



## '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: Stephanie Urchick, Dist. 5300 Gov: Michael Driebe

## THIS WEEK: CLUB ASSEMBLY

### Altadena Town and Country Club, Thursday at noon



Our new President, Maricela, will present goals and inspiration for the new Rotary year ahead. Committee Chairs and others will share updates about ongoing programs, Club admin, and plans for the next twelve months.

All members please attend and let's make 2024-25 another exciting and fulfilling year of service, locally and internationally!

STEPHANIE URCHICK, member of the Rotary Club of McMurray, PA, is the second woman to take office as president of Rotary International 2024 - 25. Her one-year term will prioritize adapting to changing times and advancing peace. *"Embracing different viewpoints and creating peaceful, welcoming, and inclusive societies is at the heart of Rotary's work," said Urchick. "As president, I will work with clubs to prioritize advancing peace by helping to create the conditions for stable and resilient societies in which people can thrive."* Rotary.org



D.Vance Graphics

**JULY 11, 2024**

**JULY IS: MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH MONTH**

## Officers

**President: Maricela Viramontes**

**Vice President: Dawn Digrius Smith**

**President Elect: Brad Roeber**

**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**

**Lisa Rickard**

**Doug Colliflower (proposed)**

**Brad Roeber**

## Chairs

**Executive Club Secretary: Mark Mariscal**

**Membership:** Maria Perez-Arton

**& Brad Roeber**

**Foundation: Steve Kerekes**

**Service Projects: Mike Zoeller**

### Subcommittees

**Community Service: Craig Cox**

**Vocational Services: Steve Kerekes**

### Youth Contests, Scholarships, Awards: Mike Zoeller

### Youth Activities: Tony Hill

International Service: Sarah O'Brien

# REFLECTIONS AND PROJECTIONS

By 2024-25 DG Michael Driebe

*I'm writing this with just a few hours before my term as your District Governor begins. I am excited and honored to serve you and confident we can build on the success of the 2023-2024 year. I want to thank Mike Soden and his leadership team for the hard work and careful planning. From TLC to Presidents' Advance, and from RYLA to an amazing District Conference onboard the Navigator of the Seas, it was a remarkable year. In addition, District 5300 has experienced positive membership growth for the first time in 7 years and we should all be proud of the work done to make that a reality. Let's continue to make our clubs the best they can be in order to better serve our communities and those in need.*

*To that end, we'll continue to work to promote mental health and fight polio in the year ahead. I also want to raise awareness about human trafficking and provide care for its victims. In fact, there's an opportunity to help this week. If you live near the Los Angeles County Fairgrounds, we'll have a Human Trafficking awareness trailer set up for the 4th of July Kaboom! event. If you'd like to lend a hand, please [contact me asap](#) and I'll get you signed up for a 2-hour shift between 4:00 and 10:00 p.m. There's another opportunity next spring when we'll send a Vocational Training Team to Western Australia to share what we are doing in Southern California and Nevada to address this horrific problem.*

*The district will also work to raise awareness about Rotary. Over the years, I've often heard members say, "Why doesn't Rotary do more to promote itself and help us get new members?" Thanks to the groundwork laid by Mike Soden, we will launch [comeseewhatwedo.org](https://www.ecsforseniors.org/montecedro/) this month.*

*Of course, our traditional district programs for youth will continue. TLC, RYLA, George Hensel Ethics Essay Contest, 4-Way Test Speech Contest, and Dan Stover Music Contest are all in the works and I hope your club will embrace and promote them to the young people in your community. If you haven't participated in these programs in the past, find a way to get involved. The energy, talent and enthusiasm of the youth involved will amaze you. Go into the District section of DACdb and you'll find the chairs of these committees, ready to tell you more about their programs and how you can help.*

*Other district sponsored and supported programs include Global Scholarships, Global Grants, District Grants, a Rotoplast mission to Uganda in the early summer of 2025, a Rotary Friendship Exchange to India in January, the Rotary Rose Parade Float, and four Rotary*



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

## Altadena Rotary Projects and Events Calendar

Craig Cox

July 6, 13, 20, 27, August 3, 10, 17, 24 - Summer Concerts

August 31 - Melodia Mariposa Concert

September 7 - SSGA Concert

To register for any event go to DacDB, Login, elect the My Club, tab, go the the Calendar icon, and go to the date.

**\* VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SUMMER CONCERT SERIES - check emails from Craig Cox**



Mike Driebe of the San Marino Rotary Club is District Governor 2024-25. Congratulations Mike!

*Leadership Institute sessions with two in Southern California and two in Nevada. We're also arranging a multi-district Rotary Foundation Dinner, as well as a multi-district Presidents' Advance.*

*So, what do you do after another wonderful year of Rotary? Why, go to Disneyland of course! That's right, the 2025 District Conference will be held at the Disneyland Hotel on April 12th in partnership with District 5180 which will attend from Sacramento. The day before will be the District Training Assembly and the day following will be a day to celebrate the Magic of Rotary in the Magic Kingdom with discounted admission tickets to the park!*

*In the meantime, I look forward to visiting each of your clubs and to providing you with the encouragement and resources needed to increase your impact, expand your reach, enhance engagement, and increase your ability to adapt. We're on our way to another successful year and I'm excited to be on the journey with you!*



## **Celebration of Carol Zoeller's Life**

Mike Zoeller



The girls and I wanted to give you an update on our plans for a Celebration of Carol Zoeller's Life. We have arranged a date and location:

**Sunday, August 11  
1:30 to 4:30**

**Altadena Town and Country Club  
Mendocino Room  
2290 Country Club Dr  
Altadena**

**Carol Joy Zoeller (nee Olson)**  
December 26th, 1940 - May 8th, 2024

Here is a just-published link to a Mountain View Mortuary website with an obituary, photos and further information regarding the celebration. There are opportunities on the website to leave remembrances and to RSVP for the celebration.

<https://mtn-view.mykeeper.com/CarolZoeller>

## **International Projects Update**

*Since arriving in Cambodia I have visited the Landmine Self-Help demining organisation and the toilet/washroom installation program that we are supporting through a Global Grant. The work is extraordinary - articles to follow in upcoming weeks but here is a glimpse - and greetings - from hot and humid Cambodia. Love to all! Sarah O'Brien*



W/ Brisbane Rtn Darrel Steer. Saving lives through clean water and sanitation - one village (and toilet!) at a time. An example of a safe toilet and lockable washroom - made possible through our Global Grant contribution.



In front of just a few of the landmines and ordnance cleared by the Landmine Self-Help Demining teams. Schools are constructed on the land once it's safe, by Rural Schools Village Program (RSVP), supported by Altadena Rotary Club. Thank you!