



ROTARY CLUB OF CARSON-GARDENA-DOMINGUEZ

@ Millender-McDonald Community Center
3 Civic Plaza Drive
Carson, CA 90745

Phone: (310) 816-8810 www.rotarycgd.org

Club Number: 736 Chartered: August 16, 1947

LA RUEDA is published weekly by the Rotary Club of Carson-Gardena-Dominguez, 3 Civic Plaza Drive, Carson, CA 90745.



LA RUEDA

Noon Luncheon Meeting @ Millender-McDonald Community Center

7 December 2011, Issue 3302

CLUB OFFICERS

CARA RICEPresident
JEREMY BROWNImmediate Past President
ALISON BRUESEHOFFPresident-Elect
SCOTT SIMMSTreasurer
CHRISTINE MARKSecretary

CLUB DIRECTORS

CHET CRAFT – Club Service
KIM RICHARDS – Community Service
LARRY YBARRA – International Service
JEREMY BROWN – New Generations Service
OJ PANDEY – Vocational Service
SCOTT SIMMS – Club Trainer
BRANDON CARILLO – Foundation Chair
DAVID GAMBLE – Literacy Chair
KENDRA RICHARDSON – Membership Chair
CHRIS MARK – Newsletter Editor
AUDRIE ECHNOZ – Program Chair
DAN MEDINA – Public Relations Chair
WALTER NEIL – Sergeant at Arm

DISTRICT 5280 GOVERNOR BRAD ROBINSON



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT KALYAN BANERJEE



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, December 10

RC of Inglewood – Garage Sale @ Hooman Automotive, 737 N. La Brea Ave., Inglewood, 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM.

Sunday, December 11

Club Holiday Party @ CCC, 5:30-7:30 PM.

Thursday, December 15

RC of Rio Hondo-Vernon – Christmas Fundraiser @ La Villa Basque Restaurant, 2801 Leonis Blvd., Vernon, 11:00 AM.

RC of Downtown LA – Holiday Reunion Party @ The LA Athletic Club, 431 West 7th Street, 4th Floor, President's Lounge, Los Angeles, 6:00-8:00 PM.

Friday-Saturday, December 16-17

RC of Colombo Americano & LA5 – Angel City Christmas Giveaway @ Algin Sutton Recreation Center, 8800 S. Hoover Street, Los Angeles, 1:00-5:00 PM on Friday & 6:30 AM – noon on Saturday.



THE FOUR WAY TEST

Is it the **TRUTH**?
Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **Rotary Club of Inglewood** is conducting a Garage Sale on December 10th at Hooman Automotive Center in Inglewood, 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Start your holiday shopping with clothing and jewelry, toys and books, furniture, handbags and shoes, electronic items, luxury designer stuff, and much more to choose from. Get there early to grab the best! For more information, contact Peter James at (626) 253-9120 or Freddie King at fsking@hotmail.com.

The **Rotary Club of Rio Hondo-Vernon** will be conducting their Christmas Fundraiser on Thursday, December 15th at La Villa Basque Restaurant in Vernon, 11:00 AM. Cost is \$35 per person inclusive of lunch and one drink. All proceeds from this event will be used for local community projects. RSVP is due to the club by December 7th to P.O. Box 91-1158, Commerce, CA 90091.

You're invited to a Holiday Reunion Party for the **Rotary Club of Downtown Los Angeles** on December 15th at The Los Angeles Athletic Club in Downtown Los Angeles, 6:00-8:00 PM. No host bar/hors d'oeuvres will be served. Admission is an unwrapped toy for the families of The Midnight Mission. Please RSVP to Tina Olson at (323) 957-2755.

The **Rotary Clubs of Colombo Americano and LA5**, and Rotarians from District 5280, are working together with LA City Mayor's Office and other community-based non-profits to secure toys, food and clothing for 3,000 families in underserved communities of South Central Los Angeles for this holiday season. Rotarians and volunteers are encouraged to come with family and friends to the Algin Sutton Recreation Center in Los Angeles on: Friday, December 16th from 1:00-5:00 PM to sort donated clothing and toys, package the food and set up for the giveaway; and Saturday, December 17th from 6:30 AM to noon to distribute toys, food, clothing, monitor the line, entertain the kids and other event-related tasks. If you are available to help, please RSVP to Marjorie Heller at (323) 463-0304 or 2marjorieheller@gmail.com.

The **Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI)** will be held on Saturday, January 7th at the Hacienda Hotel in El Segundo, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The RLI was founded to assist in improving the Rotary knowledge and leadership skills of the future leaders of our Rotary Clubs. The rapid turnover of leadership positions in Rotary caused by annual elections requires constant effort to prepare more and more Rotarians for the responsibilities of leadership. The RLI training will prepare and educate Rotarian leaders through sessions on topics such as: Leadership/Characteristics; Rotary Beyond the Club; The Rotary Foundation; Membership/Retention; Leadership/Team Building; and Services Projects. Each club is requested to send one representative to the RLI. Cost is \$50 per person which includes a continental breakfast, program materials and lunch. RSVP is due December 20th to the District Office.

The next **District Breakfast** is on Tuesday, January 10th at the Westin LAX Hotel, 7:00-9:00 AM. The featured speaker will be John Osterlund, General Manager of The Rotary Foundation. As the General Manager of TRF, John oversees the operations of four divisions: PolioPlus; Fund Development; Future Vision Pilot Operations; and TRF Programs. He will update us on how Rotarians are changing lives around the world and provide a preview of

Future Vision, Rotary Foundation's new grant model to support club and district humanitarian and education projects. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP to me by noon, January 2nd. The club will pay for your \$34 registration; however, if you RSVP and fail to show the cost will be billed back to you. Registration after January 4, 2012 will be \$39 and will be for your account.



CLUB ASSEMBLY

Operation Gobble was a big success! We were able to provide 200 Thanksgiving dinner boxes to disadvantaged families in the Carson/Gardena area and make a donation to the local bank. Hats off to Alison Bruesehoff for chairing this project. Much thanks goes to Glenn Mitchell who did a fantastic job of raising \$7,000 – we spent \$5,000 so we have a carryover of \$2,000 for next year. Thanks also to others Rotarians – Leon Bodnar, Dan Medina, and Walter Neil – for their valuable assistance. Lastly, to all the businesses that made a monetary or in-kind donation, we couldn't have done it without you!



President Cara (second from right) presented Leon Bodnar, Alison Bruesehoff, and Dan Medina with Certificate of Distinction for their work with Operation Gobble. Not pictured: Glenn Mitchell and Walter Neil.

Just a reminder that our club **Holiday Party** is this Sunday, December 11th at the Millender-McDonald Community Center, 5:30 PM. We will have "international tables" again this year so please remember to bring decorations, wine and dessert from your chosen country. The evening will begin with a buffet dinner catered by Jay's Catering. Santa Claus will drop in at 6:30 PM – please bring a wrapped gift with a name tag for each of your children. Dress is festive. Cost is \$38 per adult and \$15 for children 3-11 years. This is one of two required club events so you will be billed \$38 whether or not you attend, so why not make an effort to attend and get better acquainted with other members and to ring in the holiday season. Please RSVP to Cara Rice at (310) 493-9336 or facerice@aol.com.

We have adopted and decorated a Christmas tree at SouthBay Pavilion as part of the **Christmas Tree Decorating Contest**. Thanks to all those who worked hard to fashion ornaments and decorations from recycled products. This annual tree decorating contest supports the Firefighters Spark of Love Toy Drive and increases awareness of the importance of recycling. We are one of five organizations to have a tree set aside for us to decorate. You can vote for our tree by picking a "unique tag" on our tree and turning it in to the Guest Services with a toy donation. Our tree is located near Claire's and JC Penney. The organization with the most votes will be announced on December 23rd and will win a catered lunch or dinner for 20 from one of SouthBay Pavilion's food merchants, not to mention bragging rights. We will also take December 23rd as an opportunity to sell more of our "End Polio Now" stickers. This is an opportunity for us to get recognized for the

things we do. All the Rotary clubs are in danger of being embarrassed if we don't win, so please help us to win by inviting your co-workers and friends to vote for us.

President Cara reported that she sent "thank you" letters to **Jay's Catering** for their support of our club over the years and the great lunches they provide us, and to **Tesoro** who donated a table to us for the recent Carson State of the City Address.



AMBASSADORIAL SCHOLAR – KOHKI WATABE

Larry Ybarra, Director of International Service, was pleased to introduce us to Kohki Watabe, Ambassadorial Scholar from Fukuoka, Japan. Kohki thanked our club for sponsoring and hosting him during this scholarship term (we are first-time sponsors).



From left: Kohki Watabe, Larry Ybarra and Cara Rice, exchanging club banners.

Each year our district sends about four scholars abroad and we receive about five scholars from abroad. The Ambassadorial Scholarship is intended to be a study scholarship that also promotes goodwill between the countries. Larry says the scholarship is an expensive program for Rotary and it ranks with Fulbright and Rhodes in money and prestige.

Kohki was born 1983 and was raised in Fukuoka until he was 18. He went on to obtain a Bachelors Degree and a Masters Degree from Tokyo University where he majored in the Study of Cultural Representation. Kohki is on a one-year scholarship to study at USC's School of Cinematic Arts. He plans to stay after his one-year scholarship to complete the doctoral program. Kohki is currently researching Buffalo Bill's "Wild West" (an outdoor live performance in 19th Century) and its connection to America's national identity; and connecting pre-cinematic visual culture in the 19th Century to cinema.

Kohki also talked about volunteering in Tohoku, where the catastrophic earthquake and tsunami on March 11, 2011 inflicted significant damage along the east coast of this region leaving 90,000 homeless. He was able to work with volunteers from all over the world and was forever changed by the experience.

Kohki enjoys sports, especially kendo, and languages (he can speak Japanese, French, English and Arabic).



OLD FRIZZLE FUNDRAISER

There was \$524 in the pot today. Chet Craft won the raffle and drew the 2 of Spades. The pot will carry over to next week when it is expected to exceed \$560.



Scott Simms: December 24

Nel Stingley: December 11

