
Rotary

Club of Pasadena, CA

SPOKES NEWSLETTER

DISTRICT 5300 * Rotary Club 794 * June 21, 2024 * #01-0025

www.pasadenarotary.com

THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM

DARK FOR LUNCH

***Rotary Lunch Meeting Returns on
Wed. July 3rd
President Stephen Smith's 1st Meeting***

Future Flash

By President Justene Adamec



TYROS. I forgot TYROS! I texted Wendy Anderson less than ten minutes after the meeting when I remembered. I had a picture of TYROS in the highlighted committee section but I moved it to funhavers. Argh.

It doesn't matter how many new members come in if you can't retain them. A member doesn't go from induction to an active club member without information, encouragement and community.

The heroes of the year include Past President Ken Joe and Board member Wende Lee, co-chairs of Tyros. This year we had an amazing retention rate of newer members. Almost no one who resigned had been there less than a year. They deserve and have my deepest thanks!



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The Scoot Zone

By Staff Reporter Dean Billman

Photographers: Tammy Silver & Gui Bittencourt

President Justene’s Very Last Meeting – Where did the time go? We were serenaded by the Rotary Ramblers Band, starring Ms. Juliette Miller on vocals, **Don Andrues** on guitar, Ann Louise Christensen on piano, her husband Geno Escaarrega on drums, and Leo Valenzuela on bass.

It was a rowdy meeting, starting with **President Justene** asking, “For the last time, please stand” and telling us that when she assigned song leader Don Andrues to chair the music committee, “we need to start each meeting with a lively tune so people will come back.” Today Don obliged, as we sang Closing Time (by Semisonic) which was sung on **President Justene’s** favorite sitcom, The Office, as she rolled the lyrics up on the screen, and after 18 months, kept up with the song. He then quipped, “When a President retires from the Rotary Club, you get to retain your pay.”



When it came time for the Pledge of Allegiance, sure enough, **President Justene’s** luck ran out – no flag in sight! Sergeant at Arms **Robert Lyons** paraded the flag just in time, saving the day.

Club Board Secretary **Michele Ferroni** gave a heartfelt inspirational poem she wrote:

“Well (club) I guess its time for my silly little rhyme
As you Justene approach the finish line

You had a long-time goal of running this club,
 Through thick and thin you never gave up.
 I remember I was there for your "I wanna be President" presentation,
 Your knowledge of all things Rotary was really a sensation,
 And then as luck would have it I became Secretary by your side
 To go along with you on this Rotary ride.
 Justene, you always forged ahead with a lot on your plate,
 Keeping us steady so we never worried about our fate,
 When we bounced around looking for a new home
 Your always made us feel we were never be left alone.
 You even broke the mold of all those ex-president who love to talk
 When you insisted Wendy, I need only 10 minutes at the podium, then I
 walk,



You preached and reached your goal of bringing in new members,
 As we look around the room at the youngems, we will remember.
 You imparted your sayings, and told us to "Pivot"
 No matter our task we had to stick with it (because as Rotarians we
 have no limit)
 And in performing your service, if you would,
 Don't let the "Perfect be the enemy of the Good."
 I think we gleaned what leadership service humility meant,
 For a year with you Justene was truly well spent.
 For me Justene, we had some hikes, some runs and shared some
 fun,
 And in the end, I'm more than your Secretary, but indeed your
 chum.
 So now, your days are numbered, as they say,
 But you won't be in a galaxy far, far away,
 Instead, you will be here in Rotary for a long time to stay,
 As you perform Service above Self, keep doing it your Way."



Huge applause for Michele as she finished because it was all true.



Induction & Presentation:

- A club video of the late **PP John Cushman** reminiscing about his past 57 years as a member of Pasadena Rotary, taken in the first half of 2023 when past presidents chaired the club for a season. **Ginny Cushman**, wife of the late Past President John Cushman, was inducted as an honorary member, making her member #199! She was honored, she said, because the Rotary club was such a big part of John's life, and he would be so proud.
- **President Justene** said her goal was 200 members, and even though members come and go throughout the

year, she said Curtis Smith, soon to be voted on at tomorrow's board meeting, would be the 200th member! We lost 24, and inducted 42 new people, and "the energy in this room is fantastic!"

· **Mark Waterson** presented his new director of development **Janelle Hake**, a U Penn graduate and a past member of Pennsylvania's York Rotary Club, one of the oldest in the nation. She is now a Corporate Alternate as Mark changed his membership to Corporate.

Announcements:

- **PP Mary Lou Byrne** promoted **President Justene's** Demotion next Wednesday at the U Club, beginning at 6pm. She then declared an emergency: She needed a replacement video coordinator, and after finally saying she would pay for the person to attend the Demotion if they helped, newest member (like newer than new, not even yet a member until tomorrow!) **Curtis Smith** stepped forward and volunteered. Way to serve Curtis!
- First Daughter **Amanda Pumilia** promoted the new Impact Club School Supplies project, and please consider contributions. See below for details.
- **Sandy Goodenough**, Co-chair, Global Grants/International Projects Committee, announced Pasadena Rotary received a coveted Bronze Award from Cornwall, England's Shelter Box program for our contribution to sponsoring Shelter Boxes for needs around the world, and right now in the humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip.

President Justene's Rules for Living

We looked at wonderful photos of the past year's fun accomplishments, with a disclaimer, "Way too many people did really great things this past year, and if I missed you, it doesn't mean I don't love you." And with that, we proceed to **President Justene's** Rules at the start of her reign, and how she did:

- Be careful what you wish for
- This is what you came for
- Don't let the perfect be the enemy of the Good
- o Brookside cramped tiny meeting room.
- Don't let the Urgent outweigh the important
- o Then we saw the link of the fight to eradicate Polio Virus in Africa, and the successful current eradication of the virus. "A billion determined people."
- Be where your feet are.

o In the worst year of her life (and it really was the worst year for anyone) she showed us pictures of many Rotarian events "and I am always smiling" – her Rotarian events and friends supported her during the darkest times

At this point, the Rotary Ramblers Band broke into the theme form Cheers – "Everybody wants to know your name" and we all sang along.

- You can do hard things:
- o **Wendy Anderson** is a "gold mine" of service beyond herself, and helped make the club what it is today! Hurray Wendy!
- o First daughter **Amanda Pumilia**
- o **President Justene's** Ride or Die Besties **Hillary Schenk** and **Michele Ferroni**
- o **Howard Raff** with his great greeting hugs
- o The greeters: **Jane Waas** and **Alan Schier**
- o Music: **Don Andrues** "really stepped up"
- o The Four Way Test Singers
- o Program Committee: **PP Mary Lou Byrne** and **Tammy Silver**
- o 30 Committees: The Rotary Ramblers Band played as the names of all the committee chairs scrolled up on the overhead screen – you know who you are and President Justene thanks each of you as we sang "We Are Rotary" to Sister Sledge's We Are Family
- § Teachers of Excellence
- § Dan Stover Music Contest
- § Four Way Speech Contest
- § RYLA
- § Teachers of Excellence
- § STEM speakers
- § Rotary Global Scholars
- § Paul Harris Fellowship Award

We had fun – at which **President Justene** noticed the clock and said, "**First daughter Amanda**, it's 1:15 and where is our surprise?"



All of a sudden, glasses of champagne were passed around and everyone toasted **President Justene** as we all sang "Que Sera, Sera" with a final slide of **President Justene** at the previous year's Christmas party at Altadena Country Club dressed in a luxurious long black ball gown with a facemask and long flowing hair. Quite the swan song for a long and eventful two years as President Elect, Co-President and actua President of our Pasadena Rotary.



L2R: Ginny Cushman, President Justene, First Daughter Amanda Pumilia, Hillary Schenk, Tammy Silver, Gary Kearney, Michele Ferroni, PP Mary Lou Byrne, George Falardeau

ROTARY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES & EVENTS

School Supply Drive for Friends In Deed **FILL** the **Purple** Container!

Our Pasadena Rotary Impact Club is collecting school supplies and empty backpacks for Friends in Deed's "Back to School" Event.



Donations can be dropped off at the weekly Rotary meetings between now and July 24th. There will be a purple collection bin by the sign-in desk each week.

If you're unable to make the meetings, please contact Impact Club Chair Amanda Pumilia at apumilia@yahoo.com to arrange another time to drop off supplies.

A list of needed school supplies can be found at this link: <https://myemail-api.constantcontact.com/Food-Pantry-Back-to-School-Event.html?soid=1102402691632&aid=OVif0dHULcA>

POLIO PIG & COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS AT WEDNESDAY MEETING

ALL ANNOUNCEMENTS MUST BE PRE-APPROVED!

Wish to "Show & Tell" us what you are up to or make an announcement (30 seconds) 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+ 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.

7 DAY NOTICE

Curtis Smith - Sponsor: Stewart Rydman Espinosa - Impact Club

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

James Osterling	June 23rd
Ariel Drachenberg	June 26th
Kathy Meagher	June 27th
Andrew Nutbrown	June 26th

ROTAVERSARY

James Macpherson	6/24/21	3 Years
Diana Sedenquist	6/26/13	11 Years

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

June 26th - DARK-No Lunch Meeting

June 26th - DEMOTION OF PRESIDENT JUSTENE - 6:00 pm - University Club

July 3rd - President Stephen Smith's First Meeting

July 10th - Nicole Purcell, HMRI, Teens and Nicotine: The Latest Findings

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

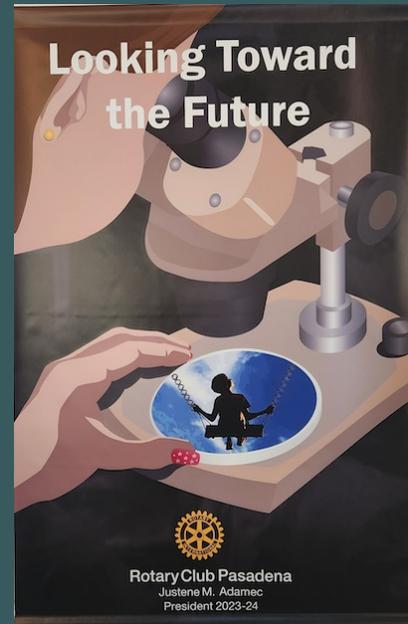
**Weekly Live Wednesday Meeting by RSVP
University Club Pasadena, 175 N. Oakland Ave.**

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**ROTARY CLUB OF PASADENA 2023-2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETS the 3rd Thursday of every month at 5pm - University Club of Pasadena**

**PRESIDENT: Justene Adamec
PRESIDENT ELECT: Stephen Smith
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: Mary Lou Byrne
SECRETARY: Michele Ferroni
TREASURER: Tony Phillips
PRESIDENT ELECT-ELECT: Hillary Schenk
CLUB DIRECTORS: Don Andruess, George Falardeau, Frank Fish, Sandy Goodenough,
J.P. Harris, Debi Kroman, Wende Lee, Robert Lyons, Tammy Silver, Cyril Vergis,
Mark Waterson.**

Rotary Club of Pasadena

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