

# Your **ROTOSCOPE** for August 31, 2006

for the Rotary Club of San Marino, California, USA



## THIRTY MINUTES WITH OUR GLORIOUS FLAG

**CHUCK KISSEL IS A FRIEND** of Jeff Groseth, and Jeff's bringing Chuck this Thursday to talk about the American flag and its history. Jeff has been too busy to tell us any more about it. Maybe Jeff's sewing all fifty stars on the blue field? Or learning to cut five-pointed stars with just one snip of the scissors, as Betsy Ross is alleged to have done if she really existed? Whatever, this is the program that had to be scratched last spring, the one that was listed as "THIRTY MINUTES PLEASE" until we learned that was really Jeff's stage instructions to then-president Len, to start the program on time and give Jeff a full 30 minutes to wave some historic flags. So pay attention, Wayne. Thirty minutes, please.

### SOLIDARITY FOREVER

**LABOR DAY, BACK-TO-SCHOOL**, last fling of the summer – though Southern Californians know our hottest days are still ahead. Anyone going to a Union picnic next Monday? Are there any Union picnics still being held? Remember them? Petrillo's Musicians' Union – no, not our Petrillos – used to entertain the Plumbers' Union, the IBEU, the Carpenters, all the local crafts unions, at Brookside Park each Labor Day. Thousands of Union families would bring picnic baskets, and as a kid I'd join our plumber's family in lustily singing "Solidarity Forever!" without the vaguest knowledge what the long speeches were all about. But Flossie Taylor's bread-and-butter pickles, deviled eggs, rich potato salads, and apple pies made me a devout Union Man at age seven. Anyone else remember?

### YOUR LAST CHANCE

**WE'RE RIGHT AT** the deadline, but you can still present a bright young friend with a life-changing experience. The district is forming a group study exchange team to go to central Europe in May 2007. Greg Custer is district chair, and he doesn't have as many candidates as he'd like. It's an incredible opportunity – all expenses paid, with Rotarian hosts ready with wine and chocolates as well as time to learn more of four countries changing from Socialism to western democracy. Candidates cannot be Rotarians or relatives. They should be between 25-40, in their chosen careers a few years, bright and personal ambassadors. Think hard. Call (441-5110) or email [gcuster@wittiertrust.com](mailto:gcuster@wittiertrust.com) if you've a nominee, and he'll rush out the application forms.

## CHURCHILLIAN LEGENDS

**WAYNE CARTER'S HAVING FUN** quoting some of the alleged quips of the great Winston Churchill – alleged, as along with Twain, Shaw, and Groucho, if Mr. Churchill said all the things ascribed to him he'd never have had time to run his government, let alone a war. We're looking forward to more quotes from Wayne, especially when Winston took on Lady Astor. Sometimes Winston's actions were just as memorable as his words, such as the Iron Curtain speech-trip. Not the speech, but the train trip from Washington to Fulton, Missouri, which Clark Clifford describes in his memoirs of his White House service. Harry Truman accompanied Churchill by presidential train, with Clifford and a few other Truman aides. Chuffing out of the station, Churchill rumbled that he'd heard Truman and his friends knew a game called poker, and might they play? Harry asked Winston if he knew how – "why, I learned back in the Boer War, and yes, I've played many hands." Harry pulled his friends aside, and warned them that Winston's 40 years of poker must have made him expert, so be careful. But after a few hands it was clear that Churchill was terrible at the game, so Harry had another consultation while Winston stepped into the presidential bathroom. "Give him a break! – we've got to be good hosts and let him win!" Which they did, folding some winning hands so W.C. got the pots. Then it became apparent it was an Englishman's bluff – he really was expert, and he cleaned the Yanks out.

## Calendar of Rotary Events for August / September 2006

### AUGUST

31 Noon History of our flag – Chuck Kissel

### SEPTEMBER

7 Noon Future of Health Care

14 Noon Titan Football prospects for the season

14 1:35 p.m. Board meeting after regular luncheon

21 Noon Pillows and Plenty

28 Noon Bob Nafie spins some local history



# THE ROTOSCOPE

## August 31, 2006: Innocent Abroad

### DISAPPOINTING LIST

**WHERE WERE YOU?** – where were *all* the members of our club? Not one of us was listed in the Los Angeles Times 100, the most influential leaders in Southern California (leaving off San Diego, which I guess the Times doesn't think part of SoCal). Sure, one of our Honorary Members made the list, but only in the bottom 90. He hasn't been around to visit us recently so he doesn't count anyway. But where are the rest of us?

**FIVE OF OUR SPEAKERS** in recent years were on the Top 100 list according to my count, which speaks well of the programs we draw. But not one of our past presidents were listed, let alone the present or the near-future guys. We thought that **Len Therrien** would be there, but he's not. What happened to **Wayne Carter**? Or **Fred Sohl**? If they're not influential, why I don't know who is.

**MAYOR MATT LIN** didn't make the cut for some reason. Neither did **Bob Twist**. Both have been absent from our recent meetings, and it could be the Times staffers who checked out our meetings found them out of sight, out of mind. But that doesn't explain **Emile Bayle**, who's always around and isn't exactly very quiet. Why didn't he get listed?

**ANDY BARTH** should have qualified, for his financial expertise. Andy usually takes the family to a fascinating summer stay in such places as Japan and France. This year he's at an even more exclusive summer retreat, the YMCA camp on Catalina. Maybe the Times missed him there, but then why didn't they recognize our exclusive horsemen, **Doug Lerner** or **Charlie Rasmussen**, out riding with L.A. powers? And of course there's the all-powerful shadow behind local politics, **Paul Crowley** – missing. Shame on the Times.

*Have a candidate for GSE? Call 626-441-5111*

### GOLF AT RANCHO DUARTE

**THE DUARTE ROTARY CLUB** included several female leaders in their community, including the superintendent of schools, principal, and city managers. Nothing too unusual about that, these days at least. Back then, it was against Rotary rules, though several district governors knew about them and ignored the situation. Then RI found out, and it was "DUARTE X-ROTARY" through State and Federal court fights. The X-Rotarians raised funds for their legal bills through many events, including their "Don Anderson Golf Tournament" – and when RI finally backed down under court orders, Duarte kept swinging for other good causes. This year it's back at Rancho Duarte Golf Course, Thursday, September 14, with a shotgun start at 2 pm, golf for \$65, awards, raffle, BBQ dinner – call Kristen at 626-357-7931 x 219 to join.

### GOVERNOR COMING OCTOBER 12<sup>th</sup>

**OUR DOZEN OR SO** new members over the past year may not know how important is our district governor, nor how urgent it is to hear the D.G.'s speech as she makes her way to visit each of the 65-or-so clubs. Ask our past district governor to hear about the high prestige, the vital duties, and the major leadership functions of the office. So important that Therese and Lee Mothershead open their gardens for a poolside dinner whenever a new district governor appears.

**IT HAPPENS ONCE AGAIN** this year, on Thursday evening, October 12<sup>th</sup>, Columbus Day. All our members are welcome – nay, expected – to come. Usually spouses are welcome too – we haven't heard details yet, but we're guessing all our Rotary couples will be invited. Save the date, and come enjoy the setting if not the speech.

### Our OFFICERS for 2006 - 2007:

<b>WAYNE CARTER, <i>President</i></b>	2790 Gainsborough Drive, San Marino . . . . .	h: 799-5200	b: 799-5200
<b>FRED SOHL, <i>President-Elect</i></b>	857 Roanoke Road, San Marino . . . . .	h: 281-6770	b: 773-4224
<b>RICHARD HASEROT, <i>Secretary</i></b>	2365 Sherwood Road, San Marino . . . . .	h: 309-1349	
<b>DENNIS KNEIER, <i>Treasurer</i></b>	1425 Hampton Road, San Marino . . . . .	h: 578-1109	
<b>GERRY WOLCOTT, <i>Assistant Treasurer</i></b>	2126 Melville Drive, San Marino . . . . .	h: 282-3701	
<b>LEONARD THERRIEN, <i>Immed. Past Pres.</i></b>	2630 Melville Drive, San Marino . . . . .	h: 286-3099	b:213-622-3307

<b>DIRECTORS:</b>			
<b>TERRY PETRILLO, <i>Club Service-Social</i></b>	2205 Montecito Drive, San Marino . . . . .	h: 449-7588	b: 285-7268
<b>JIM THOMPSON, <i>Club Svc-House</i></b>	2900A Montezuma Ave, Alhambra 91803 . . . . .	h: 281-1185	
<b>WARREN WEBER, <i>Vocational Service</i></b>	855 Plymouth Road, San Marino . . . . .	h: 799-5355	
<b>WILLIAM BORTZ, <i>Community Service</i></b>	1765 South San Gabriel Blvd., San Marino . . . . .	h: 287-1870	b: 403-8470
<b>BOB EICHEL, <i>International Service</i></b>	650 Sierra Madre Villa #202, Pasadena 91107 . . . . .		b: 351-3800
<b>GENE DRYDEN, <i>Membership</i></b>	2500 Cumberland Road, San Marino . . . . .	h: 449-2037	
<b>JOHN HARRIS, <i>Director-at-Large</i></b>	8310 Youngdale, San Gabriel 91775 . . . . .	h: 287-6332	
<b>JOHN WALLACE, <i>Programs</i></b>	1314 Olive Lane, La Canada 91011 . . . . .	h: 818-790-4471	

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



And as Wayne always says,  
The gene pool sure could use  
a little chlorine.

