



PASADENA ROTARY CLUB ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

SPOKES NEWSLETTER

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This Week's Program

Guest Speaker:

Gerald Freeny, President of 2018-2019
Tournament of Roses®

"The Melody of Life"

Introducer: **Scott Jenkins**



Gerald Freeny has served as President for the 2018-2019 Tournament of Roses year, providing leadership for the 130th Rose Parade®. Freeny announced "***The Melody of Life***" as the Pasadena Tournament of Roses theme to encourage creativity in float entries, marching bands and equestrian participants. "The 2019 theme, 'The Melody of Life,' celebrates music, the universal language," shared Freeny. "Music has the power to not only bring us together but take us back to memories and moments as nothing else can. Rhythm, melody, harmony and color all come together to create the soundtrack that defines our lives."

Freeny has been a volunteer member of the Tournament of Roses Association since 1988. In addition to his many years of service in the Tournament of Roses, his community involvement has included; president of the San Gabriel chapter of

NOBLE (National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives), the Pasadena Police Foundation Board, Pasadena Police Citizens Academy, Pasadena Rose Bowl Aquatics Board, University Club, Pasadena YMCA Board, Black Support Group at Cal State LA, Urban League Board of Governors, United Way Fundraising Committee, Toast Masters and the Pasadena NAACP. Freeny has been on the Advisory Board of the Rose Bowl Legacy Foundation since 2016, and is also a member of Legacy's Museum Committee.

He attended Pasadena Christian School and John Muir High School in Pasadena, and

received a bachelor's degree in business administration and finance from California State University, Los Angeles. Freeny is a member of the Kappa Alpha Psi and Gamma Zeta Boulé of Sigma Pi Phi fraternities and First Historic Lutheran Church.

Gerald resides in Altadena with his wife, Trina, and their daughter, Erica.

Accompanist: **Ross Jutsum**
Song Leader: **Jonathan Edwards**
Sergeant at Arms: **Anthony Shapiro**

Inspiration Station

by President Mary Lou Byrne



2019 is upon us and we are halfway through our Rotary year of fun-having, do-gooding, and Being the Inspiration! Pasadena Rotary, you are rocking it! I think we outdid ourselves in December with Shop With a Cop, Bikes for Christmas, Teen Leadership Camp, a wonderful Holiday Party, and of course our amazing holiday program! **Past President Frank Nicholas** knocked it out of the park as Scrooge, and the rest of the Mighty Rotary Radio Players (**President Elect Scott Vandrick, Mary Chalon, Cory Brendel, Past President Mel Cohen, Past President Shel Capeloto, Mary**

Bowser, Julie Bank, Past President Kathy Meagher, Eric Duyshart, Paul Martin, Norma Mardelli, Past President Dave Mans, Announcer Russ Guiney, and musician and cue-card holder Ross Jutsum) were simply divine! If you missed the show, be sure and catch up with it [here](#). (Thanks to **George Falardeau** and our friends at Pasadena Media for the video!)

I hope you all got some rest over the past two weeks because we are hitting the ground running in January! If you haven't done so already, be sure and mark your calendar for the [Rotary Humanitarian STAR Awards](#) on January 31. The prize winners have been selected and are flying in from all over the country to be honored at a gala awards dinner at the University Club. Get your tickets [here](#) and come on out and support some amazing scientists who have put their work to use for the service of humanity!

Meanwhile, we are still in the thick of raising funds for Phase II of [Caring Little Hearts](#). We are almost halfway to our \$17,500 goal to fund 200 lifesaving surgeries. Just \$88 can save the life of a child so please give generously and share the project with your friends!

And you know what? All this is just the beginning! I am looking for another awesome project where we can roll up our sleeves and do some good right here in Pasadena. What say you, Rotarians? If any of you knows of a great opportunity for us to sponsor or participate in a do-gooding project, please call, text, or email me at 310-710-7701 or

president@pasadenarotary.com. And while you're at it, send me your holiday pics and we'll put together a fun slide show for the new year!

Yours in making a bright new year,

Mary Lou

Scout Zone

Justene Adamec, Bureau Chief

Ross Jutsum and **Cory Brendel** (on his ukulele) led us in [Somewhere in my Memory](#). **Cory** asked 2 quiz questions (answers below*):

What movie was it in? Why is it so great?

Stephen Smith shared two things for the Inspiration. A [prayer](#) from St. Francis of Assisi and a [prayer](#) from Mother Teresa.

Past President Shel Capeloto announced that we are raising money for the second year of Caring Little Hearts. This year, it takes only \$88 to provide a heart surgery for a child born with a congenital heart defect. You can read more and make a donation [here](#). If online donations aren't for you, you can make a donation at one of our meetings. **Shel** will travel to Chennai, India to visit our Twin Club, Rotary Club of South Madras and the project there.

Jim Osterling made a polio pig donation of \$100 to report that Rotary members **Mel Cohen**, **John Gordon** and **Scott Vandrick** were among the attendees at the PCC Holiday Event.

Our program was the Rotary Radio Hour with *A Rotary Carol*. **Russ Guiney** asked the audience to assist with the time travel sound and hand signals. **Ross Jutsum** held up applause signs and the screen flashed On Air. **Mary Lou Byrne** was the narrator (and author). The program was sponsored by Caring Little Hearts and the RHStars - dinner on the 31st of January.

Frank Nicholas played Scrooge. **Mary Chalon**, as his employee Roberta Cratchit, asked for an extra half hour for lunch to see her son, Tiny Tim, participate in the Four-Way Speech contest. **Past President Dave Mans** stole the show as Tiny Tim.



Scott Vandrick, as Scrooge's nephew, arrived to invite Scrooge to the Rotary meeting. Scrooge declined saying: *What's Rotary but a lot of time spent that puts not one dollar in your pocket, or worse, for taking dollars out of your pocket and putting them elsewhere! And not only that, but doing the kind of service for others that all sensible people hire contractors to do for themselves!*

That night, Scrooge's dead partner, played by **Cory Brendel**, appeared to him with the chains he had forged in life. Cory looked great draped in chains. Marley warned Scrooge that he will be visited by 3 ghosts.

Mel Cohen showed up as the Ghost of Rotary Past. After the audience made the time travel sound effect and hand motion, he showed Scrooge the history of Rotary. Rotary members were played by **Kathy Meagher**, **Mary Bowser** and **Julie Bank** (all in handlebar mustaches). **Shel** trod the boards as Paul Harris and **Eric Duyshart** took a turn as Hugh Chaffee, the first President of Pasadena Rotary.

After the time travel noise, **Kathy** appeared as the Ghost of Rotary Present (in a Rotary cap and work t-shirt).

Paul Martin invited Scrooge to join him at a Rotary meeting. When Scrooge refused, **Paul** told his fellow Rotary members - *He's not a fun-haver or a do-gooder - he just stays in his office working all the time and he'll probably die alone and friendless!*

Norma Mardelli told that Rotary meeting of her work in Egypt. **Julie** asked **Eric** about Rotary Humanitarian Stars. **JP Harris** (played by **Julie**) talked about Shop with a Cop and **Paul Martin** talked about Bikes for Christmas.

The Ghost of Rotary Present told Scrooge to listen to the Polio Pig, telling him: *When Rotarians began the Polio Plus campaign in 1988 there were 350,000 newcases of polio per year, but now, 30 years later, there are just a handful of cases in only two countries, all because of a massive worldwide campaign headed by Rotary International.* **Scott Vandrick** gave \$100 to the Polio Pig in honor of Uncle Scrooge.

Tiny Tim arrived to give his Four-Way Speech and tells his mother: *I hope that I'll live long enough to grow up and be a member of the Pasadena Rotary Club myself! Then I can really practice Service Above Self!*

Then, the scariest ghost of all, Ghost of Rotary Yet to Come, appeared to Scrooge. It was so scary that the audience couldn't see that ghost. Scrooge returned to the Rotary meeting to see his nephew **Scott** say:

*It's my pleasure to begin my year as your president for the 2038-2039 Rotary Year. I'm happy to see that we have, uh, counting me we have two of our last five members in attendance here today! Nice to see you, **Jack Bonholtzer!***

We have some sad news here today. Our past president and one of our last members, Tim Cratchit, passed away this week. He was a steadfast Rotarian, always smiling and do-gooding and fun-having, even in the past few years when almost all of our members decided their businesses were more important than Rotary do-gooding and fun-having. Let's have a moment of silence for Tim.

It gets worse. **Scott** and his husband, Tony, stood over Tiny Tim's grave and said:

This is a sad day, indeed. I feel as though Tim's passing is the end of an era. It was bad enough when people stopped coming to Rotary. And it was bad enough when people stopped contributing to Polio Plus, and we stumbled just before the polio eradication finish line. Why, did you know we got down to less than ten cases a year before polio came roaring back? Last year there were 200,000 cases, all because Rotary couldn't finish the job of eradication! All because of people who didn't believe and wouldn't contribute. People like the man lying in this other grave, over here...

Scrooge gazed upon his own grave and cried out: *Great Spirit, assure me that I yet may change these shadows you have shown me, by an altered life! I will join Rotary, I will attend the meetings, I will try to keep it all year.*

Scrooge awakened to find it is still Wednesday and rushed off to the Rotary meeting, a changed

man. He watched Tiny Tim's speech, became a member and paid for a membership for his employee, Roberta Cratchit. The audience applauded, partly because they were moved and also because **Ross** held up that Applause Sign.

President Mary Lou thanked **George Falardeau** and Pasadena Media for taping the play.

The audience all joined in singing Winter Wonderland and **President Mary Lou** ended by saying "Let's go out there and be the inspiration!"

*Home Alone and it was scored by John Williams

Upcoming Events

Monday, January 7, Rotary Readers, 6:15 p.m., *Legacy of Spies* by John Le Carre, at the home Susan Schmid, 1330 Linda Vista Avenue

Monday, January 14, Tyros Luncheon, noon, The Athenaeum



RHSTAR AWARDS - 1/31/19

The Pasadena & Sierra Madre Rotary Clubs present the Third Annual Rotary Humanitarian STAR Awards to be held on January 31, 2019 at the University Club of Pasadena.

Humanitarian STAR Awards will honor outstanding scientific and technological accomplishments in four categories: Health and Medical, Environmental Improvement, Knowledge Sharing and Disaster Relief and Recovery. Join us for an exciting evening!
TICKETS go to <https://www.rhstar.org/>

Shining light upon those achievements contributing to the wellbeing of people and planet, the 2018 Rotary



"Caring Little Hearts"

Over the last two years, Rotary Club of Pasadena has joined hands with the Rotary Club of Madras South, in Chennai, India for a project whereby we funded more than 200 heart surgeries to needy children with congenital heart disease.

We Rotarians embrace this opportunity to do good deeds half way around the world. If you visit www.caringlittlehearts.com, you can explore a video that tells a compelling story of the challenge to give infants and children in India a chance to live healthy lives. If you cannot give, please share the website with others on your social media page.

By working together to respond to real community needs, clubs and districts strengthen their global partnerships. The most compelling aspect of participating in the global grants process is the opportunity to make a difference in the world. This year's Global Grant fundraising is only \$17,500 or less than \$88 per surgery.

WEEKEND BACK PACK

Pasadena Rotary once again teams up with The Salvation Army, the Pasadena Unified School District and others to provide healthy food and goodwill to those children in our community in need of help.

We are looking for three to four individuals with a commitment of about an hour of your time on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month. The packing will take place at 2:00 p.m. at The Salvation Army Tabernacle, 1000 E. Walnut Street, Pasadena, CA 91106. Their phone number is 626-773-4404.

You can book as many dates as you like. You will receive a confirmation email with your assignments.

Here are the dates where help is needed at 2:00 pm

January 9th
January 23rd
February 13th
February 27th
March 13th
March 27th
April 10th
April 24th
May 8th
May 22nd

Respond to Shel Capeloto at jcapeloto@capelotolaw.com as soon as possible if you can commit to one or more of the above times and a confirmation will be sent to you

Happy Birthday To These Rotarians!

Nate Bradley	January 5
Estela Richeda	January 9
Kelly White	January 10
Bertral Washington	January 11

7-Day Notice

Lisa Cavelier, Chief Executive Office, Boys & Girls Club of Pasadena
Sponsored by **Sheryl Guerrero & Stephen Smith**

Michelle Balian, Graduate Management Intern, City of Pasadena, Economic Development
Department - Sponsored by **Mary Lou Byrne**

Upcoming Programs

January 16	Judge Darrell Mavis	Thinking About Thinking
January 23	Dr. Josh Nelson	NASA Climatologist
January 30	Danny Feldman	Pasadena Playhouse Update
February 6	Dr. Julia Bradsher	Huntington Medical Research Institute

SPOKES is a weekly newsletter published by the Rotary Club of Pasadena.

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Should you have questions regarding this publication, please call us at 626-400-6750 or send us an email to office@pasadenarotary.com.

Visit our website www.pasadenarotary.com



See you on Wednesday!