



'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: KEITH BROWN

Mountain View Cemetery

Altadena Town and Country Club, Thursday at noon
 Speaker Chair: Maria Perez-Arton



Keith Brown, originally from Pasadena and raised within the Glendora Unified School District, began his higher education at Citrus College before transferring to Cypress Community College, where he earned an Associate's degree in Mortuary Science. He graduated in the spring of 2013 and

subsequently attended Cal Poly Pomona, where he obtained a Bachelor's degree in Aerospace Engineering in the spring of 2016.

Keith's professional journey began at Mountain View Mortuary, Crematory, and Cemetery in December 2008, shortly after finishing high school. Initially joining the grounds crew, he spent 2 to 3 years in this role before transitioning to Assistant Funeral Service Representative while pursuing his Mortuary Science education. He later undertook an embalming apprenticeship and earned his licenses as both a Funeral Director and Embalmer. In 2020, he was promoted to Supervising Embalmer. Most recently, in September 2023, Keith advanced to the role of Operations Manager, where he now oversees all activities on the property, including funeral services, special events, and strategic business planning. He will be speaking to the club about the history of Mountain View and its enduring role in the community.

OCTOBER 03, 2024

OCTOBER IS: Economic & Community Development 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. JESSICA PEREZ DEL TORO

Executive Director, Partnership for Success

Faculty - Upper School Spanish, Westridge School

Speaker Chair: Brad Roeber Review: Ed Jasnow



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

A SPECTACULAR PUBLIC SCHOOL - PRIVATE SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP!!



That is what our speaker last week, Dr. Jessica Perez Del Toro, described to us. As Executive Director of Partnership for Success, she detailed for us this amazing partnership between the Pasadena Unified School District and several private schools in the Pasadena area. She called it “the best kept secret in Pasadena.”

She began by showing us a video of the partnership in action. It is intended to narrow the gap between public and private schools. It’s a summer program, with small classes so that everyone has a chance to be heard. Most of the students are children of color and would represent the first generation of their families to attend college.

The Partnership for Success believes in the power of education to transform lives and strengthen communities.

Founded in 1990, the program offers nine consecutive years of free summer enrichment. The participating private schools include Westridge, Chandler, Polytechnic, and Mayfield. The program components include nine summers, year round undergraduate support, courses that include PCC credit, college counseling, and more. There is also a partnership with Claremont-McKenna University.

Each student receives a \$1,000 scholarship to a college of their choice.

There are 400 students in the program. 80% would be first generation college students. 90% are students of color.

(Cont’d opposite)



<https://www.pfspasadena.org/>

Cont’d: At Polytechnic School, the program includes a tour of at least one college. 90% of the students return to the program each summer, and 100% of the students who complete the program go on to college.

The program is funded by donations, grants, and the participating private schools. Last year, the cost of the program was \$2,000 per student.

This was an inspiring example of what can be accomplished when the public and private sectors join to accomplish a specific goal.

Altadena Rotary Projects, Volunteer Opportunities and Events Calendar

Craig Cox

Please save the date for the next Rotary Community Pancake Breakfast - October 5, 2024 8 -10.30 am.

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

Altadena Grocery Outlet is Proud to Host

Semi-Annual Pancake Breakfast
Benefits Altadena Mountain Rescue Team (AMRT), Christmas Tree Lane Association (CTLA), and Altadena Heritage



Saturday, Oct. 5, 2024 • 8:00-10:30 am

Here or To-Go Tickets \$5.00
Tickets available at Sheriff Station, El Patron Restaurant, Grocery Outlet or altadenarotary.org
Sheriff Station (626) 798-1131



Donate through PayPal or Venmo, note it is for Pancake Breakfast, and tickets will be held at door.



The Calm Before The Storm!

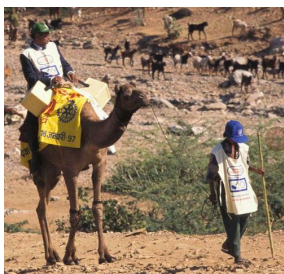
By President Maricela Viramontes

The picture of chairs set up in the parking lot of the Altadena Library last Saturday afternoon (photo opposite) truly signified the calm before the annual 'TASTE OF DENA' event began! By the end of the night, more than \$40,000 was raised in

support of the Altadena Library Foundation whose mission is to "Inspire, Connect and Celebrate Community". Those of us in attendance helped with all three elements of that mission. And why? Because we believe in Service Above Self!

Last Saturday, while walking around that parking lot, I watched club members in action. I first saw Mark Mariscal, President of the Library Foundation. He was greeting people and also had the privilege of introducing the Guest of Honor: Mrs. Brenda Galloway. Dennis, Wendy and Gabriel Silva were helping people with parking or giving directions to the check-in area. Diana, Jennifer, Elizabeth, Steve, Ruben, Jose, Sandra, Linda, also supported the event in different ways. Watching our Club Treasurer, Mike Noll, was special; our club provided the cash register and Square so that electronic payments could be accepted. Mike brought it, set it up and worked with Catalina (Altadena Library) to keep the money flowing into the coffers. Thanks to all!

And getting back to the title of this article, *our club's "CALM before the Storm"* occurs this Saturday, as we prepare to serve over 300 plates of pancakes and sausage to support the Altadena Mountain Rescue Team via donations. If you have not yet signed up using DacDb, please do so. Or speak with Doug or Mark on Thursday at the meeting.



October 24th is World Polio Day. Please take a few minutes, go to Rotary.org and learn a little more about this disease and the work

that Rotary does to help eradicate it.

I look forward to seeing you on Thursday!



At the Club:

Tom's Inspirational Moment and Wendy leads the Pledge of Allegiance!



Nikki Winslow w/ Mark Mariscal, Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Victoria Knapp, Jarrad Winslow

"Our Taste of Dena annual fundraiser was such a wonderful time to connect and a very successful event! I feel so fortunate to work in a community that loves its libraries so much!! Thanks to the Altadena Library Foundation for all they do to support us!"

(Courtesy Nikki Winslow, FB Post)