



Your **ROTSOCPE** for **Thursday, August 13, 2009**

for the Rotary Club of San Marino, California, USA

BACK TO COMMUNITY CHURCH THIS NOON: MEET WITH DISTRICT GOVERNOR TOM NOVOTNY

DISTRICT GOVERNORS REALLY CARE ABOUT ROTARY. All are good women and men who are eager to see their clubs give ever-better service above self. They devote more than a year of their lives to their own training, then to travel around the rather extensive districts (our own 5300 stretching from the edge of Los Angeles to the Utah border, drawn along I-10 and I-15 by workers in Rotary's Illinois headquarter who must think this is all flat prairie). District governors are compensated for their out-of-pocket expenses, but not a penny for their time. They leave businesses untended and families alone as they deal with Rotary affairs and meetings. It's truly a job of love and caring.

SOME DISTRICT GOVERNORS HAVE BEEN a bit, well, *strange* when they visited San Marino. One pulled out a trumpet to begin by making sure all members were awake, and indeed the blast of brass did wake all up. One made us stomp back at him repeatedly. Another yelled so loudly he blew out the speakers and our whole sound system. Our club has furnished four governors over the years, all rather forgettable – maybe an old-timer like Lee Mothershead can tell you their names (just joking: Lee was one of the most dedicated district governors we've ever enjoyed). Our current governor, who took office July 1st and who is now making his circle around 5300, is one of the very best.

THOMAS B. NOVOTNY is an owner of Arrowhead Printing, a successful commercial printing operation servicing many corporations, businesses, and organizations in the Las Vegas valley. Since its founding in 1983, Arrowhead has built a reputation of service by allocating significant resources to print publications and printing for non-profits and other charities.

TOM GREW UP IN ALLIANCE, NEBRASKA, and worked twenty years in cable communications before joining Arrowhead. He held various positions in multiple markets around the country, including system manager, area manager, and state manager/vice president for different cable companies. He managed cable network systems with hundreds of employees and thousands of subscribers while negotiating franchise agreements with local governments as he expanded the networks. He also had to handle labor/management negotiations, and built three plants from groundbreaking to "turn-on".

TOM CAUGHT THE ROTARY FEVER twenty five years ago. In addition to membership and board positions in various business organizations, he has dedicated himself to Rotary and sought continually to find opportunities in broadening and deepening his Rotary experience. He has held almost all available positions at the club level, from new member through the committee chairs, board of directors, and president. After service with other clubs, he was involved in the creation and growth of the Las Vegas West Rotary, chartered in 1994 and steadily growing to a current membership of about 35. That group has learned well to support The Rotary Foundation with vigor, with 75 Paul Harris members out of 35 club members. They sponsor an Interact Club at Mojave High School, send high school students to RYLA and middle schoolers to TLC, have sponsored three GSE team members already, and generally proved themselves to be real Rotarians, not just lunch-and-scoot members. Several in Las Vegas West say their spark has been Tom, courteously but firmly pressing individuals and committee members to join him in performing, in contributing, and in doing things.

TOM HAS HELD SEVERAL POSITIONS in the district, too. He co-chaired the Four-Way Speech Contest for four years. He was assistant governor for a year, and for two years served as executive assistant to the governor, handling lots of details for busy governors. He has led sessions in PERLS presidential leadership training and in other leadership seminars in Las Vegas. If you've met him, you're already aware of his gentle goading to *do more for others* through Rotary.

TOM HAS BEEN MARRIED TO ROBIN for thirty years. They live in Henderson and have three children, Kristina, Stephan, and John, and one quite spoiled grandchild, Annika. You'll like this outstanding Rotarian as soon as you hear him start to speak with us on Thursday. (Back at Community Church, remember, at noon.)

AUGUST /SEPTEMBER 2009

AUGUST

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| 13 | Noon | District Governor's official visit, back at Community Church |
| 20 | Noon | Meet an Ambassadorial scholar now at Caltech |
| 27 | Noon | Congressman David Dreier reports in from Washington |

SEPTEMBER

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|-----------|------------------------|--|
| 3 | Noon | Program in planning |
| 10 | Noon | Story of champion jockey Laffit Pincay, Jr. |
| 17 | NO NOON MEETING | – "ON THE TOWN" at Huntington Drive restaurants |

THE ROTOSCOPE

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

August 13: District Governor's Official Visit



NAMES IN OUR NEWS

YOU MAY RECALL LOIS MATTHEWS, a member who disappeared a long time ago and who is expected to reappear this week. As you may not recognize her, we've asked that she wear a large name badge so we'll know who she is. After several weeks in Paris, she'll be wearing a loose-flowing caftan to disguise her formerly-slim self, though her broad smile may give her away. You'll also know her from her slim purse, emptied out by exchanging weak old dollars for fat euros. We welcome her back, even if we didn't miss her all that much.

MARGIE LOWE AND ELIZABETH SALDEBAR look glamorous and beautiful, photographed side by side in a color page of the Tribune. Of course, right next to them is Jann, with his unkempt flowing beard, much longer hair than Elizabeth, and a once-white Stetson covering his brow. Next to Jann, the crew of Margie's can't help but be beautiful, even if Jann says he's more glamorous anyway.

JANN WILL BE AROUND TO ENTERTAIN at our "night on the town" in his neighborhood on September 17th. Maybe he will give demonstrations of how he envisions our former member Christopher Chichester did away with his landlord with the help of a 2x4 swung at the head. If Jann starts to demonstrate on you, be careful to duck fast.

ANOTHER FAMOUS SAN MARINO NAME popped up in talk about our town last month. Donald Segretti graduated from San Marino High, reached grand heights in the Nixon White House, then gave some years of service at the Federal Penitentiary in Lompoc. During the Nixon years, Don spoke at Rotary and City Club, though he never joined either. A researcher for a new book on Watergate called us recently, asking for Segretti memories. Nice to have famous neighbors and SMHS alumni of note.

REMEMBER OUR PROMISES!

OUR CLUB PLEDGED to help with the great last challenge to the Rotary promise of freeing the world of the polio virus. Each member has been asked to give a little extra – through the pig at meetings, by contributions directly, or through that \$50 or \$100 check to The Rotary Foundation and mailed along or given to John Harris.

MANY HAVE GIVEN. RESPONSE IS GOOD. *But not quite perfect!* Did you give to Lloyd Ownbey's appeal? Thanks, if so. And please, if not, send along a check today.

CHRISTIE SHU IN KAZAKHSTAN

"NOW I'M IN ALMATY, the capital of Kazakhstan 1929-1998, at which time the capital moved to Astana. Almaty continues to be the commercial, cultural, and financial center of Kazakhstan. Kazakhstan is known for its great religious and ethnic tolerance. It is a country of many ethnicities, both because of its ancient history (it was a region populated by nomadic tribes) and its recent history (the Soviet government moved many of its citizens from different Soviet regions and republics into Kazakhstan). Kazakhstan has recently become more known to the West for economic reasons – because of its great natural resources and its unique location in a region bordering countries that the US is rather leery about – southern Central Asia and the Middle East. The Kazakhstan government is hoping to make the country the financial center of all of Central Asia. The government and local businessmen are also working hard to integrate Kazakhstan business into the world markets.

"FOR THESE REASONS it is very important for Americans to pay attention to Kazakhstan, to begin to understand the country – its people and the leaders in government – so that hopefully we will be able to negotiate with them successfully and build enough mutual trust to form a stable working relationship. The Ambassadorial Scholarship gives me the opportunity to get to know some people in this country and familiarize them with an American, hopefully in so doing building some strong relationships."

Our OFFICERS for the NEW ROTARY YEAR:

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EMILE'S PHILOSOPHIES:

Never test the depth of the water
with both feet.