



PASADENA ROTARY CLUB

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

SPOKES NEWSLETTER

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This Week's Program

Anything Can Happen Day!



When President Mary Lou took the reins of Pasadena Rotary, she decreed that one Wednesday every quarter would be Anything Can Happen Day, just like they used to have on the old Mickey Mouse Club TV show. Remember Anything Can Happen Day? It had its own song and everything:

*Today is a day that is filled with surprises
Nobody knows what's gonna happen!
Why, you might find yourself on an elephant on the moon
Or riding in an auto underneath a blue lagoon.*

*Yes, we Musketeers think you're gonna have some thrills,
And you know it's true that a laugh can cure your ills.
And so, if you're pleasure bent, we are glad to present
The Musketeers' Anything Can Happen Day!*

She promised: "It might be a speaker, it might be a performance, it might be an activity, it might be a field trip, it might be none or all or several of the above. Whatever it is, President Mary Lou guarantees you are going to love it, just like she loved it on the Mickey Mouse Show way back when."

Has she kept her promise? Let's review: Our first Anything Can Happen Day was a hugely fun and successful "Rotary Speed Mixer" in which we all spent the program portion of the meeting chatting up our fellow Rotarians and making friends out of strangers and acquaintances. The second was a surprise visit from professional mime Lorin Eric Salm, who spoke (yes, spoke!) about the history of mime and taught us some fun performance moves. A grand time was had by all. So... yes! Everybody who has participated in an Anything Can Happen Day has loved it!

What will this week's surprise be? President Mary Lou is not telling, but she is willing to give a few hints and teasers:

It will be FUN!

It will be ENTERTAINING!

It will be INFORMATIVE!

It will be INSPIRATIONAL!!

and

It will be DELICIOUS!

Be warned: President Mary Lou promises that if you miss this one, you will cry salty tears of regret. So get ready, bring a buddy, and come on out and sing the Pasadena Rotary version of the Anything Can Happen Day theme song:

*Today is a day that is filled with surprises
Nobody knows what's gonna happen!
Why, you might find yourself with a great exciting show
Or doing a fun activity with a person you don't know.
Yes, President Mary Lou thinks you're gonna have some thrills,
And you know it's true a surprise can cure your ills.
If you like having fun, come on hop skip and run
To Rotary's Anything Can Happen Day!*

Accompanist: **Ross Jutsum**
Song Leader: **Eric Olson**
Inspiration: **Dean Billman**
Sergeant at Arms: **Robert Lyons**

Inspiration Station

by **President Mary Lou Byrne**

Pasadena Rotary! I am so proud and happy and touched and honored! You all came through with flying colors this week as we kicked off April Bring a Buddy Month! Ten Rotarians brought fourteen guests, and that's not even counting the guest who saw the meeting notice in Pasadena Now, and the guest HE brought, for a grand total of sixteen guests! Hooray!

Big thanks and kudos to **Justene Adamec**, **Cyrus Afshin**, **Victoria Alsabery**, new member **Jim Belcher**, even newer member **Joshua Levine Grater**, **Pierre Mainguy**, **Terry Masango**, Past President **Howard Raff**, **Bob Risley**, and President-Elect **Scott Vandrick*** for being Bring a Buddy Boosters!!

As I shared last week, we have nothing but amazing programs coming up for the rest of our Rotary year. I am super excited about next week's Anything Can Happen Day (spoiler alert: this meeting will have something to appeal to everyone and I am not even kidding!), and the next



week is our flagship Community Grants program. This one is not to be missed: As **Howard Raff** describes it, we will give away \$45,000 in 45 minutes, AND we will have an extra-special, never-before-seen surprise or two. It's a flagship program that will have your do-gooder friends begging to join our Club!

And speaking of the redoubtable and remarkable **Howard Raff**, he gave a talk at our Tyros (new members) lunch last week and answered some questions about buddy-bringing. How does he decide who to invite? "I just ask myself if they seem like a nice person whom I would enjoy having in the Club. That's it." What if a guest comes once and is never heard from again? "I count that as a win because that's one more person who has been exposed to Rotary and educated about what we do!"

Isn't that a great attitude? Bring those buddies, Pasadena Rotarians! Some of them will join our Club and that will be great. And some of them will have a terrific lunch and go away with a favorable impression of our Club, and that will be great, too! That's a win/win situation: The only way to lose is if you don't

play!

Pasadena Rotary, you are off to a great start! Keep on bringing those buddies and giving the gift of Rotary! And don't forget, if you have photos or comments or suggestions, send them to me via email, text, or phone call at 310-710-7701 or president@pasadenarotary.com.

Yours in playing to win/win,

Mary Lou

*I think I must have scared **Scott** when I said I wasn't leaving office unless the Club has a net increase in members by the end of my term: He was the Bring a Buddy champ for the week with a whopping four guests, not including our fabulous speaker Jessica Hardin! Hey, whatever works!

Scout Zone

By **Justene Adamec**, Bureau Chief

Led by **Jonathan Edwards** and **Ross Jutsum**, we opened with [Smile](#), which was popularized by Tony Bennett but was written by Charlie Chaplin based on Puccini's *Tosca*, with lyrics added by John Turner and Geoffrey Parsons in 1054. **Immediate Past President Phil Miles** gave the inspiration, including famous movie quotes and memorable movie scenes that were filmed in Pasadena.

Mary Chalon answered **President Mary Lou's** pop quiz about the contents of last week's Inspiration Station by correctly stating that April and May are Bring a Buddy Months. **President Mary Lou Byrne** said that **President-Elect Scott Vandrlick** brought the most buddies but overall the club did well. We had 16 total guests.

We inducted 2 new members. **Eszylfie Taylor** sponsored **Portia Wood**, an estate planning attorney, who said that she joined because we were so cheerful and she wanted to be part of this service organization. **George Falardeau** sponsored **Rabbi Joshua Levine Grater**, the Executive Director of Friends in Deed, who George described as a great asset to the club overall. Friends in Deed is sponsoring the [Mayor's Prayer Breakfast](#). (Pasadena Rotary has a table. Contact **President Mary Lou** or **Wendy Anderson** to purchase tickets.)

Our Polio Princess, **Kym Pietsch**, is taking a leave of absence from Pasadena Rotary while she settles into her new job in downtown LA. Our new Polio Pig Point Person is **Mary Chalon**. We had three polio pig announcements:

Eszylfie Taylor donated \$100 to invite us to two events in support of the [Future Stars Basketball Camp](#), a program which stresses the qualities of hard work, perseverance, integrity, teamwork, and discipline. The first event is their first ever [Annual Charity Gala](#) on Sunday, April 28, 2019, from 5-8 at the Warner Center Marriott in Woodland Hills. It includes a dance number, a magic show and a silent auction. The second is their [Annual Golf Fundraiser](#), the next day, Monday, April 29, 2019 at the Calabasas County Club. 10:00am Registration, 12:00pm Shotgun start, 5:30pm Awards dinner.

Reda Beebe, who is President-Elect of the Rotary Club of South Pasadena and whose dad is a polio survivor, gave \$20 to invite us to the [Taste of South Pasadena](#) on Tuesday, April 16. A wine tasting is from 5-7 pm at Canoe House (\$25 in advance) and the food will be a walking event featuring incredible cuisine from eateries and bakeries up and down Fair Oaks Avenue and Mission Streets. Tickets for the food are \$35 in advance and there's a combination ticket for \$55. Tickets, priced higher, will also be available on site. There are also \$5 raffle tickets to win a prize of restaurant gift cards. You can buy one at the website even if you don't go.

Victoria Alsabery gave \$20 to invite us to the University Club wine dinner *tonight*, April 12.

Of course, there were Club announcements.

Ellen Simon announced Rotary Dodger night on May 10 vs. the Nationals. Tickets are \$45 and parking is \$17 per car. To take advantage of our group discount, we need your commitment as soon as possible. RSVP to buy your ticket on www.dacdb.com or email Armida Baylon at armidabaylon@gmail.com. If we have met our minimum, you can still get tickets. Fingers crossed...

Past President Shel Capeloto and **Elaine Silberman** announced Adopt-a-Meal, which is a new program in conjunction with Union Station Homeless Services. We will prepare and serve a meal at one of their shelters once a month. We have requested the family shelter. Signups were on the table but you can also contact Shel or Elaine if you want to get involved. **Anne Miskey** is the CEO of Union Station. **Cathy Simms** is their treasurer. **Jan Sanders** is on the board.

Past President Ken Hill and **Terry Masango** announced that our contestant in the Dan Stover Contest, the harpist, Annette, won the Regional event and will go onto the District-level competition. This is the fourth year in a row that we won the Regionals and we have won District level three years in a row.

President-Elect Scott Vandrick introduced our speaker, Jessica Hardin, Festival Director of the [Pasadena International Film Festival](#). Her husband, Marco Neves, also with us for lunch, is the Creative Director. They started the festival after noticing that Pasadena has festivals for many things like jazz and dance but none for film. For nine days in March, the Festival shows over 100 films at the Laemmle Playhouse 7. There are blocks of short films and pairings of a short film and a feature. After each evening of films there is a panel for q and a.

They get approximately 1000 submissions and they have 40 screeners and readers (for the

screenplay submissions). Any film that scores high enough gets nominated. 90% of the filmmakers attend and hang out with audience at the Filmmakers' Lounge at the Pasadena Playhouse. It all ends with the Great Gatsby Gala and Award Ceremony at the Speakeasy in Pasadena.

As a special treat, we watched [The Invention](#), a short film from Northern Ireland, which won Best Short Film in 2019.

Mel Cohen, Phil Miles, and Dean Billman asked questions.

Next week is Anything Can Happen Day. **President Mary Lou** promised it will be delicious and, if you miss it, you will cry salty tears.

As always, she sent us off to Go Out There and Be The Inspiration.

Upcoming Events

Thursday, May 9, 7:30-9:00 AM

46th Annual Pasadena Mayor's Interfaith Prayer Breakfast

*This year's Keynote speaker is Dr. Thomas F. Rosenbaum, President of Caltech and Professor of Physics and he will be speaking on "Faith and Science"

Pasadena Rotary will have a table

Purchase your seat for \$40

Contact [Wendy Anderson](#) if you are interested

Join us for an LA Dodgers game outing on Friday, May 10th. LA Dodgers will play the Washington Nationals - Game starts at 7:10 p.m. Tickets are \$45 per person & parking is \$17 per vehicle. Family and friends are welcome to join us.

To take advantage of our group discount, we need your commitment as soon as possible. Email [Armida Baylon](#)

Happy Birthday To These Rotarians!

Del Lile & Diana Sedenquist

April 15

Richard Gray & Joel Sheldon

April 20

Happy Anniversary To These Rotarians!

Armida Baylon	4/15/09	10 years
Kevin Moore	4/15/15	4 years
Leah Snell	4/16/08	11 years
Eric Klinkner	4/16/14	5 years

Potential Member Guests

Deborah Saxe, JAMS, Arbitrator & Mediator, guest of **Justene Adamec**

Tracy Weinck, Golden State Home Care, Director, guest of **Victoria Alsabery**

Kevin Caldicid, PasadenaNow.com, Sales Manager, guest of **Cyrus Afshin**

Cyril Vergis, Arosa & LivHome, Chief Operating Officer, guest of **Howard Raff**

7-Day Notice

John Perez, Pasadena Chief of Police
Classification: Municipal Government
Sponsor: **George Falardeau**

Stephen McCurry, Executive Director, Pasadena Conservatory of Music
Classification: Education - Music
Sponsor: **Deb Lewis**

Upcoming Programs

April 24	Community Grants
May 1	Courageous Citizens

May 8

Michael Ritchie, Artistic Director, Center Theatre Group

May 15

Los Angeles Opera Guild

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!