



Your **ROTSOCPE** for
Thursday, February 25, 2010
 for the Rotary Club of San Marino, California, USA

ONE, TWO, MAYBE THREE PROGRAMS THIS WEEK

THIS MAY BE A THREE-RING CIRCUS on Thursday, depending on who-all shows up, with our Ringmaster Bayle cracking his whip and introducing these performers:

THE HIGH SCHOOL SPEECH CONTEST, on a topic that usually revolves around student interpretations of Rotary's Four-Way Test, will have one or two winners from San Marino High and Southwestern Academy presenting all or part of their speeches;

THE HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC CONTEST, again with representatives from our local schools participating, will include either the winner, winners, or all contestants as part of our luncheon program (and in place of the usual Presidential Blather from Emile);

THE FIRST ANNUAL TRADITIONAL REPORT on police activities and our police department's strengths and concerns will be given by Chief John Schaefer. John promises to allow lots of time for your questions and comments too, after he sketches crime statistics and tells of the proactive programs being taken for our public safety.

THERE'S SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE to like this week – student talks, student music, and a chief who is proud of his departmental accomplishments in serving us. It's another good week to bring a spouse, neighbor – or better, a person who may become interested in Rotary membership. We need good members! – and you are the key to inviting a colleague at work, a neighbor near your home, a recently-retired or newly-moved in our community, to come hear the kids speak, enjoy the music, and learn more of San Marino's police.

INCOMING PRESIDENT BOB NAFIE is excused this week (though you're not!). Bob will be locked up at a hotel near LAX for indoctrination, briefings, and teachings by our district's very top people (such as has-been governor Lee Mothershead) on what to do and what not to do during his presidential year. We're serious about the lockup, too – spouses, friends, street people, hangers-on are not allowed. At all. Bob's sweating the final exam, but we bet he'll pass. Maybe with the minimum score, but he'll pass. We need him to straighten our club out in the new Rotary year!

CHILI AND WINDY NEXT WEEK

CONTINUING THE TRADITION: CHILI CONTEST next Thursday and as of this writing there is room for two more pots.

WANT TO JOIN THE COOKOFF? Please call Greg – **626-441-5110** – or shoot him an email that you'll participate.

WE HEAR RUMORS that real, honest-to-goodness professional chefs will be joining our members in judging, and then will talk of foods as the program. Anyone have real, honest information on next week's speaker or speakers??

ITALIAN TV COOKS ARE NOT WELCOME, or at least the fellow fired from ITV – Italy's state-owned TV channel – is asked not to be our program speaker or chili judge. You probably heard how the professional chef upset his entire nation last week, giving his recipe and a live demonstration of what he called a "traditional Tuscan dish".

NOW I LIVED IN TUSCANY for two years, spent time in poor farm homes, ate some little sparrows once, have a collection of Tuscan cookbooks, but never heard of his dish or his instructions on how to soak the meat in a cold stream for three days and nights, then to skin and cook it slowly with assorted herbs and spices. Apparently most Italians didn't know the recipe either, and were outraged when the word spread as to what he was recommending: slow-roasted cat.

MARCH 2010

FEBRUARY

25 Noon Police Report, Speech Contest and now Music Contest too

MARCH

4 Noon Great Second Annual Club Chili Cookoff

11 Noon Carmen Trutanich, L.A. City Attorney

18 Around noon Foundation Luncheon at The Huntington Libe, etc.

25 Noon Program Committee's Surprise Event at Community Church

THE ROTOSCOPE

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

February 25: Three-Ring Circus



SCHMID SAILED UP LAST WEEK

BIG NEWS WHEN BEN SCHMID leaves Balboa Island for a visit with us, but the story of the revisions planned at the Rose Bowl brought him and Jeanne for lunch. Our more youthful members may not know Ben, though he has been a faithful Rotarian for nearly a half-century. Jeanne and Ben have given generously of their time and talents on numerous projects around San Marino and Pasadena, though they're always modest about what all they have given.

BEN WAS LAST SEEN in a full-color photo, lounging in his Sabat and spread across a half-page of the Times. That was some weeks ago, so it was good to see him in person at last week's meeting – and better to see Jeanne, his vivacious spouse. Hope they come back soon, and be sure to meet them if you don't know both.

MEMBERSHIP IN LOTS OF OTHER CLUBS and organizations worldwide dropped in a year of economic havoc, but not in Rotary. The global count is 1,234,527 members in 33,790 clubs, an increase of 3,044 members and 520 clubs during 2009, even when some other good organizations saw their numbers down by 10-20%.

MEMBERSHIP IN OUR OWN CLUB is holding so far this year, but that's not good. We need a dozen good new members each year, on average, just to hold steady. Lois' recruitment of some strong new members last year refreshed our numbers, but it's time for us to hustle up more. Any ideas? Prospects? Help out!

GOOGLE ROTARY NEWS! More than a thousand back issues of The Rotarian magazine, nearly a century's worth – are now available free on Google Books, from the first issue in 1911: go to www.books.google.com.

MORE CONVENTION STUFF

R.I.'s 101st INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION in Montreal on June 20-23 will be in the 'Old Town' – and the convention organizing committee is proud to point out that's a bit older than Pasadena's (130 years), Los Angeles' (210 years), or our oldest around here, San Gabriel's Mission area (229 years). The French fort on the "royal mountain" along the St. Laurence was established in 1642. But heck, compared with Old Europe, even that's quite new.

HOWEVER, THE CONVENTION COMMITTEE is now sending a dozen emails a week, urging me to urge you to go. They really don't want to lose money as happened in Birmingham last year, or in Salt Lake City and Los Angeles. They're bringing in the big stars – Dolly Parsons to speak and entertain, along with the Mothersheads and Nafies. You too? Good prices are available through their Star Alliance air partners, they say, and hotels are still open in the Old Town itself. For information and registration, see:

www.rotary.org/en/Members/Events/Convention
www.tourisme-montreal.org
RI_registration@Rotary.org

FREE LUNCH! – (but you gotta reply)

OUR ROTARY FOUNDATION LUNCHEON will be at The Huntington on Thursday, March 18th, in place of our regular meeting. Paul Finchamp, a Group Study Exchange veteran, will speak, and two new honors will be given. It's *free* for members, or at least pre-paid by members as an add-on to quarterly dues. But – the Foundation Committee does need you to return reply cards to be sent soon with your invitation to the program. Please, don't forget to drop the card in the mail soon. Guests are more than welcome, with information on the cost for each guest to be included in the mailing.

Our OFFICERS for 2010:

OFFICERS:

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

EMILE'S PHILOSOPHIES:

Eventually I'll reach a point when I'll stop lying about my age and start bragging about it.