

EL RODEO

September 29, 2020



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**"SERVICE TO OTHERS
IS THE RENT YOU PAY
FOR YOUR ROOM
HERE ON EARTH"**

Muhammad Ali



A MESSAGE...

FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

I grew up with extraordinary parents. They lived and breathed the principle of giving rather than getting. Our home was always filled with people: bridge games, potluck events and neighborhood holiday celebrations. People broke things, their cigarettes damaged furniture and the pantry would be emptied but my parents didn't care. Relationships were everything!

My parents also donated time and treasure. Several charities benefited from their time, and contributions were regularly made to our church and to furthering education for those who did not have access to it. As children of the depression, they were very frugal but when it came to supporting others, there wasn't a higher priority. This had a huge impression on my siblings and me. We all eventually settled into service careers.

Sounds great, right?

If I am being honest, the pursuit of money and prestige started to rule my life. With each new position, I inched further away from my parents' example and became caught up in the societal pressure to succeed. And while I thought this would produce personal happiness, the result was something closer to misery. When I moved to Los Angeles in 2004, this became even more pronounced as I had moved away from the people I knew and loved and found myself in a city of more than 10 million strangers.

It took another six years for my wife and I to remember the solution: Service. We both committed to look for ways to volunteer and give back to our community. So, when former LA5 member and colleague Lois Gomez approached me about joining Rotary, I enthusiastically accepted. But a funny thing happened on the day of my "pinning." Someone approached me and said, "Don't let them burn you out." I must admit I was struck with fear. For the next few years, I came to Rotary lunches but kept the fellowship at arm's length.

About four years ago, I received a call from Past President Todd, asking me to serve as Sergeant at Arms. I am forever grateful that I uttered, "Yes." Since that time, I have rubbed shoulders with our community's leaders, planted trees, sold and bought raffle tickets, read scholarship applications, played golf, sung songs, danced and served as a member of the board. But, more importantly, I have had purpose and an endless source of joy.

So, here's my invitation. If you are feeling a little bit bored or hopeless over the day's ups and downs, I wish that my experience can be a small motivator for you to place both feet in Rotary by filling a leadership role. We need your personal experience and active participation more today than ever before.

Be safe and well,



John Spokes

Foundation Committee Co-Chair
Rotary Club of Los Angeles
2020 - 2021



New Member Application Announcement



Bill Bridge

President & CEO
Global Green
globalgreen.org

What's Going On Friday?



**FRIDAY
10.2.20**

COME ZOOM WITH US!

STEM CELL RESEARCH UPDATE

Steven Peckman
Deputy Director
UCLA Broad Stem Cell Research Center



[REGISTER HERE](#)

Mark Your Calendar!



**JOINT CLUB MEETING
OF THE
FIRST FIVE
ROTARY CLUBS**

Rotary  First Five Collaborative



Virtual
CHEF EXPERIENCE

CELEBRATE WITH
WOLFGANG PUCK CHEFS



**COMMUNITY
CONVERSATION**
continuing with us,
working together

LA5 



PHIL 



- OCT 2** Steven Peckman, UCLA Broad Stem Cell Research Center
- OCT 7** Joint Meeting of the First Five Rotary Clubs
- OCT 8** Virtual Chef Experience
- OCT 9** Community Conversation, Continuing with Us, Working Together
- OCT 16** An interview with Phil Rosenthal

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE CLUB CALENDAR](#)

All Current Events are ZOOM Video Meetings Unless Otherwise Noted

**Register
NOW!**

Virtual

CHEF EXPERIENCE



**CELEBRATE WITH
WOLFGANG PUCK CHEFS**

OCT 8 | 4:30 PM

SPACE IS LIMITED

[CLICK HERE FOR DETAILS](#)

This Week's Birthdays!



Karen Mikkelsen.

Oct 1

FIVE LETTERS...

SOCKS

SOCKS FOR SALE



\$15 / pair

(includes tax and shipping to your home)

PROCEEDS BENEFIT CLUB OPERATIONS

[CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE](#)

Service Project



As a result of the September 11th Day of Service and Remembrance, Rotarians collaborated on a service project to feed first responders at Los Angeles Fire Department Station # 9 on Skid Row, the busiest fire station in Los Angeles. Thanks to an amazing team of Rotarians and a generous partnership with Philippe the Original, Home of the Original French Dip Sandwich, LA5 will feed more than 60 first responders this week! Special thanks to everyone who pledged money to support this project and to John Green, Lauren Schlau and Denise Anthony for handling the coordination and delivery logistics!

Happy Rotary Anniversary

Past President Mike Birkholm, 34 years

Past President Bob Aldridge, 32 years

Jan Razia, 27 years

Chris Chen, 24 years

Brenda Wiewel, 21 years

Gus Oppermann, 20 years

Past President Jay Richardson, 20 years

Manny Ahsan, 20 years

Howard Schneider, 17 years

Adam Weiss, 14 years

Eric Garcetti, 10 years

Adam Bar, 9 years

Barry Hytowitz, 9 years

Ylenia Mino, 8 years

Dr. Helen Williams, 5 years

John Chiang, 5 years

Elizabeth Skrzat, 4 years

Osei Stewart, 4 years

Vinod Budchauhan, 4 years

Gracie Abalos, 1 year

Patrick Chylinski, 1 year

Joe Reilly, 1 year

*Thank
you!*

**For your years of service to LA5
& the Los Angeles community!**

