teachers of Excellence
May 22nd - Barry Gordon, Why I Love Musical Theatre. Parson's Nose Theater
May 29th - TBD
June 5th - Brandon Rodriguez, JPL/NASA - Underwater Research
June 12th - Paul Harris Fellow Community Award
June 19th - President Justene's Last Meeting
June 26th - DARK-No Meeting - DEMOTION PARTY TONIGHT!

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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

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Rotary Club of Pasadena

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