



PASADENA ROTARY CLUB
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

SPOKES NEWSLETTER

DISTRICT 5300 * Rotary Club 794 * March 13th, 2020 * #61
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This Week's Program

**PASADENA ROTARY CLUB'S MARCH 18 MEETING
CANCELED**

&

**PASADENA ROTARY CLUB'S MARCH 25
MEETING CANCELED**

**DUE TO UNPRECEDENTED HEALTH EVENTS AND IN CONSIDERATION
OF THE SAFETY AND WELL-BEING OF THE PASADENA ROTARY CLUB
MEMBERSHIP, MEETINGS THROUGH THE END OF MARCH 2020 WILL
BE RESCHEDULED.**





Unfortunately, the time has come to announce the cancellation of our March 18 AND March 25, 2020 Pasadena Rotary Club meetings.

Taking our direction from the Los Angeles County Public Health Department, the City of Pasadena Public Health Department and the State of California Public Health Department, we are canceling and rescheduling our 100th birthday party and our presentation on elder financial health – both meetings will be postponed until a later date.

This weekly correspondence, *Spokes*, will continue to be published each Friday during this time, so please find possible future cancellations communicated here. We will be monitoring the regional situation closely, and if our health officials extend the discouragement of gatherings of community members through a longer period of time, we will compile and postpone more meeting dates at that time. For now, it's just the March 18 and the March 25 meetings which have been canceled. In addition, our Dodgers vs. Giants social event on March 28 has also been canceled.

On another note, when our meetings resume, The University Club of Pasadena will be making adjustments to its buffet food service, and adopt all recommended health protocols.

My heart aches to be writing this, but the safety and well-being of each and every Pasadena Rotary Club member is my priority. I know we'll be back together again very soon. In the meantime, practice kindness and patience as we're all in this unusual situation together. As Rotarians, we rise to challenges with dignity and lead with compassion.

It is times like these when the value and importance of community comes sharply into focus. As we wait and watch for the next steps, we realize how connected we are through our weekly Rotary meetings, our school events, our sporting activities, our shared concerts, our church services... as we begin to count link after link, we see we truly are "connecting the world," starting right here at home.

Please stay safe and healthy, Pasadena Rotary.

Yours in service,



President Scott, 2019–2020

PS: Happy, happy birthday, Pasadena Rotary! From the glimmer of an idea to bring people together in the City of Pasadena on March 18, 1920 to this exemplary community service club leading the way into the future – you've always been a group with integrity and vision. I'm proud of each and every one of you, and look forward to toasting this milestone at a future date!

Scot Zone

By Past President Mary Lou Byrne, Bureau Chief Emeritus

Photographer: Nate Bradley



Greeters Robert Earnest and Nathan Long warmly greet Deborah Lewis.

Oh, boy! It was Time Machine Day and Centennial President Scott Vandrick hopped out rocking the [triple polo](#) from 2003 and [David Beckham's hair](#) from 2004! Then he had us all stand and join him in dancing to some fabulous 2000s tunes including [All the Single Ladies](#), [Boom Boom Pow](#), and [Sexy Back](#). Eric Olson then led us in our National Anthem, which he noted is played at every concert put on by the [Pasadena POPS](#), of which President Scott is the Chief Development Officer. Longtime member **Mary Wilson** gave the inspiration, which was, appropriately enough, [a brief history of](#)

[Rotary's Four Way Test](#). Fun fact: **Mary** was the one who sponsored President Scott when he joined Pasadena Rotary!

As always, Centennial President Scott thanked the dream team of Robert, John, and Matt Lyons and [Lyons Design & Build](#) for constructing and installing our real, functional,

working Time Machine. He then presented the time capsule he brought with him from his travels into the first decade of the millennium, including:

- Songs: Poker Face (Lady Gaga 2008), I Don't Know Why (Norah Jones 2002), Toxic (Britney Spears 2003)
- Movies: Gladiator (2001), The Fellowship of the Ring (2001), the Harry Potter series (2001–2011), Finding Nemo (2003)
- TV shows: Lost (2004–2010), American Idol (2001–present), 3d Rock from the Sun (2006–2013)
- News events: 9/11 attacks (2001), Hurricane Katrina (2005), Papal transition (2005), Great Recession (2008)
- Rotary events: Rotary International Centennial in 2005 – **Dave Mans** was president of our club and presided over a gala celebration!



President Scott arrives from the 2000s – complete with David Beckham's hair from 2003 and the "legendary 3-polo shirt" fashion trend from 2005.

On a more serious note, **Cyrus Afshin**, our fellow Rotarian and General Manager of the University Club, took the mic to brief us about the steps he and his team are taking to deal with the [COVID19 virus](#). He assured us that the staff is already trained in proper sanitation procedures, and "our practice is to sanitize all surfaces daily." In addition, they have added wipes and hand sanitizing gel at the entrance to the club. Finally, he said, "I

check the [CDC website](#) daily and we will implement their recommendations."

President Scott followed up by announcing our meetings may be canceled in the future and to please read *Spokes* to get the updated information.

Past District Governor Shab El Awar of District 5330, who is also the chair of the Global Grants Committee for the Las Vegas WON Rotary Club, took the mic to congratulate us on our centennial and urge us to participate in Global Grants. "I am the Chair for International Grants in our District," he said. "The District has \$200,000 available for Global Grants and I am available to help you with the process!" He presented **President Scott** with a People of Action necktie (President Scott: "Ooh! I love a tie!") and button.

President Scott then shared some good news:

Pasadena Rotary was honored at the annual Five Acres meeting and board celebration with the Special Service to Children Award on the evening of March 11! Then he shared the bad news: The event was canceled due to the coronavirus situation. But there was more good news: Five Acres Chief Advancement Officer **Jennifer Berger** was present and had the award in hand! **Jennifer** said, "You are celebrating 100 years of service and we're so happy to now be a corporate member of Pasadena Rotary!" She gave special thanks to **President Scott**, **President-Elect Ken Joe**, **Immediate Past President Mary Lou Byrne**, **Membership Chair Howard Raff**, and Five Acres Board members **Debi Kroman**, **Cathy Simms**, and **Margaret Sedenquist** for years of support, thousands of dollars in grants over the years, and most notably our club's sponsorship of last year's Five Acres summer picnic. She presented **President Scott** with a fancy glass trophy, a certificate, and commendations from Assemblymember **Chris Holden** and County Supervisor **Kathryn Barger**.



Rotarian and Chief Advancement Officer for Five Acres, Jennifer Berger, presents President Scott with the Special Service to Children Award.

Justene Adamec, co-chair with **Mark Nicoletti** of the Four-Way Speech Contest, introduced the program by explaining that we were witnessing the Group or Area Level Competition, which is composed of contestants from Pasadena Rotary Noon, Pasadena After Hours, Altadena Rotary and San Marino Clubs. The winner of this competition will advance to the Regional Contest, which will be held at the Quiet Cannon (901 Via San Clemente, Montebello) at 12 noon during Montebello Rotary's meeting on April 8. The winner of that competition will advance to the District Contest held at the District Conference: May 2, 2019 at the Westin Pasadena. The winner of that contest will receive (up to) a \$5,000 scholarship. (Ed note: All dates, presumably, are at this point subject to change due to the public health situation.) All contestants at this round receive a certificate and a gift card.

Next **Justene** explained the rules of the contest: The 2019-2020 contest theme is Rotary Connects the World, the same as the Rotary International's annual theme. Any topic

related to this theme is be acceptable. Contestants are challenged to share their perspective on the theme while incorporating Rotary's Four-Way Test, Herb Taylor's famous statement on business ethics:

Of the things we think, say or do:

- Is it the TRUTH?
- Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- Will it be BENEFICIAL TO ALL CONCERNED?

Speeches must be no less than six minutes and no more than eight minutes. At the six-minute mark, Timekeeper **Jonathan Edwards** will hold up a card indicating the amount of time that has passed and will do so again at the seven-minute mark, the Timekeeper will hold up a final card indicating the eight-minute mark, indicating that a speech is officially over the time limit.

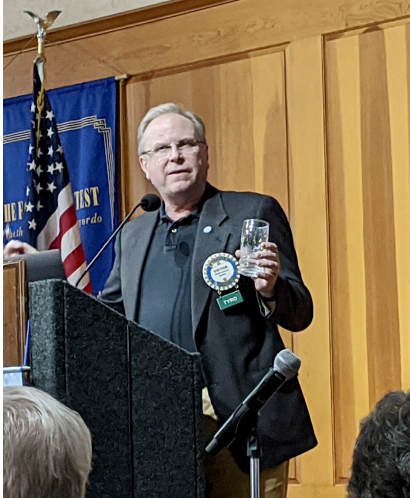
After Mark escorted the contestants into the lobby, they returned one at a time and gave their speeches. (Ed note: the biographical details about each contestant were given by **Justene** later, while the judges were deliberating.)

Lisa Lu, representing San Marino Rotary, spoke first. Her speech dealt with how best to address inequality in society. Lisa is a senior at San Marino High School and is captain of the speech and debate and mock trial teams. She has also founded a nonprofit organization called International Youth Tobacco Control. Her goal is to become the first Asian female Supreme Court Justice.

Next up was Joel Turk, representing our Club. Joel is a senior at Maranatha High School. He swims, tutors other students, and is a member of the Hispanic Honor Society. He used his hands as aids to demonstrate how to apply the Four Way Test to life.

Felisha Davis, the third contestant, represented Pasadena After Hours Rotary. Felisha, a senior at John Muir High School talked about her proposal for an app called "Be Nice" to reward people for doing positive things for other people. Felisha enjoys reading, music, and socializing with others.

After Felisha's speech, **Justene** introduced the judges: **Immediate Past President Mary Lou Byrne**, who is a Los Angeles Superior Court Commissioner; **Past President Kathy Meagher**, who won her local Rotary's Four Way Speech Contest when she was a junior in high school, and Pamela Hillings Tegtmeyer, [manners maven](#), president of Best Foot Forward, and wife of Rotarian **John Tegtmeyer**.



New Pasadena Rotary member, Victor Currie, toasts to our Centennial Year!

Justene then thanked everyone who participated in this year's event, including Maranatha High School speech and debate Coach Patrick Mesisca, who has supported this event for years. She also recognized the guests of the contestants and Rotarians from our partner clubs, Mark Mariscal and Roger McKee. Finally, she thanked all the Pasadena Rotarians who volunteered to judge the preliminary rounds, noting that we had even more judges than we needed!

Wrapping up, Jessica Tinley,

representing Altadena Rotary, spoke about how love is what connects the world. Jessica is a junior at Maranatha High School. She loves to work with little kids and does a lot of babysitting. She also loves to dance and would like to start a business someday.



Four Way Test Speech Contest Co-Chairs, Mark Nicoletti and Justene Adamec with this year's Group Level winner, Jessica Tinley.

While the judges deliberated, **Gary Kearney** used his beautiful handwriting to fill out the contestants' certificates, **Mark** hovered and urged the judges to hurry, and **President Scott** vamped for time by telling a truly horrifying story about his grandfather being scammed out of thousands of dollars by crooks who told him Scott had been thrown in jail and needed help! *[Editor's note: President Scott had not been in jail but unfortunately his grandfather was scammed out of \$11,000 dollars. Be aware!]*

Finally, the difficult decision was made and at 1:30 on the dot Jessica Tinley was announced as the winner, and **President Scott** hopped in his Time Machine and departed with his customary exhortation to "go out there and connect the world!"



At TOP: Four Way Test Speech Contest contestants Joel Turk, Lisa Lu, Felisha Davis and Group Level Round winner Jessica Tilnev with President Scott and Four Way Test Speech Contest Co-Chairs, Mark Nicoletti and Justene Adamec. BELOW: Judges in the Group Level Round Kathy Meagher, Pamela Hillinas Teatmever, President Scott, Co-Chairs Mark Nicoletti & Justene Adamec and judge Immediate Past President Mary Lou Byrne.

Upcoming Events



District 5300



DISTRICT 5300 ASSEMBLY & CONFERENCE

MAY 1 & MAY 2, 2020

WESTIN, PASADENA

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION GALA DINNER

SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2020

WESTIN, PASADENA

PASADENA ROTARY CLUB WILL BE MAKING A **BIG ANNOUNCEMENT** THAT EVENING – YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS IT! MARK YOUR CALENDARS TO JOIN US!

Happy Birthday To These Rotarians!

Rob Fisher

March 14

Wendy Anderson

March 17

Rotaversary

Jim Belcher

March 13, 2019

1 year

Upcoming Programs

March 25

MEETING CANCELED

April 1

Dan Stover Instrumental Music Competition

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

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*Complimentary Valet Parking



See you on Wednesday!

Should you have questions regarding this publication, please call us at 626-683-8243 or 626-400-6750 or send us an email to office@pasadenarotary.com.

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