



Your **ROTOSCOPE** for

August 5th, 2010

for the Rotary Club of San Marino, California, USA

RED CROSS REORGANIZATION IN OUR AREA

BEN GREEN OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS is our speaker. Our program people haven't told us anything else about what's his topic, but we know from the papers much about ARC services, and about their management consolidation in the Pasadena-to-Pomona area.

SERIOUS NATIONAL FINANCIAL PROBLEMS from poor leadership at the Red Cross headquarters in Washington seem to have eased, but continuing disasters at home and overseas require more funding and support than ever. We're sure Ben Green will give us more information about today's ARC.

WHY SHOULD WE TAKE ON ROTAPLAST?

WE HAVEN'T FINISHED OFF POLIO yet, as Rotary pledged to do by the centennial year of 2005. We support Corazon house building in Mexico, and those marvelous clean-water drinking straws that Interact has been helping fund. Why should we think of another international project? Because it's there, because cleft lip and palate anomalies are so common and so easily corrected, because our district is organizing a team to go to Salvador next spring, because we pledged to help.

WHY SO MANY CLEFT LIPS AND PALATES in poorer countries, and why don't we see more here? Our generally good diet, with adequate vitamins and folic acid a part of the lifestyle of most pregnant women here, makes these anomalies rare in developed nations. And if an infant is born here with the cleft anomaly, usually from genetic factors, our healthcare providers and public healthcare take care of reconstructive surgery quickly.

AMONG THOSE WHO ARE POOR, especially in Central and South America and across Africa, poor diet while pregnant, plus smoking and pollution, cause a large number of births with cleft lip and palate. As a result, the infants can't nurse. Well-meaning mothers often buy soft drinks and squirt in the sugary stuff rather than milk or formula. In one hospital where San Marino Rotary has sent help, three and four year old toddlers still weigh under ten pounds, hooked on Coke until brought for the simple surgery and a more nutritious diet.

ROTAPLAST COMES FROM San Francisco Rotary, where two plastic surgeons began offering reconstructive surgery on missions to nations with many untreated cases. Rotaplast became a separate, non-profit corporation in 1996, and Rotaplast is not an official R.I. project. But Rotaplast draws many volunteers from Rotary clubs, a hands-on international service project to bring the finest medical care to underprivileged children. Rotaplast sponsorship helps fulfill our club's international service requirement.

ROTAPLAST PROVIDES THE LOGISTICS, gathers medical supplies such as sutures and anesthesia (around \$35,000 per mission), transports a "kit" of \$160,000 worth of durable medical equipment from project to project, staffs the teams, and works with the local Rotary club sponsors. Rotaplast covers the cost of transporting the medical personnel and a mission director for each team. Non-medical volunteers are needed each time, on trips of a few days up to two weeks. These Rotary volunteers cover the cost of their own airfare (or sometimes the club helps support them), and host Rotarians provide housing and food for the team. All the team travel through the same airline and agent, because contracts are negotiated with vendor airlines to transport all the boxes of supplies and equipment (30 to 40 boxes per mission) at no additional charge.

OUR DISTRICT AND OUR CLUB have committed to sponsor a team to San Salvador, El Salvador, from April 24th through May 7th, 2011. Volunteers are now being solicited to go from 5300. If any of our members are interested and available, our district governor Roger Schulte will be at our meeting on August 12th and would be delighted to talk with you and explain more of the project. A simple, quick surgery reconstructs lips and palates so children can thrive. And the volunteers who observe the teams at work glow with their own satisfaction.

AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2010

AUGUST

5 Noon Today's Red Cross

12 DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S VISIT – 9:30 officers, 10:30 Board, noon lunch.

19 Noon A Hundred-Year-Old Story

26 Noon Keys to Nature Health

SEPTEMBER

2 Noon Pam Francis tells about her animal training

9 Noon California Admission Day – our program group celebrates

THE ROTOSCOPE

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

August 5th: Ben Green of the Red Cross



LOOK! #3 IN A MONTH!

LOOK OVER ON THE RIGHT. Unless you blackball one of the three proposed members, we'll have brought in as many new Rotarians in July as was done throughout 2009-2010. Terry Petrillo's membership committee is hot, and off to a fine start toward the year's goal. But that doesn't let *you* off the hook. No, you can't sit back and let *them* do it for you. Every member is needed to – expected to – ORDERED BY TERRY TO invite a guest soon. This week's Red Cross information will be of interest to any guest – so please Terry and invite someone now.

REMEMBER KIWANIS in San Marino? It was a thriving club, for several years in the 1940s and 1950s with more members than Rotary. Many of the members were vets of WWII, active with local churches, PTA, and City Club. Most were about the same age. They did nothing about new members for a few years, but remained strong. Then within a couple of years around 1960, most of them retired, moved to the beach, or otherwise left town (a polite way to say that some died). The club struggled on, briefly, then disappeared. The once-strong Altadena Kiwanis with some fifty members a few years ago has shrunk to about twelve members now.

"WON'T HAPPEN HERE"? Hey, where are our bankers now? There were seven bank managers in San Marino Rotary a few years ago. Now there's one. With consolidations, changes, and banks cutting back, we lost the others.

THREE GOOD PROSPECTS IN JULY is a fine start, but just a start. Our average attrition is twelve members a year. We've had fewer losses recently, but we can't sit still and disappear like San Marino Kiwanis.

MEMBERSHIP PROPOSAL

**TO FILL THE OPEN CLASSIFICATION OF:
FUND RAISING**

MICHAEL DRIEBE

Office: Methodist Hospital of Southern California, Arcadia

Home: (not disclosed)

Proposed by Terry Petrillo and Richard Sun

GIVE HELP AND HAVE FUN

A BIKE RIDE AROUND TUCSON provides Rotarians a chance to ride for PolioPlus funding on November 20. "El Tour de Tucson" is one of the largest bicycling events in the U.S., offering rides of 35, 66, 80, or 109 miles around the perimeter of Tucson, from "A" Mountain along the Santa Catalinas and south to Davis-Monthan and the White Dove of the Desert, a pretty route in perfect November weather. District 5300 hopes to organize a team, with each member of each club pledging \$2.00. With just that, \$5,000 can be raised. If you'd like to ride, see the 5300 web page.

THE 4TH ANNUAL GLOW-IN-THE-DARK GOLF BALL DROP – what a fascinating name! – will be in Mesquite, Nevada, sometime or another. The club invites us, but doesn't state a date or how it's done. Their web page doesn't tell. If you know how to drop glowing golf balls, share how.

WHAT A TEAM!

THOSE DOING ALL THE WORK FOR BOB

Club Officers and Directors

2010-11



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President



Stephen S. Talt
President-Elect



Emile Joseph Bayle
Immediate Past President



Karen D. Paciorek
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J. Leland Mothershead
Director



Joseph J. Petrillo
Director



Frederick D. Seares
Director



Andrea L. Simpson
Director



Gregory G. Thompson
Director

BOB SAYS:

They call our language the mother tongue
because the father seldom gets to speak.