

# EL RODEO

February 10, 2021



## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

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**"IN RECOGNIZING THE HUMANITY OF OUR FELLOW BEINGS, WE PAY OURSELVES THE HIGHEST TRIBUTE."**

### Thurgood Marshall

American lawyer and civil rights activist who served as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States from October 1967 until October 1991. Marshall was the Court's first African-American justice.



A MESSAGE...

## FROM OUR MEMBER

### The Courage and Hope to Dream the American Dream

“Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us  
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us”

“Lift Every Voice and Sing”- James Weldon Johnson

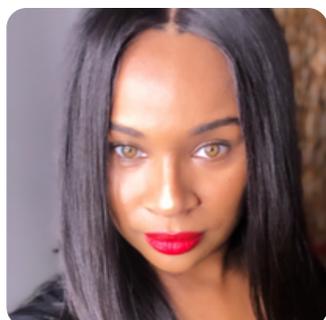
Every February I listen to “Lift Every Voice and Sing” as our nation honors and celebrates Black history. In schools, our homes, and the media, we pay respect to the more than 400 years of history, culture, advancement and achievement of America’s citizens and ancestors of the African Diaspora. As I reflect on the countless narratives that comprise our Nation’s rich, but sometimes turbulent history, I am left with two words that embody the beloved “American Dream” we all share. Courage and Hope.

The courage of Harriet Tubman, the dream of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and the hope of former President Barack Obama, remind us of our own power to create the world we wish to be a part of. As former First Lady Michelle Obama proclaimed, “history has shown us that courage can be contagious, and hope can take on a life of its own.”

A spark of courage and hope can create ripples felt for generations to come. Shortly after being freed from slavery, Jane Oliver acquired a vast amount of land in Arkansas. This was uncommon for any woman at the time, particularly one born into slavery. Jane Oliver had both the courage and hope to overcome the circumstances she was born into, turning her dream into reality, and creating an inspiring legacy for her descendants.

I am the great-great-great granddaughter of Jane Oliver. A portion of my youth was spent sitting in courtrooms watching my non-lawyer mother represent Jane Oliver’s Estate in an eminent domain action against the University of Arkansas, Pine Bluff. In those early moments of my life, I had not yet fathomed that I would later fill myself with the courage and hope of my ancestor by becoming the first attorney in my family. Remembering the words of Maya Angelou’s “Still I Rise,” I am reminded that, like many who came before me “I am the dream and the hope of a slave.”

Reflecting on the progress we have made toward a reality where the “American Dream” belongs to all those who wish to dream it, I cannot help but sing a song that, while honoring our past, is full of hope for our future. We need not look further than LA5 to realize the difference we have made toward creating a world where dreams are transmuted into reality. May we, united as one, continue embodying the courage and hope of the “American Dream” for generations to come.



*Tiffany N. Rollins, Esq.*

LA5 Member



## My Fellow LA5ers,

I write to you today with a heavy heart. **We are under attack!** And no, not by the Trojans as I have always assumed, but by ANOTHER Rotary club. This is not a world I recognize any more – Rotarian versus Rotarian.

For shame!

As your elected Secretary, I was inspired by VP Malinda Monterrosa's efforts to get the First Five Clubs together to connect and thought I should visit other clubs as well. I saw it as my duty to spy on...I mean... engage with other clubs to see how they are handling the honorable work of service above self during COVID. Which is the reason for my recent visit to the Rotary Club of Downey. My innocent attempt at forging bonds between Rotarians has been twisted into a dark and nefarious plot to steal members from other clubs.

In [The Hub Bub, Issue 33](#), Downey's newsletter article "Visitor from LA5" states (if you don't subscribe to Downey's newsletter, you really should):

*"We have it from anonymous sources (okay, it was the Rotary club of Bellflower) that Chrissy is part of a program by the LA 5 club to scout for local Rotary talent and induce prospective Rotarians to abandon their home club and join the prestigious LA 5 Rotary club. Inducement comes in the form of \$20 signing bonuses, Target gift cards, and undefined "warm fuzzies." The formula seems to be successful as LA 5 boasts a 7% membership increase since the program started."*

We all know they are obviously spreading insidious lies as one would never describe Adam Weiss as trying to get new members to join the club by doing that. He much prefers dazzlingly them at the California Club with a Vesper in hand and sending the reimbursement requests to our beleaguered Treasurer Darin Marinov. And if you have seen our budget, you will see no line item for \$20 signing bonuses (mostly because it's listed under "IT related expenses", but don't tell them that).

As every LA5er knows our Past President Alan Bernstein's favorite thing to say is "Fight On!" So let's fight on together during this difficult time and let those Rotarians know this will not stand.

As a side note, there may be some truth in the Downey newsletter...so for any Downey Rotary Members reading this, instead of Target gift cards, we – the oldest club in the district – can offer much more valuable inducements such as souvenir horse bridles from 1909, a mummified past president from the 1920s, or gas ration coupons from WWII. Oh...wait a moment...according to our Past President Marc Leeka, Downey already has a mummified past president whose name rhymes with "Mug Taker". Well, the horse bridles are still available at any rate.

Fight On for your Fighting Irish!

YIRS,

**Chrissy Moses**

LA5 Club Secretary

P.S. – Hey Rotary Club of Bellflower...snitches get stitches!

Introducing...

# LA5



# ARTIST

in residency EL RODEO

## Rick Gibson



@brenton.daily



# Did You Know?

- Congratulations to Denise Anthony and her husband Eddie who will be celebrating their 28th Wedding Anniversary this Valentine's Day!

**Give us a chance to show how much we care.  
Let us know about:**

- Special events to share and celebrate in El Rodeo.
- Losses, illness, other difficulties so we can send out TLC.
- Interest to join Rotary Cares and help send caring notes.



## Contact

Brenda Wiewel  
frankens@usc.edu

*or*

Walker Railey  
walkerrailey@gmail.com

GET TO KNOW OUR...

## SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

### WHERE DID YOU ATTEND SCHOOL?

Harvard College

### HOW DID YOU USE YOUR SCHOLARSHIP MONEY?

I used my LA5 scholarship money to pay for personal expenses such as school supplies and dorm expenses. I also used some of the amount towards airfare between LA and Massachusetts.



**HAESUNG**

### BRAG TO US ABOUT WHAT YOU DID THIS YEAR!

I met amazing friends and roommates! I ended my freshman year with a 4.0 GPA and received A's on almost all of my assignments. I worked as a research intern for two professors on campus and joined the Asian American Woman's Association as a freshman representative of the Dialogue Committee.

# BLOOD DRIVE

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BEVERLY HILLS  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13  
9:00AM - 3:00PM

RECEIVE A COMPLIMENTARY COVID-19  
ANTIBODIES TEST WITH EACH  
DONATION

SECURE YOUR APPOINTMENT  
IN ADVANCE ON OUR EVENT PAGE



CHAMBER  
of  
COMMERCE



give blood, give life

IT'S BACK!

50/50  
Raffle

BUY TICKETS HERE

WINNER GETS  
50% OF THE POT

SEVEN ENTRIES FOR \$5

LAST WEEK'S  
WINNER

Erick Wiess



## WHAT'S GOING ON THIS FRIDAY?



**FRIDAY  
2.12.21**

## COME ZOOM WITH US!

**CLUB MEETING WITH SPEAKER  
RR. ADMIRAL LEN HERING**

Rear Admiral Leendert “Len” Hering Sr. is a member of the Center for Climate and Security’s Advisory Board. Hering serves as the President and Executive Director of the Center for Sustainable Energy.



[REGISTER HERE](#)

# MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



**Rear. Admiral  
Len Hering**



**Jenae Green**

## BLOOD DRIVE

# BE A HERO

1 donation can save  
as many as 3 lives.



#DonateBlood

- FEB 12** Club Meeting with speaker Rr. Admiral Len Hering
- FEB 12** Day 1: Blood Drive with Beverly Hills Chamber & Cedars Sinai
- FEB 13** Day 2 Blood Drive with Beverly Hills Chamber & Cedars Sinai
- FEB 16** LA5 Business Exchange Morning Mixer
- FEB 19** Club Meeting with speaker Jenae Green
- FEB 19** Board Meeting

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

All Current Events are ZOOM Video Meetings Unless Otherwise Noted

# MYANMAR STATUS REPORT

By Herb McGurk  
*Chair/Myanmar Water  
Management Systems Project*



Dear LA5 Rotarians,

We hope everyone is doing well, keeping safe and staying healthy. We all want 2021 to go better than the previous year and it seems to be a “steady as she goes” course ahead. I know a few of us have received the vaccine and hope everyone will be able to follow suit very soon.

The Myanmar Committee wanted to give everyone an update on the recent activities in Myanmar at the end of January. Here is what we know:

- The National League for Democracy (NLD) won 83% of the Hluttaw’s (Parliament) available electoral seat.
- The Military (Tatmadaw) refused to accept the results of the vote and took control of the country.
- State Counselor Mme. Aung San Suu Kyi, President U Win Myint, as well as most of the Cabinet Ministers were detained to house arrest from February 1st.
- The Tatmadaw has announced one year of provisional martial law and named a Governing Council to run the government for that time.

Last year, our U.S. Government had announced financial and travel sanctions on the generals who engineered the coup because of military atrocities of the past. We do not believe they will render any further sanctions on Myanmar at this time. It is important for you to know that, under long-sustained U.S. law, Humanitarian Aid is exempted from any kind of sanction.

Through J.T. Warring's background and commitment for the last 16 years, even during the years of military occupation from 2005-11, we are monitoring the situation in Myanmar with our dedicated on the ground-based team. We are still intending to complete our 2021 Build Season and see no present reason we will not be unable to do so. There are several factors that guide our endeavors to complete our humanitarian mission. First, the re-opening of the airports and second, the recommencing of Myanmar Visa issuance. The other factor is Myanmar settling into a semblance of normalcy within 30-60 days. We are monitoring all these factors carefully.

We will certainly keep the club informed of our activities. We hope to be able to get JT in the country by mid-April. Should we have to push our arrival to the beginning of May, we are still able to complete our projects by late June.



Please feel free to contact me at [herb.mcgurk@rotaryla5.org](mailto:herb.mcgurk@rotaryla5.org) or JT at [warringltd@gmail.com](mailto:warringltd@gmail.com) if you have any further questions or comments.

One of the many reasons that drive the Myanmar Committee forward is the fact that JT Warring met with Mme. Aung San Suu Kyi four times during 2011 to 2014. She asked JT if Rotary could be a catalyst to provide clean water systems to the local Villagers in her Country. His answer was then and is now a firm "yes."

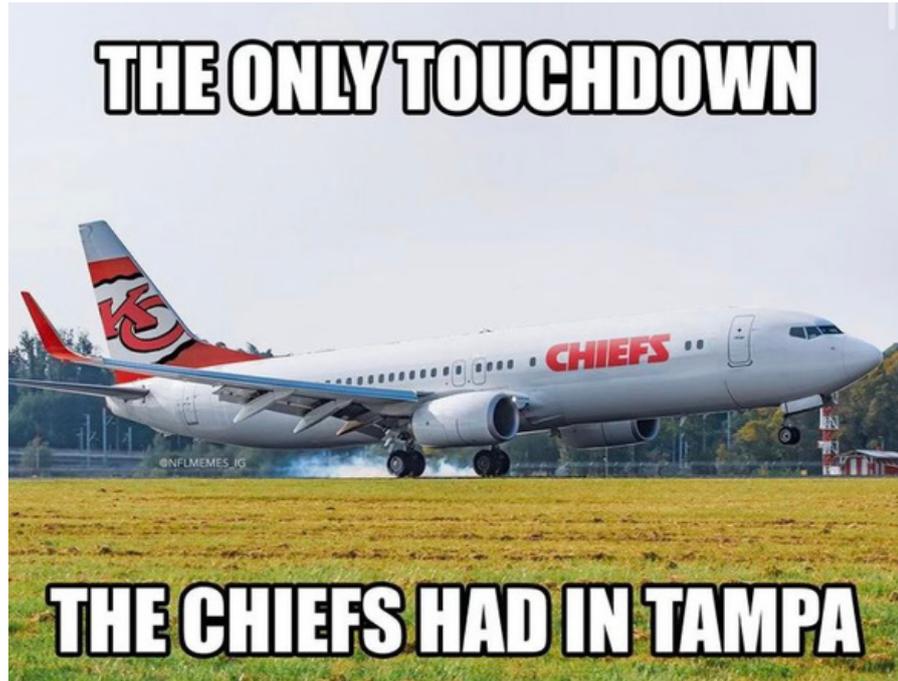
JT is participating in a conference call with U.S. Ambassador of Myanmar, Thomas Vajda, this week.

# WHAT DO YOU MEME?



Ashley White • Esthetician  
@skinclasshero

my camera roll when I take my iPad  
back from a toddler



# Rotary ramps up COVID-19 vaccination efforts

by **Ryan Hyland**

Rotary clubs around the world are mobilizing in their communities to support the introduction and delivery of COVID-19 vaccinations. Rotary leaders are urging members to connect with their local health agencies to determine how Rotary can support COVID-19 vaccine efforts.

Rotary has decades of experience in supporting the distribution of polio vaccines as well as highlighting their power and efficacy, which is a critical reason why polio is on the brink of eradication. It's this expertise, along with strategic partnerships and innovation, that Rotary members can tap into to protect communities from COVID-19.

## Back-up for health officials

Rotary International President Holger Knaack and Foundation Trustee Chair K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran have called on Rotary members to take action on a number of levels. Rotary members in North Carolina, USA, quickly organized to offer assistance to health officials. District leaders contacted the state's secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to strategize support efforts.

The six district governors in North Carolina joined the state's health department in conducting [a webinar](#), open to the more than 12,200 Rotary members in North Carolina, to provide information about the available COVID-19 vaccines, how they will be distributed, and answer their questions so they can serve as role models and instill confidence in the vaccines in their community.

"Rotarians are leaders who are looked upon for guidance, and the more information and opportunity to share ideas with health officials, the better," said Dawn Rochelle, governor of Rotary district 7730 (North Carolina).



John Hall, president of the Rotary Club of Trenton, North Carolina, receives his first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine at the Jones County immunization day.

Photo courtesy of Dawn Rochelle

Members volunteered at local vaccination sites across the state to help health officials with logistics including data entry, crowd control, and check-ins. Members also provide health workers and volunteers with food and beverages. In addition, the districts provided the state health department with a spreadsheet that included a Rotary member contact for each of the 100 counties in North Carolina.

Nancy Barbee and Rochelle, past governors of the same district, volunteered together during National Immunization Days in India. It's those experiences with mass immunization for polio that helped them identify specific needs for how members can help support COVID-19 vaccinations.

"The polio eradication initiative gives a blueprint that provides strategy that is effective in any community," says Rochelle, who took part in two polio immunization drives in India.

"Governments take the lead on immunizations there and here in the U.S., but what's critical to the success is the additional layer of support Rotarians bring. We are here to back-up the frontline workers with anything they need. It's amazing to see the response of North Carolina Rotarians."

### **New joint COVID-19 taskforce gives direction to clubs**

At a meeting in December, the Rotary International Board of Directors and Rotary Foundation Trustees created a joint taskforce that will help guide upcoming efforts to distribute the COVID-19 vaccines and advocate for people to get vaccinated. The newly formed group will also share information promoting vaccine acceptance, and encourage service projects to stop the spread of the disease, such as social distancing, wearing masks, and washing hands frequently.

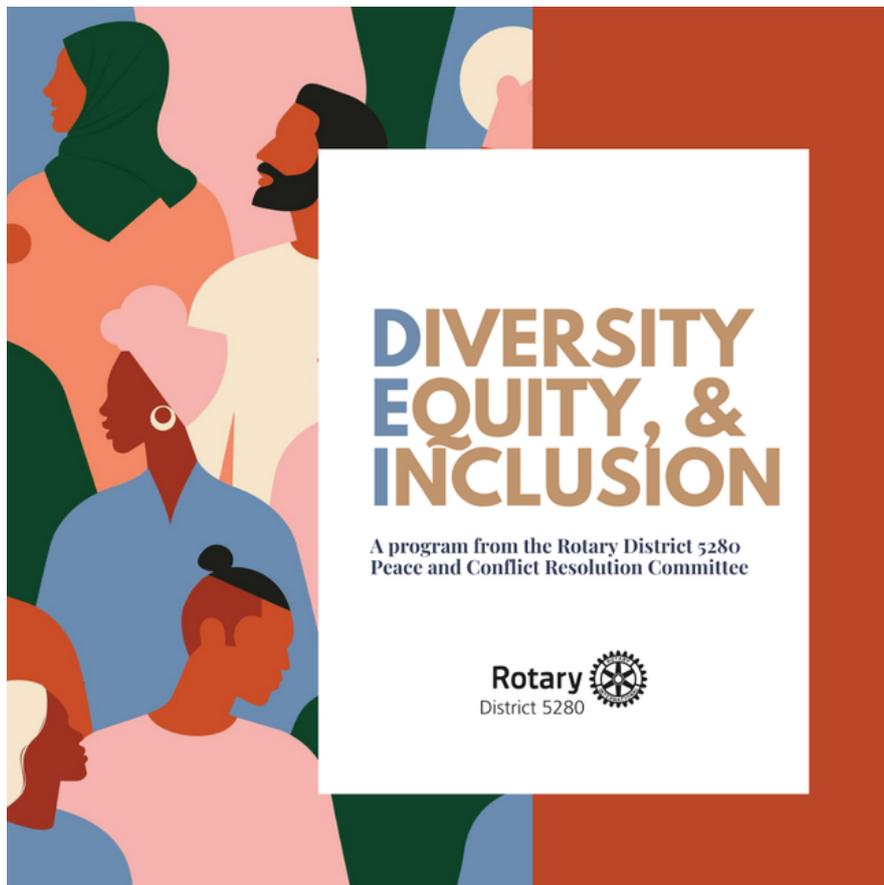
**Clubs: Share your COVID-19 efforts on Rotary Showcase.**

In a joint letter to district leaders, Knaack and Ravindran said members have a successful history of getting things done when help is needed. "Through the hundreds of global grants and projects, Rotary members have demonstrated what we can accomplish to raise awareness, deliver critical personal protection equipment, and provide support to frontline health workers," they said in the letter.

The two Rotary leaders called particular attention to the importance of one specific call to action: combatting vaccine hesitancy. "Help us combat the powerful, growing force of vaccine resistance and misinformation. Our advocacy in our communities will be critical – we need to spread the message about the power of vaccines to save lives," they urged.

Other ways clubs can mobilize around COVID-19 vaccine introduction and delivery at the local level include community education, ensuring equitable distribution of the vaccine, helping stop the continued spread of the disease, and aiding local health authorities to get prepared for mass vaccinations.

The infrastructure created by Rotary and its Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) partners is already supporting efforts to combat COVID-19. The GPEI recently announced that it is ready to support the rollout of COVID-19 vaccines.



## **Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Program February 27, 2021 | 10:00am-12:00pm**

Dear Rotarian,

As some of you may be aware, the District 5280 Peace and Conflict Resolution Committee has been developing an informative (virtual) program for members to support the District's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) goals. The program is based on Rotary International statements on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and on Racism.

I am pleased to announce that the program is ready!  
It will be held on **February 27, 2021, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

We have designed the program to be informative with a contextual presentation, and to be interactive with facilitated small groups to ensure a safe and comfortable environment in which to carry out dialogue. To be productive these programs are limited to 60 attendees. The program will be on a first come first served basis. So please register early.

Please [register here](#). The program access link will be emailed to you after you register.

We look forward to seeing you at this most important program to support DEI throughout our District and in our clubs!

Yours in Rotary Service,

Mark Ameli, Chair  
District 5280 Peace and Conflict Resolution Committee

# Happy Birthday!

Ben Turner - Feb 12

Ted Fukuda - Feb 15

Charlie Gallagher - Feb 15



## HAPPY ROTARY ANNIVERSARY

**Thank you** for your years of service to **LA5**  
& the Los Angeles community!

Nish Ahmed - 5 years

Jennifer Gregg - 11 years

Gina Doyle - 8 years

Ben Harati - 5 years

Christopher Kim - 5 years

Lauren Schlau - 5 years

Charisse Lara - 12 years

Darin Marinov - 12 years

Johannes Masserer - 12 years

Judy Jenkins - 18 years

Kipp Kreutzberg - 3 years

Marwan Fattal - 25 years

Bill Shaw - 27 years

Al Shonk - 25 years

