



Your **ROTOSCOPE** for

Thursday, May 20, 2010

for the Rotary Club of San Marino, California, USA

GROUP STUDY TEAM FROM COASTAL BRAZIL

FIVE GOOD LOOKING FOLK FROM BRAZIL (that's redundant; aren't all Brazilians disgustingly good looking?) are our guests this week, part of a Rotary group study exchange with a district in the northeast of the country, the bulge in South America closest to Africa. Led by Rotarian dentist **MARCOS SEABRA**, who says he's a passionate fisherman, the team is:

LUCIANE AZEVEDO, a journalist with a master's degree in governmental cultural economic policies, works as a press officer and corporate communications manager. He's interested in literature and spirituality.

LUCIANE DIAS, born in a very small town deep in the Amazon Forest, lives now in Aracaju, a planned city built in 1855. She is also a Spiritualist, switching careers from banking to teaching "Communications and Culture," her biggest interests.

RENATO FERRAZ, from Alagoas on the beach, is a television producer interested in the news and, of course, football – the Brazilian kind of *real*/football, heading next month to the World Cup.

JULIANA – just "Juliana"; she doesn't give her last name – is a Judges' assessor in Aracaju, state capital of Sergipipe. (We're sort of guessing her job is something like a court clerk, but we'll find out Thursday.) She loves the beach and dance.

LIFE STRAWS, "ONE OF THE GREATEST LIFESAVERS IN HISTORY"

SOUTHWESTERN'S INTERACT PRESIDENT Takashi Yamanaka was bursting with pride last meeting in presenting a check for several thousand dollars Interact had raised for "Life Straws." There was some confusion among our club officers, however – this wasn't a contribution for PolioPlus, though the Southwestern students have supported this fine Rotary program for many years, but for another project, LIFE STRAWS. Takashi was disappointed that many Rotarians don't seem to have heard of this simple device that turns polluted water into safe drinking water and costs less than the price of a cup of coffee, and didn't know this is a major new project of Rotary International.

ONE BILLION PEOPLE – a sixth of the world's population – are without access to safe water. At any given moment, about half the world's poor suffer waterborne diseases. **EACH DAY, over 6,000 DIE** by consuming unsafe water. Most are children, dying of diarrhea, dysentery, typhoid, and cholera from bacteria easily filtered out by Life Straws. These little devices removes most of the microorganisms responsible for waterborne diseases, without any moving parts or needing electric power. The filters can hang around the neck, and kill bacteria on contact for one year or 700 liters of clean water.

SOUTHWESTERN'S INTERACT MEMBERS became charged up about getting Life Straws into families without a clean water supply. Southwestern's students from South Africa, Guatemala, India, and remote parts of western China, told their classmates of areas they know in their home countries where the water is dangerously unsafe, and where hundreds die each day. This turned into a competition among Southwestern's four intramural teams, the Aces, Deuces, Jokers, and Kings, to see who could fund the most Life Straws. The hundreds of dollars that less than a hundred students raised formed the presentation that Takashi made last week, not for Rotary Charities, but for Rotary's Life Straws.

LIFE STRAWS were invented ten years ago by a Swedish group, using the natural source of sucking to draw polluted water through a sealed unit with a instantly-disinfecting resin that kills bacteria on contact. Textile pre-filters in the Life Straw remove particles up to 15 microns, and active carbon withholds parasites. Out the straw comes life-providing water, the 700 liters per Life Straw that meets about one year's water needs for a person. Simple, and each unit is less than a Starbuck's cup or a doughnut and joe. Southwestern Interact want to provide more, and the Interact members hope their Rotarian elders might get excited enough about saving lives to match the Life Straw units the kids have funded.

MAY / JUNE 2010

MAY

20 Noon Group Study Exchange team from Brazil

27 Noon Art at the San Marino Public Library (*not* at the Church)

JUNE

3 Noon Back at SM Community for story of Western Justice Center

10 Noon Steve Hoy and our annual Salute to the Service Academies

17 Noon A touch of confusion, to be cleared up sooner or later

24 Noon Under considerable discussion and debate

THE ROTOSCOPE

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

May 20: Exchange from Brazil



AROUND ROTARY

TWO TRULY OUTSTANDING CANDIDATES were selected by Bill Payne and our club's committee to be candidates for one of the five District Ambassadorial Scholarships for 2011-2012. One made it; the other fell victim to 21st Century electronics.

OUR CANDIDATES WERE INTERVIEWED through teleconferencing, as both are studying far away. Bill had tested out the system at Arcadia schools on Friday, with both Katarina and Scott dialing in from overseas easily. On Saturday, Katarina got right in again, charmed the district committee, and has been chosen one of the favored who will receive RI's generous scholarship for study overseas.

BUT POOR SCOTT! He's studying in Egypt, and the Internet Gods didn't cooperate. What worked fine on Friday didn't connect Saturday. Bill started calling ten minutes earlier than the scheduled time, and kept trying through the allotted interview, all without success. Four minutes after the deadline, everything worked, but Scott was already disqualified – maybe next year.

ONE OF OUR MEMBERS must get moving before dawn a few mornings each year, called as a regular speaker at the Pasadena Sunrise Rotary. Now he will need to start even earlier – the club has moved from downtown Pasadena to Marie Callender's, 2300 East Foothill (a few blocks west of Sierra Madre). If you need a makeup, get going there any Thursday by 7 a.m. (Yes, 7 a.m.).

THE GREEN VALLEY RANCH RESORT lies atop the abandoned WWII molybdenum plant in Henderson, Nevada. Doesn't look quite the same now – it's a great spot for our June 10-13 District Conference, and Emile hopes y

"NEW GENERATIONS ROTARY CLUBS"

IT'S RI'S NEW PROGRAM to move Rotary closer to the end of the 20th century: Rotary clubs that get away from the usual breakfast or lunch meetings that many younger working professionals can't attend, offering more flexible gatherings with shorter meetings that plan out projects where the members can donate their time and skills.

WE'VE A "NEW GENERATIONS" CLUB in our area, drawing men and women a tad younger than most San Marino Rotarians to meet over a beer or other drink each Wednesday evening at 6:30, and adjourning before a meal. You're welcome to come too – three out of four Wednesdays at the 2nd Avenue Saloon and Sports Bar, 271 North 2nd, Upland. There are no age restrictions, if you're over 21.

ON THAT OTHER WEEK, every third Thursday of each month, "New Generations" fixes dinners at the Ronald McDonald House near City of Hope. You probably know of this home for the families of children who are being treated for very serious illnesses. There's such a home in Pasadena, near the Huntington Hospital, and one in Duarte, where our newest Rotarians pitch in to treat the families staying there.

SPACE FOR YOU AT PEACE TALK

THE DISTRICT'S 15TH PEACE CONFERENCE IS THIS Saturday, May 22nd, 9-2:30 at Brethren Hillcrest Homes in La Verne. Some space is still available, including lunch and the conference discussions.

"IS WORLD PEACE POSSIBLE?" The speakers are guardedly optimistic, with some concrete ideas on what individuals, groups, and communities can do. Denise Wadsworth has some tickets, or check it out on line at the district web site: www.district5300.org

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OFFICERS:

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EMILE'S PHILOSOPHIES:

Tinker and I had words once.
But I didn't get a chance to use any of mine.