



# Your **ROTOSCOPE** for Thursday, April 16, 2009

for the Rotary Club of San Marino, California, USA

## "FOOD, WATER, SHELTER ... AND LIGHT!"

**ANNA SIDANA IS A FULL-TIME EXECUTIVE**, a full-time mother, and a full-time volunteer founder of "ONE MILLION LIGHTS", her very personal volunteer project to distribute a tool to further children's education and thus improve the lives of people in rural communities around the world. Her father started a school in rural Rajasthan, India, 46 years ago with five elementary age children. Today her father's school stretches through secondary education, a center of excellence in many subjects. When British-educated Anna visited a few years ago, she found that for many families the setting sun puts their home into complete darkness overnight, with no chance for children to study. Hence Anna's project: to distribute a million solar-powered lights, bringing change to families worldwide.

**ANNA VISITS US THIS WEEK** from Silicon Valley, where she is the full-time director of financial projects with PayPal, while raising two children. She will describe her part in "WORLD OF COLOR," using innovative and eco-friendly 21<sup>st</sup> century technologies to ease the struggle of life in developing communities in rural areas everywhere.

### MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM eBay

**EMPLOYEES OF eBay, Inc., RECEIVED** an unusual holiday gift last December: a letter from their CEO, informing them that their company had donated 15,000 MightyLights in their name for distribution one per child in rural India and Africa on the employees' behalf. The MightyLight is a solar-powered LED, rugged enough to withstand hard falls, rain, or dust without being damaged, producing 500 lumens of clean white light versus just 10 lumens from a kerosene lamp, perfect for Anna Sidana's project. See more for yourself after you meet Anna: [www.onemillionlights.org](http://www.onemillionlights.org).

### COME JOIN ROTARY FRIENDS ON

- THURSDAY, MAY 14** **SPRING FLING**  
*our biggest fun and fundraiser of the year, now being planned*
- MAY 28 – 31** **DISTRICT CONFERENCE**  
*to celebrate many club accomplishments*
- WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17** **DEMOTION PARTY**  
*cheering Lois on-and-out*

## POOR OLD LOIS! – TWO MORE MONTHS TO GO

**SHE THOUGHT IT WAS SUMMER ALREADY**, off to play with the grandchildren and Phil out on the desert. Lois missed a meeting, leaving Emile to gain a bit of experience with our unruly gang. She put off boring the board with Rotary business, hoping everything would solve itself in her absence. But she's back this week on discovering it's only April – APRIL FOOLS, LOIS! – you aren't done until you're done with June, until the Bayles are back from Birmingham, until you're demoted at San Gabriel Country Club on June 17<sup>th</sup>, then until you've conducted your last meeting the 25<sup>th</sup>, sort of our lamest of ducks as you'll be demoted but still in charge until the end of the month.

**SO LOIS HAS HER BOARD TOGETHER TODAY**, after we hear about Anna's "Million Lights" project, after her spring break is over and done. Poor kid – she has two more meetings in April, as there are five Thursdays this month, plus a full month of May, plus a full month of June. No rest for the – no, Lois isn't wicked, just not done yet, and she thought it was summer already. Two months from last night, we will toast her. But no rest yet, another meeting left to go.

**BEFORE YOU GO TO BED JUNE 30<sup>th</sup>**, give Lois a call and tell her it's really almost over. If you're already asleep earlier than midnight that Tuesday, set your alarm to wake yourself, then wake her. Almost over, Lois! Power slips from your grasp at midnight. Bayle's ready to get things organized around here. But not for another two months, Lois – ain't over until it's over. June 30<sup>th</sup>, Lois. Two more months!

## APRIL / MAY 2009

### APRIL

- |    |      |   |
|----|------|---|
| 16 | Noon | "One Million Lights" project head Anna Sidana |
| 16 | 1:35 | Lois holds her monthly meeting of the Bored   |
| 23 | Noon | Troublesome but encouraging news about R. P.  |
| 30 | Noon | Local Consul reports on Today's Germany       |

### MAY

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 7  | Noon  | Nathan's impressions of last summer's Olympic Games |
| 14 | NO NOON MEETING – DARK FOR THE FUNDRAISER THAT NIGHT! |   |

# THE ROTOSCOPE

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

April 16: Solar Light where it's needed



## INTO A HALL OF FAME

**FIFTY YEARS AGO**, the United States was beginning to win a great battle against Polio. Over the preceding six years since Jonas Salk had developed a way to protect from the virus, mass immunizations of American youth had received the Salk vaccine. The number of polio cases in the U.S. had dropped by 90% in five years. Meanwhile, field trials of the Sabin oral vaccine had just begin. And the Warm Springs Institute, where FDR sought help for his polio-weakened limbs, established a Polio Hall of Fame.

**SEVENTEEN PIONEERING HEROES** were honored in 1958 to start the Hall of Fame, including former President Franklin D. Roosevelt and vaccine developers Jonas Salk and Albert Sabin. A monument was unveiled in Warm Springs, Georgia, by Eleanor Roosevelt.

**THE 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE POLIO HALL OF FAME** brings four more heroes to be recognized, the four spearheading partners of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative who have worked together since the 1980s to share America's successes and to eliminate the crippling disease everywhere: first, ROTARY INTERNATIONAL. The other three in the partnership: the WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION, the United States CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION, and UNICEF. Speakers included the doctors, FDR's grandchildren, and Missouri Congressman Ike Skelton, who was a patient at Warm Springs in the 1940s, growing strong enough to run for office a few years later, as did our local Congressman John Rousselot, rising above his polio crippling to serve this district for several years.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL FOUR** – especially Rotary, raising funds and volunteers for the first years all by our lonesomes.

## ROTARY'S ROARING '20s

**INSPIRED BY MARION, OHIO, ROTARIAN** Warren Gamaliel Harding, Rotary clubs around America joined in supporting the ideals of the Eighteenth Amendment. They went dry. Almost. No more luncheons with beer. No evenings at the saloon before a call to order of the Rotary Club. It was tea time, with enthusiasm across the country. Almost. Inspired by President Harding, who rented an apartment on "K" street a few blocks from the White House and stocked his get-away with cases of the best bourbon from his personal stock, several Rotary clubs stocked their own meeting rooms with private reserves, quite legal as long as not manufactured, transported, or sold after April 1921. L.A. #5, for example, had a legendary closet in the old Statler Hotel downtown that never ran dry. Until Repeal, old-time Rotarians told us later, two cases put into storage before the Volstead Act took effect provided hundreds and hundreds of beverage glasses full of refreshment. Sort of a miracle, I guess. Rotarians could stop by the closet on their way into lunch, during breaks before the speaker, and again at the end of the meeting, and a bottle was always available from the steward on duty. Marvelous how those two stored cases lasted 12½ years.

## A MILLION DOLLARS FOR DAD

**THE AMERICAN DAUGHTER OF** a 92-year-old Taiwanese Rotarian honored her father with a million dollar gift to PolioPlus, surprising father Shui-Sen Hsu when the announcement was made in Taipei. Hsu's daughter, Jane Hsiao, is a pharmaceutical executive in Miami. She was impressed how dad insisted on finding a make-up meeting every time he visited Florida, and was restless until he attended every available meeting. She gathered help from her siblings and the rest of the family, and flew to Taipei to celebrate dad's 92<sup>nd</sup> with a gift to his favorite program, fighting polio.

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LOIS WONDERS HOW IT IS  
THAT IF THEY'RE BOTH DOGS,  
WHY DOES GOOFY STAND ERECT WHILE PLUTO REMAINS ON ALL FOURS?