



'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: NO MEETING!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Next week: December 1
Altadena Town and Country Club at noon

Un Séjour en France

Presented by Mike Noll
Speaker Chair for December: Steve Kerekes



From mid-September to mid-October, Mike and his wife Wendy crossed the southern regions of France. From Menton next to Italy all the way west to Bordeaux near the Atlantic Ocean, you will delight in Mike's stories and photos of their "excursion française." From the beaches of the Côte d'Azur to the stunning Camarques near Cassis up to enchanting Aix-en-Provence; then you'll be swept westward to Les Alpilles region with its incredible cuisine and then southwest to Languedoc-Roussillon and the lovely Canal du

Midi; from there Mike will take us into the Dordogne region with its verdant river valleys guarded by châteaux at every turn; and finally wine tasting in Saint-Émilion.

So, hang onto your hats, and share the joie de vivre!

NOVEMBER 24, 2022

November is:
Rotary Foundation 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

LAST WEEK: MEETING THE QUEEN AND COURT of the 2023 PASADENA TOURNAMENT of ROSES, Hosted by San Marino Rotary Club

Speaker Chair: Nikki Winslow Program Review: Sandra and Jose Valenzuela



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



In today's San Marino meeting, we were able to get to know the Queen and Court of the 2023 Pasadena Tournament of Roses. Interestingly, we learned that these young ladies stay very busy with more than 100 events that they attend between October and the Rose Parade on New Year's Day. These young ladies are all locals to the San Gabriel Valley, having grown up in Altadena, Pasadena, Arcadia, and La Canada Flintridge. All have interests varying from STEM fields to sports, to business and even public health. When asked how they'd spend an imaginary and hefty \$5M, answers varied from paying for college to buying shares in the LA Clippers! (Tickets to a Taylor Swift concert was also more than one young lady's plan for the spending of their imaginary \$5M.) We learned that these young ladies went through a whirlwind of emotions when they learned that they had made the court: some experienced disbelief and nervousness while others were in shock and excitement. It was refreshing to hear these young people and their conceptions on life, values, and the future. In listening to how these young women articulate their ambitions, drives, and passions, I think we were all reminded of how exciting this time in their lives can be.

- Salia Baligh
- Uma Wittenberg
- Adrian Crick
- Sahanna Rajinikanthan
- Bella Ballard
- Zoe Denoncourt
- Michelle Cortez-Peralta

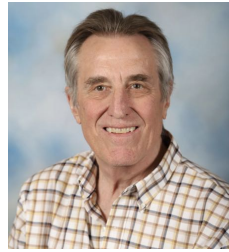


San Marino's President Rob Fiedler with the Club's Polio Pig!

More info at:
2023 Royal Court - Tournament of Roses

President's Piece

By President Doug Colliflower
(Originally published in 11/17/22 Sparks)



Happy Thanksgiving To All!

As many of us sit down to enjoy a turkey dinner with friends and family, we as Rotarians should take a few moments to reflect.

Rotarians are thankful for the opportunity to serve locally and globally. We know of many causes, many opportunities to volunteer, and we know that members in all Rotary Clubs around the world make contributions daily that impact local & international communities.

We as Rotarians should be thankful that....

The Eradication of Polio in the world is almost completed. There are only two countries that have active cases of Polio, and it is Rotary who has helped and will continue the fight until we have completed the task, to rid the world of Polio.

We as Rotarians should be thankful that....

We are active in Promoting Peace around the world. Rotary encourages conversations to foster understanding within and across cultures. We train adults and young leaders to prevent and mediate conflict and help refugees who have fled dangerous areas.

We as Rotarians should be thankful that....

We support local solutions to bring Clean Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene to more people every day. We don't just build wells and walk away. We share our expertise with community leaders and educators to make sure our projects succeed long-term.

We as Rotarians should be thankful that....

We Support Education. More than 775 million people over the age of 15 are illiterate. Our goal is to strengthen the capacity of communities to support basic education and literacy, reduce gender disparity in education, and increase adult literacy.

We as Rotarians should be thankful that....

We help Save Mothers and Children. Nearly 6 million children under the age of five die each year because of malnutrition, poor health care, and inadequate sanitation. We expand access to quality care, so mothers and their children can live and grow stronger.

We as Rotarians should be thankful that....

We have the opportunity to meet each week, hear a speaker, network and enjoy the fellowship of Rotarians. We have many riches to share with each other.



Rotary Sponsored Events:

By Craig Cox

11/22 Lunches for Shower of Hope

Early December: Mini Grant

Applications Review (see Ed Jasnow for details)

12/27 Lunches for Shower of Hope

March 2023 Read at Families Forward

Upcoming General Community Service Opportunities

12/10 Christmas Tree Lane Lighting
(see Mark for details)

MISC / COMMUNITY: 12/3 Sip & Shop by Altadena Chamber of Commerce

The staff at Loma Alta Park is looking for 2-3 volunteers on **December 8th**, to help with their Toy Giveaway and Holiday Program.

Time is from 4-8 pm.
(Contact: Mark / Craig)



Are you following Altadena Rotary Club on Insta & FB? @AltadenaRotary

Please 'like' our Club's FB page!

<https://www.facebook.com/AltadenaRotary>

We as Rotarians should be thankful that....

We can achieve our motto each day "Service Above Self"

We are thankful for our dedicated and committed Rotary members helping create positive change around the world. Take a moment during Thanksgiving to enjoy the contributions that Rotarians like you make in the world.

Thank you for making a difference.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Santa's Pantry Giveway at Families

Forward Learning Center By Mike Noll



On Saturday Mike Noll, Craig Cox, David Smith, and Liz Kwong gave away food boxes and Thanksgiving turkeys to 37+ families at Families Forward Learning Center. Kids were excited to get individual gift bags as well! "Many of these families would not have a Thanksgiving meal without the generous support of Altadena Rotary," said Rotarian Liz Kwong, Development Director of FFLC. "We're so appreciative of the Club's support."



Rotarians Sandra and Jose Valenzuela from Altadena Grocery Outlet got their first tour of Families Forward by Liz Kwong. Grocery Outlet was instrumental in securing all the turkeys and food box items.



Rotary Club Of Altadena
HOLIDAY
Party

Please join us and enjoy some fine food, wonderful fellowship, and celebrate the spirit of the Holidays

ALTADENA TOWN & COUNTRY CLUB | **THURSDAY 15TH DEC** | SOCIAL HOUR 6PM
DINNER 7PM

Be a wine sponsor!! We are looking for four sponsors @ \$200 to underwrite our libations for the evening.

Bring an unwrapped toy or game suitable for boys & Girls 13 and under.

Cost per person \$50. Limited to our members & one guest.
Please make your reservations on DACDB no later that December 8th.