

EL RODEO

AUGUST 20, 2019

ROTARY YEAR 2019-2020 · ISSUE 8 · VOLUME CXI
SEE - DREAM - SOLVE
ROTARY CONNECTS THE WORLD



LA5
ROTARY CLUB OF LOS ANGELES

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Melody St. John, District 5280 Governor

this friday **CLUB ASSEMBLY** WITH DISTRICT GOVERNOR **MELODY ST. JOHN**



The 'fun-meter' has been set to high!

MARK THE CALENDAR



District Picnic
Seaside Lagoon



Dark for Labor Day



Golf Committee
Chevy Chase CC



John B. Emerson
Lunch at Cal Club



Stephen Meade
Lunch at Cal Club

<<CLICK TO VIEW THE CLUB CALENDAR>>

NEWS ALERT:
LA5 BOARD MEETS THIS FRIDAY.
11 AM AT THE CAL CLUB

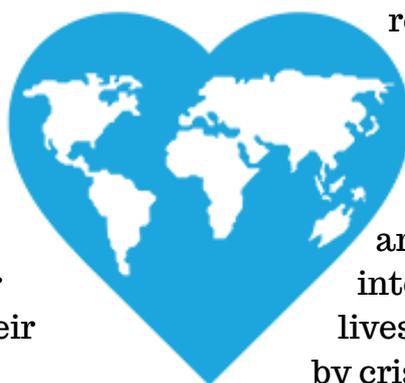
AUGUST 19 WAS WORLD HUMANITARIAN DAY

...an international day initiated by the United Nations to educate the public on issues of concern, to mobilize political will and resources to address global problems, and to celebrate and reinforce achievements of humanity.

2019 WHD campaign: [#WomenHumanitarians](#)

On World Humanitarian Day 2019 we honour the work of women in crises throughout the world. We focus on the unsung heroes, who have long been working on the front lines in their own communities in some of the most difficult terrains, from the war-wounded in Afghanistan, to the food insecure in the Sahel, to those who have lost their homes and livelihoods in places such as Central African Republic, South Sudan, Syria and Yemen. And we salute the efforts of women aid workers from across the world, who rally to people in need. Women make up a large number of those who risk their own lives to save others.

They are often the first to respond and the last to leave. These women deserve to be celebrated. They are needed today as much as ever to strengthen the global humanitarian response. And world leaders as well as non-state actors must ensure that they - and all humanitarians - are guaranteed the protection afforded to them under international law. Women humanitarians dedicate their lives to helping people affected by crises.



WORLD
HUMANITARIAN
DAY

[#WomenHumanitarians](#)

[Click here to learn more.](#)



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

LA5 AT ITS BEST

When LA5 is at its best, we are working hard and having fun. We saw this just last week.

First, at Friday's lunch meeting, we received an impact report from the Myanmar Clean Water Committee Chair, **Herb McGurk**, who presented pictures of several Rotarians at work in Myanmar. We learned that a village water system contributed in its entirety by LA5 member, **Dr. Sumi Kawaratani** was completed just this past June. The High Standard Electro Mechanical Filtration systems constructed in Myanmar, funded in part by the members of our Club, remove arsenic and provide life giving potable water for drinking & cooking and allow for water storage year round. Project founder, **JT Warring**, shared several moving stories that reminded us these systems are the difference between life and death to many villagers in Myanmar.

On Sunday, over 100 Rotarians gathered at the spectacular home of **Tony Medley** to enjoy Spanish wines and tapas and each other's company. Tony and his staff welcomed us as we toured the historic home in Hancock Park.

We are grateful for **David and Cheryle Bland** who sponsored this event, **Lauren Schlau** and **Rose McCoppin** for volunteering to host, **Eddie de Ochoa** for tending the bar, Chef **Hugo Monterrosa** for the wonderful food, and **Denise Anthony** and **Christina Moses** for taking the lead of this wonderful event. **Paul Jacques** wowed us with his classical guitar skills. It was good for us to be together.

The take-away is this: LA5ers are generous and hardworking. They also know how to celebrate one another by having a good time. It's great to be an LA5 Rotarian. See you on Friday.

Rick Gibson



LA5 HQ TRIVIA

WIN FREE LUNCH

Which is DG Melody St. John's home club?

email answer to

elrodeola5@gmail.com

**your ad
could go here**

**EMAIL
ELRODEOLA5@GMAIL.COM**



AUGUST BIRTHDAY-ITES

Manny Ahsan

Mike Antonovich

Eric Bullard

Ian Eddy

Carmen Estrada-Schaye

Jason Fan

Grace Farrell

Joseph Grant

Nancy Howard

Lance Ito

Nat Kawada

Christopher Kim

Darin Marinov

Ken Martinet

Rose McCoppin

Gwyn Myers

Megan O'Rourke

Bob Reed

Annie Ruth

Eddie Turner

Jose Vera

Peggy York

Members you should know...

LIZ SKRZAT

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
THE CHINO BASIN WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT



New executive job, new baby, ... somehow this inspiring member still found time to sit down with El Rodeo ...

What is your favorite thing about your career? Any recent wins or successes?

I love working with a team to improve organizations and bring them to the next level.

What is your proudest accomplishment?

I led the team that planted and distributed 100,000 trees in the last five years and financed 40,000 more coming in the next two. It will probably be the singular greatest accomplishment of my working life.

If you could choose to do anything for a day, what would it be?

Right now, I just love cuddling and playing with Baby Noah, who is incredibly sweet tempered and has a winning smile!

Do you have any hidden talents we should know about?

I'm an excellent actress (for an amateur).

What makes you laugh the most?

Weird things my three year old says. But I'm not supposed to laugh, according to her.

What's the most daring thing you've ever done?

Apply for a leadership position eight months pregnant.

Do you have a motto that you live by?

Why not? Or: Just forge ahead.

What are your top three books, movies or podcasts you recommend?

The Daily, How I Made It, Getting Curious with Jonathan Van Ness (he's excellent company for those 3am feedings!)

What's your superpower? I love to learn

Is there anything else that you'd like to share with the Club? I really miss Fridays

We miss you, Liz!

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT:
LAST WEEK'S MEETING
AND THE WINE COMMITTEE'S EVENT

Last Friday wonderful Rotarians provided a service update on the Myanmar Water Project and the club heard from speaker Nancy Gale about intertwining service with prosperity! This past Sunday, a large gathering of LA5ers was formed at the home of Tony Medley. Wine was tasted, tapas were consumed, joy was shared.

