

The RotaPoint

ROTARY CLUB OF POINT
LOMA



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PLRC Club Assembly Raises Funds Issues

On August 1st, the Point Loma Rotary Club held the first of two club assemblies planned for the current Rotary year. By and large, financial concerns dominated much of the discussion, requiring President **Leon Scales** (see photo) to defer other agenda items until future club meetings.

Judy Byram, with Leon's assistance, led off the agenda with an explanation that the club is in the process of changing the current website to the **Club Runner** site, which had been originally agreed to last year. Although Club Runner offers several advantages regarding its use, it may cost somewhat more than the current site. That increase may possibly be offset by advertising.

Following Judy's presentation, the **PLRC Endowment Fund (PEF)** and the club's operating budget took center stage. Endowment Fund trustees have considered putting \$175,000 of the fund's balance of \$230,000 into

the **San Diego Foundation (SDF)** to enhance the growth of the PEF's corpus. The estimated five percent annual interest income to be derived from the SDF—at a charge of 0.5%—would bring about \$6,700 to support charitable funds. Currently, the PEF earns virtually nothing in the way of interest income.

A sore point among some of the club members is the fact that by making such a commitment to the San Diego Foundation, the PLRC would lose control over the capital. References were made to other organizations that were dissatisfied with their own commitments to the SDF. After further discussion it was agreed that the PEF trustees will investigate reasons for these organizations' dissatisfaction, hold a trustee meeting to review the situation, and apprise club members of their findings.

The discussion then shifted to the club's operating budget. Leon presented a simplified club budget indi-

cating that quarterly dues provide about \$121 of discretionary spending per member per year, much of which goes toward social events. The club has only a small net income after expenses. Leon proposed to divert Happy Dollar and/or Opportunity Drawing funds from the PEF to the club budget to avoid an increase in club dues. **Russ Bushby** made an alternative proposal to increase quarterly dues from the current \$210 to \$225, beginning October 1st. A majority of the members accepted that proposal. The transfer of Happy Dollar and/or OD monies were both rejected by the club.

Roger Hull
PLRC Secretary

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RotaPoint Quick Bits

PLRC Oktoberfest Alert

The annual PLRC Oktoberfest will be held on Friday, September 19, 2014, at the Point Loma home of **Shannon** and **Ken Osborne**.

District 5340 Conference Alert

The district conference will be held at the Desert Princess Hotel and Golf Resort, Palm Springs, CA, on October 24-26, 2014.

Leadership Academy

Register now for District 5340's Leadership and Development Academy (LDA). The first of four class

sessions begins September 9th. The registration deadline is August 15th. In 13 years, more than 400 Rotarians have joined this eight-month program designed to show how Rotary works.

Peace Leadership Seminar

The District 5340 Pathways to Peace Committee is sponsoring its annual Peace Leadership Seminar for Club Peace Chairs and for those who are interested in Rotary programs focused on peace and peacemaking. This popular event is designed to stimulate district and club efforts to emphasize peaceful resolution of con-

flict.

Seminar topics to be covered include:

Rotary World Understanding Month activities.

Rotary Model UN.

District 5340 Peace Forum.

Pathways to Peace and Peacemaker Awards.

Rotary World Peace Conference in 2016.

Rotary Peace Scholars.

This year's seminar will be held September 20th at the Ronald McDonald House, 2929 Children's Way, San Diego.

Polio, Spreading Abroad, Threatens US

ABC News reported in May of this year that a resurgence of polio in the Middle East and Africa has sparked a dire warning from health officials, who believe the deadly virus is just a plane ride away. *[Ed. Note: Although current attention is focused on preventing the spread of the deadly ebola virus on a global scale, the polio virus still looms as an abiding threat to children.]*

According to that report by **Katie Moisse**, at least 10 countries reported cases of polio that if left unchecked, could result in a failure to eradicate one of the world's most serious vaccine-preventable diseases. The World Health Organization has called the spread of polio an extraordinary event and a public health emergency of international concern. The virus is being exported from Pakistan, Cameroon, and Syria and has turned up in Afghanistan, Equatorial Guinea,

Ethiopia, Iraq, Israel, Somalia, and Nigeria.

Childhood vaccines eliminated polio from the US in 1979 and are still used today to prevent new infections. But more and more parents are delaying vaccinations or skipping altogether, leaving their children vulnerable to deadly diseases, says **Dr. William Schaffner**, chair of prevent medicine at Vanderbilt University. If polio is reintroduced into the country, it will find those children.

Schaffner says that is entirely possible. Just this year the US has seen a spike in measles cases, even though the virus was wiped out a decade ago. Mumps is also on the rise, and the first US case of MERS emerged in May of this year. Polio is particularly sinister. According to Schaffner, a polio outbreak in the US would be a shock and an affront to our public health system.

PLRC Board, 2014-15

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The RotaPoint

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Rotary News: Global Roundup in Brief

Taiwan

For public transit users in Taipei, the daily commute just got a little greener. In April, the Rotary Club of Longtan donated its second solar-powered bus shelter to Taipei's city government. The shelter is just a few blocks away from the club's first donation on bustling Xinsheng Road. The club president also pledged to increase support, with plans to provide more shelters during the next few years.

USA

Rotary clubs in three Nebraska counties hosted an educational session in April for people applying for citizenship. The event was part of a new effort to help immigrants integrate into the region. The Rotary clubs of Norfolk, Schuyler, and Columbus Morning have pledged to cover at least half the application fees for the program's 28 participants, and have offered tutoring and history lessons to help them prepare for naturalization tests.

Canada

When the descendants of early Alberta settlers decided to contribute a portion of their estate to support a charitable initiative in their hometown, Rotary clubs helped screen projects and bring their dream to life. The Rotary clubs of Peace River, Alberta, and Eugene-Delta, Oregon, selected the Peace Regional Outreach Campus, an alternative school for at-risk youth, to benefit from the \$700,000 grant, which helped fund a new building. The facility, which includes a daycare for students' children, opened in September 2013.

El Salvador

A team of Rotarians from Burling-

ton, Ontario, traveled to El Salvador in April 2013 to distribute 560 wheelchairs to people in need. They worked with the Rotary Club of San Salvador for two years to raise funds and secure the chairs through the Wheelchair Foundation. The group delivered the wheelchairs to children at a drop-in rehabilitation facility and hosted an event at a conference center in San Salvador where they distributed chairs to people with disabilities from across the country, including polio survivors and land-mine victims.

Peru

A Rotarian in Peru devised the **Pachamama Raymi** program in 2008 to help rural families learn sustainable farming practices from successful models in their own communities. For nearly three years, the Rotary Club of Inka Cusco used this peer-guided approach to help 484 families in Carhuayo increase their income by adopting more efficient and sustainable strategies, such as managing grazing patterns to prevent soil erosion. By the end of the project, 80 percent of the families had adopted innovations and planted nearly 3,000 trees.

Germany

In a needs-assessment survey of 41 elementary schools in Monchengladbach, a former textile manufacturing hub in northwest Germany, nearly 100 percent of teachers cited physical conflict as a classroom problem. To help resolve disputes before they escalate, the Rotary clubs of Monchengladbach and Nijmegen, The Netherlands, have launched a Rotary Foundation Global Grant project to provide violence-prevention training in 22 elementary schools. A professional in the field will work with more than 6,000 stu-

dents during a two-year period.

Morocco

Tariq Ramadan, a renowned Swiss writer and professor of contemporary Islamic studies at Oxford, delivered a lecture at an event organized by local Rotactors. Ramadan addressed a crowd of 300 people at Ecole Hassania des travaux publics (EHTP), an engineering school in Casablanca. The Rotoract Club of EHTP invited him to talk about science and ethics, as well as his new book *At the Risk of Ideas*, co-authored with the French philosopher **Edgar Morin**.

New Zealand

Helping young children develop strong oral language skills provides a solid foundation for early literacy. To get children talking, the Rotary Club of Rotorua Sunrise has partnered with a speech specialist to launch Te Wa Korero Nga Tamariki (which translates roughly to "Children's Speech Time" from Maori). The program targets 40 five-year old students at Western Heights Primary School in Rotorua. Club members meet with the children three times each week to read books and play educational games aimed at building confidence in their verbal skills.

The Rotarian

August 2014



Photoplay: PLRC and Point Loma Summer Concert



*Point Loma
Summer Concert
August 1, 2014*

*Sponsored by
Point Loma Rotary
Ride the Point
Charity Event*

*Photos by
Ken Osborne*

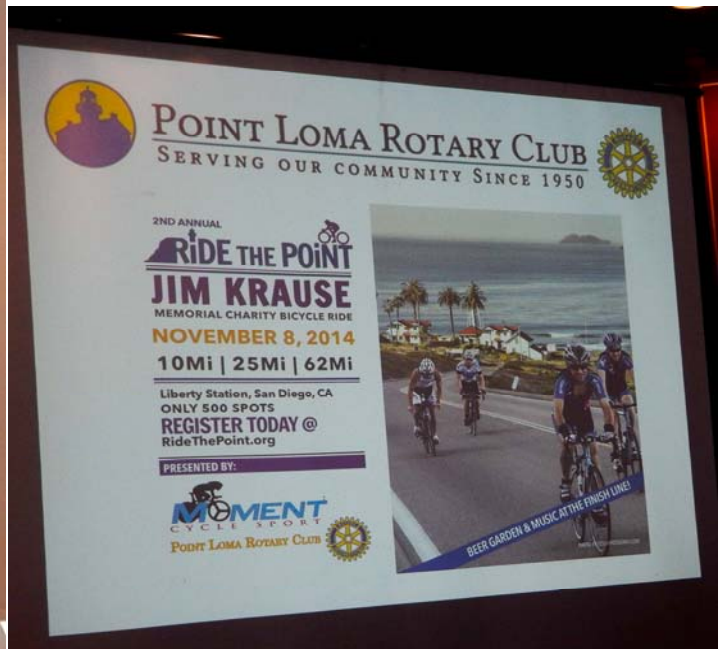
PLRC Passing Parade, July-August 2014



(Top left) On July 18th **J.D. Morrison** of Robotics Inspiring Science and Engineering discussed the objectives and activities of RISE (top right). (Bottom left) On July 25th **Rich Stakelum** provided PLRCers with a progress report on planning for the Ride the Point fundraiser to be held in November.

— Photos by **Ken Osborne**

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PLRC Passing Parade

(continued from page five)



*(Top left and right) During the Club Assembly on August 1st, **Judy Byram** addressed the forthcoming implementation of the Club Runner website. **Dick Thorn** led the discussion about whether to place \$175,000 of the PLRC's Endowment Fund in the hands of the San Diego Foundation. (See page 1).*

*(Bottom) On August 8th guest speaker **Rochelle Becker** spoke to the club about the pros and cons of requiring electric utility ratepayers to shoulder much of the expense of decommissioning aged-out nuclear power generating plants. Another issue she discussed was that of nuclear waste disposal and storage.*

— Photos by **Ken Osborne**