



Your **ROTSCOPE** for August 21st, 2008

for the Rotary Club of San Marino, California, USA

A SPECIAL HOME AWAY FROM HOME

THERE'S A FINE FACILITY in near us that welcomes guests visiting our San Gabriel Valley area who are facing stressful times, parents of critically ill children staying in nearby neonatal and pediatric units. The Pasadena Ronald McDonald House on South Pasadena Avenue, convenient to Huntington Hospital and to Old Town, provides temporary and affordable housing for families whose children are receiving medical care at one of 19 medical centers, and who stay for a nominal contribution.

SOUTH PAS ROTARIAN MARCHELLE SELLERS will be speaking with us about the origins of the local organization she founded and directs. Marchelle has an extensive background in nonprofit management, after majoring in the field at USC and working in property management, accounting, and fundraising. She is married and has a 3-year-old son, Graham. Marchelle will tell us of the need she found and is helping to fill, and about her own experiences with her older son in heaven. Reese.

ALAN TO CLAREMONT

TWENTY YEARS WITH OUR CLUB, and now Alan Weirick is transferring to Claremont Rotary, as he's moved to Mt. San Antonio Gardens – sort of San Marino East, with a number of our former neighbors enjoying the lovely setting. Alan has three sapphires on his Paul Harris pin. He chaired our Mini-Grant committee several years, worked with our Foundation Committee, and was especially enthusiastic in participating with the district's annual Peace Conference. We'll miss him. His new address is 900 East Harrison Avenue, A-19, in Pomona (909-624-3607).

PLANNING

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 GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY FOR OUR TREASURER

YES, INDEED, our onetime, brief-time neighbor Christopher Chichester, or whoever he is, did become a member of our happy club under then-president John Young. He interviewed some of us on his "Inside San Marino" homemade TV show for the SM-SP cable channel, though not many people watched it. He joined several dozen volunteers in helping refresh San Marino High in a paint-party, and once he climbed atop the bus stop to help erect the Christmas church. He came to Chamber of Commerce mixers, and circulated among fellow guests with a smooth charm. Several elderly guys in our club remember him, and recall how he left our club and our town without bothering to pay for his Rotary installation or lunches. And a few of our elderly eyebrows were raised nine years later when those bones were found in the Lorain Road home where he stayed. Perhaps Chichester didn't quite understand or try to follow all our "Four-Way Test", or any of them for that matter. Well, maybe excepting building goodwill. He did work hard indeed at building goodwill around our club and town.

BUT NO, INDEED, this is "not a Rotary story," as president Lois reminded us from Paris. Except for that financial detail. He must still owe our club a couple hundred 1984 dollars, and with inflation and interest that's reasonably substantial now. If Gerhartsreiter/Chichester/Croft/Rockefeller/Whomever has the funds, preferably in Euros for that matter, our efficient treasurer should be back in Boston filing a claim, shouldn't he? Those folk living South of the Drive shouldn't be allowed to skip out on Rotary charges, should they?

AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2008

AUGUST

- 21 Noon The Ronald McDonald home in Pasadena
- 28 Noon SMHS Coach Moreland on Titan Football

SEPTEMBER

- 4 Noon
- 11 Noon Steve Cooley, our District Attorney
- 11 1:35 Board meeting after lunch

THE ROTOSCOPE

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

August 21st: Help for Visitors in Need



BEIJING DETAILS

ONE OF OUR SOUTHWESTERN TEACHERS, with the US Women's Waterpolo team, sends comments:

POLLUTION: Having grown up in LA's smog and hearing horror stories of how it was worse in the 60s, I now know "It Could Be Worse." Truth is the air isn't great, but not as bad as I thought. Worst pollution is the water. It's atrocious. Drink bottled!

TRANSPORTATION: Subway's great, ridiculously cheap (30 US cents), signage includes full, clear English. They do scan bags with X-Rays. Taxis cheap too. But when walking, do like Momma said and look both ways before you cross the street. Traffic is very laissez-faire. Somehow I've seen no accidents. No problem jay-walking, if you make it across; no rules.

WEATHER: HOT and HUMID. Solution: umbrellas for women, bare midriffs for men. I'm not kidding. Chinese women scared of sun and idolize white skin the way we SC folk idolize golden tans. Most women are out in full facial visors and parasols. Men make bare midriffs with their shirts. No one's shy about it.

SANITATION: China is well along its quest from 3rd to 1st world, but they forgot to bring along their bathrooms. Hotels and luxury locations aside, they're dirty. Real dirty. Really, really smelly.

FOOD: Speaking of smelly, try Cho Dou Fu. Cho = rotten. Dou Fu is tofu. Moldy tofu. That's what it is. Smells like the bathrooms I just described. I'm not kidding. And insects on a stick are ugly, cicadas and silkworms especially as they approach one's mouth. Otherwise, Chinese food is highly varied and excellent. Well, maybe not du-lian (durian) fruit, sort of like garlic ice cream. There's a sign at the entrance to our hotel that du-lian is forbidden.

MARK THIS DOWN RIGHT NOW!

STOP READING HERE! Head over to your calendar immediately! Write this down in big, bold letters, preferably **RED**:

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER FIRST
6:00 P.M.**

**at the OAK TREE ROOM in Arcadia
1150 West Colorado Blvd.**

OUR NEXT 'ROTARY ON THE TOWN'

WARNING! Should you fail to record this date and save the night you'll be hearing from Lucille Norberg. She will be sending out invitations next week, and hoping to hear from you with a \$35 per person check no later than September 24th.

YOU DON'T WANT LUCILLE reminding you to RSVP, do you? Follow her instructions, and she will be happy. Don't respond, and – well, we don't even want to *think* about the consequences. Save the date now, respond with your check when you receive official notice, and Lucille will be happy. So will you if you'll come and enjoy.

ROTARY IN PICTURES

THE THIRD ANNUAL collection of Rotary people, places, and projects from around the world is available now on CDs. Many pictures are works of art in themselves, and together give a marvelous picture of helping our world. The 2007 edition features slide shows on health, water, and literacy. The two earlier collections are also available with inspiring images of Rotary service. See for yourself and buy at shop.rotary.org.

Our OFFICERS for 2008 / 2009:

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

Loquacious Lois Says: I finally got my head together.
Now my body is falling apart.