



PASADENA ROTARY CLUB ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

SPOKES NEWSLETTER

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This Week's Program

Guest Speaker: **Val Zavala**, Award-winning TV Journalist

Topic: The Future of Public Media

Introducer: **Diana Peterson-More**



Val Zavala, an award-winning TV journalist, recently retired from her position as V.P. of News and Public Affairs at KCET (PBS) for Southern California. Over her 30-year career she was a television anchor, reporter, producer and executive producer. She covered major issues impacting Southern California politics, education, healthcare, environment, demographics, the economy, arts and culture. As anchor/reporter for the long-running *SoCal Connected* and *Life & Times*, Zavala has won 19 L.A. Area Emmy® Awards, eight Golden Mikes and numerous Los Angeles Press Club awards. She also won a prestigious Walter Cronkite Excellence in Journalism award for her 1-minute ballot proposition explainers.

Ms. Zavala received her master's in journalism from American University in Washington, D.C. and her B.A. in Latin American Studies from Yale University. She was a John S. Knight Journalism Fellow at Stanford University in 1992

She serves on the board of directors for KCET as well as Alzheimer's Greater Los Angeles. She lives in Altadena with her artist-husband and dog Casey.

Song Leader: **Don Andrues**

Inspiration: **Florence Helmberger**

Sergeant at Arms: **Robert Lyons**

Inspiration Station

by **President Mary Lou Byrne**



Wednesday, February 20, was a big day for Pasadena Rotary! First, we had an amazing lunchtime presentation by one of our own, **Scott Jenkins**, who in addition to being a Pasadena Rotarian is the Chair of the Rose Bowl Management Committee. He shared a list of ten fun facts about the "Granddaddy of them All" and it was a great time. Everybody especially loved the 2019 "teaser" video, which you can see [here!](#)

That evening, **Cory Brendel** and the intrepid Done in a Day team served dinner to people experiencing homelessness at the Pasadena Bad Weather Shelter at the Pasadena Covenant Church. Meanwhile, across town, the Nominating Committee, led by Past President **Frank Nicholas**, had a dinner meeting of their own to select four

nominees to replace outgoing Board members **Gary Kearney, Robert Lyons, Stephen Smith, and John Cooper** for the Rotary year beginning July 1. We'll reveal the nominees and vote to fill those spots this coming Wednesday!

This three-event day is just par for the course with a Club as big, diverse, and active as ours! As I keep saying, we don't expect everybody to do everything, but we do our best to make sure we have something for everybody! Whether it's fun-having, do-gooding, or a combination of the two, I hope you all have found something that helps you Be the Inspiration!

Me personally, I'm excited about [RYLA](#) (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) at the moment! This evening I'm going to meet the ten students who've been selected by our club to participate in an exciting weekend of leadership training. And I'm doing some training of my own in preparation for going with them and lending a hand! I think it's [going to be a blast!](#)

If you haven't found a fun-having and/or do-gooding activity to make your heart sing, give me a call or shoot me a text or email at 310-710-7701 or president@pasadenarotary.com, and let's figure something out! And the rest of you keep those photos and notes coming!

Yours in big days and having a blast,

Mary Lou

Scout Zone

By **Justene Adamec**, Bureau Chief

Stephen Smith put on Van Morrison singing *Dancin' in the Moonlight* and we all sang along.

Dr. Laura Huang gave our inspiration and ended by quoting **First Gentleman Gary Kearney**: Wherever you go, there you are. **President Mary Lou Byrne** added that **Gary** was quoting Yogi Berra.

President Mary Lou said it had been a while since we had a Fun Haver award. At Sunday Supper, new member **Stephen Kasher's** wife's coat was taken by **Mary Lou's** cousin. They've made arrangements to exchange the coats and, in the meantime, **Stephen** and his wife are award recipients for being good sports.

Speaking of Sunday Supper, did you really think attending this week would force you to skip the Academy Awards? No! In fact, **Chef Gary** will be making movie food.

Here's an important Public Service Announcement: READ THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER. The material will be on the test.

President Mary Lou gave us a pop quiz on the source of the Object of Rotary. None of us were ready. **Past President Dave Mans** thought it came from a Rotary International Convention in Mexico City. Close. It is in the Rotary Constitution, which was last amended at the RI Convention in Mexico City. **Dave** got Be the Inspiration luggage tags for the partial right answer.

Terry Masango announced that Pasadena Rotary will receive the Others Award at this year's Salvation Army awards luncheon on June 6 at noon. All of our members are invited to attend.

Terry also announced that Giving From the Closet, led by **Gail Scanlan**, will support the Salvation Army's collection of Prom Attire for young men. Please bring suits, ties, shoes, etc. to the meetings for the first three weeks of March.

Del Lile, on behalf of himself and **Phyllis Mueller**, co-chairs of the Read Across America Committee, announced that volunteers are needed to read a Dr. Seuss story at elementary schools all over Pasadena on March 1st at 8:30.

Del also recommended the exhibit *Something Revealed; California Women Artists Emerge, 1860-1960* at the Pasadena Museum of History. **President Mary Lou** collected \$20 for the Polio Pig.

Victoria Alsabery announced our next social event on February 22, 8:30 PM -12PM, Jazz Night at 1881 on Washington. (That's tonight!) 1881 only serves drinks but there will be a taco truck there that evening.

Past President Cathy Simms announced that Caring Little Hearts has reached 70% of goal.

Cory Brendel announced the Done in a Day project that was set for the [bad weather shelter](#) at Pasadena Covenant Church that evening, had more than enough volunteers. There will be other opportunities. He asked us to get rid of the word homeless. At the bad weather shelter, those people are our guests. **President Mary Lou** presented **Cory** with Be the Inspiration luggage tags.

Past President Diana Peterson-More announced that her book *Consequential Communication in Turbulent Times: A Practical Guide to Leadership* is for sale on Amazon. She would give \$1 for the Polio Pig for every person who bought it on February 21 and emailed her. Why that day? Amazon rankings rely in part of sales in a single day. As I write this mid-day on Thursday, it seems to be working. The book is currently #57 in Communication Skills.

For 5 minutes before the speaker started, **President Mary Lou** had us discuss what it means to Be the Inspiration with people at our table.

Past President Diana introduced our speaker, Rotarian **Scott Jenkins**, who is a Past President of the Tournament of Roses (he got Vin Scully to be Grand Marshall) and is now Chair of the Rose Bowl Management Committee, which is the governing body among the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Association, the Pac-12 Conference, and the Big Ten Conference, with responsibility for organizing each year the Rose Bowl Game.

Scott spoke on the Top Ten Things You Should Know About the Rose Bowl.

1. What is it? It's an interconference college football game held at the Rose Bowl on January 1, except when January 1 falls on a Sunday. Sportscaster Keith Jackson nicknamed it The Granddaddy of Them All because it is the oldest Bowl Game in the country.
2. Who runs it? The Tournament of Roses Association, which has 30 staff and 1000 volunteers. It was started to raise money for the Rose Parade. Now the Tournament of Roses takes a management fee and splits the net proceeds to participating conferences.
3. The first game was in 1902, played at Tournament Park. Michigan beat Stanford 49-0 and for many years after that lopsided game, they had things like chariot races and ostrich races instead of football.
4. In 1921, they decided to design and build a new stadium in the arroyo. The design was based on the Yale Bowl. The architect, Myron Hunt, and notable people from the community, went out to the arroyo with a cardboard cutout of the stadium. They literally walked around the arroyo, moving the cardboard cutout until they found the right location for the stadium. It was built for \$272,000. They donated the stadium to the City of Pasadena.
5. In the 30s, other warm weather cities started their own bowls. Miami started it in 1930 building the Orange Bowl. Havana built the Bacardi Bowl in 1937.
6. After the Pearl Harbor attack, the military asked that the 1942 Rose Bowl not be played. One of the teams, Duke, hosted the game against Oregon State.
7. The Tournament formed a partnership with the Big Ten and Pac 12 to host the game between the top teams in that division. In 2015, the College Football Playoffs were started so every 3 years, the Rose Bowl hosts one of the semi-final games.
8. Their current TV contract is with ESPN, which runs through 2026.
9. It has a flawless playing field. The Bermuda rye grass is grown out in Palm Desert. There are 3 fields growing at all times and they select the best.
10. Many people call the 2006 Rose Bowl the most exciting. Scott's favorite is the 1925 game between Knute Rockne's Notre Dame team and Pop Warner's Stanford team. Notre Dame won 27-10. The real story though was Ernie Nevers, who had 2 broken ankles. Before the game, he insisted that doctors remove the casts. He then played every down and became the only MVP from a losing team.

Mel Cohen, Phil Hawkey, and Phyllis Mueller asked questions. **Phyllis** asked how the construction was financed. **Scott** answered that they sold seat licenses. Here's a little more on that - a [1922 article that reports Pasadena Rotary led the effort to complete fundraising for the construction.](#)

President Mary Lou told us to Go Out There and Be the Inspiration.

Upcoming Events



["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.

DONATE TODAY: <https://www.gofundme.com/caring-little-hearts>

Cocktails and Jazz

at the 1881 Club in Pasadena

Friday, 2/22/19

Live Jazz starts from 8:30 p.m. to midnight

*The club serves drinks only / you can order take out or bring your own.

Address: 1881 E Washington Blvd., Pasadena, CA (parking is next door in the supermarket parking lot)

Please RSVP by 2/18/19 to Victoria at (310) 694-4130 or email at valsabery@farmersagent.com to reserve your spot

Galaxy Game Night

Date: Saturday, March 2, 2019

Time: 5 p.m. kickoff / gates open at 3:30 p.m.

Location: Dignity Health Sports Park (Carson, CA).

Stay tuned for more details to reserve your spot by next week

Happy Birthday To These Rotarians!

John Foulkes & Penn Patton

February 24

Nat Read & Vahe Simonian

March 2

Happy Anniversary To These Rotarians!

Jim Meagher	2/27/13	6 years
Mary Bowser & Dave Cardenas	2/29/12	7 years
James Boyle	3/01/70	49 years
John Cabot & Ed Hearst	3/01/76	43 years
Jim Graunke	3/01/85	34 years
Doug Webber	3/01/88	31 years
Rob Fisher	3/01/89	30 years
John Peck	3/01/95	24 years

Potential Member Guests

Jim Belcher, President, Providence Christian College, Guest of **Cyrus Afshin**

Upcoming Programs

March 6	Dr. Julia Bradsher	CEO, Huntington Medical Research Institutes
March 13	Four-Way Speech Contest	
March 20	George Lewis	Fake News
March 27	Dan Stover Instrumental Music Competition	

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See you on Wednesday!