

# *Rota Monica Issue Number 22 January 2006*

*Bill Aspinwall, we are praying for you.*

## **Rotary Women have cracked the "glass ceiling"**

What a wonderful day. The weather was beautiful, we talked and ate with good friends and wished them well for the New Year. **Monika** had put together a wonderful program for us. It started with a caring invocation from **Ann Greenspun** and a head table graced by **Kris Andresen, Susan Dawson, Carol Jackson, 1<sup>st</sup> Lady Prez Dee Menzies, Judy Neveau, Monika White** and **Stephanie Edwards** <who has a bit of the rota-ann in her>. **RoseMary Regalbuto** led us in song accompanied by our piano talent - **Carol Jackson**

**Uh Huh! Rotary Women HAVE cracked the glass ceiling.**

## **everything's coming up roses and "rota-anns!"**

We had the absolute thrill of having **Stephanie Edwards**, the embodiment of the Tournament of Roses Parade, shine on us ... and learned that the first two women who attended a Rotary International Conference with their spouses were named Ann, hence the moniker Rota-anns.

## **and everything's coming up sunshine and santa claus!**

It's a good thing there wasn't this much sunshine for the Rose Parade last Monday. As **Stephanie** told us, every year with over 10 million viewers watching the Rose Parade our beautiful weather convinces over 10,000 to move here.

Do we have to share with so many people? Nonetheless, I would have preferred that **Stephanie** have been a wee bit more comfortable that day. Such a conundrum.

**Santa**, Thank you so much for visiting our Club and giving us the opportunity to watch our "Rota-Babies and share in their innocence, wonderment and sheer delight. WE LOVED IT!

## **everything's gonna be bright lights and kettle-tops!**

Red Kettle Day: We Beat The Kiwanis! We are not terribly serious about that, but there has been this friendly rivalry going on for years ... it is just in fun.

Our Club, under the warm coaxing of **Frank Lavac** raised \$7,726.69. **FRANK LAVAC**, you did an amazing job, thank you ... that comes from all of us.

## **No One Can Rain on Her Parade**

**Stephanie Edwards** kept us laughing with the "insiders look" at The Rose Parade, **Bob Eubanks** and **KTLA**. She talked about sitting on the bleachers with the clear umbrella she has bought the day before at K-Mart. The following remark is just one of many that has been phoned in, emailed, snail mailed and more.

(Looks like **Ann Greenspun** and **Carol Jackson** agree whole-heartedly)



"Someone please tell me what KTLA was thinking by separating Stephanie and Bob? This was a huge mistake. Please return Stephanie to the booth. The banter that she and Bob produce has always been priceless; it is the reason I get up on New Years to turn on KTLA. Was she being punished for something? I do not understand how such a terrible decision could be made. I am going to call my Uncle Hal (Fishman) and fix this error immediately.

This is worse than the Dodgers firing Ross Porter. This is like the departure of Jerry Doggett.

This is like the death of Chick Hearn ... a horrible day for broadcasting. Get Stephanie back into the booth for 2007 PLEASE!"

**I do not know who his Uncle Hal is ... but I hope he can do something and we will all be able to enjoy Stephanie broadcasting during our favorite parade, January 1, 2007.**

### **everything's coming up roses for me and for you!**

This is an excellent opportunity for any First Responders, Law Enforcement and Homeland Security Professionals you may know. They will get the opportunity to join a professional/cultural team on a three to four-week exchange with British Columbia, Canada. **Travel Expenses Are Paid By Rotary International** and Team Members Will Be Housed By Rotarians During Their Stay

The Group Study Exchange is an international educational program established in 1965 by Rotary International, the world's oldest non-governmental public service organization founded in 1905.

The exchange provides its participants with a unique insight in to the business and social culture of another country by lodging members in the homes of hosting Rotarians while attending a series of meetings with individual team member's professional counterparts.

This year Rotary District 5280 of Los Angeles is exchanging GSE teams with British Columbia District 5040, which includes Vancouver. This unique program is a tremendous opportunity for both the team members and their employers.

We need team member applicants from airport and seaport security, law enforcement, US and L.A County District Attorney and Public Defenders Offices, FBI, CIA, U.S. Customs, U.S. Coast Guard, and others who have relevant occupational backgrounds.

There is no cost to team members except incidentals. Rotary International and its members provide transportation, food, and lodging. The application deadline is **January 16th, 2006**. An application is available at Rotary International's web site: <http://www.rotary.org/foundation/educational/gse/index.html>.

**The Team Departs May13, 2006 and Stays for Three or Four Weeks**

**TEAM MEMBERS REQUIREMENTS:**

- Should be between the ages of 25-40;
- Must live or work in Rotary District 5280 (metropolitan Los Angeles excluding the San Fernando and San Gabriel Valleys and Long Beach)
- Must be employed full-time in a recognized vocation or profession;
- Cannot be a Rotarian or closely related to one.

**Correspondence:**

**A note for Rick Mendoza:**

"I am out of the hospital and recovering at home. The process is positive but it will take the better part of a year before I have complete recovery, which is a good thing. You have no idea how wonderful it has been to hear from Rotarians from all over the District. The Santa Monica Club has been especially thoughtful with their cards and emails. As soon as I am able to get around better (I am not driving yet) I want to personally visit SMRC to express my gratitude. In the meantime, please give my best regards to all of the SMRC members and have a wonderful and special Holiday Season." Best Rotary regards, Rick

**From Ingo Werk, our District Governor:**

- *It is my great pleasure to announce that as of yesterday, December 22nd, the president, in harmony with the provisions of the RI Bylaws, has declared our own **PAUL NETZEL** to be the director-nominee from Zone 24 to be presented for election at the 2006 convention. This means it is now official and the challenge has gone away. Paul can focus on the good work of Rotary as 2007-2009 RI Director from our District. Please inform all Rotarians in your Club. **On behalf of all Rotarians in our District: Congratulations, Paul!** This is a remarkable moment for Paul and Diane, LA5, District 5280, the Zone and Rotary International. Just in time for this season of joy. Happy Holidays, INGO*

- I invite you to Assist in Recruitment and Nomination of Candidates for Non-Rotarian Team Members in the 2006 Group Study Exchange Program.

- **DISTRICT 5280 CELEBRATES IT'S MULTI-CULTURAL HERITAGE!**

Please join me at our upcoming **DISTRICT BREAKFAST** at: The Crowne Plaza Hotel, 5985 W. Century Boulevard, Los Angeles. Tuesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2006, 7:00 am - 9:00 am. Keynote Speaker: **Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa**; Guest Speaker: **Honorable Ruben Beltran, Consul General of Mexico**.

- Dear Rotarians, families, and friends, you can see I love to party, hope to see you too, at our **GALA CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION** to welcome **YEAR of the DOG 4704** on Saturday, February 4, 2006 6 p.m., at the: Empress Pavilion, 988 North Hill Street in Los Angeles. Second floor of Bamboo Plaza in the heart of Chinatown

<enter parking structure on Bernard Street>

### **Program**

- Traditional Chinese banquet; 10-courses with explanation of each · New Year gifts for everyone
- Classical Chinese acrobats, music, dance and rarely-seen, quick-change *Master of Magical Masks*
- Door prizes · Predictions for the Year of the Dog; romance, business, health, and much more
- Unique cultural and educational experience celebrating our diverse, shared heritage

### **Mistress of Ceremonies Angi Ma Wong**

proud member of this event's founding Rotary Club of Palos Verdes Sunset will regale you with Chinese history, exotic folklore, and astrologic predictions associated with Year of the Dog 4704.

LIMITED SEATING, BY RESERVATION ONLY! Deadline: January 29, 2006.

**Notice is hereby given to the general membership that bylaw changes and other policy and procedure changes will be discussed and voted upon at the luncheon meeting of January 27, 2006. Please try your best to attend this very important meeting.**

### **One year after the Tsunami, Rotary Clubs continue efforts to support reconstruction**

One year after the devastating tsunami killed an estimated 300,000 people in nearly a dozen countries bordering the Indian Ocean, Rotary clubs worldwide have continued to donate money and muscle to help in relief, recovery and rebuilding efforts.

Rotary clubs so far have raised \$20 million to assist communities affected by the disaster. The Rotary Foundation also collected \$5 million through its Solidarity in South Asia Fund. Rotary club leaders in the affected countries, including Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India and Thailand, are coordinating distribution of the fund's money to rebuild schools, hospitals, and homes. The Rotary Foundation has also allotted thousands of dollars in matching grants to support the efforts of local clubs.

As a community-based organization of business and professional leaders, Rotary works through its network of 32,000 volunteer service clubs in nearly 170 countries to provide aid and assistance when disasters strike. Rotary has hundreds of clubs and thousands of members in the countries hit by the tsunami, allowing for an immediate response at the local level.

Examples of Rotary's tsunami relief efforts include:

- \* Rotary clubs in Sri Lanka are coordinating a \$10 million project to rebuild and furnish 25 schools destroyed in the disaster. Five of the school projects are being sponsored by clubs in Denmark, which have donated \$550,000. The Rotary Club of Brockton, Mass., also raised \$77,500 for one of the schools.

- \* Rotary clubs in Indonesia are supporting the rehabilitation of the badly damaged

coastal community of Southwest Aceh.

\* Rotary clubs in Chennai, India, are rebuilding six primary schools on nearby Pulikat Island, as well as schools, community centers and public health facilities in six villages along the coastal mainland.

\* Rotary clubs in Thailand are providing new fishing boats and equipment to restore the economy of the Kamala Beach community near Phuket.

\* Also in Thailand, U.S. Rotary clubs in the San Francisco area have raised \$150,000 to provide water purification systems and 75 tons of rice for displaced families near Phuket.

\* Rotary Clubs in Great Britain and Ireland raised over \$12 million for relief and recovery.

For more information on Rotary's tsunami relief and recovery efforts, visit the Rotary International web site at [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org).

### **THE SECOND ROTARIAN WEEK OF IBLA BAROQUE**

The second Rotarian week, organized by the local Rotary Club, after the success of the last year, will be held in Ragusa (South-eastern Sicily) between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of June 2006. Aptly named the Rotarian week of Ibla Baroque, the event intends to introduce this beautiful part of Baroque Sicily, recognized by the UNESCO as a patrimony of humanity, to the Rotarians of the whole world.

The program begins upon your arrival at Catania airport on Saturday June 3<sup>rd</sup>, and finishes with your departure from Catania, Saturday June 10<sup>th</sup>. Included in your stay is a double-occupancy room at the hotel Best Western Mediterranean Palace Hotel a block's distance from the city center. The price includes transfer fees to and from Catania airport, full room and board - including drinks at meals, guided bus tours, the gala performance, as well as medical insurance "physicians non-stop". It does not include the entry to the Greek theatre in Syracuse (€ 40,00). Representatives will be at your service during your entire stay to include guides and assistants for every group.

Programs, itinerary and booking form on [www.rotaryragusa.it](http://www.rotaryragusa.it). Participation is limited to 120 persons. The bookings may take place prior January 31, 2006 or until full, using the form published on the site [www.rotaryragusa.it](http://www.rotaryragusa.it),

Be advised, transportation to and from your departure point to Catania, Italy, is not included. However, very affordable ticket pricing can be made available through Herea Tours upon request.

We will do everything possible to organize an unforgettable stay for all who participate. We hope to see you soon. With kind regards ... Carmelo Arezzo, President.

### **2006 RI Convention in Malmö-Copenhagen - 97th Rotary International Annual Convention, Malmö, Sweden and Copenhagen, Denmark, June 11 - 14, 2006**

Fast, easy, secure - make all of your convention preparations online. Before you register online through Member Access: <https://riweb.rotaryintl.org/it/>, make sure you have your:

· **Member ID**                      · **Club number**                      · **District number**

Contact your club secretary, if you don't have this information. If for some reason you

don't have access to this information and have never used Member Access, register by fax or mail. If you need a visa, the sooner you register, the sooner you will receive your confirmation packet and invitation letter.

### Calendar of Rotary Events

Sat. Jan. 21	District Ethics KaffeeKlatsche	see June for info
Tues Jan. 31	DISTRICT BREAKFAST The Crowne Plaza Hotel, 5985 W. Century Boulevard <b>7:00 am - 9:00 am.</b> Keynote Speaker: Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa Guest Speaker: Honorable Ruben Beltran, Consul General of Mexico	
Sat. Feb. 04	<b>Chinese New Year Celebration - Welcome</b> Year of the Dog at the Empress Pavilion, 6:00 p.m.	See June for info
Fri. Mar. 10	Roy Aaron- the strange alliance of politics and business changed the face of both Santa Monica & Los Angeles	Riviera
Sat. Mar. 11	District Ethics KaffeeKlatsche	see June for info

**Coming up Gary Berntsen** - Gary spent more than twenty years as an officer in the Clandestine Service and served in an array of Field Command assignments. He has been awarded both the Distinguished Intelligence Medal and the Intelligence Star.

**Monika's thought for the day:** Never doubt that a small group of committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has. - Margaret Mead.

In the language of Rotary ... Med vänlig rotaryhälsning, Obrigado, Cordiali saluti rotariani.  
Best Rotary Regards, Cordialement, Atentamente, Mit besten rotarischen Grüßen,  
RoseMary Regalbutto