

R. I. District 5340 Newsletter



THE COMMUNICATOR

December - 2003



Lend a Hand

“DECEMBER – FAMILY MONTH”



WELCOME and SEASON GREETINGS

**MY DEAR FELLOW ROTARIANS- AS THE
NEW YEAR DRAWS NEAR, KAREN AND I
THANK YOU, FROM THE VERY BOTTOM OF
OUR HEARTS, FOR ALL YOU HAVE DONE TO
MAKE 2003 A MOST MEMORABLE AND
PRODUCTIVE ROTARY YEAR.**



District 5340

California USA

**WE SINCERELY WISH YOU AND YOURS THE HAPPIEST OF
HOLIDAY SEASONS AND THE MOST PROSPEROUS AND
HEALTHY NEW YEAR.**

**WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AND SERVING
WITH ALL OF YOU AS THE YEAR OF 2004 PROMISES TO BE ONE
IN WHICH YOU WILL BE RICHLY REWARDED FOR PROMOTING
ROTARY'S IDEAL OF “SERVICE ABOVE SELF”**

ALL OUR BEST – MIKE AND KAREN STELMAN

DG 5340 2003-2004

District 5340 Salutes Fallen Marines and Sailors

District 5340 recognized 34 Marines and three sailors during a special ceremony at District Council on December 9. These Marines and sailors were the members of the 1st Marine Division who were killed in action during Operation Iraqi Freedom. DG Mike Stelman and PDG Larry Scott presented a plaque to Colonel Joseph Dunford Jr., USMC, Chief of Staff, First Marine Division, which included the name of each fallen serviceman. The plaque read:



"In honor and recognition of the following First Marine Division personnel who made the ultimate sacrifice during Operation Iraqi Freedom. As a small token of our appreciation, each fallen Marine and Sailor will be remembered in perpetuity as a Paul Harris Fellow. Each fellowship represents \$1,000 given in their honor for humanitarian relief efforts in developing countries. We Rotarians in District 5340 will forever remember their uncommon valor and their dedication to freedom for our well being. Presented this ninth day of

December 2003, to Colonel Joseph F. Dunford, Chief of Staff, First Marine Division, FMF."

Dunford accepted the plaque on behalf of the 1st Marine Division and indicated that the Paul Harris Fellow certificates and medallions would be personally delivered to the families of each fallen Marine and sailor during this holiday season. Following Dunford's comments, PDG Larry Scott asked everyone to rise for a moment of silence. Two Marine buglers played taps in honor of their fallen comrades in arms.



ROTARY WEEKLY QUICKBITS

Keep Informed of District 5340 Events, Changes, Etc. Sign Up To Receive the Weekly Rotary Quickbits by email. More information: www.rotary5340.org/quickbits



Rotary Rose Parade Float

Dear Governor Stelman,
You are a member of “The 100% Clubs”! One hundred percent of the clubs in your district have contributed to that great public relations project, The 2004 Rotary Rose Parade Float. Congratulations! My sincere thanks for your support and effort in spreading the message about Rotary’s Float in the Annual Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, New Year’s Day. Please pass on our thanks to all of your clubs.

We are making great progress in the construction of the float. It has passed all to the preliminary road tests. We will be starting our decorating in early December. If you wish to see up to date photos of the construction progress, visit our web site, www.rotaryfloat.org

Again, our sincere thanks for your strong support.
Cliff Nelson, PDG/General Chair
2004 Rotary Rose Parade Float Committee



Representing District 5340 in The Rotary Rose Bowl Float

From Marlo Barron

As I near the end of my highschool days, I can recall many fond memories. Being involved in school activities has created these memories as well as impacted my outlook on the future. One specific memory is of attending the Rose Parade for the past two years. It has been an experience which has left everlasting images imprinted in my mind. For the Interact club as a whole, the parade has been a trip which we look forward to with great anticipation as the Rotary club graciously sends us. We enjoy the festivities the night before, the wonderment of the sights of the parade, and the crowd cheering! The parade has been a great experience for all of us. As this years parade nears, I would be proud to represent the Interact Club, Rotary and the city of Blythe by riding on the Rotary International float!

District 5340 Rotary Club Highlights

Each month, an Assistant Governor will highlight items of interest from each of his or her clubs. If there is anything you would like to share with your fellow District 5340 Rotarians, please contact your club's Assistant Governor for that recognition.

From: Assistant Governor Bill Ashman

EL CAJON ROTARY CLUB

The El Cajon Rotary Club, 83 members and growing, was established in 1926. The club's primary focus is education and at an annual cost of more than \$20,000, supports innovative reading and math programs at schools in the Cajon Valley School District. These programs are funded in part by the annual Dinner/Auction that raises more than \$30,000 each year. At the district's Foundation Gala held last November, the club received recognition for being the top club in District 5340 in total giving. On national holidays and special occasions, club members, working with Boy Scouts, display 138 American flags in the center of El Cajon. Visit the club's award winning newsletter at elcajonrotary.org/newsletter.htm. The club meets for lunch at noon on Tuesdays at the El Cajon Community center. Be ready for a lot of humor and information about some great projects.



El Cajon Rotary President-elect **Marge Dean** and past president **Jim Davis** induct new member **Rose Avila**.

El Cajon Rotary's Partners in Education: principals **Karen Schiff**, Montgomery Middle School; **Sue Geller**, Crest Elementary School; **Maria Kehoe**, Greenfield Middle School; **Rod Girvin**, Cajon Valley

Middle School; and fellow Rotarian, **Janice Cook**, superintendent.



LA MESA SUNRISE ROTARY

La Mesa Sunrise Rotary is having a great year under President Niles Sharif's leadership. During the past year, the club sponsored the annual community prayer breakfast and sponsors the Challenge Center in La Mesa, providing rehabilitation services for persons with spinal cord injuries by holding a Walk-n'-Roll-a Thon at Lake Murray. The club has been very involved in its Interact Club at Helix High School, and is excited about the new Rotaract Club at Grossmont. La Mesa Sunrise Rotarians have played an important role in getting the newly chartered Mid-City Rotary Club off the ground. The club raised significant monies for the Thousand Smiles project with a golf tournament and comedy night and is in its second year of the VIDAll project, a joint effort of UCSD Medical School, SDSU Public Health and UABC Medical University of Tijuana to bring semi-annual medical clinics and public health services to the farm workers of San Quintin, Baja California. Rotary's involvement was organized by Bob James, and has included support from the Mission Valley East Rotary and the Del Mar Rotary Club. The first project was installing kids' adapter seats in the farm camp's outhouses to stop drowning deaths, and the club has arranged cataract surgery for a young mother and three-year old boy, provided electrical power to a day care center, generators and lighting equipment to the

clinics, and a blood testing machine. The club has taken possession of an ambulance which it is donating to the San Quintin Fire Department. The club also has acted as hosts for visiting GSE teams, and Jean Kerr and Bob James have each led GSE teams to East Africa. This busy club meets Friday mornings at 7:30 at the La Mesa Community center. Be ready for a good breakfast and lots of fun.

RAMONA ROTARY CLUB

Ramona Rotary, chartered in 1937 and led by President Ken Dower, has been participating in fire relief efforts, including providing support to two members (and one just-inducted member) who lost their homes in the Cedar Fire. The club began the Rotary year with its annual July 4th Family Picnic & Fireworks Show that draws thousands and just completed its inaugural Pioneer Casino Night & Wine Tasting, which netted almost \$10,000 for community projects. The club annually supports the Boys & Girls Club, Ramona Senior Center, the Grad Night program and the Pan American Institute in Tijuana, places almost 100 American flags along Main Street for national holidays, sends eight students to RYLA camp, awards Student of the Month honors to youths at two high schools-and this year, distributed dictionaries to every third-grader in the Ramona school district. Hispanic third-graders also received a Spanish-English dictionary. The club also provides a number of scholarships each year. Almost every member of the club is either a Paul Harris fellow or has begun a sustaining membership, with a number of multiple PH fellows. Ramona Rotary meets Tuesdays at noon at the Sizzler restaurant.



Gov. Mike Stelman and Ramona Rotary **Club President Ken Dower**, with the Dower Dude, a lookalike doll presented by the club to Ken when he during his installation as president. Ken's hairdresser made sure the Dower Dude's hair was just right and fellow Rotarians took care of getting the little dude dressed in attire similar to what Ken often wears.

SANTEE-LAKESIDE ROTARY CLUB

The Santee-Lakeside Rotary Club, led by President Dan O'Brien, achieves "big club" results with an intimate group of 30 people. Twelve students from the three high schools in the community were sent to RYLA by the club, a huge commitment of time and money by this small club. Members have also supported the Group Study Exchange program (GSE) starting with sponsorship of Maureen Fonseca in years past though the involvement of club members Marge Cole and Bill Stumbaugh who have lead recent teams for the

district. The Santee-Lakeside Rotary Club Foundation conducts a unique program that provides 15 scholarship opportunities each year to students at West Hills, Santana, and El Capitan high schools. The scholarships, which are good for two years or the equivalent at Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community Colleges, are awarded to students in their freshman year of high school who might not ordinarily go to college under their circumstances. Additional club activities include involvement in Wheelchairs for Malawi, support of Rancho Santa Marta (an orphanage in Mexico), a Santee Food Bank Drive, Home of Guiding Hands, and service to many other community organizations. The club meets Thursdays for lunch at Jimmy's on Mission Gorge Road in Santee.

SAN YSIDRO ROTARY CLUB

Since its formation in 1969, the San Ysidro-Otay Mesa Rotary Club has been involved in community projects on both sides of the border. In conjunction with other Rotary clubs in Tijuana, the club donated an ambulance to the City of Tijuana Fire Department in April, 2002. The club has an ongoing project called "Regalo una buena vision," with used eyeglasses collected and distributed to low-income communities in Mexico. The club is in the early stages of two new projects: the construction of two elementary schools (one to be named after Paul Harris) in communities located near the Tijuana landfills and the construction of a firehouse/police station to be located on the highway connecting Tijuana and Rosarito. This cozy little Rotary club meets for lunch Mondays at the IHOP at the Plaza de las Americas in San Ysidro Outlet center. You can have an enjoyable makeup meeting and do some great shopping.

Coeur de Cuisine

79-year-old Escondido Rotary Club will sponsor Coeur de Cuisine, planned as an evening "gourmet gala" and featuring cuisine and wine pairings from leading restaurants and wineries throughout the San Diego region. This inaugural event will take place Sunday, Feb. 8, from 5 to 9 p.m. at the California Center for the Arts, Escondido. Proceeds will benefit local charities supported by the Escondido Rotary Foundation. The event will be limited to 400 guests, and multi-course signature dishes will be prepared by renowned area chefs. The evening will include a reception, entertainment and a silent auction. For more information, contact Tom Hogarty at (760) 739-8805.

We want to hear from our clubs Rotarians...

Is there something going in your club that you would like to share with your fellow clubs in District 5340? To get your news into the district newsletter and/or onto the district web site: Send your text items (150 words or less) to **Julie Walker** at julie@wc-ms.com Be sure to include Rotary in the email subject line!

Send photos (jpg only) to **Bob England** at englandb@cox.net

To post items on the web site calendar: go to rotary5340.org and click on the calendar. At the bottom of that page, there is a line regarding submitting items. Click on **Dale Bailey's** name.

Season Greeting to All!



Bob England