



# Your **ROTSOPE** for Thursday, January 21, 2010

for the Rotary Club of San Marino, California, USA

## THE A – B – C – and D – of e-HARMONY

**GREG FORGATCH HELPED FOUND** the successful computer-matching program called e-Harmony, and continues with the Pasadena-based organization. With fellow founder Neil Clark Warren and current head Greg Walberg, Greg Forgatch has developed a new compatibility inventory program for married couples, too. Greg is our speaker of the week, tracing the history of e-Harmony, citing some of its more interesting stories, and telling of their future programs.

**FORGATCH GREW UP** in San Marino, graduating from SMHS, and is still at home in our town and with its sports programs. He has devoted time and effort to strengthening various athletic offerings in San Marino, particularly for school-age kids and young adults. He has been one of the prime movers in building better facilities for sports at the high school.

**IF YOU'RE SEEKING A MATE**, checking out your current one, or just interested how 21<sup>st</sup> century match-making works, you'll enjoy hearing Greg Forgatch. Bring a guest – a potential mate, for that matter, or just your old one.

### THE RUMORS ARE TRUE!

**YES, THERE IS NO LUNCH** for us on February 4<sup>th</sup> – my email has been buzzing with speculation since the New Year dawned, and last week president Emile confirmed it: he's cancelling our first noon meeting in February, to encourage (force) all to come to his Mardi Gras celebration on the same Thursday, February 4<sup>th</sup>.

**YOUR INVITATION FOR MARDI GRAS** will be mailed soon, and as usual our social leaders ask you to respond quickly. This is very important for Mardi Gras, as the committee needs to know how many beads to order and how many cruces can bring their floats to the party.

**AS TO THE SPEAKER** previously announced: well, he was scratched once before, so I guess he'll understand his being scratched once again. Surely we'll hear him sooner or later.

### ASTOUNDING NEWS!

**AS OF THE END OF 2009**, the half-way point in Rotary's fiscal year, ALL accounts are paid up, reports treasurer Dennis Kneier. Amazing. Actually, astounding. We don't recall such collection success ever before in the many years of San Marino Rotary – no deadbeats! Is it Dennis' fearsome features, or Emile's threats to put up posters of unpaid members, that has brought payments on time to cover the club's expenses and our Charities? Whatever, it's working. Thank you, all!

**BUT NOW EVERY MEMBER** is back on the unpaid list. Well, those with automatic credit card billing will be paid up this week, without having to take any action. Dennis invites any others to sign up with him for automatic billing, saving YOU as well as the club the hassle of mailing a check. Let him know and he'll take care of your account so you won't have to worry about payment to Rotary – just to your bank.

## OUR KIDS AT WORK

**THE HMS MIDERACT** continues to sail on course, according to Denise Wadsworth. Huntington School's very active service club collected canned goods in December, given for distribution by Foothill Unity. The efforts were so successful that participating members earned free admission to a Snowball Luncheon Dance this week. Mideract members also heard about the Model United Nations organized by the YMCA, and several are applying to attend.

**THE SOUTHWESTERN INTERACT CLUB** joined the world last Tuesday night on hearing of the Haiti disaster needs, and set to work the next morning shaking down fellow students for spare cash to send immediately to their choice of good projects, "Doctors Without Borders." Later last week, Southwestern Interact organized a "LUNCHLESS LUNCH" – students had only bread, jelly, and water to eat, while the value of the usual lunch menu was sent to Salvation Army. This week, Interact members are scheduled to help tutor lower-grade students struggling with reading and math lessons.

**SMHS INTERACT** must be doing lots of good things too – does anyone have reports on their activities the last year or so?

## JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2010

### JANUARY

21 Noon E-Harmony's matchmaking – and now, match-keeping

28 Noon A Mid-East specialist's views of the region

### FEBRUARY

4 Noon **CHANGE TO NOTE: NO NOON MEETING .... INSTEAD: Evening MARDI GRAS PARTY (details to come)**

11 Noon Fashion Show – bring your Valentine as a lunch date!

# THE ROTOSCOPE

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

January 21: The eHarmony Story



## THOSE WONDERFUL BULLETINS!

**SAN MARINO CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH** staff sent out a list of bloopers they'd found in other churches' bulletins, though they insist their own church NEVER has errors in its materials. Well, *hardly* ever. Try these out:

**LADIES, DON'T FORGET** the rummage sale next week. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

**DON'T LET WORRY** kill you off. Let the Church help.

**CHARLENE MASON SANG** "I Will Not Pass This Way Again," bringing much pleasure to the congregation.

**TRYOUTS THURSDAY** for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

**IRV BENSON AND JESSIE CARTER** were married January 16 in the church, ending a friendship that began back in high school.

**THE SERMON TOPIC** at the evening service will be "What Is Hell"? Come and listen to the choir practice.

**SCOUTS ARE COLLECTING** aluminum cans for recycling. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

**PLACE YOUR DONATION** in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.

**WE WILL HOST AN EVENING** of fine dining, super entertainment, and gracious hostility next Thursday.

**A POTLUCK SUPPER SUNDAY** at 5:00 p.m. Prayer and medication will follow.

## AROUND ROTARY

**THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION** planners urge you to come to Montreal June 20-23 for the 101<sup>st</sup> gathering. Special rates are available, both for registration ([RI.registration@rotary.org](mailto:RI.registration@rotary.org)) and for cheaper air tickets through Air Canada and other members of the Star Alliance ([rotary.org/en/members/events/convention/pages/ravelandhousing.aspx](http://rotary.org/en/members/events/convention/pages/ravelandhousing.aspx)).

**LA CASA CHRISTMAS PARTY** photos have been posted at the club's web site – see if you spot yourself helping out.

**ANN AND JACK McQUEEN** are ensconced – happily, so far, Jack says – at Royal Oaks Manor, 1763 Royal Oaks Drive North, in Bradbury. Their new phone is 305-2590.

**USC FOLK BROKE 100**, attendance at last week's meeting with president Steve Sample. Now half of those are trying to determine if they're managers or leaders or observers or Trojan football fans fussing about what's coming next season

## MARIA AND BERK'S SON

**NO PARENT SHOULD** experience the loss of a fine child they have raised well and who is beginning to give back to another generation. Our longtime member Berk Johnston and his beautiful Maria raised a fine family here before their kids went off on their own and Maria and Berk moved to full time ranch life near Jackson Hole. Now the paper reports their son Berkeley MacRae Johnston collapsed at his home in San Luis Obispo last week and died with his wife Jacquie and their three children at his side, stricken by an apparent heart attack at age 47. Maria and Berk must feel proud of their son's contributions to Young Life, his church, and his own young family. We're sure they'd appreciate your condolences sent to Post Office Box 1867, Wilson, Wyoming 83014.

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## EMILE'S PHILOSOPHIES:

I never know when it will strike, but there comes a moment at work when I know I'm just not going to do anything productive for the rest of the day, so I go home.