



Your **ROTSOCPE** for **Thursday, January 28, 2010**

for the Rotary Club of San Marino, California, USA

A WISE SCHOLAR'S OVERVIEW OF CHINA TODAY

DR. WAYNE GERTMENIAN'S PEDIGREE is long and distinguished, including his consultations with our government on foreign policy and his work to help jockeys injured on our nation's racetracks. He has been honored by a list of impressive groups, but the most impressive to me came from his students at Pepperdine University, who voted him their "outstanding professor" two recent years. It's hard to put poor professing over on today's college kids, so Dr. Gertmenian must know his material and – maybe more important for us and for the note-taking student in his lectures – must be able to explain it clearly and correctly. That's what he intends to do for us this Thursday. We had heard previously that his topic would be the Middle East; yesterday a message came that he will speak on China. We're not certain which topic he will choose, though we know either or both hold great significance and urgency. Come and learn, both about the topic and about why those bright Pepperdine people chose him their favorite lecturer.

CROWELL LIBRARY ASKS HELP

YOUR HELP, AND IT'S EASY TO GIVE: through January, the staff of the Crowell Public Library invites you and your family to participate in a library survey, gathering community feedback on the library's services, programs, and materials. They're very sincere in seeking suggestions on additions and changes that may be helpful to the various age groups served by our beautiful public library. It's easy to respond on line, though our Luddites may prefer paper forms available at our next luncheon or at the information desks of the library. To encourage many responses, one lucky respondent will win a new iPod, for you or for your kids. But go for the service, not for the iPod: simply open the library's online sites and tell them how they can help you more:

www.crowellpubliclibrary.org

or

www.sanmarinopl.org

OLD CELL PHONES CLUTTERING DRAWERS?

WE ALL HAVE THEM NOW, in homes and offices, outdated cell phones that we just can't quite bring ourselves to toss out, but that have been replaced with the very latest. And when the latest gets old and replaced, it will just add to the clutter. Rotary International is pitching a suggestion.

HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO, according to one of our members: sell the inactive cell phone for some extra cash, or decide to donate it for use by the needy. Either way, it's easy. Collect all those phones, one or a dozen, around home and office – handsets and batteries only; no accessories or chargers. Box them up. Decide if you want money back, or if you will give them to be activated for '911' use only by underprivileged individuals and families in the USA and overseas. Postage is free, if you use a prepaid label available on line at www.pacebutler.com. Easy. And you will either get a check back in a few days or a charitable donation form.

BOURBON STREET ALONG THE DRIVE

STUFFY OLD SAN MARINO comes alive on Thursday, February 4th, at San Marino Center (the Old Woman's Club, if you're still back in the 20th century). Rotary will pretend we're in New Orleans for Mardi Gras Madness, or about as much madness as Rotary in San Marino can ever get. Dinner, dancing, delights, with masked revelers enjoying Emile Bayle's secret roux flavoring the jambalaya, with masks and beads for everyone, and with cajun food and southern hospitality.

PLEASE COME AND ENJOY – BUT PLEASE RESPOND! It's really urgent that your RSVP and check for \$50 per person be received by Dianne Chapman at Citizens Business Bank *right now!* – the caterer needs firm numbers this week. Mail your check to Dianne at 980 Huntington Drive, deliver it to her at Citizens Bank, or bring it to this week's meeting as your last chance to join the fun. Our Nuolenes president Emile will be right honored by your presence, and he'll let the good times roll if you'll come join him at Mardi Gras.

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2010

JANUARY

28 Noon Overview on China Today

FEBRUARY

4 Noon **NO NOON MEETING INSTEAD:**
Evening **MARDI GRAS PARTY (RSVP if you haven't!)**

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

18 Noon Rose Bowl restoration and renovation planning

25 Noon In planning – news soon enough

THE ROTOSCOPE

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

January 28: Diplomatic Overview



A FEW MORE GREAT BULLETINS!

SAN MARINO CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH pastor Art Cribbs provided these little mis-statements he's collected from well-meaning writers of church bulletins – other than his own, of course:

THE LADIES OF OUR CHURCH have cast off clothing of every type. They may be seen in the basement each Friday afternoon.

THIS EVENING AT SEVEN we will hold a community hymn singing in the park across from the church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

OUR PASTOR WOULD APPRECIATE IT if the ladies of the congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.

THE LOW SELF ESTEEM SUPPORT GROUP will meet next Thursday at 7:00 p.m. Please use the back door.

OUR EIGHTH GRADERS WILL PRESENT Hamlet in the church basement Friday at 7 p.m. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

WEIGHT WATCHERS MEETS MONDAY at 7 p.m. Please use the large double doors at the side entrance.

LADIES' BIBLE STUDY will be held Tuesday at 10 a.m. All ladies are invited to stay for lunch in the Fellowship Hall after the B. S. is done.

THE ASSOCIATE MINISTER UNVEILED our church's new campaign slogan last Sunday:
"I Upped My Pledge – UP YOURS!"

MONTREAL IN LESS THAN 5 MONTHS

JUNE WON'T BE BUSTING OUT for what seems a long time from here in January, but you know time marches on – quicker than ever. The International Convention organizing committee is concerned, given losing years in Utah, California, and most recently in England. Tight times explain part of the decline in attendance, and less-interesting locations may explain another part. But RI's 101st Annual Convention on June 20-23 is at one of the most interesting places to visit in North America, and with air and hotel fees that are quite reasonable compared with recent years.

THE NAFIES AND THE MOTHERSHEADS are planning to represent San Marino Rotary – but they'd like your company, and invite you to come along too. There are more than 50 special-interest sessions, and 40 interactive discussion groups, including in-depth presentations on such Rotary topics as Malaria Control, Interact, Membership, and more. The full program schedule is at:

www.rotary.org/Ridocuments/en/pdf/c10

AND YOU CAN HAVE FUN IN MONTREAL! – not only the great food, French setting, fine speakers, but also the circus. Did you know the International Circus School is in Montreal? They're inviting Rotarians behind the scenes to witness the graduation ceremony, featuring performances of future circus stars, to be held Saturday, June 19th. For tickets to this, home hospitality events, and tours of the city and St. Lawrence area, go to:

www.rotary2010.com

MONTREAL IS A FAMILY CITY, walkable with parks, museums, and the Cirque du Soleil. It blends French, English, and indigenous areas (what our Canadian neighbors call their "First Citizens"). Come early, stay late, enjoy the *joie de vivre* of this wonderful city.

Our OFFICERS for 2010:

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Bulletin news or gripes? – send to: kveronda@southwesternacademy.edu – or call 626-799-5010, x1202

EMILE'S PHILOSOPHIES:

I hate leaving my house confident and looking good, getting settled in my office, then not seeing anyone of importance the entire day. What a waste.