
Rotary

Club of Pasadena, CA



SPOKES NEWSLETTER

DISTRICT 5300 * Rotary Club 794 * February 10, 2023 * #23-104
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This Week's Program

Dr. Ron White

Presidential Historian

"Unlocking the Private Abraham Lincoln"

Introducer: Helen Baatz



Ronald C. White's book, *Lincoln in Private: What His Most Personal Reflections Tell Us About Our Greatest President*, is the recipient of the 2021 Barondess/Lincoln awarded by the Civil War Round Table of New York for "the greater appreciation of the life and work of Abraham Lincoln." *The Wall Street Journal* hailed it as "an intimate character portrait and fascinating inquiry into the basis of Lincoln's energetic, curious mind."

Dr. White is the author of two *New York Times* bestselling presidential biographies: *A. Lincoln: A Biography* and *American Ulysses: A Life of Ulysses S. Grant*. He has also written *Lincoln's Greatest Speech: The Second Inaugural*, a *New York Times* Notable Book, and *The Eloquent President: A Portrait of Lincoln Through His Words*, a *Los Angeles Times* bestseller.

Dr. White is a graduate of UCLA, Princeton Theological Seminary, receiving a Ph.D. from Princeton University. He has taught at UCLA, Whitworth University, Colorado College, and Princeton Theological Seminary. He has lectured at the White House and been interviewed on the PBS NewsHour. He has spoken on Lincoln in England, France, Germany, Italy, Mexico, and New Zealand.

** Dr. White will have books available for sale (\$15) and signing after the meeting.*

February 15th Meeting

12:00 pm - RECEPTION & LUNCH BY RSVP ONLY

12:30-1:30 pm - Immediate Past President Cory Brendel Presiding

Song Leader: Cory Brendel

Inspiration: Jan Sanders

Scout Zone Reporter: Dean Billman

Photographer: Jonathan Edwards & Tammy Silver

Sergeant At Arms: Robert Lyons

Tech: Scott Carlson & Frank Fish

To attend LIVE - RSVP Below

Non-members are welcome - \$40.00 includes lunch

Or by the One-way "Zoomcast"

Zoom opens at 12:15 pm - Speaker at 1:00pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86515101523?pwd=dHhNZnV5c2ZqbzNQbWthbDNhYTladz09>

Meeting ID: 865 1510 1523

Passcode: 667356

IF LINK doesn't work, cut and paste link in your browser



IMAGINATION
By President Justene Adamec

We had 106 attendees yesterday. That's a post-pandemic high. We had one new member induction and two new corporate alternates introduced. I have it on reliable information that there are more new members in the pipeline.



I spent the weekend at the Southwest President-Elect Training Seminar. There were over 450 people there from all across the region, including Hawaii.

At one lunch, I got to sit at the table with incoming Rotary International President Gordon McInally. For the first time in my life, I was so starstruck that I couldn't come up with a thing to say.

I returned full of enthusiasm for the job and, yesterday, this club matched that enthusiasm.

There are a lot of events in March and April at the club, district, and international levels. Many of them are listed at the end of this newsletter. We're expecting to have the full calendar on DACDB up and running by next week. The Peace Conference is one of the premier district events. Pasadena Rotary is a sponsor. Tickets sell for \$35 but we're asking for a donation of

\$100 or whatever you can give. And Save The Date for our March Mixer at the Langham Hotel on March 29th.

We experimented yesterday with music during the lunch portion of the meeting. So far, the consensus has been that it was great but too loud. We're going to correct that. They'll be back for Cinco de Mayo.

Next week, we return to the Season of Past Presidents.



President Justene Adamac called our meeting to order with a loud clang of the Pasadena Rotary Bell and announced that we had over 106 people in attendance today, a new post-Pandemic record! The tables were filled, the University club staff was busy jostling plates of salmon, salads and pasta dishes, and from the dais there was a room filled with people enjoying the new Rotary Valentine Band, led by Past President **Cory Brendel** on electric ukulele. Accompanied by fellow Rotarian **Don Andruess** on guitar, and Rotarian guests Joe Tortomasi on bass and Geno Escarrega on percussion/ squeaky rubber duck.



As we walked in for lunch, Cory and his Valentinos serenaded us with love songs, including a Beatles tune that would make **PP Phil Miles** proud. Our opening song was "the most enduring love song ever written – The Rubber Ducky Song", which was also the first serenade to PP Cory's newest love of his life, his 14-day old granddaughter.



Mic Hansen offered her inspiration to all volunteers and public servants, reflecting on our shared humanity and even quoted Past Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to a new public servant, "that it would bring a new meaning to your life."

President Justene has established a new tradition of calling on past Rotary presidents to lead a meeting per week, but she stepped in today to run this meeting, and based on the large number of guests and announcements, she decided to wait for the Rotary service Star awards to a later date.

We inducted three new members, and the room came alive. We greeted two fellow co-workers of **George Falardeau**, Executive Director/CEO of Pasadena Media:

Ms. Bobbi Ferguson, Chief Production Officer of Pasadena Media, a Colorado state University graduate, and AmeriCorps volunteer, who has received a TELLY, WAVE, and STAR Awards as a producer and

editor in her media industry, as well as an LA-area Emmy-Award nomination as producer and editor of "The Gamble House 50th Anniversary." Maybe Teachers of Excellence committee for Bobbi?



Our next inductee is **Chris Miller**, the Chief Operating Officer, and Arroyo Channel Manager of Pasadena Media, with a BS degree from South Dakota State University, and has managed college radio stations and crewed several regional PBS and syndicated TV shows. He works as the COO of this unique 501(c)3 Operating Company of the City, and also a channel manager for the public access channel alongside representatives for the city and school channels.

Both Bobbi and Chris have served on the Alliance for Community Media West Region's board. Perhaps Chris might be interested in Community Grants committee?

Our third inductee was a familiar friend – **Past President Mel Cohen's** daughter, **Susanne Cohen**, attorney at law specializing in Elder Law with Hahn and Hahn in Pasadena. Mel was so proud, noting that Rotary has a history of fathers bringing their sons into the club, or husbands and wives joining Rotary together (or marrying each other – that happens, too), but Mel feels he's the first he knows that is bringing his daughter into our club.

Susanne was warmly welcomed, especially as she was a Rotary Group Study Exchange Student and a local product of the best schools – San Marino HS, Vassar College, and Loyola Law School, and is delighted to engage in public service. But even though she is Mel's favorite daughter, "I promise no blonde jokes!" Perhaps she can pick up some new jokes during a Done in a Day service event?



All three new inductees, we have a special lunch just for our first-year members, called Tyros lunch, held the first Monday of the month at California Pizza Kitchen where we discuss committee opportunities, meet fellow new members, and learn more about you in a Craft Talk. It's fun, it allows you to open in a small group setting, and the chopped BBQ salad is pretty good.

Justene mentioned a few weeks ago that the first half of a Rotary Year is about the community, and the second half is for the community, and she rattled off all the service opportunities coming up and needing volunteers:

- 4-Way Speech contest - sign up now
- March 2nd – Read Across America (Dr. Suess at Washington Elementary)
- March 4th – Done in a Day at Union Station
- March 18th – Rotary Peace Conference at the Richard Nixon Library (eight tickets available – some sessions are online)
- March 24-26 is Rotary Youth Leadership Academy (RYLA)

PP Ken Hill appealed for students to try out for the Dan Stover music contest – keep an "ear out" for aspiring musicians or teachers who know a student with promise.

PP Cathy Simms, along with **Akila Gibbs**, is chairing the Community Grants program and encourages senior-oriented non-profits to submit a project very soon for consideration.

John Burt (with President Elect-Elect Stephen Smith as co-chairs) are coordinating the Done in a Day at Union Station.

Lisa Cavalier of the Boys and Girls Club of Pasadena, their 85th year, is back to spearhead the Teachers of Excellence again and this year they will have in-classroom observations, finally.

PP Mary Lou Byrne is encouraging judges to sign up for the Four-Way Speech contest now, and she isn't kidding. And, she added \$100 to the Polio Pig (the fund to end Polio through Rotary International) in honor of **President Justene** attending her President Elect Training (PETS).

Guests: We were honored by many guests today, starting off with Wilbert Smith a high school advisor and founder of the Model A Club at Pasadena High School. He leads about a dozen high school students, freshmen through seniors, to rehabilitate a Ford Model A over an entire year, and the project teaches valuable team-building skills and business acumen – after the Model A is restored, they auction it off (\$100 per ticket) and the proceeds are used for the next car project the next year. He has tickets available to purchase and will be back in April with the finished car to the lucky winner.



Other guests:

Phyllis Currie introduced Sidney Jackson, GM of Pasadena DWP;

PP Scott Vandrick guests: Lora Unger, CEO of the Pasadena Symphony and Pops and guest conductor, Francois Lopez-Ferrer;

Robert Martinez, Pasadena Resident, Actor and Writer;

Jeannine Bogaard guest Allie Carreon, Pasadena Community Foundation Program Manager;

Mel Cohen brought his wonderful wife, Renate Cohen;

George Falardeau brought Justin Chapman, Pasadena Council District 6 Steve Madison's liaison; Ricardo Garcia, Head of LA County Public Defenders and David Reyes, Acting Assistant City Manager, City of Pasadena;

Don Andruess and **Cory Brendel** introduced their guests: Ann Louise Christensen, Joe Tortomasi, bass player and Geno Escarrega the squeaky duck percussionist;

Howard Raff introduced Erica Lake who works in HR, Kate Amsbry, a Realtor, and Anne Garrett, Employment Attorney specializing in Workplace Investigations

John Burt brought his neighbor Lynn Sullivan



Our speaker today was our Pasadena City Manager, Mr. **Miguel Márquez**, who stepped into the job since last fall, and already brings a long list of Service Beyond Self accomplishments in his previous careers. Introduced by member **George Falardeau** (of Pasadena Media), City Manager Márquez gave us an overview of his many accomplishments. His education, as a first-generation American from Mexico, was spectacular, "from Head Start to Harvard." His experience that he brings to our city is so helpful right now, and his focus seems to be helping everyone have equal access to all the benefits a well-run city can offer, no matter what their financial station.

In Santa Clara, CA he ran the services of the county, including healthcare and its operations. He has used his legal skills in Santa Clara County, the San

Francisco school system, and bringing justice to lead paint remediation in California and helping schools through redevelopment finance reform. He also has helped with inclusionary housing for all and the new law on rental protections for renters. He also stabilized the city's contracts with our police and fire departments and hired the new police chief. He is looking for an assistant city manager and city librarian, even though the library is currently being retrofitted.

He wants to bring best-in-class municipal services to all, work with the city and the Tournament of Roses on the new College Playoff Championship (as well as the new opportunities for hospitality from the realignment of USC and UCLA in the Big 10 conference). He mentioned rent control, but not sure how the new independent oversight board will work as it is not yet staffed. Another challenge is to be net-zero carbon by 2030, and the other grand dream would be to realize the kind and scale of new and dramatic landmarks like the original city founders who built the Rose Bowl and then City Hall, the Civic Center and the Library back in the day – what can we accomplish?

“Diversity is our super power” – how to bring the needs and wants of a diverse population that can make Pasadena great in the next decades to come.



L: Phyllis Currie, Robin Salzer, Ricardo Garcia, Miguel Márquez, George Falardeau, Chris Miller, Bobbie Ferguson, David Reyes, Sidney Jackson



Join Us Wednesday!
Check In with Jane Waas, Frank Fish
or Barbara Bishop

RSVP:
office@pasadenarotary.com - 626-683-8243

CLICK HERE TO
RSVP TODAY

To attend the 2-15-23 meeting
RSVP by 5:00 pm MONDAY

MENU:

- **Honey Garlic Glazed Pork Loin**, Garnet Yam Puree, Vegetables Medley
- **Fusilli Pasta Alfredo with Chicken**, Spinach, and Sundried Tomatoes (Vegetarian available)
- **Cobb Salad** with Choice of Italian or Blue Cheese Dressing (Vegetarian available)

MEETING & EVENTS CALENDAR

COMMUNITY GRANTS

ROTARY CLUB OF PASADENA FOUNDATION WILL AWARD
COMMUNITY GRANTS FOR PROGRAMS THAT SERVE OLDER ADULTS

Co-chairs: Akila Gibbs & Cathy Simms

The application deadline is 5 p.m. Monday, Feb. 13.

The Rotary Club of Pasadena Foundation is accepting applications for 2023 grants from nonprofit organizations that serve Pasadena-area residents.

Each grant, which will range from \$2,000 to \$6,000, will be awarded for programs and services that enrich the lives of older adults, such as those that address food insecurity, encourage exercise, offer food planning and preparation, educate about health practices and provide direct services such as flu shots, oral examinations, physical examinations, blood pressure checks and hearing tests.

For a printable 2023 grant application, official guidelines and other information about the application process, visit <https://pasadenarotary.com/community-grants/>
The application deadline is 5 p.m. Monday, Feb. 13. Late submissions will not be considered.



BUSINESS ALLIANCE COMMITTEE

DIM SUM with KEN JOE

Saturday - February 18, 2023

10:30 AM

Full House Seafood, Arcadia

10 Seats Available

Must RSVP to Ken Joe -

kenjoerealtor@gmail.com

Done in a Day
March 4th 2023
9am-2pm

Please join us for our next **Done-in-a-Day** project with **Union Station Home Services** on **Saturday, 4 March 2023, 9am-2pm.**

We will be building some much-needed shelves in two storage sheds at their main facility in Pasadena. We need Rotarians that have some carpentry skills. If you know how to operate a saw, drill, hammer or measuring tape, this is the project for you.

Please contact Co-chairs John Burt jburt@intelligentleadershippec.com or PE Stephen Smith medianappraising@yahoo.com if you're interested in participating.

LOOKING FOR READERS - READ ACROSS AMERICA





Thursday, March 2, 2023

Anytime between 8:30am-1:30pm

Washington Elementary School, 1520 N Raymond Ave, Pasadena

Grades TK (used to be called pre-K) to 5th

Contact **CO-CHAIRS: Tammy Silver** (tamarasilver@gmail.com) and **DedeVenkat** (dede.venkat@compass.com)

	
<p>Washington Elementary STEM Magnet Invites you into TK - 5th Grade Classrooms As a Virtual or In-Person Reader</p>	
 <p>Read Across America Day</p>	<p>Thursday March 2nd</p> <p>Anytime between 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. 15 - 20 min Reading Block</p>

ROTARY 33rd ANNUAL PEACE CONFERENCE

Richard Nixon Library - March 18, 2023

TICKETS: Donation of \$100 - See flyer below for details

Contact **Hussan Kheradmandan** - hassank@sbcglobal.net or **Wendy Anderson**
- office@pasadenarotary.com to secure your ticket.

Garbis Der-Yeghian



33rd Annual Peace Conference

Virtual Session 1 (free)

Wednesday March 1, 2023 6:00 -7:00 p.m.

Angela Zhong

"Doing Good, Better"

Harvard University Class of '24

UNA-USA Food Systems Case Challenge Champion



Virtual Session 2 (free)

Thursday, March 9 2023 6:00 -7:00 p.m.

Al Jubitz

"Rotary Peace: What's Next"

President/Founder of the Jubitz Family Foundation

Founding Chair of Rotarian Action Group for Peace



Live Session—Saturday, March 18, 2023 8:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum

18001 Yorba Linda Blvd, Yorba Linda, CA

Keynote Speaker:

John Hewko

"Peace and the Ukraine War"

Rotary International and Rotary Foundation
General Secretary and Chief Executive Officer



Rotary District 5300
District Governor
Roger Gutierrez



Rotary District 5330
District Governor
Don Casper



Conference Chair
Rotary District 5300
DGND Michael Driebe



Emcee
Rotary District 5330
PDG Rudy Westervelt

Registration/Admission for Live Session

(includes continental breakfast and tour of the museum)

\$35.00: pre-registration by March 10, 2023

\$45.00: at the door if seats are available

\$10.00: students with ID

To **REGISTER** and for more information, visit the event website at:

<http://district5300.org/peace-conference/>



Exciting New Format

Multi-District Event

RYLA

Seeking Facilitators to help shape the leaders of tomorrow

Help provide an extraordinary experience for 200+ High School 10th and 11th graders from diverse backgrounds at the **Rotary Youth Leadership Academy (RYLA), March 24th - 26th 2023**. This is the first RYLA held since the pandemic and we want to make this one special. You're invited to be a "facilitator" and help shape the leaders of

tomorrow.

Rotary Club of Pasadena is sponsoring 10 talented young people from local High Schools for this event organized by District 5300. Participants will go through an intense 3 day seminar to develop leadership skills, increase their self-confidence, gain exposure to a variety of issues, improve career skills and knowledge and enjoy fellowship of other participants, facilitators and guests.

Please contact **Desiree Alvarado, RYLA Committe Chair**
desiree@pasadenapromos.com, if you're interested in being a facilitator



DISTRICT 5300'S NEW ROTAPLAST MISSION - 2023



Saving Smiles...Changing Lives

**Medellin, Columbia
April 15 – April 28, 2023**

CONTRIBUTIONS

Help us fund this mission with club and individual contributions. Any amount is appreciated. Your donation will change children's lives.

Donations should be made out to:
"Rotary District 5300"
Indicate "Cleft Lip Project" on the memo line.

Send donations to:
**Rotary International District 5300
10624 S. Eastern Ave. Ste. A-16
Henderson, NV 89052**

QUESTIONS

Questions or to schedule a club program, contact:

Drexel L. Smith
District 5300 Cleft Lip Committee
951.202.2012
dls@drexelcg.com

VOLUNTEERS

We have seven (7) non-medical volunteer positions for this mission open to Rotarians and Rotaractors. The cost: Roundtrip airfare with the group from San Francisco, VISA, insurance, and a background check.

Applicants need to:

- Complete the attached Interest Form
- Submit a short personal statement addressing: "Why you might be interested in joining a Rotaplast team and what skills you would bring to the team."
- Review the Rotaplast website: www.rotaplast.org about various positions.

Email the interest form and personal statement to:

dls@drexelcg.com
BY
February 6th, 2023

POLIO PIG & COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS AT WEDNESDAY MEETING

Wish to "Show & Tell" us what you are up to or make an announcement 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+ you receive a special sticker, 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!

Helen Baatz

Feb. 10th

Jan Copley	Feb. 12th
Alan Schier	Feb. 13th
Lisa Cavelier	Feb. 15th

Happy Rotaversay!

Ariel Drachenberg	2/10/20	13 Years
Phyllis Mueller	2/10/16	7 Years
Jan Copley	2/13/13	10 Years

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

February 22nd - PP Scott Vandrick - POP CULTURE BONANZA! A Pasadena Rotary Club Game Show
March 1st - Karen Hofman, President, Art Center College of Design
March 8th - Al Osborne - Profesor & Faculty Director Emeritus, Price School of Entrepreneurship & Innovation, UCLA :
March 15th - Dr. Dean Thompson Mentoring and Being Mentored:What I learned and taught at Sing Sing Prison
March 22nd - 4-Way Test Speech Contest
March 29th - Dan Stover Music Contest

**SPOKES is the weekly newsletter published by the
Rotary Club of Pasadena**

**Weekly Live Wednesday Meeting by RSVP at 12pm
The University Club Pasadena
175 N. Oakland Ave., Pasadena, CA 91101**

Scout Zone Reporters: Mary Lou Byrne & Dean Billman

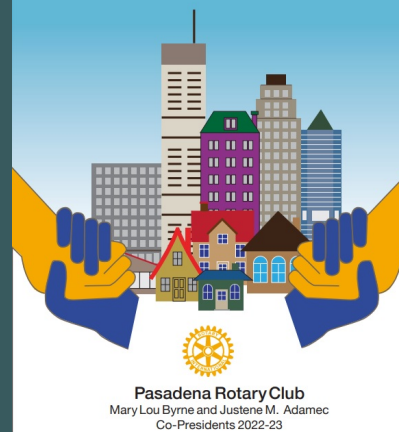
Proofers: Mary Wilson & Kathy Meagher

**Photographers: Jonathan Edwards, Wende Lee, Hans
Rosenberger, Hillary Schenk & Tammy Silver.
Back-up: Barbara Bishop & Desiree Alvarado**

Publisher/Editor: Wendy Anderson

Bureau Chief: Justene Adamec
Bureau Chief Emeritus: Mary Lou Byrne

Building Community Through Service



ROTARY CLUB OF PASADENA 2022-2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meets: 2nd Thursday of the month at 5:00pm-University Club

PRESIDENT: Justene Adamec

PRESIDENT EMERITUS: Mary Lou Byrne

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: Cory Brendel

SECRETARY: Michele Ferroni

TREASURER: Tony Phillips

CLUB DIRECTORS: Desire Alvarado, John Burt, Lisa Cavelier, Mary Chalon, Sandy Goodenough, Mic Hansen, J.P. Harris, Wende Lee, Hillary Schenk, Tammy Silver, Cyril Vergis, Mark Waterson.

Rotary Club of Pasadena

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