



### **'SPARKS' OFF THE ROTARY WHEEL**

*An Award-Winning Newsletter*

**The Rotary Club of Altadena meets Thursdays at noon  
at the Altadena Town and Country Club**

**Rotary Club of Altadena - #772**

Chartered: February 14, 1949, P.O. Box 414, Altadena, CA 91003

RI Pres: Jennifer E. Jones, Dist. 5300 Gov: Roger Gutierrez

## **THIS WEEK: CLUB ASSEMBLY**

**Location: Community Room at the Altadena Library**

RSVP to President-Elect Dawn no later than the afternoon of Jan 3

**In the event you are not able to attend, please let  
President Doug know if you have another member to  
report on your behalf, or if you plan to submit a written  
report to be shared with the club**

### **Assembly Agenda**

- 1. Service Projects/Youth Contests & Awards – Mike Zoeller**
- 2. Service Projects/Youth Activities – Tony Hill**
- 3. Service Projects/Seasonal & Other Projects – Craig Cox**
- 4. Vocational Service Projects – Mark Mariscal**
- 5. Membership - Maria Perez-Arton**
- 6. Service Projects/Teacher Mini-Grants & Americanism  
Mini-Grants – Ed Jasnow**
- 7. Foundation – Steve Kerekes**
- 8. International Service – Sarah O'Brien**
- 9. Public Relations/Sparks - Sarah O'Brien**

***Altadena Rotarians are People of Action!!***



**JANUARY 05, 2023**

**January is: Vocational Service Month**

#### **Officers**

**President: Doug Colliflower  
626-524-4158**

**Vice President: David Smith**

**President Elect: Dr. Dawn Digrius Smith**

**Treasurer: Mike Noll**

**Bus: 626-657-2287**

**Secretary: James Gorton**

**Bus: 626-793-6215**

#### **Directors**

**Craig Cox**

**Maria Perez-Arton**

**Mark Mariscal**

**Sarah O'Brien**

**Maricela Viramontes**

**Doug Colliflower**

**Dawn Digrius Smith**

#### **Chairs**

**Membership: Maria Perez-Arton**

**International: Sarah O'Brien**

**Community Service: Craig Cox**

**Vocational: Steve Kerekes**

**Youth Contests, Scholarships, Awards:**

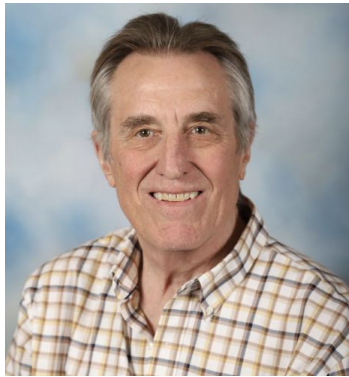
**Mike Zoeller**

**Youth Activities: Tony Hill**

**Foundation: Steve Kerekes**

## President's Piece

By President Doug Colliflower



### Club Assembly

I hope that you all have had a wonderful holiday season and I wish you a very healthy and happy new year.

Our Club Assembly is this Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, at the Altadena Library. The semi-annual Club Assembly is held as a regular club meeting and, in lieu of a scheduled program, we conduct club business, beginning with lunch at 12:10 pm.

The purpose of the Club Assembly is to share information and keep our members informed of the goals and plans we are working on for our 2022 - 2023 Rotary year. I, along with board members and committee chairs, will talk about our plans for the remainder of the year, including projects and fundraisers.

This date marks the halfway point in my presidency, and I am not aware of any coups in the works so I am going to assume (yes, I know better), that I will survive to the end of my term.

In July I shared with you that my primary goals during my term as President would focus in the areas of Branding, Marketing, and Membership. I thought this would be a good time to update you on our progress.

- **Branding & Marketing:** I wanted to be consistent with RI President Jennifer Jones' theme "Imagine Rotary" and spread the word about all the good stuff Rotary does.
  - o Our **social media** (Facebook & Instagram) accounts have been straightened out and we now have access and are posting content on a reasonably consistent basis.
  - o The **website** continues to improve with regular updates and new content added on a regular basis.
  - o **Community Events:** Over the last six months, our club has participated in The Sheriff's Department National Night Out, our semi-annual Pancake Breakfast, Altadena Chamber of Commerce Sip & Shop Holiday event, and the Annual Lighting of Christmas Tree Lane. Our participation at these events includes a booth staffed with club members, our new canopy branded with Altadena Rotary, a new Altadena Rotary brochure, a Rotary International flyer containing informational links, and a photo board showcasing our members in action!
- **Membership:**
  - o We started with a member assessment survey in June, and we shared the results with the club at our regular meeting on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. We enjoyed a good dynamic discussion and the survey data along with those discussion points will be a source of focus for the next couple of years.



Independent Living, reimagined

<https://www.ecsforseniors.org/montecedro/>



**Rotary  
Sponsored  
Events:**

March 2023 Read at Families Forward

**Upcoming General Community / Service  
Opportunities:**

**Native Milkweed Seed Giveaway**

January 21, 2023

Altadena Community Garden

10 AM to 3 PM

**Altadena Rotary and Muir's  
Interact Members Decorate  
the 2023 Rose Parade  
winning Rotary Float!**



Altadena Rotarian, Steve Kerekes, his wife Sunny, and daughter Naomi, along with Muir's Interact members and Co-Advisor had a lot of fun gluing mums and leaves onto Rotary's float! Interact's Co-Special Projects Director Lucy Schmidt, Interact Member Jaelle Watkins,



- o The membership committee completed a review and update of our member recruiting, election, and orientation protocols. As we resumed more normal activities "post COVID" it became apparent that we had become lax in these processes, and I am pleased to report we are back on track with updated standards.
- o Our membership has grown primarily because of our merger with The Pasadena After Hours Club. However, many seeds have been planted with our marketing and branding activities and I am confident that we will be welcoming more new members in the coming months.

We have made great progress and I am grateful for your support. Please know there is always room for additional member involvement and our Club Assembly is a great opportunity to ask questions and contemplate how and where you may deepen your involvement in our club, our community and Rotary globally. I know we are going to finish the year with a bang, and a lot of positive momentum to kick off Dawn's Presidency.

*Yours in Rotary, see you Thursday!*

## INTERNATIONAL UPDATE & FELLOWSHIP EVENT

By Sarah O'Brien



Rtn Chris O'Brien and wife Dot, visiting from the UK and recently back from Nepal, joined Club Members at the office of Maricela Viramontes (30 Dec). They shared an informal update on the community hospital and school projects in Mirge, Nepal. The exciting news is that over 1800 patients were treated at

the hospital in the past year, and the ambulance (acquired through our Global Grant in collaboration with Pattan RC, Nepal, and Wollaton Park RC, UK), is about to be delivered!

**Photos by Robert Smith**



Interact Co-Advisor Carina Jacob and Steve with his family spent a half day at the Phoenix Float Warehouse in Irwindale. It was the first time that Interact members, Jaelle and Lucy helped to decorate a float for the Rose Parade. Everyone was thankful to be a part of the experience!



- The Rotary Float won the Princess Award that honors floats 35 feet and under that have outstanding floral presentation. **Congratulations to all involved!!!**

*By Carina Jacob*





*...And for those who missed our Holiday Party, a few festive photos. Thx to all involved for a great evening!*



*(Int'l / Fellowship cont'd)* Ongoing needs include providing lunch for 50% of the students who are too poor to bring food to school and equipment to harness solar power at the hospital and school as a back up during electrical outages in the region.

- A great time was had by all and Chris and Dot were thrilled to see old friends and make new ones. They thanked the Club for their generous support and a warm welcome back to Altadena!

## Only in Altadena...

Artistic credit to local artist Victor Fung who decided that Rubio T. Bear at Grocery Outlet needed some festive headwear!

Photos by René Amy



**HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!**



Follow Altadena  
Rotary Club on  
Instagram & FB in  
2023!



@AltadenaRotary

# Rotary Club of Altadena

## Director Nominations

### 2023-2025

In accordance with the bylaws and the California Corporations Code, the Nominating Committee presents the following as nominees to serve on the board of directors from July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2025:

Maria Perez-Arton  
Brad Roeber  
Maricela Viramontes

The vote will take place during our Annual Meeting on Thursday, January 5, 2023.

Please be informed that members have the right to nominate candidates by petition as follows:

**Nomination by Petition** Additional nominations to the board may be made by petition and presented to the secretary at least one week prior to the annual meeting, when bearing the signatures of ten (10) or more members.