



**Rotary**  
ROTARY CLUB OF ALTADENA



**'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: Shekhar Mehta, Dist. 5300 Gov: Elizabeth (Betsy) McDonough Barry



**SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES**



**HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR  
YEAR OF THE TIGER!**

**FEBRUARY 3, 2022**

**THIS WEEK: BRAD ROEBER,  
MEMBER CRAFT TALK**

*Speaker Chair: Sylvia Vega*

**Location: Altadena Town and Country Club**



Brad Roeber began his insurance career as an agency producer in Spokane, Washington after graduating from Washington State University with a degree in Business Administration – Accounting. He began work with the Allstate Insurance Company in 1986 as a personal lines underwriter. He spent 16 years at Allstate in positions of increasing responsibility with time spent in Underwriting, Finance, Distribution,

Operations and Product Management. His final position there was Assistant Field Vice President. Brad joined the Auto Club Group in 2002 as the Vice President of Regional Insurance in Illinois and Indiana. In 2005 he was named Regional President of AAA Chicago; he remained in that role until 2014, having achieved many milestones, including growth of the club to over 1 million members.

Brad was named Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the Meemic and Fremont Insurance companies in 2014; both are Michigan domestic insurers. Meemic focused on personal lines offerings to educators. Fremont wrote and serviced a wide variety of products, including personal and commercial lines as well as farm. Brad was responsible for all aspects of each company while serving as COO.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL February:  
Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention

**Officers**

**Interim President: David Smith**  
626-826-2193  
**President Elect: Doug Colliflower**  
626-524-4158  
**Treasurer: Mike Noll**  
Bus: 626-657-2287  
**Secretary: James Gorton**  
Bus: 626-793-6215

**Directors**

**Maria Perez-Arton**  
**Mark Mariscal**  
**Sarah O'Brien**  
**Dawn Smith**

**Chairs**

**Membership: Maria Perez-Arton**  
**International: Sarah O'Brien**  
**Community Service: Doug Colliflower**  
**Vocational: Steve Kerekes**  
**Youth Contests, Scholarships, Awards:**  
**Mike Zoeller**  
**Youth Activities: Tony Hill**  
**Foundation: Steve Kerekes**

Brad joined the California Insurance Guaranty Association in late 2018 as the Executive Director. In this role, he has responsibility for all operations of CIGA, which is responsible for serving clients of insolvent insurance carriers. He has been active in industry board service, holding positions in the past at the Illinois Insurance Guaranty Fund and the Property and Casualty Insurance Association of America. He currently holds posts at the National Conference of Guaranty Funds and Guaranty Support, Incorporated. He lives in Southern California with his wife, Susie and dog Oliver. They have two grown children, a son who lives and works in Southern California and a daughter who lives and works in Chicago, Illinois.



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

*IT'S TIME TO UPDATE YOUR INFO AT DACdb... and please check your email for invoices from Treasurer Mike Noll!!!*

## LAST WEEK: Havilah Brewster Co-Founder of Defiant By Nature

Speaker Chair: Nikki Winslow    Program Write-Up: Dr Roger Fennell



Our guest speaker today was Havilah Brewster. She engaged us in an ad hoc discussion of her career as a film producer.

Havilah studied at the College Conservatory of Music in Cincinnati OH. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in acting. Having worked for a while as a paralegal, she realized that this profession was not for her. Having acted on the New York stage, she undertook to become a production assistant to Muriel Heller. She was involved in the production of "Diary of a Teenage Girl" and "Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood". But she was loath to become a producer herself because she was averse to the financial aspects of film production. After lengthy discussion she was assured that as a producer she would not have to be concerned with these matters. She eventually came to accept that she might have a career as a film producer and she formed a production company with a partner. The company, which is based in New York, became active principally in TV productions.

In approaching a project her chief consideration is what it will bring to people. She herself is inquisitive and creative. She loves to meet people and she loves to be around interesting people. She directs her efforts to do whatever is needed to make the best possible production.

She lays the foundation of the project around finding the best actors for the lead role. Actors are recruited from casting agencies with which she works to procure suitable candidates for all the roles. A casting director is employed who brings to the project candidates based on their personalities, experience, and resumes. Her production company then fulfills the role of a human resources department for the production of the project. The producer is very involved in the process of auditioning.



## Inspirational Word of the Day from David's Tight Ten



History is not there for you to like or dislike. It is there for you to learn from. And if it offends you, even better, because you are less likely to repeat it! History is not ours to change or destroy.

During the middle ages the end of the plague was celebrated with wine and orgies. Does anyone have something similar planned when this one ends?

This was very enlightening for me. Why, I would ask, are specific locations selected for a production? For instance, having grown up in Missouri, I could readily see that the location selected for filming "Three Billboards outside Ebbing Missouri" was not the Ozark Mountains but western North Carolina. I could now see why "The Last of the Mohicans" was not filmed in upstate New York. It was also filmed in the same part of North Carolina. North Carolina gives financial incentives to film production in its state. As in real estate, the principal driving consideration is location, location, location. It is simply more cost-effective to film in a locality like Altadena than to film in a place like Beverly Hills or Bel Air. And there are specialty companies which may be enlisted for specific requirements such as special effects, period automobiles, etc.

Havilah's talk was received enthusiastically by the members of the club. We all now have greater insight into what "produced by" entails.  
<http://www.defiantxnature.com/>



## Valentine's Day Club Project...coming up soon!

By Mark Mariscal (originally published last week)

This year on Monday, February 14th, our club will be joining the 61 clubs in Rotary District 5300 by donating food to a local food bank. Our club received a grant from D5300 to help fund some of the costs.

We will be purchasing the food to donate, from Grocery Outlet. If you are interested in ADDING to the \$500 we currently have available, please let Doug or me know.

You can assist by 1) purchasing a gift card from Grocery Outlet and bringing it to one of the next 3 meetings, 2) writing a check payable to Rotary Club of Altadena or 3) we can add your contribution to your monthly invoice. We would love to raise an additional \$250 towards the cost of purchasing food. Also, if you would like to participate on Monday, February 14th to help deliver the donation, we will meet at Grocery Outlet at 1:15 pm. to load up and deliver by 2 pm.

---

**DAN STOVER MUSIC CONTEST** - contact Sarah for details and invite any talented instrumentalists to participate! First (club) round in March.

## Dan Stover Music Contest



*Dan Stover and Kay*

The Rotary Club of Alhambra, in the year following the death of Dan Stover, established a Music Scholarship Program in his name. The program was proposed, organized, and championed by a new Rotarian, Christine Montan, who was Alhambra's first woman Rotarian. Ms. Montan recognized and appreciated the contribution that Dan Stover had made as a Rotarian, musician and person. From these beginnings, the Dan Stover Memorial Music Scholarship program, "graduated" into a District program. A generation of talented, young musicians have participated and had the opportunity, in the name of Dan Stover, to compete against their peers and earn funds to further their musical education with the scholarship awards.

If you eat an entire cake without cutting it, technically you only had one slice.

Say what you want about the South, but nobody retires and moves up north.

The Devil shows up in a church and everyone runs out but an old man. The Devil says, "Why don't you run, aren't you afraid of me?" The old man says, "Nope, I married your sister!"

Ladies, don't hesitate to send me jokes that crap on men. I'm equal opportunity and if they're funny I'll work them into my tight ten.

...and on that note, if a 'she shed' is also called a 'bitch barn' does that make a 'man cave' an 'ass hole'? I'm asking for a friend...



**LIVE MUSIC IS BACK!!!**

Pictured: Club Member 'Maestro' Theo