



# Your **ROTOSCOPE** for **Thursday, September 3, 2009**

for the Rotary Club of San Marino, California, USA

## FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS IN SAN MARINO

**IT COULD BE IOWA, OR MAYBE THE TEXAS PANHANDLE:** It's Friday night, and the whole town turns out to watch the local high school boys take on the team from twenty miles down the Interstate, maybe the Tigers or the Spartans or the Apaches or Whatever. Except it's San Marino, and it's the Titans, and not as many in town come to games as you'd find in the Midwest – though the excitement of high school football is just as strong here as elsewhere in this great country.

**THIS WEEK IT'S TIME FOR THE SECOND ANNUAL** – or maybe it's the third – Titan Football Kickoff Luncheon, with San Marino High sports figures discussing the players and the team's chances for success on Crowley Field. Remember Crowley Field – named last fall in honor of our own Paul, the Voice of the Titans for umpteen years (though his own letter jacket comes from South Pas, back before we split away to start our own unified district).

**COACHES AND SOME PLAYERS** will join us to reminisce over last season's great plays, and to call the possibilities for Titan Football success in the 2009 season. Then they hope to entice you to come out any or all Friday nights for local games under the lights – a nice tribute to Paul, a delightful evening with your friends, a beautiful setting 'neath the blue, majestic mountains, proud and strong we stand; San Marino, Alma Mater, we pledge our hearts and hands ..."

**IT COULD BE KANSAS, OR MAYBE MISSOURI.** But it's plain down-home old San Marino, celebrating our youth while enjoying the fast-moving game that is high school football. Come hear about it this Thursday, then come see some games at Crowley Field this season.

### SEPTEMBER 17<sup>th</sup> "ON THE TOWN"

**YOU SHOULD BE RECEIVING** an invitation to enjoy a Thursday evening with your Rotary friends in the 2100 block of Huntington at an unusual "night on the town" planned by Lucille's Girls – shops open, several restaurants available, Jann's barbershop swept fairly clean, and your guests and you enjoying a lovely late summer right at home. Watch for your invitation, respond as soon as you see it, and come enjoy a relaxing time in your own back yard. Oh, and Margie's will be open with her special clothing selections. too.

### SWDYT? WOMBAT?

**SO WHAT DO YOU THINK?** Waste of money, brains, and time to study those Instant Messaging codes we mentioned last week? Not if your teenagers are talking about GNOC. A member asked me if there are directories to check out these codes – yes, though remember there are new ones daily, but try these:

[WWW.DTXTR.com](http://WWW.DTXTR.com)  
[urbandictionary.com](http://urbandictionary.com)  
[netlingo.com](http://netlingo.com)

**SO HAND.** B(That's "Have a Nice Day", of

## DO YOU WANT TO BE A ROTARY GRAND POOBAH?

**PRESIDENT EMILE INVITES YOU** to join him at the very top of Rotary's local pyramid. You too can be a Rotary leader, a Grand Poobah, as Emile puts it so elegantly. And iff Emile could make it, anyone can. Here's the secret: go to PRLS. That's the district's leadership seminar, turning out presidents in one pleasant Saturday morning.

**KATHY RAACKE, OUR MEMBER** and the district's administrator, announces two PRLS seminars:

**Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>** at Boyd School of Law, University of Nevada Las Vegas, or

**Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup>**, at Etiwanda Gardens (a lovely spot to visit with or without PRLS!)

These seminars provide the opportunity to learn from experts in their fields about leadership and negotiation skills to assist you not only in Rotary but enhance your skills to implement in your business and professional career. All Rotarians are welcome.

**REGISTRATION IS QUICK** and easy via the District website at [www.district5300.org](http://www.district5300.org).

## SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2009

### SEPTEMBER

3 Noon Titan Football preview

10 Noon Story of champion jockey Laffit Pincay, Jr.

17 NO NOON MEETING – "ON THE TOWN" at Huntington Drive restaurants

24 Noon Clearing land mines from Cambodia

### OCTOBER

1 Noon Brazilian GSE team visits

# THE ROTOSCOPE

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

September 3: Titan Football Kickoff



## A SUMMERTIME ROTARY STORY

HERE'S A HAPPY EXAMPLE of just how your contributions to The Rotary Foundation multiply to serve the world. It begins as all good stories should:

ONCE UPON A TIME, not too long ago for that matter, a Naval Special Weapons Engineer working in the Pentagon took early retirement and didn't know what to do with himself. His youngest boy was serving with the Peace Corps in a remote Highlands village of northwest Guatemala, teaching sanitation and building toilets in a town miles away from paved or any roads. So our bored engineer decided to visit his son, hiking into the village and bunking down as he hadn't done since being a Scoutmaster at least a decade earlier. It's cold in the Highlands in January, and our engineer preferred being back home in front of the television with playoffs leading to Super Bowl all unavailable in the Guatemalan mountains.

OUR ENGINEER WAS INTRODUCED to the village elders by his Peace Corps son, and recognized quickly the dire shape of medical care: there was a windowless, two room clinic built after the 1975 earthquake, but no physician, nurse, or even medical aide had visited there in years, not even a Rotary Polo Plus team. Engineers can be rather thick, but this one easily recognized that much help was needed by the friendly and poor villagers.

HE HAD NEVER TAKEN TIME for service to others, through Rotary or any other organization, but he did have a cousin active with Rotary in a small town of Minnesota. He learned that a group of surgeons and nurses from Minneapolis were flying into Guatemala City to offer a week of their medical services, so Engineer hiked out and got to the airport on their arrival, all the docs carrying bags-full of much-needed medications and surgical tools. Clearing customs, the docs stood at the busy sidewalk amidst

## Summer Story - Continued

throng of Guatemalan families picking up relatives from Chicago, Cincinnati, and other Midwest centers. And the docs stood there. And stood. Not knowing where to go, how to offer aid, they stood until our Engineer-friend hustled them into a van, drove them some five hours to the end of the road, and made them hike into his son's Peace Corps village for a week of major and minor surgery.

ENGINEER REALIZED HE knew nothing about health care, nor about service programs, but he did have lots of experience in management and organizing teams. Why not devote this experience to getting medical service people to places where they were really needed?

ENGINEER HAS BEEN DOING SUCH eight years now, picking up volunteer health care professionals at the airport and guiding them to where their skills can best be used. He describes the docs as "insecure babies, needing guidance, but gifted and eager to give of their skills." They were bringing many supplies, but lacked operating facilities, lights, machinery not found anywhere in the Guatemalan Highlands. Enter Rotary. His Rotarian-cousin in Minnesota arranged a \$35,000 grant through RI, then began multiplying it: bargaining with that money, he bought near-new hospital equipment in the States, wore down shipping companies to fill containers and carry them free to the Highlands, got RI to make sure PolioPlus reached the villages, rounded up outdated but still useful pharmaceuticals from Minnesota manufacturers, and leveraged the \$35,000 into a half-million-dollars worth of equipment and drugs now in service in Guatemala.

THE MINNESOTA ROTARIAN and his Engineer-Cousin had learned from a California Rotarian not to trust all Rotary clubs: medical equipment and drugs can "disappear" if run through local professionals (in fact, one of the finer ultrasound machines got "lost" in Guatemala customs, and was found in a Guatemala Rotarian's private office). He's worked directly – and it's really working well!

## Our OFFICERS for 2009 - 2010:

### OFFICERS:

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## EMILE'S PHILOSOPHIES:

Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day.  
Teach him to use the Net and he won't bother you for weeks.