



Your **ROTSCOPE** for Thursday, February 5, 2009

for the Rotary Club of San Marino, California, USA

TWO MORE NEWER MEMBERS GET THEIR FIFTEEN MINUTES OF FAME

ANDREA SIMPSON is a Woman with a Past – past associations with Rotary through father Ken, 50-year member at South Pas, and her own membership history in Honolulu and San Antonio to tell us about. Andi has moved back to the home where she was raised at 596 South Berkeley.

HOLLY LOU STREEM-SHEARER doesn't have as glamorous a Rotary background, but she makes up for it with her own talents and charm. She's involved with Main Street Realtors in Long Beach, as well as with Jim and Family on Stuhr Drive in San Gabriel.

WITH SO MANY FINE NEW MEMBERS joining us recently, we're taking advantage of their stories to fill several winter luncheons with "Craft Talks" – a chance to talk about backgrounds, careers, family, even brag a bit, without being fined – and a great chance for us to get to know them better.

HEY, CHILI COOKS!

WE'RE PLANNING A CHILI COOKOFF at Rotary on February 26th, with professional chefs judging our members' creations. Are you one of those with a secret prizewinning chili to present? Entrants are needed, and the prizes are spectacular – plus lots of Tums for the tummies of the rest of us who get to taste.

WANT TO ENTER your super chili to be chosen Best in San Marino? Please email Greg Custer – gcuster@whittiertrust.com – or give him a call at 626-441-5110.

WIN A FREE WEEKEND!

THE DRUMS ARE BEATING ALREADY to get our members registered and attending this year's District Conference, to be held in Palm Desert the weekend after Memorial Day – and this year Memorial Day is unusually early, so the conference will be May 28-31.

IF YOU REGISTER IN FEBRUARY, you're eligible for a drawing that will give FOUR Rotarians everything for free (well, they except your "in-room beverages and entertainment"). See the district web site for details.

NEWS FOR OUR NEWBIES, REMINDERS FOR THEIR ELDERS

IT'S CONFUSING TO NEWCOMERS, and yes indeed, some long-time San Marino Rotarians get a bit confused also, even if we old folk won't admit it. We seem to have officers, boards, funds, committees raising and spending money all over the place, and we throw around terms like 'foundation' and 'charities' without always making it clear. There's the charitable arm of Rotary International, "The Rotary Foundation" – TRF – and there's the charitable arm of our little old club, "San Marino Rotary Charities". RI's "TRF" is the biggie, where every Rotarian worldwide is expected to contribute at least \$100 every year. That money funds our international student programs, our health and water projects, and our extraordinary effort to eliminate the polio virus from the entire world. But charity does indeed begin at home – and our club's separately-incorporated non-profit organization, San Marino Rotary Charities, provides support for several programs in and around our home town, particularly involving youth and youth activities.

THE SAN MARINO ROTARY CHARITIES BOARD met after last week's lunch, and voted to distribute more of the funds that come from our fines, projects, members' donations, and so forth. And when "charities" get distributed, that means we need to kick in more contributions to keep "Charities" afloat and helping. Should you be fortunate enough to have a birthday this year, an anniversary, a new car, a child or grandchild, a picture spread all over the Tribune, you'll be called on to pay for your good fortune with a few bucks in the pot. And remember our good friends at IRS and the FTB agree: contributions to San Marino Rotary Charities are deductible for tax purposes "to the full extent of the law." How nice!

FEBRUARY 2009

FEBRUARY

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| 4 | Evening | "ROT" – Night on the Town at Beckham's |
| 5 | Noon | Andi and Holly Lou craft talks |
| 12 | Noon | Margie's annual Abe Lincoln/Valentine Fashions |
| 12 | 1:35 pm | Lois' Big Board meets |
| 19 | Noon | Stem cell research at City of Hope |
| 26 | Noon | First Annual Rotary Chili Cookoff Championship |

THE ROTOSCOPE

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

February 5: Craft Talks



IT'S OFFICIALLY "GRAPHIC NONFICTION"

THE FEBRUARY DISTRICT NEWSLETTER opens with twelve pages of a wine review, but that's a story for another time. The February Rotary magazine has its own innovation, a sixteen page section that sure looks like a comic book, but that's supposed to be a sparkling new method of discussing a serious topic, the eradication of polio. If my mother were around to see the Rotarian this month, I'm pretty sure she would take it away as one of those forbidden monster comics. The monster, of course, is close to being eliminated, and the story is told in this new "graphic nonfiction" form.

WILLIAM GATES Sr., Bill's father and the co-chair of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, came through with their matching funding to help PolioPlus in its final battles. Gates also heaped praise on Rotary: "When Rotary started talking about polio, people listened." Certainly Gates and his son did, with solid support for the R.I. campaign.

IT'S NOW MORE THAN TWO DECADES since Rotarians pledged to fundraise, advocate, and volunteer in the world effort to eradicate polio. It's now the final push. The comic-book form is unusual and maybe debatable, but it does gather historical fact and medical description to explain the disease and the campaign to destroy all polio virus on earth. In a few minutes, you can review the cause and the cure. Don't discard the February Rotarian until you do!

AS OF THE END OF 2008, Rotarians have contributed more than \$700,000,000 and countless volunteer hours in the field to immunize more than 2,000,000,000 children in 122 countries – but we're not done yet.

ABRAHAM VALENTINE

OUR MEETING NEXT WEEK falls on Mr. Lincoln's 200th birthday anniversary, but our club is ignoring our American heritage to focus on love (we bet Mary Lincoln would understand, even if Abe feels ignored).

FEBRUARY 12th IS OUR VALENTINE FASHION SHOW, with Margie bringing trunks-full of temptation once again. Spouses are very welcome, either the female type interested in the fashions, or the males bringing their credit cards to make their shopping easy.

BUT WILL THERE BE ENOUGH TO EAT? That's up to you! Find out if your spouse will join you – ask right now, while you're thinking about it! Yes? No? Find out, please, and bring that information to the February 5th meeting where a show-of-hands will let our house committee and our caterer get ready for the 12th.

ONE HAND IF IT'S JUST YOU, two hands if your spouse is coming. Should you be polygamist or if you wish to include your mistress or kept man, you needn't be embarrassed. San Marino has loosened up, so feel free to bring as many Valentines as you can afford.

ROMANTIC "NIGHT"

THIS WEDNESDAY AT BECKHAM'S is our first "Rotary Night on the Town" – and our hostess-in-chief Lucille Norberg obeyed her doctor, got over her touch of pneumonia, and is ready to greet some 65 members and guests at 6:30 on the 4th. Lucille fussed with her computer and won. She managed to overcome every glitch her PC tried to throw at her, creating name tags big enough to be read clear across the table. She has brought in some top entertainers too, singing familiar show tunes to brighten the evening. Get there on time, now – at Beckham's, Walnut just west of Fair Oaks.

Our OFFICERS for 2009:

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

LOIS SAYS THAT
Time flies like an arrow.
Fruit flies like a banana.