

Your **ROTSOCPE** for July 27, 2006

for the Rotary Club of San Marino, California, USA



COUNTERING ISLAMOPHOBIA

WHAT DO AMERICAN MUSLIMS THINK about the situations in the Middle East? What do our Muslim neighbors feel about the United States' role in Afghanistan, in Iraq, and now in the Israeli-Lebanese conflict? Should we be wary of the Muslims in our midst? Will they help in safeguarding America and in protecting our civil liberties?

AMERICAN MISCONCEPTIONS OF ISLAM and of Muslims, bias in the media, hate shown Muslim students and adults in the Los Angeles area, are concerns of MPAC, the Muslim Public Affairs Council – and of Alan Weirick, our member who devotes much of his time and energies to the cause of peace in the Middle East. Alan has invited MPAC to send a speaker to our meeting this week, and they're sending their best, as described below. This promises to be as timely and informative as last week's discussions, so come to learn and inquire.

AMERICAN MUSLIM SIREEN

SIREEN SAWAF is a good American, and a faithful Muslim. She earned her bachelor's in political science from Cal Poly Pomona, a strong department, and she served as a delegate in the National Model United Nations programs. After graduation, she began working with the Muslim Public Affairs Council in Los Angeles, where she now is their hate crime prevention coordinator. She has spoken extensively on the misconceptions of Islam and Muslims, bias in the media, and hate shown some students in our county. You may have seen her on CNN, local television, and C-SPAN, or heard her voice on local radio, speaking on the Patriot Act and related issues. She will talk with us this week on American Muslim feelings of the Mideast situation today.

ROTARIANS HURT ON BRIDGE

THE MALMO BRIDGE from Denmark to Sweden, depicted on last year's Rotary International convention logo, was the scene of a bus accident during Rotary's meeting last month. The bus was disabled on the bridge, then rear-ended by a truck driving about 50 mph. Among the injured were two area Rotarians:

GAIL AND ERNIE JENSON, a past district governor and spouse traveling with the Carters and Mothersheads, were hospitalized for a few days and are still recovering.

MARLENE AND FRANK GRIFFITH were the most seriously injured. Frank, just inducted as Arcadia Rotary president, broke several ribs.

FINDING THE RIGHT STUDENTS

"CAROL'S PRESENTATION LAST WEEK WAS OUTSTANDING." Chris Datwyler's comments echoed all those who heard her describe the complex social structure of Lebanese society and how it has resulted in weak government, strong religious sects, and a history of foreign intervention. She explained how Hezbollah has done an excellent P.R. job and the Lebanese feel they are respected for their good works, but also troublemakers. "I didn't sense any bias in her presentation," Chris noted, "and came away with a better understanding of the Middle East and with less hope for peace in that part of the world." By chance of scheduling, returned Ambassadorial Scholar Carol Huang came to last week's information with perceptions that helped our understanding of the month's headlines. The San Marino High and Yale graduate who spent the last two years at the American University of Beirut is herself outstanding, and our club can be proud of our selection and support of Carol in the RI fellowship process. Now we need to find more good candidates we can encourage and support, bright and personable students entering their junior year this fall in competitive colleges who would benefit from a graduate experience abroad – and who would impress the Rotary district selection committee in a few months. Bill Payne chairs our club's support team, but needs YOU to help think of neighbors, friends, who can help us find college juniors with Carol's obvious strengths. Think about it and help!

Calendar of Rotary Events for July / August 2006

JULY

27 Noon Views of and about Muslims in America

AUGUST

3 Noon Rizzi & Rasmussen – sounds like a vaudeville act

10 Noon Artisans out of the Old West

10 1:35 Board meets after lunch

17 Noon Ballentyne and Isaacs – what a pair!

24 Noon Wayne's Wanders around Scandinavia



THE ROTOSCOPE

July 27, 2006: Representing L.A.'s Muslims

DISTRICT GOALS FOR YEAR

DISTRICT GOVERNORS COME, district governors go – well, no, they don't really ever go, they hang around and continue doing good things. Each new district governor comes with district goals for the year, mostly expectations for clubs – and new for this year, the district has goals for the clubs, too.

FOR 2006-2007, the district expects our club and each club to:

- Increase membership by at least one,
- Conduct relevant service projects,
- Support the Rotary Foundation, and
- Develop leaders

THE DISTRICT'S GOALS support what is expected of our club, adding a few more things for us to do:

- conduct a *hands on* service project,
- be represented at the district assembly,
- qualify to receive a 2006 RI citation,
- complete at least one project focusing on health, hunger, literacy, water, or the Family of Rotary;
- participate in at least one of the district's special interest seminars.

GRACE FINDS HER MAN

GRACE WANG, one of our club's returned scholars now a senior strategy manager for JPMorganChase's Treasury and Securities Services, found the right man, she reported to Bill Payne. Grace has announced her engagement to Panos Mellis.

"HE'S GREEK, but grew up all over – New York, Singapore, Hong Kong, London, Sao Paolo," says Grace. "The wedding will be at Casa del Mar in May, next door to Shutters (part of the same hotel group." And from the pictures sent Bill he's plenty handsome.

ADD A GOAL OR TWO?

ON THE LEFT ARE the district's instructions for clubs to accomplish this Rotary year. We'd question one, adding to our membership, as our club's studies indicate we've tapped most "crafts" in town, and as we need around a dozen new members each year just to stay even. And we hope our board considers a few more goals: to continue our support for local youth, to hear some instructive and enjoyable programs, and to have fun.

IF WAYNE'S ALL WET, THROW HIM IN THE LAKE

VICTORVILLE ROTARY HAS A TRADITION of dunking their outgoing president in the waters of Spring Valley Lake in that High Desert community, presumably with the outgoing board also told to go jump in the lake.

THIS MAY BE WORTH considering for our next demotion, should Lacy Park revert to Wilson Lake this winter. Once Victorville's outgoing president Simon Moore dried himself off, he wrote these observations:

1. Not all wives appreciate Rotary jewelry as birthday or Valentine's gifts.
2. Attending a Fireside Meeting doesn't replace dinner reservations to celebrate a wedding anniversary.
3. Stepping on the sharp point of a Rotary pin dropped in a bedroom doesn't encourage a spouse's involvement.
4. Being President does not impress the CHP and get you out of a traffic ticket on Cajon Pass.
5. Speeding to get to Rotary is a bad excuse to tell the judge, especially if she is the local Kiwanis president.
6. Being Rotary President gets nothing free – or even a discount at Starbuck's, for that matter.
7. "I don't get paid for this" only works as an excuse to the first fifteen people you say it to.
8. Being Rotary President is not a category approved for reduced insurance premiums.

Our OFFICERS for 2006 - 2007:

WAYNE CARTER , <i>President</i>	2790 Gainsborough Drive, San Marino	h: 799-5200	b: 799-5200
FRED SOHL , <i>President-Elect</i>	857 Roanoke Road, San Marino	h: 281-6770	b: 773-4224
RICHARD HASEROT , <i>Secretary</i>	2365 Sherwood Road, San Marino	h: 309-1349	
DENNIS KNEIER , <i>Treasurer</i>	1425 Hampton Road, San Marino	h: 578-1109	
GERRY WOLCOTT , <i>Assistant Treasurer</i>	2126 Melville Drive, San Marino	h: 282-3701	
LEONARD THERRIEN , <i>Immed. Past Pres.</i>	2630 Melville Drive, San Marino	h: 286-3099	b:213-622-3307
DIRECTORS:			
TERRY PETRILLO , <i>Club Service-Social</i>	2205 Montecito Drive, San Marino	h: 449-7588	b: 285-7268
JIM THOMPSON , <i>Club Svc-House</i>	2900A Montezuma Ave, Alhambra 91803	h: 281-1185	
WARREN WEBER , <i>Vocational Service</i>	855 Plymouth Road, San Marino	h: 799-5355	
WILLIAM BORTZ , <i>Community Service</i>	1765 South San Gabriel Blvd., San Marino	h: 287-1870	b: 403-8470
BOB EICHEL , <i>International Service</i>	650 Sierra Madre Villa #202, Pasadena 91107		b: 351-3800
GENE DRYDEN , <i>Membership</i>	2500 Cumberland Road, San Marino	h: 449-2037	
JOHN HARRIS , <i>Director-at-Large</i>	8310 Youngdale, San Gabriel 91775	h: 287-6332	
JOHN WALLACE , <i>Programs</i>	1708 Bedford Road, San Marino	h: 281-3161	

Bulletin news or gripes? – send to: kveronda@southwesternacademy.edu – or call 626-799-5010, x1202

And as Wayne always says,

I used to have a handle on life,
but it broke.

