



'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



OCTOBER 24, 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

THIS WEEK: JAMES P. SARNI MANAGING DIRECTOR, PAYDEN & RYDEL

Altadena Town and Country Club, Thursday at noon

Speaker Chair for October: Maria Perez-Arton



James Sarni, CFA, is a Managing Director at Payden & Rygel and a member of the Managing Committee of the board of directors. He helps oversee the firm's US fixed-income strategies and serves as a senior portfolio manager advising pension funds, insurance companies, corporations, health care organizations, Taft-Hartley plans, universities and endowments. He is also a speaker with financial media and is regularly quoted on

topics related to investing and the economy. He has been quoted in leading publications such as the Wall Street Journal and the Financial Times and has been interviewed on CNBC, Bloomberg TV and Fox Business Network.

Prior to joining Payden & Rygel, Sarni was a vice president and senior portfolio manager at First Interstate Bank where he managed the trust department's commingled bond funds as well as institutional client portfolios.

James Sarni serves on the Board of numerous charitable and educational organizations including the University of Southern California's (USC) Marshall School of Business Board of Leaders, the Board of Advisors of USC's Center for Investment Studies, Mount Saint Mary's University Los Angeles, St. Francis Center, Holy Family Hospital of Bethlehem Foundation and Legatus International. He is past

president of the Washington, DC-based Investment Adviser Association, Pasadena City College Foundation, CFA Society Los Angeles and St. Philip the Apostle School board of trustees.

Sarni holds the Chartered Financial Analyst and Chartered Investment Counselor designations. He earned an MBA with an emphasis in finance and a BS from the University of Southern California.

LAST WEEK: CRAFT TALK BY LINDA CIARIMBOLI

Speaker Chair: Maria Perez-Arton

Review: Brad Roeber



In place of our scheduled speaker, we had the pleasure of hearing from Linda Ciarimboli, who joined our Club recently. Most of us have gotten to know her as a rancher who raises over 200 animals and produces cheese, yogurt, root beer and sausage in our beautiful Altadena hills. What many of us did NOT know was that she has lived an incredible life as a Hollywood designer – of both costumes and interiors!

Linda was born in Dayton, Ohio and her family had a extensive experience in the food industry. She matriculated at the University of Cincinnati (Go Bearcats!) and graduated with a degree in Fashion Design. Once she earned her degree, she left Ohio to travel throughout Europe and Africa. Having seen a bit more of the world, returning to Ohio seemed like an undesirable choice. Linda moved to Manhattan and spent a year and a half with a costume designer there. Having reached a glass ceiling, she headed to Mexico to work at Club Med in Ixtapa. From there, she moved north to Venice, CA to pursue a career as a costume designer. While awaiting an interview for the Ice Capades, she heard a person get fired in the “office behind the door”. The firing led the person in charge to walk out and hire her as a union designer, which was exactly the break that she needed!

Linda spent 31 years as a costume designer and her IMDB profile lists over 24 movies and TV shows. Her brushes with fame include visiting Elizabeth Taylor’s house for a fitting. While awaiting the appearance of the perpetually late Liz, Linda observed her parrot mimicking Ms. Taylor’s voice! She also went to Chris O’Donnell’s house to fit him for his Robin costume for Batman Forever, only to find Chris in nothing but his under britches after a wild night of partying. Linda then spent 12 years



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

Rotary Monthly Themes

- July - Maternal & Child Health Month
- August - Membership & New Club Development Month
- September - Basic Education & Literacy Month
- October - Economic & Community Development Month
- November - Rotary Foundation Month
- December - Disease Prevention & Treatment Month
- January - Vocational Service Month
- February - Peace and Conflict Prevention Month
- March - Water, Sanitation & Hygiene Month
- April - Environmental Month
- May - Youth Service Month
- June - Fellowship month



Rotary International Convention 2025

The 2025 ROTARY International Convention will be held in Calgary from June 21 to June 25, 2025.

The event is organized by Rotary International and is expected to draw attendees from more than 100 countries.

For more info and to register:

<https://convention.rotary.org/en-us/>

working on the Conan O'Brien Show and continues to provide costumes for Conan to this day. All the members and guests in attendance were enthralled with Linda's tales.

She found her way into ranching while living in Ojai. Linda wanted to build a barn on her land there but was experiencing difficulty with the permitting process. She was advised that having a few animals might nudge the process along and she bought her first 3 goats from a neighbor. When she tired of the permitting process, Linda loaded up her crew of animals, which now includes: 20 chickens, 8 sheep, 1 horse, 1 alpaca, 2 dogs, 3 cats, a fish and over 50 goats - and headed to the foothills of Altadena! Linda remarked, "I have birthed over 200 animals, so I am a good person to be stuck on an elevator with a pregnant woman".

Linda did a fabulous job with her craft talk, answering many questions while enthraling the folks in attendance!

Check out Linda's credits at:

<https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0095341/>



Altadena Rotary Social

Be sure to add November 7th at 5:30 p.m. to your calendar! This is the date for our Club's first evening social which is all about mingling and sharing.

This event will be at Plate 38, 2361 Colorado Blvd (the northeast corner of Colorado Blvd. and Sierra Madre). Parking is available on both Colorado and Sierra Madre Blvd. and in the lot on the east side of Plate 38. We will have a section of the restaurant reserved, so just mention you are with the Rotary Club on entry.

You can order whatever you want from the full or Happy Hour menus. Everyone who attends will order directly with the waiter and pay their own bill. All bills will include an 18% service fee because of the individual billing.

The Happy Hour menu (which is in effect until 6 pm) includes small plates ranging from \$4 to \$13. The same menu also includes wines from \$10 to \$12 and draft beer for \$6.

This social get-together will start as a quarterly event. We will try out a couple more restaurants and then decide whether to continue "rotating" or stick with one location.

These socials are in addition to our regular weekly meetings at the



Rotary Magazine and 'SPARKS' By

President Maricela

For those of you who wonder how our weekly SPARKS newsletter gets written and emailed each week, we outsource the work to a one woman operation, currently in Cambodia. Now, some of you reading this must think, is there not anybody in the USA that can write our newsletter?

Let me put you at ease. Our weekly newsletter is written by one of our club members, Sarah O'Brien (past President 2018-2019).

Sarah has always traveled, formerly as a featured cellist on tour with YANNI since 1994, and also to visit family regularly in the UK. Editing Sparks is always part of her travels, no matter the location or timezone! In one of our upcoming newsletters, Sarah will write an article about what life with her children is like in Cambodia, her



interaction with Rotarians and getting involved with various projects that Altadena Rotary supports.

I hope by now all of our new members have started receiving their personal copy of the monthly Rotary magazine. As any seasoned Rotary Member will tell you, there is much information about how Rotary makes a difference all over the world. As I mentioned last Thursday, this coming Thursday is World Polio Day. Over the last few months in the magazine, there have been bits of information about the End Polio Now campaign and what our International Rotary Foundation is doing around the world. All members have access to digital past copies of the Rotary Magazine (you need to have an account on <http://www.rotary.org> to access it). It is relatively easy to sign up for an account so please speak with Mark, as needed for more detailed information on how to do so.

Our weekly SPARKS newsletters are accessible in the DacDb system. Sometimes it is fun to just click on a few older copies to see what was going on 3, 5 or 10 years ago. Of course, new submissions are welcomed by Sarah, as is help with reviewing the weekly speakers!



World Polio Day (24 October) was established by Rotary International to commemorate the birth of Jonas Salk, who led the first team to develop a vaccine against poliomyelitis. Use of this inactivated poliovirus vaccine and subsequent widespread use of the oral poliovirus vaccine developed by Albert Sabin led to establishment of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) in 1988. Since then, GPEI has reduced polio worldwide by 99 percent. World Polio Day is an annual observance when members of Rotary International, along with public health advocates and individuals committed to a polio-free world, convene to commemorate their accomplishments in the global campaign against polio. This day also provides a platform for deliberation on the requisite measures to permanently eliminate polio from the face of the Earth.

Source: Wikipedia

Altadena Country Club, not in place of a meeting.

If you have any questions or want to serve on the social committee, contact **Tom Polenzani** (polenzani@gmail.com, 626-675-4729)

LAST WEEK AT THE CLUB!



Elizabeth and Zoot lead us in song!



Maricela and guest: Claudine