



# Your **ROTSCOPE** for July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008

for the Rotary Club of San Marino, California, USA

## FROM MEDIA TO MINISTRY: A PERSONAL SAGA

**ART CRIBBS IS PASTOR** at our Congregational Church. He came to San Marino in April 2007 from a ministry in San Diego. But the Rev. Art really began his ministerial career at age 13, as assistant pastor in his father's church in Watts. His first career was as a newscaster, bureau chief for KPIX-TV in San Francisco and a special commentator during the O.J. Simpson trial. He founded a weekly spiritual support group for non-traditional church persons, and produced a weekly focus piece on persons "Making a Difference". Before becoming a full-time pastor, Rev. Cribbs was executive director at the United Church of Christ's national offices as the executive director of their department of communications, redesigning the UCC's national newspaper and launching a weekly television program using a production studio he reconstituted. He has revitalized our local UCC congregation, led for many years by our late member Bert Crist. Art Cribbs' beautifully modulated speaking voice will charm you, and his autobiography will impress you.

### HI, CARL!

**CARL JOHNSON JOINED OUR CLUB** in August 1952, and served here to March 1998 – 45.56 years of service, as his structural engineering mind can calculate without calculator, including four earlier years with East Pasadena Rotary. He married Margaret in October 1939 – coming up on seventy years! (she was a child-bride). Margaret and Carl are living in Corona del Mar, both nursing broken pelvic bones but otherwise keen, active, and frustrated with the temporary slow-healing handicap. Carl renewed his driver's license last week, and hopes to come visit soon. Say 'hi Carl' at **949-706-2087** or write him at 19 Mainsail Drive, Corona del Mar 92625.

### PLANNING AHEAD

**THE 2009-2011 CLASS OF ROTARY WORLD PEACE FELLOWS** is now being chosen. It's a rich prize, funding studies in conflict resolution and peace negotiations at key universities on six continents. If you know a suitable candidate, refer them to the RI web page for information and applications.

**RI'S 2009 CONVENTION** will be in Birmingham, England, June 21-24. Tentative convention sites from there include Montreal in 2010; New Orleans in 2011; Bangkok, 2012; Lisbon, 2013, and Sydney in 2014.

## A RECORD CONFIRMED: 242,624 BOOKS!

**AN OFFICIAL 'ADJUDICATOR'** for Guinness World's Records has certified that Rotary now owns the record for the **GREATEST NUMBER OF BOOKS DONATED IN SEVEN DAYS** – 242,624 EXACTLY, well over the goal of a quarter million books for elementary children. The Guinness Man was not allowed even a sip of Guinness until the count was completed and the recognition declared, though he did say that Guinness receives more than 60,000 applications a year for various 'accomplishments,' and only three percent actually set world records. Guinness was good for us!

"**THIS RECORD DEMONSTRATED** careful planning, creativity, and a true commitment from the heart," the Guinness Man said. At the RI convention, a 'mountain of books' was the backdrop for reading sessions with several celebrities interacting with school children and starting the distribution of the gift books. A quick look saw titles in Spanish, Vietnamese, French, Cambodian, Italian, Japanese, and Lao, as well as many in English. Many were new, the rest near-new but outgrown by donors, including a number of San Marino students from Carver and Valentine schools. Debbie Priester, Charlie Rasmussen, and Will Bortz were our leaders in collecting local donations, storing them at the Crowell Public Library, then carrying them down to add to the convention mountain. Convention organizers have been busy the last few weeks transporting and distributing books to boys and girls in needy families in Southern California and Southern Nevada, including some migrant workers' camps in the Imperial and San Joaquin Valleys, and to homes from south central Los Angeles to Caliente, Nevada, on the Utah valley.

## JULY / AUGUST 2008

### JULY

31 Noon Media to Ministry, Watts to San Marino

### AUGUST

7 **CHURCH CLOSED; YOU'RE ASKED TO VISIT ANOTHER CLUB**

14 10:30 am Board meets with District Governor Hernandez at SMCC

14 Noon District Governor's Visit – come support Lois and Gene

21 Noon Ronald McDonald's local home

28 Noon Maybe crafts talks??

# THE ROTOSCOPE

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

July 31<sup>st</sup>: Watts to San Marino



## A CARAVAN OF DREAMS

**HIS 35 YEARS AS A** police officer, leading to his retirement as Chief in Chino, convinced our district governor for 2008-2009 that Rotary clubs can achieve what they never dreamed possible, to *Make Dreams Real*, as the year's theme proclaims. Gene Hernandez cites RI's 1977 president Clem Renouf as his inspiration:

*I am here because Rotary takes ordinary people and gives them extraordinary opportunities to do more with their lives than they ever dreamed possible.  
I am here because Rotary cares about people.*

**GENE NOTES THAT** "there is no greater honor, no higher calling than the extraordinary opportunity to serve humankind. As Rotarians, we have that opportunity every day to serve our communities."

**FINISHING THE JOB ROTARY STARTED** to eliminate the polio virus from the world is Gene's special priority for the district. He and Louise were in Chahalka, India, for a National Immunization Day against polio, and he is eager for each of us to help meet the Gates Foundation's million-dollar PolioPlus challenge. Gene helped also with hands-on construction of a home-in-a-day in Cerro Azul, Baja California, and urges more of us to be involved with *Project Corazon*.

**THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICIAL VISIT** to our club will be in two weeks, on August 14<sup>th</sup>. This is your official notice to attend – and unofficially, our governor this year is a delightfully charming person, filled with a mission to succeed in fulfilling dreams.

**SUPPORT LOIS AND GENE** – be sure to come for our lunch on August 14<sup>th</sup> – and for board members, remember we meet at the church at 10:30 that day.

## RI's LOGO FOR '08-'09

**OUR MEMBERS SAW** a variety of earthly objects as well as a few space aliens in those red and blue swirls created by our international headquarters as this year's logo. A panel of impartial but witty judges gathered at The Athenaeum for cocktails, lunch with some excellent wines, and since it was on the Rotary, tab a few mojitos and margaritas through an afternoon choosing winners.

**ONE MEMBER SEES** "a veteran man Rotarian welcoming a fresh new young woman Rotarian." We wanted to ask this member just what sort of a welcome was being extended, but the signature is a bunch of swirls so there's no way to find out. Another member saw "a head dress for a clown," which wasn't as bad as some of the others, but the signature looks "J.J. Kkdjfh".

### HONORABLE MENTIONS:

"A BURP GONE BAD" (Emile Bayle)  
"THE COOKIE MONSTER JOINS ROTARY" (Anonymous)

**THE THIRD RUNNER UP: FRED SOHL**  
"A COMMA BEING EATEN BY A LONG SENTENCE"

**THE SECOND RUNNER UP: JACK HAMILTON**  
"AN UNYINGED YANG"

**THE FIRST RUNNER UP: JOHN HARRIS**  
"AN OLD ROTARIAN ELBOW-LIFTING  
A ONE-POUND WEIGHT"

## AND THE GRAND PRIZE IS ...

**THE PANEL SPLIT**, then brought in a sober expert, and chose our prize-winner – who saw the mother-and-child that Evanston's design team envisioned, but determined it's really a red-state Republican Mom holding the little blue-state baby and exclaiming:

**"My child is a ... DEMOCRAT!"**

So our great wit and half the game's proceeds go to:  
**SUE SPENCE!**

## Our OFFICERS for 2008 / 2009:

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**Loquacious Lois Says:** Long ago when men cursed and bet the ground with sticks, it was called 'witchcraft'. Today it's called 'golf'.