



Your **ROTSOCPE** for March 6, 2008

for the Rotary Club of San Marino, California, USA

CAPTURING HEAVEN, EARTH, AND MAN WITH TWIGS AND LEAVES

IKEBANA FLOWER ARRANGING is displayed and taught at The Huntington in town, and we learn more this week of this ancient Japanese art. Using geometric lines of branches and small flowers, Ikebana's many schools show the sun, moon, and earth in a small bowl; heaven, earth, and man in another.

MARIANNA PLOTT of the San Marino League is our speaker, describing her organizations contributions to the Japanese gardens at The Huntington as well as the overall art of Ikebana. Mary Hunt of the League was our honoree at our Paul Harris Fellow luncheon a few years ago, and the League has furnished the table flowers for that annual event. Hunt was a leader in developing Ikebana teaching locally, and Marianna Plott is one of several League women who continue promoting the art form. She will show examples and explain their meanings – and yes, her program is a good one for you to bring a guest just like yourself who might appreciate the Rotary experience.

BEYONCE FIGHTING WITH US

A BEAUTIFUL HELPER joined Rotarians from the U.S. and Canada who had traveled to Ethiopia to immunize children against polio. R&B singer Beyonce had a concert gate in Addis Ababa, and took a day to help with the National Immunization Day there. She was very impressed, both with the PolioPlus program and with the group of Rotarians willing to spend their time and funding to make the trip to administer vaccine. Beyonce wrote a healthy check to contribute that day, and spent dawn to dark in the field. Ethiopia was on our list of countries where polio cases appeared over the past several years. So far, no cases were reported for 2007 or in January of this year. Only four countries are still polio-endemic: Afghanistan, India, Nigeria, and Pakistan.

NINETY YEARS / NINETY TREES

TEAMS FROM LONG BEACH ROTARY went out in force to celebrate their club's 90th Anniversary a couple of Saturdays ago, digging ninety holes and planting ninety trees in areas of their city where street and park trees had died. Tree-planting is something Rotarians have been doing since the organization's founding, when Chicago Rotarians planted a few trees around the public toilets they'd constructed near what is now Millennium Park, along Michigan Avenue. Rotary founder Paul Harris made sure he planted a tree in every town and city he visited in his worldwide travels, and many are tall and beautiful today, including a tree he planted in downtown Pasadena's Central Park across from The Armory in 1917, an oak now 91 years old.

FRED'S LOST IT

WE SAW IT COMING, as soon as Fred Sohl started talking so much about not losing it, staying cool, while openly daring his fellow Rotarians to take it away from him. We knew he was going to lose it, whether right there in front of us or some time between our weekly meetings. He boasted, he taunted, he offered one hundred, two hundred, five hundred dollars to anyone who could cause him to lose it, and he lost it all last meeting. He gave his gavel to the high school student presiding last week, and now it's gone. The young kids at the head table, where the gavel was last seen, say they didn't touch it and don't have it. The only other people near it were Debbie Priester and Jim Pink, and they couldn't have taken it. Just look at their sweet, innocent faces – Debbie and Jim wouldn't have broken the Four-Way Test to steal, as it wouldn't be Fair to All Concerned, particularly unfair to Fred, who'd need to honor his dare and pay that big-time money. No Rotarian would have stolen the gavel for the same reason, as no Rotarian would violate that Four-Way Test. So Fred needs help. Actually most of us have felt that Fred has needed help for a long time, but this time it's really true: he needs good detective help to find his gavel, or he'll need to pay on his dare. Skilled and professional San Marino Police detective work will be needed to solve the mystery of the missing gavel. If it wasn't the RYLA kids that took it, and it wasn't innocent-looking Debbie or Jim, and it wasn't any other Rotarian, then the suspect has to be a non-Rotarian, the only non-Rotarian in the room last week: the Police Chief!

MARCH / APRIL 2008

MARCH

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| 6 | Noon | Ikebana flower arranging |
| 13 | Noon | White collar crime report |
| 13 | 1:35 | March board meeting after lunch |
| 20 | Noon | Doug Larner |
| 27 | 1130 a.m. | Paul Harris Fellows' luncheon at The Huntington |

APRIL

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| 3 | Noon | Lee Benuska |
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THE ROTOSCOPE

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

March 6: Ikebana Show



GOOD WORKS

CONGRATULATIONS TO WARREN WEBER, to the Mini-Grant Committee, and to all our members who contributed to the Bill Steele memorial program of encouraging creative teaching programs for our local schoolchildren.

GRANTS FOR 2007-2008 were passed out last month, and samplings from two teachers were presented to us last meeting. They're indicative of exciting units that help boost our kids' successes, and help prove our club's Mini-Grant program to be worthy of our efforts.

MEANWHILE, STACKS OF BOOKS fill a library room at Southwestern as the school's Interact Club paste in bookplates presenting the interesting reading materials to third graders who may never have had a book of their very own. (Some of the high school kids volunteering to put in the plates have been leafing through the pictures, too, and agree it's interesting stuff for third graders!)

CONGRATULATIONS TO WILL BORTZ, to the Reading by Nine Committee, and to all our members who have supported this annual project.

TO REALLY UNDERSTAND the impact of Reading by Nine, the committee urges each of us to come to at least one of the presentations this spring, and see the joyful smiles. Our participating schools this year are Longfellow and Washington in Pasadena, and Sanchez in Rosemead. The date and time of each presentation will be announced and published as it's determined, usually first thing in the morning, and taking only a few minutes of your time. A happy investment of your time, and an inspiration as to why we've been continuing this project over the past several years.

SPOUSAL ATTENTION

LUCILLE NORBERG IS LEARNING: don't trust our members to tell spouses about our social events. Members forget. Lucille & Co. are planning another "Rotary on the Town" and passed out a "Save the Date" sheet last meeting, noting "Please take this HOME". She forgot to add " ... and Please Share with your Spouse!" (If that's not mentioned, we're not sure members would remember to do that, either.) So: ATTENTION SPOUSES - SAVE THE DATE of our next Night Out ...

Wednesday, April 9th, 6:00 p.m.

STARS IN L. A.

ENJOY ROTARY? Then you'll enjoy the RI Convention in Los Angeles this June. A group of humanitarian stars will shine as speakers and panel discussion members, and you'll learn much from them.

DR. MARGARET CHAN, director of WHO – the World Health Organization – will be the plenary speaker on Tuesday, June 17th. She is a partner of – and a warm appreciator for – Rotary's efforts to eliminate the polio virus worldwide, and she'll describe what still needs to be accomplished toward that great goal.

THE NEXT DAY Ambassador Stephen Lewis, co-director of the AIDS-Free World Foundation, will tell of relatively unknown recent gains in combating this disease that has decimated Africa and much of the world. Lewis also partners with Rotary in assisting AIDS projects worldwide.

TICKETS ARE GOING UP in price before the convention. Best is to buy now, if you haven't already – a considerable savings comes from getting on line to: <https://riweb.rotaryintl.org>

Our OFFICERS for 2008:

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WAYNE CARTER , <i>Immed. Past President</i>	2790 Gainsborough Drive, San Marino	h: 799-5200	b: 799-5200
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Bulletin news or aripes? – send to: kveronda@southwesternacademy.edu – or call 626-799-5010. x1202



Fred's Funny this week:
We are the people
our parents warned us about.

