



Your **ROTSOCPE** for April 24, 2008

for the Rotary Club of San Marino, California, USA

MEET DON BENITO

NAT READ IS A WIT, a writer, a publicist, a Pasadena Rotarian – and a good historian who poured all his rich talents into writing about a local legend, Tennessee migrant Benjamin Wilson who came to Mexican California to become Don Benito, a multitalented contributor to California's growth and success. You live below Mt. Wilson, drive Wilson Road, hike the Wilson trails into the San Gabriels, heard of Wilson Lake before it was transformed into our city park, but you probably don't know much about Wilson's life adventures and family connections.

NAT SHARES THE WILSON STORY with us on Thursday, illustrated with legends and pictures that Nat collected during his research into the life of our area's Nat's book was published on April Fool's, but it's not a foolish story. You will find Wilson's various careers fascinating as Nat spins the yarns to us on Thursday. Come with a guest and enjoy.

EARN YOUR *

HEY, THOSE WITHOUT A * on the committee roster for next year's service: GET WITH IT! Time to get organized. Incoming president Lois sent around email to all with the preliminary roster. If your name isn't there after a *, you are really needed to help with one or more of our service projects – perhaps finding good programs, or planning events, or working with our 18 different youth projects such as Reading by Nine, RYLA, Interact, and so forth. Look through the list Lois sent you. Holiday reachout, Rose Court at the Huntington, Fourth of July - these and other good activities need more participation to bring success. If you've lost the committee lists, email Lois and tell her where you'll volunteer: LoisTable@aol.com.

HELP GREET AT CONVENTION

GIVE FOUR HOURS and volunteer at the information booths to greet and welcome thousands of Rotarian visitors coming to the Los Angeles international convention. More greeters are needed for the booths, and it's a good way to get you downtown and into the excitement of Rotary's worldwide work. Saturday night at the Nokia Center will be especially outstanding, inside and out, and that's where more helpers are particularly needed. Don't just think about it, and put it off – volunteer now, so the organizing committee can quit worrying that they're understaffed. Simply go to: www.rotary2008.com, click on **LA Host Organizing Committee**, then at the top on **Volunteer**, then click **Volunteer Application**

WARREN'S WASHROOMS

THE "OLDEST SURVIVING COMMERCIAL BUILDING" in San Marino added something new and useful, through the high energies and hands-on efforts of **WARREN WEBER**. For a quarter-century, Warren has given great support to our city's El Molino – the Old Mill. As president of the mill's foundation, Warren recognized the need for accessible restroom facilities in the outdoor gardens, to serve tourists, concert goers, and other visitors to our historic treasure. Warren's washrooms have been completed. Don't chuckle – remember the very first project of the very first Rotary club in the world was to build public restrooms in Chicago, and remember how grateful you are when you need one and find it clean and close. The Old Mill Foundation shared the cost of the facility with the city, and Warren brought it about, on time and on budget. Warren made sure it would blend in with the Old Mill and gardens of native plantings, that construction was smooth and correct, and that each detail was complete. Warren has been bringing many other projects together at the Mill for all these years, from putting in a new washer at a leaky faucet to finding funding for major improvements. As the "Old Mill Stream" writer put it graciously, "Warren, basically, is a doer. The difference between him and most of the rest of us is that his set of skills is seemingly boundless. It ranges from the conceptual to the mechanical." Such praise from Mill Director Jack McQueen is well earned. Stop by for a ceremonial flush to commemorate Warren's dedicated service.

APRIL / MAY 2008

APRIL

- | | | |
|-----------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| 24 | 8:30 am | Reading by 9 at Washington, 1520 North Raymond, Pas |
| 24 | Noon | Nat Read on Don Benito Wilson |
| 25 | 8:00 am | Reading by 9 at Longfellow, 1065 East Washington, Pas |

MAY

- | | | |
|----------|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Noon | Finally (we hope): program on Feng Shui, delayed 3x |
| 8 | Noon | Building modern outdoor sports arenas |
| 8 | 1:35 | Fred's elderly board gathers for cigars after lunch |

THE ROTOSCOPE

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

April 24: Meet Don Benito Wilson



LATE NOTICE FOR EARLY MEET

YOU'RE STILL WELCOME, you're still needed to come for all or part of the 2008 District Conference:

**April 24 – 27
IRVINE MARRIOTT HOTEL
18000 Von Karman Avenue, Irvine**

THIS THURSDAY THROUGH SUNDAY morning, the sixty clubs scattered along the I-10 and I-15 from us to Caliente, Nevada, gather to celebrate the year's accomplishments and to share each other's projects. Past district governor John Capps speaks at Friday night's dinner, and Bryn Styles talks at Saturday's dinner on behalf of the international president. Along the way, there are several leadership sessions, the finals of the Four-way Speech contest and the Dan Stover music contest for high school students, our delightful Australian exchange team, and hospitality rooms each night.

A RAFFLE INCLUDES some rich prizes, including one donated by Fred Sohl on behalf of our club. The main prize is a new Think Pad, donated by Lenovo, but most clubs have given some fascinating items representative of their area as part of the fund-raising raffle.

BECAUSE OF THE LATE NOTICE from the district and the early spring date for this year's conference (it's usually in June, but moved for 2008 because of the International Convention coming to Los Angeles), registration has been light and space is open as of Saturday. Come for a meal, a day, all convention. It's an easy hour's drive to Irvine, and the full program plus on-line registration is available at the district web site:

www.district5300.org/conference/index.html

ENJOY ARTS THURSDAY EVENING

ARTS FEST APRIL 24th is a free show of music, design, drama, photography, drawings and paintings, fashions and food, assembled each year by all the arts students at Southwestern Academy and offered to families and friends from three to seven p.m. on the Monterey Road campus. Bigger news kept the local paper from announcing the event this year, and the kids fear they'll put on their show but no one will come. Support them by your presence, for an hour or all event. It's delightful for all ages, and the many performers will impress you with their talents. A parking secret: Ramiro and Banning on the east end of the campus are usually clear!

THE POWER OF COMPASSION

"ENGAGING THE OTHER" is the theme of our district's 13th annual International Peace Conference, this year on Saturday, May 10th at Fuller School of Psychology. Come hear just one of the thirteen speakers, or stay all day, 8:30 to 4:00 pm – admission is free, but registration is requested so sufficient space can be allocated.

HONORARY MEMBER LEE BACA speaks on appreciating our diversity. Senator Jack Scott addresses how to confront racism at home, in schools, work, and government. Articulate priests, rabbis, Muslim and Asian leaders are holding sessions. The Rev. Leonard Jackson, senior advisor to Mayor Villaragosa, celebrates our diversity. Psychologist Andrea Shields talks about trauma and group conflicts. All free. All stimulating.

OUR MEMBERS WHO'VE ATTENDED earlier peace conferences have returned stimulated, glad they went. Give some time on Saturday, May 10th, and get yourself stimulated while examining our negative stereotyping and prejudice. But please, register so they know how many are coming. Call: **626-797-5462**, or email Altadena Rotarian Ray Carlson at

ray@rotapreneur.com

Our OFFICERS for 2008:

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|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| FRED SOHL, President | 857 Roanoke Road, San Marino | h: 281-6770 | b: 665-2758 |
| RICHARD HASEROT, Secretary | 2365 Sherwood Road, San Marino | h: 309-1349 | |
| DENNIS KNEIER, Treasurer | 1425 Hampton Road, San Marino | h: 578-1109 | |
| GERRY WOLCOTT, Assistant Treasurer | 2126 Melville Drive, San Marino | h: 282-3701 | |
| WAYNE CARTER, Immed. Past President | 2790 Gainsborough Drive, San Marino | h: 799-5200 | b: 799-5200 |
| DIRECTORS: | | | |
| TERRY PETRILLO, Club Service-Social | 2205 Montecito Drive, San Marino | h: 449-7588 | b: 285-7268 |
| WARREN WEBER, Vocational Service | 855 Plymouth Road, San Marino | h: 799-5355 | |
| WILLIAM BORTZ, Community Service | 1765 South San Gabriel Blvd., San Marino | h: 287-1870 | b: 403-8470 |
| BOB EICHEL, International Service | 650 Sierra Madre Villa #202, Pasadena 91107 | | b: 351-3800 |
| GENE DRYDEN, Membership | 2500 Cumberland Road, San Marino | h: 449-2037 | |
| JOHN HARRIS, Director-at-Large | 8310 Youngdale, San Gabriel 91775 | h: 287-6332 | |
| JIM PINK, Projects Coordinator | 556 S Fair Oaks Ave #101-163, Pasadena 91105 | h: 441-1781 | b: 403-8470 |
| CATHY RAACKE, Administrative Comm. | 6507 North Muscatel Ave., San Gabriel 91775 | h: 286-2335 | b: 286-3737 |
| CHARLES RASMUSSEN, Board Member | 6758 North Karin Place, San Gabriel 91775 | h: 309-6021 | b: 665-9321 |
| JOHN WALLACE, Public Relations | 1314 Olive Lane, La Canada 91011 | h: 818-790-4471 | |

Bulletin news or aripes? – send to: kveronda@southwesternacademv.edu – or call 626-799-5010. x1202



Fred's Funny this week:
Nothing is foolproof
to a sufficiently talented fool.

