



Your **ROTOSCOPE** for **Thursday, October 15, 2009**

for the Rotary Club of San Marino, California, USA

SAN MARINO'S ASSEMBLYMAN MICHAEL ENG

MIKE ENG WAS ELECTED three years ago to his wife's State Assembly seat when she was "timed out" and became a member of the state's Board of Equalization. Mike earned his bachelor's and master's at the University of Hawaii while working full-time as an emergency room attendant, studying between the gurneys and traumas, then he earned his LL.D. at UCLA before opening a private practice specializing in immigration and nationality law. He was smart enough to win the hand of Judy Chu, and served with her on the Monterey Park city council, then followed her as that city's mayor before being elected to the Assembly. Judy was elected this summer as the first female Chinese-American member of the United States Congress, so the Eng's are now in a cross-country marriage, building up lots of frequent-flier mileage.

MIKE CHAIRS THE TRANSPORTATION committee in the Assembly, which covers all sorts of areas from the DMV and CHP to passenger rail service and air resources. He sits on the California Transportation Commission, as well as on several other Assembly committees. He'll report this week on the Assembly's *interesting* battles this year, and welcomes questions.

OUR 49th

SAN MARINO IS PART of the 49th Assembly District, one of those interesting legislative designs that looks something like a winged bird flying down the map – or maybe a dead bird hanging by its feet from Pasadena. Our town was shifted around at the last redistricting, so our US Congressional district headed due east into Republican country but our California State Senate district headed straight west into a strongly Democratic bloc and our Assembly district went south. All clear?

MIKE ENG'S 49th includes all of Alhambra, Monterey Park, El Monte, San Gabriel, Rosemead, as well as San Marino and scattered hunks of county territory. The Assembly district avoids South Pas and its anti-710 Freeway feelings, but includes Alhambra's pro-710 people. Our neighboring Pasadena and Arcadia are in other districts. Go figure.

FREE STUFF FOR YOU

GENE ORLOWSKY is offering absolutely free oil changes, body alignments, lubrication, new filters, and checks of what tread remains on your feet and in your battery. This inspired

JIM MILLER to offer a free flush of your toilets and a free stop at your house by one of his smelling-good plumbers, though of course he'll charge you for work they may do, and

MARGIE LOWE-FRANCIS to offer free entry to her fashion salon, and a free colorful gift wrapping job for all you buy from her any old time, and

LARRY GOODREAU to top everybody with his generous promise to extract any and all teeth in our members' mouths, taking all the gold to melt down as donations for the PolioPlus cause. What great deals! Next Jim Schaefer will give away free citations so the fines will full the city coffers.

A POLICE TEACHING JOB, WITH AMAZING RESULTS

SAN MARINO'S FINEST rode their motors down to San Gabriel to join several other police departments around the area in a sting operation to catch motorists and pedestrians ignoring all the warning bells and horns and crossing the railroad tracks with a locomotive approaching. The railroad ran an engine back and forth, the motorists and pedestrians paid no attention, and the police issued an astounding number of tickets. According to the papers, they cited a mother pushing her baby in its carriage right in front of the train, a music-lover tuned into his earbuds and strolling down the middle of the tracks oblivious to the train right behind him, and lots of stupid folk driving around the barricades to get across ahead of the tons and tons of steel coming at their little cars. Will the stupid folk learn? Probably not, though a noble effort of several P.D.s to teach something of the dangers. Of course, I wish the police could cite the past city councils in San Gabriel that turned down several opportunities to use Federal and State monies to put the tracks into a trench as neighboring Alhambra did. Our southern neighbors wanted to avoid the months of mess digging the tracks down, so we've lived ever since with grade crossings and delays of emergency and regular vehicles, and giving dumb people a chance to cross and get cited.

OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2009

OCTOBER

- 15** **Noon** **Assemblyman Mike Eng**
- 22** **Noon** **Huntington Hotel history**
- 29** **Noon** **The story of the Lake Avenue Community Foundation**

NOVEMBER

- 4 or 5** **TBA** **(Something special is planned, but we're not yet told)**
- 12** **Noon** **Craft Talks**
- 19** **Noon** **(More special stuff – we'll tell you when we're told)**

THE ROTOSCOPE

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

October 15: Assemblyman Eng



MOVING INTO THE '90s

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL'S TEAM in Evanston, Illinois, have been designing, tweaking, testing, changing the RI web site, making it more interactive to help YOU find how you can learn of Rotary programs, apply for project grants, find what has happened with your contributions to The Rotary Foundation, and stumble your way around the district and international bureaucracy of Rotary. Try cruising around the RI site for yourself: www.rotary.org.

THE BIGGEST PART of RI's web page deals with the promise to raise \$200,000,000 to match Bill and Melinda Gates' promise of \$355,000,000 by June 2012. You'll find on line reprints of the *Amazing Stories of Polio* pamphlet to show friends and colleagues, ways to get copies of *The Final Inch* 38-minute documentary on Rotary's immunization campaigns in India, and links to YouTube videos and public service announcements about Rotary's worldwide work.

RI's GETTING WITH IT includes a link where you can make your own donation to the Two Hundred Million Dollar Challenge: www.rotary.org/endpolio. But for our club's internal accounting, our committee asks you to make your donation through them, instead of using the on-line site.

THE E-LEARNING CENTER at the redesigned Rotary web page includes advice from Rotarians on everyday Rotary topics: how to build membership and where to look for good prospects, how to get youth involved and success stories in Rotary youth programs, and creative ideas for meeting common challenges in clubs. Many organizations have used good web pages for the last two decades. Now Rotary's getting with it – take a look!

PENNIES (and bills) AGAINST POLIO

REMEMBER TO GUESS how many pennies are in the big jar donated by Lucille Norberg and on display this week's meeting for the last time for you to make a guess – then the pennies go to PolioPlus, and the winner goes to dinner with Tinker and Emile with the check picked up by our president (be sure to try the caviar appetizers then go for the whole Maine lobster; let Emile sweat over the bill).

AND REMEMBER TO HELP with our club's campaign to do our share in matching the Gates Foundation's hundreds of millions to finish the job we started years ago: completing the inoculation of every child against the polio virus, and eliminating the disease from this earth.

MANY MEMBERS VOLUNTEERED with the effort to place containers around town, to get merchants to join our work, to collect spare change and bills, to make our own individual contributions and kick in a little more each month, so our club does its share and more. Every kid in the world is dependent on Rotary, whether they know it or not. We must finish the job we promised to do.

EMILE'S A VERY RICH MAN

PRESIDENT EMILE CALCULATES HIS WEALTH WITH:

*Silver in his hair,
Gold in his teeth,
Stones in the Kidneys,
Sugar in the blood,
Lead in the feet,
Iron in the arteries,
and an inexhaustible supply of natural gas.*

He never thought he'd accumulate such wealth.

Our OFFICERS for 2009 - 2010:

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EMILE'S PHILOSOPHIES:

I've found that experience is something I didn't get until just after I needed it.