

Your **ROTSCOPE** for September 7, 2006

for the Rotary Club of San Marino, California, USA



THE FUTURE OF YOUR HEALTH CARE

DENNIS LEE MUST HAVE thought it was going to be easy after earning his bachelor's and master's in business at the University of Madison. He started working in hospitals in Milwaukee, Fresno, Phoenix, Scottsdale – nothing to do but put patients into beds, gather doctors and nurses to care for them, and collect the money. Life in hospital administration – in all health care services – has become a bit more complicated in this age of HMO, PPO, Medicare, HIPPA, unions, care management. Dennis came to Methodist Hospital in 1991 as the chief operating officer, just as the gatekeepers and contracts were really beginning to squeeze. That hasn't stopped. When Methodist affiliated with Huntington Memorial in 1992, Dennis became Methodist's administrator, and then was named president in 1994. The last twelve years have become even more exciting – and what will the next twelve bring, just as you need more health care services? That's what Dennis is coming to Rotary to talk about this week. You, and your health care.

BAD NEWS

YOU PROBABLY READ OF a considerable number of new polio cases among children in southern Afghanistan, and of the murders of over 30 health care workers trying to reach more kids with Rotary's PolioPlus vaccines. About 99% of the youth had been vaccinated as of a year ago; new births aren't getting treated, however, and today only 90% of all youngsters in the tumultuous south part of the war-torn country have been vaccinated. This is where several score new cases have appeared, and with migrating refugees, are beginning to spread into Pakistan and India, undoing all the good work to date in eliminating polio. None of the murders involved Rotarian workers, but none of the Rotarian workers can get there. Keep watching – it's not good.

LITERACY CAMPAIGN

RI'S PRESIDENT BILL BOYD has made increased literacy his campaign for Rotary in the year ahead. San Marino Rotary has been doing its part for several years with the remarkable "Reading by 9" campaign, buying and distributing interesting reading materials in several elementary classrooms near us where many homes have no books. Scholastic publications has offered their materials with high-interest, easy-reading for sale at a fraction of the usual price. Our club has purchased thousands of books, and the Southwestern Interact people have put bookplates in them for our committee to use in presenting the reading in classes. The L. A. Times really helped, until the Chicago bosses decided to cut that cost. Will Bortz needs more help with this year's campaign. Talk with Will and volunteer.

A TRUE CHURCHILLIAN LEGEND

WAYNE IS SPINNING HIS Winston Stories to close each of our meetings, but here's a genuine story, attested-to by a British friend who was in the Great Hall of the House of Parliament and who actually heard it happening one afternoon in the late 1960s. Just a few special tourists are allowed in the room, and only when sponsored by MC's or Lords. My friend was there on business, to meet with several members.

AN AMERICAN COUPLE was near a doorway in a far corner as Churchill entered opposite them, leaning heavily on an aide's arm and shuffling his arthritic way across the 150-foot length of the hall. This was to be Churchill's last year of life, and he was visiting Commons. As he crossed in the distance, my friend was close to the Americans, and heard the woman whisper, "Why, there's Mr. Churchill! They say he's getting demented! They say he's lost his abilities! They say he's just a shell of his former self!" They stood in awe as the Great Man crossed ever so slowly.

WHEN CHURCHILL AND HIS HELPER reached the far door, a distant thunder rumbled across the Great Hall. The voice was thick, but deep and clear: "They say he's deaf, too!"

Calendar of Rotary Events for September / October 2006

SEPTEMBER

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| 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 |

OCTOBER

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| 5 | Noon | Installing heart valves |
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THE ROTOSCOPE

September 7, 2006: State of our health care

MORE MISSING MEMBERS!

OUR MENTION LAST WEEK of San Marino Rotarians who were not included in the L. A. Times' list of the 100 most influential Southern Californians brought a flood of messages to me pointing out others in our group who were missed by both the Times and the equally important Roto Scope. Well, actually, there were just two messages, and one doesn't count. That recording's voice was disguised, but it was obviously **Steve Talt**, naming himself to be listed as the lawyer involved in everything of significance in the three-county area.

VIVIAN CHAN was nominated by my other caller, who noted that Vivian not only provided great meals to most of the area's millions through her many restaurants, but also ran the PTA, which may be tougher work. If we included her, however, we'd need to list **Loren Kleinrock** too, who thinks he runs the PTA, though the parent group just keeps him thinking they're actually listening to him.

JIM FOLSOM should have been listed. Who else can raise millions of dollars worth of Chinese flowers? And **David Zeidberg**, because of all those old, used books he's bringing out from Boston. Then there's **Dennis Kneier**, who has taken over the treasuries of city, Rotary, City Club, and who knows how many others. And our old miller **Jack McQueen**, grinding wheat, art, and music in the old Kewen house. Or **Merrill Francis**, the area's top philosopher and political commentator, though possibly no one with the Times can understand him so they left him off.

BUT OUR MEMBER OF GREATEST IMPORTANCE sits quietly before his computer screen, directing what appears on the web pages of every major organization around the area. He's #1, **Chris Datwyler**, truly the most important person in SoCal.

Guests welcome to hear of health care.

COLD CHAIN CAPACITY

ANOTHER SIDE BENEFIT from Rotary's PolioPlus work: the need to protect the polio vaccine's potency in places with minimal or no refrigeration available prompted RI's the development of "cold chain" equipment. Now it is being used to store vaccines for other diseases.

NO MILK, NO BEER – NO GAS?

NO, YOU CAN'T BUY a carton of milk in San Marino. There used to be three markets in the Mission District alone, open-front groceries where Gene Orłowsky's office, Julienne's pastries, and Bill Bell's spa now sit. Two more were in the Chelsea district, one next to city hall, two to the east, down where farmers put out fresh produce in the vacant lots on Huntington at San Gabriel.

NO BEER ANY MORE, no liquor stores, no take-out beverages. Expensive wines are in one shop, but the party supplies come now from Costco, Wal-Mart, or elsewhere out of town. No fresh eggs, chicken, or rabbit pieces from Mr. Richardson's chicken ranch on El Molino behind what's Orłowsky's place today. It's gone, part of Gene's parking lot. No movie theaters, either. One planned for town was stopped when our city council declared theaters illegal, only to be confronted with the First Amendment's peaceful assembly right, so the city simply imposed a \$5 per seat per day tax, sold or not.

THERE WERE SEVEN GAS STATIONS in two blocks on Mission. We went to Orv Martin's 76, but my favorite was the Richfield with free wildflower seeds with a fillup. They did the filling, of course, plus radiator and tire check before they washed the windows and gave us Green Stamps. Remember the Flying-A-Associated there? "Let's Get Associated!" Now we hear the Unocal station on Huntington will be gone soon. That leaves – two! Please hang in there, John Duymalyan!

Our OFFICERS for 2006 - 2007:

WAYNE CARTER , <i>President</i>	2790 Gainsborough Drive, San Marino	h: 799-5200	b: 799-5200
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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	
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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	
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JOHN WALLACE , <i>Programs</i>	1314 Olive Lane, La Canada 91011	h: 818-790-4471	

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

And as Wayne always says,

I'm not a complete idiot.
Some parts are just missing.

