



'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: BRENDA RAMIREZ
 WILDLIFE CONSERVATION**

Altadena Town and Country Club, Thursday at noon
 Speaker Chair: Dr. David Campbell



Since childhood, Brenda Ramirez has been interested in wildlife conservation, stemming from spending hours reading through *Wildlife Explorer* books, visiting museums, science centers, aquariums, and zoos with her family. This interest led her to study Zoology at Cal Poly Pomona and

have internships with both the U.S. Forest Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife. Brenda has experience working with large community science datasets and incorporating them into spatial models to understand species distributions over thousands of years. Having recently graduated with her master's degree from Cal Poly Pomona, Brenda is now working on Moore Lab's Free-flying Los Angeles Parrot Project (FLAPP) to evaluate how the non-native Los Angeles parrot populations have changed genetically as they have adapted to their new urban habitats. Brenda is very passionate about public outreach and enjoys spending time outdoors with her friends and family. To learn more about her work at the Moore Lab, check out their latest publication in *Diversity and Distributions*.

JULY 25, 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
 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 Service: Steve Kerekes
 Youth Contests, Scholarships, Awards: Mike Zoeller
 Youth Activities: Tony Hill
 International Service: Sarah O'Brien

LAST WEEK: Dr. Cliff and Mrs. Joyce Penner EMOTIONALLY HEALTHY LEADERS

Speaker Chair: Dr David Campbell

Review: Tony Hill



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



At last week's meeting we were treated to a very enjoyable program presented by Dr. Cliff Penner and Mrs. Joyce Penner (pictured left, with speaker chair Dr. David Campbell). Cliff and Joyce are each turning 83 this year. They have been married for 61 years and have been

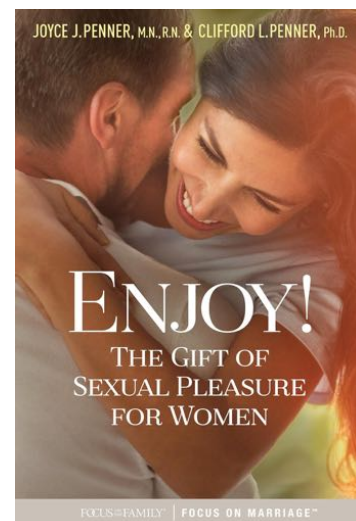
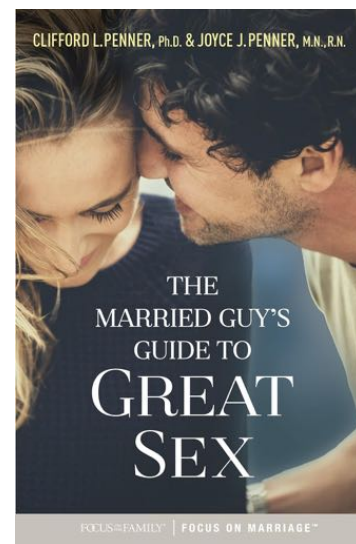
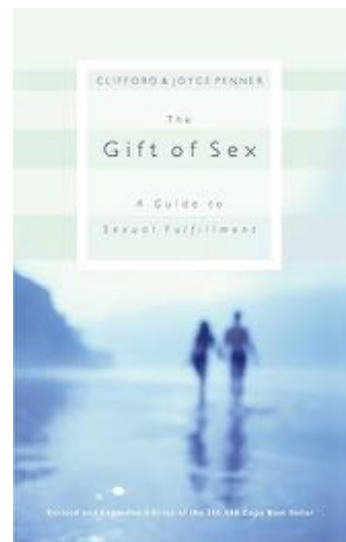
working together since 1975. Many of us may remember when Joyce Penner spoke to our Club on February 13, 2020 on the subject of sexual therapy.

Cliff told us that in 1975 he was working in his private clinical psychology practice and Joyce was in charge of the curriculum development for the nursing program at Azusa Pacific University. Their collaboration started when Cliff was asked to teach a group of 60 women about sexual adjustment. Cliff agreed to accept this challenge only after he was able to convince Joyce to join him in this endeavor. Since then, Cliff and Joyce have worked together as therapists specializing in sexual disorders. They became experts in this area of psychology, by learning all about the subject, including receiving training with Masters & Johnson.

Cliff and Joyce have traveled all over the world spreading the gospel of the benefits of therapy to deal with sexual matters, including teaching throughout the US and Canada, as well as Mexico, Switzerland, Germany, France, Austria, Singapore, Indonesia, Bali, Jamaica, Philippines, Australia and Kenya.

They have worked with Fuller Theological Seminary, developing courses emphasizing the belief that strong emotional health is important in every facet of life and that sound emotional health is essential for our leaders. Cliff has been on the Board of Fuller for 62 years, the longest length of service of any member of the Fuller Board. Now as he is about to turn 83, he will be going off the Fuller Board in October of this year.

The Penners have introduced a program to Fuller in which all incoming students participate in a psychological self-assessment. The purpose is to identify areas of emotional need in their personal lives. The Penners and other school personnel can then provide these students with appropriate help to make them stronger and thereby become more effective in helping others once they graduate. The goal is always to nudge people in the direction of



emotional health. Through this program, Fuller has been able to help students who have experienced trauma in their lives to be better able to help others.

In response to a question, Cliff said that today pornography is a huge issue. With modern technology, including social media, pornography is much more accessible, even by young people. The belief of the Penners is that the starting place has to be the family. The need for proper guidance and protection of young people in this new world of easy access to information, is essential.

Cliff and Joyce have together published several books including their first book titled “The Gift of Sex”, which has become one of the classic sexual manuals in Christian world. They have also published a protocol for sexual therapy and sexual retraining for therapists titled “Counseling for Sexual Disorders”, and a version for couples titled “Restoring the Pleasure”. Titles of some of their other books include “The Married Guy’s Guide to Great Sex”, “Enjoy”, and the “Gift of Sexual Pleasure for Women”.



Cliff and Joyce Penner are clearly a classy, loving husband and wife who have dedicated their lives to work together, collaboratively, to help others in addressing a very difficult subject from a Christian perspective.

Altadena Rotary Projects and Events Calendar

Craig Cox

July 20, 27, August 3, 10, 17, 24,
Sept 7 - Summer Concerts
August 31 - Melodia Mariposa
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**



Club guests: Linda Ciarimboli and Keith Brown



President Maricela receives her first official correspondence of the new Rotary year!

**SUMMER CONCERTS IN THE PARK.
This week:**



CAN YOU HELP? ‘Sparks’ newsletter needs additional volunteers to review the weekly speakers. Please let Sarah know, if interested: sobrien.la@gmail.com

THANK YOU!



Spread the word, volunteer if you can... join the fun and dance!