



Your **ROTSCOPE** for Thursday, February 19, 2009

for the Rotary Club of San Marino, California, USA

CITY OF HOPE REPORT ON STEM CELL RESEARCH

MIKE FOXWORTH, a representative from Duarte's internationally-noted City of Hope, will be our speaker on Thursday, discussing "Stem Cell Transplant."

WE DON'T HAVE OTHER information about Foxworth or his presentation, but we do have hearty respect for City of Hope – as do some of our member-families who've received marvelous help there for fights against cancer and some rare diseases. The old tubercular rest home in Altadena for Jewish patients who were considered unacceptable as patients in the other local mountainside convalescent homes of our area not all that many years ago has matured into one of the world's foremost research, teaching, and cure centers, deserving of our applause, respect – and attention this week at Rotary.

IS YOUR POT SIMMERING?

CHILI COOKOFF NEXT WEEK, and several members have signed up with Greg Custer to present their best cooking secrets. Some have prized ingredients we're not supposed to share. Rumors say that Doug Lerner adds fresh rattlesnake meat to his recipe. Some claim that Tom Kibler sprinkles gunpowder atop his chili for extra flavor. And we've heard that Dennis Kneier's secret is ground pine needles he's off collecting over the weekend. These additions may be apocryphal, but you never know. If you've your own chili pot to add to the contest, it's your last chance: register with Greg Custer at 441-5110.

BOARD MEETS A WEEK LATE

"A WEEK LATE AND A DOLLAR SHORT" was one of my Scottish Grandmother's frequent sayings, but Rotary's treasury isn't short and the board meeting is a week late for a pretty good reason: the Fellowship Room was in use as the women's dressing room at last week's big show, and there was no time to clear it out for the board. So Lois asks all board members and any interested spectators to stick around this Thursday for an hour or so, and she promises to rush through her stimulus package without even wasting time reading it.

MARGIE'S FASHION SHOW AS FABULOUS AS ALWAS

SHE PROMISED 'FABULOUS,' and as usual so it was: Margie's show from the eponymous shop along the drive was a grand collection of elegant "San Marino Casual," with several of our club's members strolling down the runway with glamorous aplomb. Thank you, Margie and crew! But as usual it was our men who stole the show:

WARREN WEBER wore a red-and-white checked wool sports coat, with a red tie that almost harmonized, a study in sophistication worthy of Spencer Tracy;

PETER CORZO stood at the back table in his rich cobalt polo shirt with the golden "SPARKS SYSTEMS" advertisement over a pocket with its nerdy pen-protector;

JEFF GROSETH accessorized his ensemble with colorful "JEFF" buttons for those who didn't know who he was;

ELLIOTT KATZ wore a brown-on-white Shetland with tan knit tie, from his closet's pre-war collegiate collection;

CHARLIE RASMUSSEN'S western look included his best 501's with the naturally-worn knees and seat;

PAUL CROWLEY, of course, wore his camel coat and tie with souvenirs of many lunches past tastefully decorating it.

FEBRUARY / MARCH 2009

FEBRUARY

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| 19 | Noon | Stem cell research at City of Hope |
| 19 | 1:35 pm | Board meeting – rescheduled from last week |
| 26 | Noon | First Annual Rotary Chili Cookoff Championship |

MARCH

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| 5 | Noon | Super Bowl Ring-Bearer tells how to win |
| 12 | Noon | Unless they found something, Chris and Matt will dance |
| 12 | 1:35 pm | Board meets again after luncheon |

THE ROTOSCOPE

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

February 19: Stem Cell Transplants



OUR DISTRICT AND TRF

DISTRICT 5300 (which we're now asked to call "D5300") has been traditionally one of the top 25 in the Rotary world in support of The Rotary Foundation. As half our contributions to annual program funds come back to a district three years after our gift, ours is also one of the top districts in the world in terms of using TRF programs to help make the world a better place.

WORLDWIDE CONTRIBUTIONS to both Rotary and The Rotary Foundation declined during the last half of 2008 by more than \$22,000,000 to RI and \$165,000,000 for TRF. January's contributions were the lowest for any year since the 1940s. The Evanston staff is scrambling to adjust budgets to these new financial realities, which may mean a cut in the permanent staff in RI's skyscraper. But our district continued as the highest per-capita participation rate on the West Coast, along with districts in Taiwan, Japan, and Korea the strongest givers in the world.

A GRADUATE STUDY EXCHANGE TEAM has been selected to go to Turkey from May 5 through June 8. An inbound team is coming to us from Turkey this May.

FIVE SCHOLARS FROM 5300 leave for Colombia, Ecuador, Ghana, Israel, and India this year, and five selected for 2009-2010 are awaiting news of their placement (most scholars get placed with their first choices, but not always – and sometimes our club has to help "encourage" RI to let our scholars go to universities fitting their needs and training).

AND THE POLIO PIGS? Over the past thirteen months, district contributions for PolioPlus have exceeded \$85,000, but they don't tell us how much of that came from the fat little pigs.

FUN GAME FOR YOUR IDLE HOURS

THE NEWS IN THE LEFTHAND COLUMN about D5300 and TRF is translated from materials coming to me out of Rotary International's headquarters (that's "RI-EUSA"), but there are many more stories that we can't understand well enough to share with you. RI-EUSA, with D5300 following along as they were trained, simply *loves* acronyms and initials. Their news of APF given by Rotarians is full of a proposed FVP mechanism. The GSE teams, PS and PCP applications, and 3-H Grants are outlined in the RI brief. This year's DSG's are outlined by a PDG who will be DFRC beginning July 1st, in support of TRF and PHF's. The PDG/DFRC is presenting her FVP next month for your comments, if you have any idea as to what's a FVP. And they haven't even begun to talk about PRLS, TLC, RYLA, or the D5300 A.S. (there's only one "S", so be careful in talking about D5300 AS's) plans.

IF YOU CAN INTERPRET THESE and many other acronyms flowing from RI and D5300, please let us know ASAP (we understand that one) and we'll submit your name to be D5300 DGN, then DGE, and in a few years our DG, before being a PDG. All these Rotary letters are far too much for my simple mind to comprehend.

YOU'RE RECORDED FOREVER!

COURTESY OF ISAAC HUNG, your mouthful of Beckham's boneless ribs has been preserved for history at our club's web page, with all the pictures of the "Rotary Night on the Town" from February 4th.

MARGIE'S FASHIONS, and the appreciative audience for the parade down the runway last Thursday, are there too, or will be very soon, Len Therrien promises.

UNFORTUNATELY the color photos of the food spots on Paul Crowley's tie did not come out.

Our OFFICERS for 2009:

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

A GOOD FRIEND OF LOIS' (yes, she has a couple) SAYS THAT
Lois has been complaining that she has nine buttons on her nightgown,
but she can only fascinate.