

# Your **ROTSOCPE** for March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2007

for the Rotary Club of San Marino, California, USA



## WALLACE NEFF AND THE GRAND HOUSES OF THE GOLDEN STATE

**ARCHITECT WALLACE NEFF** said he built "California houses for California people," but those people included Douglas Fairbanks and Mary Pickford, Cary Grant and Claudette Colbert. He built around San Marino, great homes on Lombardy and Allen, small homes tucked on quiet streets, all with delightful Neff touches such as sweeping staircases and entry turrets. There's a house right across from our Community Church that sure looks like a Neff, but as with many of his homes all records are lost. The "Airform" or "Bubble House" on Marengo was built in one day, as Neff worked for inexpensive postwar housing too. This week we hear of them from author Diane Kanner, who used her USC thesis as the basis for a book on the Rand, McNally heir Neff. Much of it was written when she was a reader at The Huntington. Kanner has completed the history of the Albert C. Martin architectural firm, ready for publication. She is sustaining director of the Junior League, and has enjoyed many years of guiding visitors through Frank Lloyd Wright's Hollyhock House in Barnesdall Park. If you know Neff or not, you'll like this story of his life-work.

### TEEN LEADERS TAKE OVER CLUB

**NO WAYNE TO BORE YOU** with Churchill quotes, no Larry to collect fines, no dumb jokes or off-key singing, no regular Rotary leaders at all. This Thursday those juniors and seniors from San Marino High and Southwestern who attended this year's RYLA – the youth leadership camp in the snows of Idyllwild held last month - elbow president Carter aside and take over our meeting. Well, anything's better than what we have, and Debbie Priester's carefully-selected student leaders of the future will so prove.

**JIM PINK JOINED DEBBIE** at RYLA this year, we learned recently, and he'll help in greeting and preparing our student crew as they conduct this week's meeting. Relax and enjoy!

### OUR PETS!

**LYNETTE AND FRED SOHL** spent the weekend at LAX, and didn't miss a flight. They were locked up at the LAX Hilton, joining Rotary presidents-elect from seven districts around Southern California and Nevada in the President Elects' Training Seminar, learning how to do it right. For the first time, "your wife or partner" was invited to join (a phrase that raises a few questions about what happens to husbands, and exactly what kind of partners?).

**IDEAS ARE EXCHANGED**, pep talks given, policies and procedures reviewed, and Rotary's leaders for 2007-2008 march out raring to get to work. Fred has three months to wait, but Wayne's on the downward slide. His demotion comes June 28<sup>th</sup>.

## A BEAM FOR BILL

**MATT BALLANTYNE BROUGHT A HAPPY GROUP TOGETHER** under the great oak on the north side of the temporary library to picnic on charbroiled burgers, munch cookies, and celebrate the topping-out of the massive steelwork forming our new city library. City staff, from street and park departments, fire and police, library and city hall; city commissioners, city council members and candidates, donors and friends; the architects, contractors, steel workers, and engineers; all joyful with news that the construction is ahead of schedule (thanks in part of the drought we're experiencing). The last beam sat waiting, the traditional pine tree and American flag atop it, with autograph space for everyone there. All signed, stood in the median of Huntington Drive to watch and cheer as the crane lifted the last beam into place while workers bolted it into place, flag fluttering against a perfect blue sky.

**ELLIOTT KATZ WROTE** on behalf of all Rotary and San Marino, inscribing on the steel that

*This beam is dedicated to Bill Steele,  
remembering all his contributions to our community.*

And that thought from us all will stay high above the library until the next building is constructed several generations from now.

## Calendar of Rotary Events for March / April 2007

### MARCH

- |    |            |  |
|----|------------|--|
| 15 | Noon       | Wallace Neff and his great houses      |
| 22 | 11:30 a.m. | Paul Harris Luncheon at The Huntington |
| 29 | Noon       | Mayor's Report on the city             |

### APRIL

- |    |           |                                   |
|----|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| 5  | Noon      | Confessions of a CBS newsman      |
| 12 | Noon      | La Casa de San Gabriel            |
| 12 | 1:35 p.m. | Board meeting at Community Church |



# THE ROTOSCOPE

For the Rotary Club of San Marino, California, U.S.A.

March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2007:

DIANE KANNER on WALLACE NEFF

## SCHOLARS CHOSEN

**THREE SCHOLARS FROM THE AREA** have been chosen to be Ambassadorial Scholars, The Rotary Foundation's program for graduate studies overseas. The program is richer in dollar and personal support than the Rhoades, Wilson, Marshall, Truman, any other fellowship.

**OUR THREE SCHOLARS** for next fall are CHRISTINA DESVAUX, who will be studying international development in Uruguay; AMANDA ZEIDAN, studying political science and diplomacy in Turkey; and CATE POWELL to India for studies of comparative religions.

**THIS MONTH IS THE DEADLINE** for Ambassadorial Scholar applications for the academic year 2008-2009. No family members of Rotarians can be funded, but we're at the wire for you to urge a bright junior in college to apply for this prestigious and rewarding grant.

**IN OTHER TRF NEWS**, our district has been given approval to form a group study exchange team next year that will head to Australia (our 2007 team leaves late April for a month in Central Europe, including a representative from our club). Greg Custer has details for young professionals, 25-40 years of age, who you might encourage to travel with the 2008 GSE team.

**AND OF COURSE THE STRUGGLE** to eliminate the polio virus continues. Perhaps you saw long reports in the New York and Los Angeles Times, the Christian Science Monitor, and on the AP services about a mammoth national immunization day in Bangladesh last weekend, reaching a hundred million children. The World Health Organization was described as leader of the campaign, with "volunteers from a NGO" helping out. Guess who that was?

## YET-ANOTHER-LAST-CHANCE

**YOUR DISTRICT IS REALLY EAGER** for you to put an ad in the district conference program and memory book. We're past the deadline, but if you've procrastinated they've extended the deadline, so that's not a good excuse. Only \$25 for a quarter page, \$50 a half, \$75 three quarters, \$100 full page, \$125 page and a quarter, \$150 page and a half. Fill the book! Clear? Simply send a camera ready ad and your check to Susanne Hayeck at 11 West Sierra Madre Blvd., Arcadia 91006. For design help, email [susanhayck@earthlink.net](mailto:susanhayck@earthlink.net).

## CHICKEN SOUP FOR MEMORIAL DAY

**THEY REALLY, REALLY WANT YOU** – down on the desert over Memorial Day for the district conference. As each year, the push is on for registration, but it's easier than ever – simply go to the district web site for all the prices, details, registration forms for golf, meals, rooms, everything on Rancho Las Palmas over May 24-27 and sign up.

**JACK CANFIELD**, author who has done very well with his "Chicken Soup for the Soul" series, will talk on each of our presidents and their accomplishments. There's a "Safari Sam" with entertainment, as well as speeches and sessions on what clubs have accomplished. Maybe best of all are the club open houses in various suites – easy enough to talk your way into several to survey the best foods and drinks.

**RIGHT UP TOP** of the district web site is "Safari Sam" in full color. We don't get his connection to Rancho Mirage, as Sam seems to be in a jungle that isn't there, but we do get the connection to conference registration. Go see: [www.district5300.org](http://www.district5300.org).

## Our OFFICERS for 2007:

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

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

