

# Rotary

## Club of Westlake Village

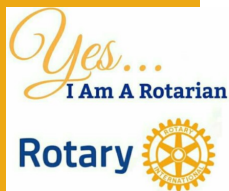
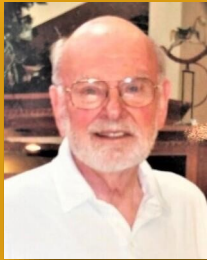


# 50 Years. 50 Stories.

## I am a Rotarian

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## #1 MARY OLSON

PEOPLE OF ACTION  
**50 STORIES**

Celebrating 50 Years  
of Rotary Club of  
Westlake Village  
with 50 Stories



**Rotary**  
Club of  
Westlake Village

#1

"TWENTY-FIVE  
YEARS AGO  
PAST-PRESIDENT,  
JOE PAULUCCI"...

Twenty-five years ago, Past-President, Joe Paulucci was behind me in a buffet line at CLU. We had never met before so I introduced myself. I had only worked at CLU a few years but was lucky enough to have met quite a number of people in the community but hadn't had the pleasure of meeting him yet. We chatted, I greeted folks as they went by and on the way out that evening, he pulled me aside and said "Kid, I'd like to invite you to my Rotary Club as my guest."

I was familiar with Rotary because I was very involved in forensics in high school and would attend meetings occasionally. All the judges, lawyers and accountants in town were Rotarians and they were all men. Imagine my surprise to learn women were now a vital part of Rotary! When I walked into the meeting with Joe the following week, I met so many warm and wonderful people. I loved the teasing, the fake insults they hurled at each other and the obvious friendship they all shared. Heck, I even liked the chicken!

*Joe Paulucci was behind me in a buffet line at CLU...*

I joined our Club in May 1996 with Joe as my sponsor and I have loved every year. Our club is made up of so many different types of people with different political views, religions, and ages; but what unites us all is viewing the world through the lens of Rotary. Through Rotary our hearts are opened together in new and exciting ways. Collectively our arms are outstretched to those in need and we serve them. We serve with love and our desire to make a difference in the world. Together, we are stronger, smarter and better and we work and serve as Paul Harris and others before us did both here and abroad. Gift of Rotary. He shared the joy he had found and shared it with me. My beloved friend Joe is no longer with us, but he lives within my heart and he has inspired me to share the gift he first shared with me.

I'm no longer a kid, but I am a better person because of Rotary and I am forever proud to say to others, "I am a Rotarian."



## #2 HAROLD HYMAN



Vivian and I were traveling in Tanzania and had hired a guide for a two week private safari. We were traveling with another Rotarian from my Maui club. He had been a Rotarian for 50 years and had traveled all over the world but had never been on a safari. He was also very sick and didn't know how long he still had to live but he was

determined to finally make this dream a reality. We were supposed to meet him in Berlin to fly together to Africa. A week before he was scheduled to leave he was in the hospital but lo and behold he showed up at the airport in a wheel chair and an attendant. Our Tanzania tour guide just happened to have joined a Rotary Club recently and we had a grand time discussing Rotary and all the good Rotarians did around the world. He shared with us the problem many of the African villages had with Malaria and we decided our two clubs would join together to provide malaria nets for a village.



### *The irony of the story...*

When I returned to Maui our club raised over \$3,000 for 300 nets that we sent to the Tanzania Club. The Club in Tanzania distributed the nets and showed the villagers how to use them and how to maintain them. The Club members also returned to the village periodically to be sure the nets were still being used and were being maintained. The nets probably saved some lives and prevented a lot of diseases in the village. The irony of the story; The Rotary member we travelled with went back into the hospital a few days after returning to Maui and passed away shortly after. He never did get to participate in the malaria net project but was instrumental in getting it funded.

On a trip to South America Vivian and I had spent a week on the border of Argentina and Brazil to see Iguazu Falls a spectacular accumulation of over 250 separate falls. As we were approaching a bridge connecting two large falls there was a huge banner hanging along the side of the bridge that displayed in large letters the Rotary banner and the words Polio Plus.

Another story: While traveling in Peru we drove to see Colca Canyon located in Southern Peru 100 miles from Arequipa. Colca Canyon is one of the deepest canyons in the world. There are very few towns or villages along the drive and



## #2 HAROLD HYMAN (CONT)



almost no public bathrooms. Halfway during the trip we desperately needed a potty stop. Our driver finally stopped at a very small snack shop and asked if we could use their facility. Thankfully he agreed. While getting ready to leave we noticed a small building at the end of the dirt parking area and decided to investigate. It turned out to be a single room building and on the outside was a sign

that said “this school was built by the local Rotary Club”. Not sure where that Club was located because there couldn’t have been more than a couple of hundred people living within a 50 mile radius of the store.

Just remembered about a Rotary project my Club the Rotary Club of Lahaina completed in the community. Vivian and I were walking in Lahaina this morning and came across this bus shelter in Lahaina Town. The plaque is a little hard to read but says “this bus shelter was dedicated to the community by the Rotary Club of Lahaina”. The shelters were completed by the Club before I became a member but periodically we would have a work day when we would repair and maintain the shelters.



I have been very fortunate to have travelled to 119 countries around the world and I always wear my Rotary hat wherever I go. Invariably I am stopped almost everywhere we have gone by other Rotary members. Usually it is not a wave and a greeting but the encounter ends up in a conversation about Rotary and a little bit of information about the Clubs and the work of Rotary.





## #3 NADINE LARSON



I have been in Rotary for about 18 years and my ‘aha’ moment was the same as some others – the Children’s Shopping Spree. I was not a member and wondered what Rotary does for my community. I was so pleased with this event that I chaired it for several years.

Our club had a project of providing reading books to elementary schools in the area to promote a love of reading. When it ended there was a surplus of wonderful books, each with a Rotary Club of WLW sticker inside. I sent them to my friend in Bhutan whose elementary school had a new library but no budget for books. Tshering was thrilled but said she would not give them to the school until I came to do it with her.

*With the Himalayas in the background...*

When we visited the school, I was treated like royalty. Even served tea and biscuits out on the quad, with Himalayas in the background, being entertained by students. The best was the first graders singing “Old Mr. Dorji had a farm, (ee, eye, ee, eye, oh)”. The students of Bhutan are taught in English and must take several classes in Bhutanese. To have my Rotary club help small children in a far away place to enjoy reading is a pleasure for me.



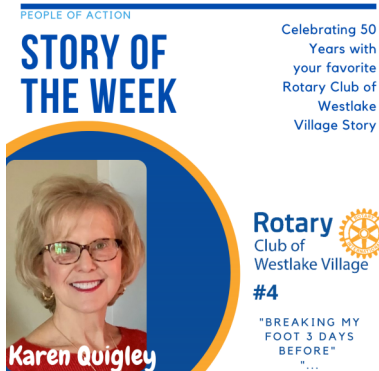
Rotary helps so many people around the world with large projects such as eradicating polio, providing clean water and electricity. We as a group have the will and financial ability to do this. It is something to be proud

of. Also, for me, the smaller projects our club initiates to help people in need in our community are just as meaningful such as Meals on Wheels, Feeding the Homeless, Senior Concerns, etc. The recent fundraisers benefiting Senior Concerns during COVID have an added benefit of bringing the community together with fun and whimsy.

As you can probably tell, I am a big fan of Rotary in general, and our club in particular.



## #4 KAREN QUIGLEY



I served as Club President 1996-1997, the year our Club held the first Westlake Village Street Faire.

During my year as President, the Club celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. A Gala was held at the Hyatt Westlake Village.

My Rotary “aha moment” was attending the International Convention in Calgary, Canada. I was amazed at

the true internationality of Rotary. I enjoyed my time in the House of Friendship meeting Rotarians from all over the world. I registered to attend “Home Hospitality Night”. I was invited (along with 6 other Rotarians) to the home of a local Rotarian for dinner. Eight Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Calgary served us a home cooked meal. They made us feel so warm and welcome. As we left, each Rotarian was given a small gift to remind us of Calgary. The evening made such an impression on me. I decided this is how I want our new members to feel when they join our Club.

### *1996 Calgary Rotary Convention theme...*



The eighty-seventh Annual Convention of Rotary International was held in Calgary, Alberta, on 23 to 26 June 1996. With an attendance of 24,963 Rotarians and guests from 126 countries and geographical areas, this was the largest Rotary International Convention ever staged in North America.

A funny moment.... breaking my foot 3 days before I was about to leave for the International Convention. I led my first 4 meetings as President in a leg cast hobbling around North Ranch Country Club.

When I served as Club Membership Chair, I was invited back to Evanston IL, the home office of Rotary International. I attended a workshop with 100 Rotarians from around the world. I was inspired to hear from other membership chairs and what they were doing to increase and retain membership. We had the pleasure of having a tour of the offices of Rotary International including the office of the RI President and General Secretary. We stepped inside Room 711, a replica of the office of Paul Harris where the first Rotary meeting was held. We listened to inspirational speakers share ideas on how to share the gift of Rotary: Invite a guest to your club meeting!



#### #4 KAREN QUIGLEY-CONTINUED

Throughout my years in Rotary, I have made lasting friendships. I look forward to getting out of the office every Wednesday to enjoy lunch, fellowship and laughter. My greatest fulfillment over the years has been participating on various committees in the 4 Avenues of Service.

I'm proud to be a Rotarian. I hope I can continue to actively participate in our club service projects. Rotarians truly do change people's lives.



## #5 STEPHANIE BELL-HARBOURNE



I moved to Westlake Village in 1975. I came from a family of Rotarians and was married to one. I wanted to be a Rotarian, not a Rotary Ann! No chance. Women were not accepted into Rotary until the year 1989.

A gentleman from the Optimist Club in Santa Monica contacted me and I helped him begin the Optimist Club in the WL/TO area. I stayed for three years. But, as you recall, Rotary was my first choice so in 1995. I joined the

WL Noon Rotary Club.

Amongst the many programs in which I was involved, no question about it, the 4-Way Test Essay contest was my favorite. I was Chair for close to 11 years, encouraged by Robert Mackenzie, our Club President at the time. The program has a lot of behind the scene's activity.

One year I had 103 essays to read, judge and choose the winners. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and Honorable Mention in each of these categories: Elementary, Middle, and High Schools. A monetary reward was received by all except the Honorable Mention.

*Women were not accepted into Rotary until the year 1989...*



I would drive to the schools, talk to the staff and leave a flyer with all the rules and deadlines. In the beginning, I picked up the finished essays. Eventually, with the computer generation coming on full swing, some were emailed to me.

The theme of the essay was to be how the 4-Way Test fit into the student's daily life. A onetime occasion or generally. They had to create their story around it and mention the 4-Way Test throughout.

Now begins the behind scenes activity. Notify the winners and issue the invitation to attend a luncheon in their honor at the NRCC (where we held out weekly meetings). Included as guests were teachers & principles. Parents were limited to one per child.

The format at NRCC had to be chosen, the menu decided, the nametags positioned in an easily accessible spot. The beautifully printed certificates with the name of the winners placed in an envelope along with the credit card in the monetary amount won (obtained at the Mall to be used there). A great idea actually. This would then



## #5 STEPHANIE BELL-HARBOURNE-CONTINUED

be presented at the luncheon.

At the event my job continued as I welcomed the guests, gave the Invocation, introduced the pledge and after luncheon began the program. None of the students knew what position they had won. After the awards, I choose several students to read their essays. There wasn't a dry eye in the house. A very rewarding experience for the teachers, students, parents, and of course our members.

How lovely that Rotary International offers this opportunity, the 4-Way Test Essay Contest to the students of our community. Bless the foresight of Herb Taylor, the 50<sup>th</sup> President of Rotary International who incorporated the test of the things we think, say and do as a Mantra.

First...Is it the truth? Second...Is it fair to all concerned? Third...Will it build goodwill and better friendships? Fourth...Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

I shall end with a quote from a local High School winner's essay:

"The 4-Way Test has shaped my life for the better. It has made me think before I automatically do. This test has affected my outlook on life, and it will most definitely affect me for the rest of it."



Rotary



**THE FOUR-WAY TEST**  
of the things we think, say or do

- I. Is it the TRUTH?
- II. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- III. Will it build GOODWILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- IV. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

## #6 DIANE MILLER

PEOPLE OF ACTION

### STORY OF THE WEEK



Diane Miller

Celebrating 50  
Years with  
your favorite  
Rotary Club of  
Westlake  
Village Story



#6

I LIKE TO  
BELIEVE THAT THE  
RELATIONSHIPS  
DEVELOPED...

I went back and forth trying to describe my favorite Rotary moments. Since I first joined Rotary over 15 years ago there are lots of memories to share. From getting to know the communities to expanding to international projects and youth mentorships.

My memories stop at an international project that was unique compared to other ones we cherish across years. It was a project that targeted high schoolers from Israel, both Jews and Muslims. The group was half/half for each, and the intent was to have these teenagers discover the common things among them instead of the differences that their culture trained them to think about.

The name of the project was Triumph, and it involved bringing the group of young individuals in the US and have them go through a program with both self-improvement and learning activities and also social activities.

*I like to believe that the relationships...*

We as a Rotary group met with them also and provided them mentorship and personal examples. By the time the time was ready for them to go home you can tell that they were changed and the friendships between them were genuine and they were just a big group of noisy happy teenagers. I like to believe that the relationships developed are long lasting and that we made a dent in future generations thinking about their conflict.

There were 3 summers of interesting experience and I learned a lot from them also, learned from leaders of the future."



#### THE FOUR-WAY TEST of the things we think, say or do

- I. Is it the TRUTH?
- II. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- III. Will it build GOODWILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- IV. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?



## #7 MIKE DUTRA

PEOPLE OF ACTION

### STORY OF THE WEEK

Celebrating 50  
Years with  
your favorite  
Rotary Club of  
Westlake  
Village Story



Rotary  
Club of  
Westlake Village

#7

I VISITED A COUPLE  
SERVICE GROUPS  
AND LIKE  
GOLDLOCKS, ONE  
TOO BIG, ONE TOO  
SMALL, ONE TOO  
EARLY.

I was first exposed to Rotary in the mid-80's. My boss took me to a meeting in Santa Monica and the stereotypes were all there, older males, all suit and tie, going by protocol. Very boring and not interested in joining.

When I brought my business out to the Conejo Valley in 2016, I remember a previous employer recommending to join a chamber of commerce and a service group. I

visited a couple service groups and like Goldilocks, one too big, one too small, one too early, so the fit was Westlake Noon. I was hoping for a cool fez or a hat like Fred Flintstone had for the "Royal Order of the Buffaloes" but everything else has been great. Very fortunate I did find this group, so many new friends and enjoy all of our activities.

### *I identify with these kids...*

The moments that stand out are the Meals on Wheels and the Holiday Shopping spree. With Meals on Wheels, my wife joins me and we are usually out for a couple of hours as we sit down and hang out with the participants. For many it could be their only interaction for the week.

With the Holiday Shopping, I identify with these kids as I was in the same situation when I was young. We had the local police agencies take us toy shopping and that was a highlight of the holiday season. The kids for the Boys and Girls Club are more practical usually getting only clothes, but some toys appear. When I talk to the kids, I know that they would rather be like "other" kids and it is somewhat awkward, but they appreciative of what we do. It is not fun being different, not being able to afford basic items and I will tell them I was just like them. Study and work hard and you will be just fine. I hope that encouragement and seeing where others have come from gives them hope for the future.

2021-2022 Rotary Club WLV President





## #8 LYNN JACOBSEN

### PEOPLE OF ACTION STORY OF THE WEEK



Lynn Jacobsen

Celebrating 50  
Years with  
your favorite  
Rotary Club of  
Westlake  
Village Story

Rotary  
Club of  
Westlake Village  
  
#8  
I HAVE HAD A  
BLAST USING MY  
SKILLS TO PITCH  
IN AND "DO  
GOOD".

I had no idea of what Rotary was when I saw the Youth Business and Ethics Conference advertised at our local High School. I contacted the organizers for the Youth Ethics Conference because I thought it would be a great way for my daughter to get involved. She had just attended a "Young Women in Business" Conference at Stanford University and I was looking for another stimulating event to help her decide on her future.

I was impressed at how fast the Rotary representatives returned my email and also called me. They not only helped my daughter to sign up for the event, but also invited me to come check out the Rotary weekly meetings.

*I had no idea of what Rotary was when I saw the Youth Business and Ethics ...*

I guess you could call me a "meeting hopper" because I was not sure as to what this was all about and visited the various times and locations available for the Rotary meetings. I hopped around to a few different meetings and met so many engaging people. I've always been an active "do-gooder" in my community and after having lunch with you all at the beautiful North Ranch Country Club.... I decided that Westlake Village Rotary was the "do-good" group for me.

So here I am.

I have had a blast using my skills to pitch in and "do good". It was so great when my energy and ideas for the "Movie Drive In (s)" were so readily accepted and everyone gave me such positive support every step of the way. That doesn't happen often in the Amusement Park and Feature Film Industry. I am feeling so fortunate to have been accepted in to the WLV Rotary Club and embraced by the positive encouragement and friendships here.





## #9 BRAD ORMSBY

PEOPLE OF ACTION

### STORY OF THE WEEK

Celebrating 50  
Years with  
your favorite  
Rotary Club of  
Westlake  
Village Story



Rotary  
Club of  
Westlake Village

#9

NEEDLESS TO SAY,  
THAT IS A "BIG  
DEAL" IN THE  
ROTARY WORLD!

When I first moved to the Conejo Valley, I looked into joining a service organization, so I could be connected to my new local community. I was previously in the Optimist Club of Hollywood. So, I asked my friends and neighbors and they suggested I look into the Local Rotary Club, which I did. I contacted my friend Reed Harrison, a local attorney, and he said he would be happy to introduce me to the Rotary Club of Westlake Village. He

later sponsored me into the Club, and the rest is history.

I have had several “ah ha” moments during my time in Rotary, but two of them that were unique and stood out were, one, when I was President of our Club, Sam Greene arranged to have the current sitting President of Rotary International, Frank Devlyn,

*Needless to say that was a big deal in the Rotary World...*

The second event was when I was asked to be part of the Recognition team that presented President Ronald Reagan, after he had passed away, a Rotary Award, which was received by his Wife, Nancy Reagan at the Ronald Reagan Library. A side note would be, it was in July, the ceremony was upstairs in the private section of the library, where their offices are, and we were in the living room area with the fire place on, Mrs. Reagan was a freeze bug! The team consisted of Sam Greene and past President Richard King, 2001-2002 along with other Rotary dignitaries.

I have enjoyed my time in Rotary, working with many movers and shakers of our community and feeling that we have made a difference in the Community. Hard work and lots of fun has been the consistent modus operandi of the Rotary Club of Westlake Village.



Trivia Question #1—Who built the podium that the RCWLV club uses for meetings?

## #10 RAGNAR STORM-LARSEN

PEOPLE OF ACTION

### STORY OF THE WEEK

Celebrating 50  
Years with  
your favorite  
Rotary Club of  
Westlake  
Village Story



Ragnar Storm-Larsen

Rotary  
Club of  
Westlake Village

#10

VOLUNTEERS AS A  
GROUP ARE  
USUALLY PEOPLE  
WHO ARE LIKE  
MINDED...

When I was 35 years old, a friend of mine, Marty Hanson, who owned the Newbury Meat Market in Newbury Park, said there is a new Rotary Club being formed in Newbury Park that meets at a local Motel. The meetings start at 7AM and I his guest. That would be in the fall of 1986. I went with Marty and that was the beginning of my relationship with Rotary International.

My wife and I enjoyed traveling around the world and visiting Rotary club meeting in London GB, Oslo Norway, Scotland and Ireland. Going West we visited Rotary in Japan, Hong Kong, Hawaii, Mexico and Canada.

We became very involved with NIDs in Africa in Granada and Nigeria. That was real special. The people we met who were Involved in Rotary were always gracious and kind.

*Volunteers as a group are usually people who are...*

Newbury Park Rotary Club was also active in the Project Triumph. It was an amazing project for Rotary International to be involved in. It got stopped when the US state department would no longer ok the Visas for the High School student.

We have been to six Rotary International Conventions, the last two were Atlanta and Toronto. We have made it a habit to volunteer at the International Conventions. Volunteers as a group are usually people who are like minded. They become your best Ha-ha moments.



**THE FOUR-WAY TEST**  
of the things we think, say or do

- I. Is it the TRUTH?
- II. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- III. Will it build GOODWILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- IV. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

## #11 CHERI BLESSING

PEOPLE OF ACTION

### STORY OF THE WEEK



Celebrating 50  
Years with  
your favorite  
Rotary Club of  
Westlake  
Village Story



#11

...but if anyone knows  
me, they would say  
without a doubt it was  
RYLA that changed me  
the most.

In 2001 a friend, Janet Levett, invited me to join her for lunch to see what Rotary was about. Needless to say I was hooked, made quite a few life-long friends, and had many fun and memorable moments. I was fortunate to know Sam Greene (Past RI Director), Cy Johnson (the best salesman ever), and Jock McKenzie (who made me tow the line). Those three men were past District Governors, and I was surprised and honored when I was

one of the few recipients of an award from the three of them.

I was President in 2006/2007, and that came to be because our President Elect resigned from the club in April 2006, and Sam Greene called and asked me to step in. I NEVER imagined being President. It was scary at first, but every single member supported and inspired me throughout the year. It was truly one of the best years of my life.

*But if anyone knows me they would say without a doubt...*

I have had many AHA moments, but if anyone knows me, they would say without a doubt it was RYLA that changed me the most. I've been fortunate enough to experience over 10 years as an instructor, and I never leave that camp without shedding a few tears (I know that's hard to believe) and being impacted in so many ways from spending three days with some amazing teenagers and awesome Rotarians.

Our fearless leader Darin Arrasmith does an outstanding job year after year, and his efforts change so many lives forever. He has stated many times, that you cannot really explain the RYLA experience to anyone that hasn't experienced it for themselves, and he's absolutely right! It is amazing, humbling, educational, fun and exhausting, but those words mean nothing to those who haven't been there.

I encourage every Rotarian to visit us at RYLA 2022 and let the magic of RYLA change you too!





## #11 CHERI BLESSING GALLERY

First picture is of my board members.

Second is Dapper working on the Backpacks for School project.

Third is our resident reverend being cuffed for some sort of shenanigans!

Fourth is our first second wine tasting fundraiser that was held at the Hyatt.

Fifth is grammar school students playing music with the instruments our club provided by our walk/run marathon we used to have in the morning of our street fair.

Sixth – Gary Dickey, in full bagpipe uniform

Seventh is one of the military families we supported during the year. We had three families and treated them to gifts for all the holidays for them and their children.

Eighth is a special award evening for Sam Greene, who was an RI Director.

Ninth is Sam Greene and his family. We planted a tree in honor of his wife Caki (she passed that year) at the Rotary Forest at the YMCA in Thousand Oaks

Tenth is me walking in to my demotion party.

Eleventh is Mary Olsen roasting me at my demotion party – she was hysterical! I laughed and cried!

1.



2.



3.



4.





5.



6.



7.



8.



9.



10.



11.



## #12 NAOMI FINKLE



### A True Story for our Rotary Book.

I remember being a member of our **Rotary Ethics Group** where we invited local students to attend a morning ***Ethics Leadership Forum***.

Our Rotary Club organized this event every year at the North Ranch Country Club. We were divided into groups of six students with one or two Rotary leaders.

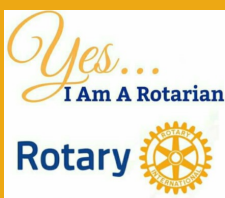
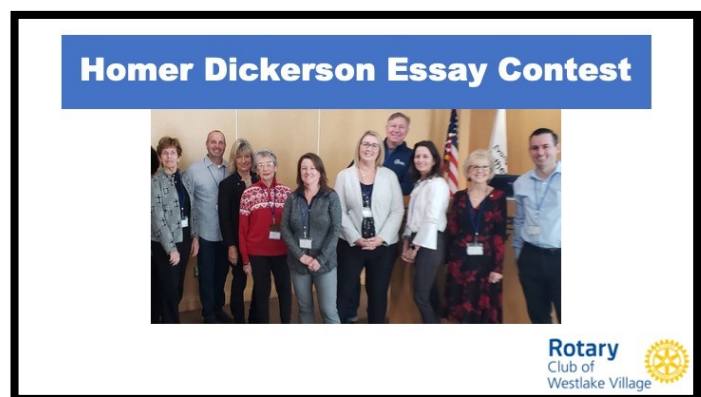
A memorable moment for me was when a student said "With the internet, what can we do when a student is being bullied and criticized?"

*What can we do when a student...*

After a pause, another student replied, "We send favorable messages to that student on the internet. We invited that student to sit with us at lunch including the person who sent the rude message.

" It worked. The bad messages stopped and friends were made.

Truly a Rotary Blessing  
Naomi Finkel





## #13 HARVEY MAGIDOW

PEOPLE OF ACTION

### STORY OF THE WEEK

Celebrating 50  
Years with  
your favorite  
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Village Story

Rotary  
Club of  
Westlake Village

#13  
the one that really  
stands out is when a  
young Marine spoke  
to ...



By the end of June 2021 I will have completed my 9th year with the Rotary Club of Westlake Village ( noon). But first a brief summary of my life.

Born in New York, but since my family moved to Los Angeles when I was just 5 years old, I consider myself a California boy. After a few years living in beach communities we moved to the very rural inland area of Sunland - Tujunga due to my severe

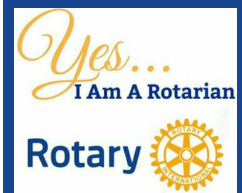
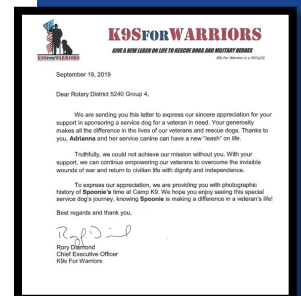
Asthma condition. After attending 5 different grammar schools we finally stopped moving, and I attended one Jr High and one High School. Since stables and riding trails were plenty in the Sunland-Tujunga area, I rode a lot back then and cleaned out more horse stalls than I care to remember. When I rode in horse shows, I rode mostly English style, not western. My dad was a professional riding instructor and he only taught English style. He believed Western style was for cowboys.

### *The one that really stands out is when a young Marine spoke to ...*

After High School I attended community college first and then Loyola Marymount in L.A. First years in the working world were with high tech companies such as RCA, Xerox, and Quotron, where I was first employed as a Designer/ Draftsman and then Mechanical Design Engineer. I then switched to Manufacturing Operations Management, and years later transitioned to Sales & Marketing.

For the last 12 years of my working career I formed my own company, HM Technical Sales, a Manufacturing Sales Representative Company for various high tech lines. Along this career path I married ( 41 years ) and we proudly helped raise 3 beautiful children who all graduated college at local So. Calif Schools. Proud also that all 3 graduated from good schools with no student loans/debt over their heads. Both boys, Greg and Andy, have their degrees in Movie, TV, and Film Production. Daughter Lisa got her degree from a well known Culinary College and for the last 7 years has been a private chef for a well known company CEO.

Many varied interests and experiences since joining Rotary as a means of giving back to those in need. Several "Ah Ha" moments, but the one that really stands out is when a young Marine by the name of Captain Jason Haig spoke to our club several years ago. He and his companion Axel ( a German Shepard ) spoke



## #13 HARVEY MAGIDOW (CONT.)

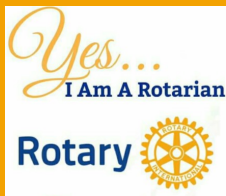
to us about PTSD ( Post Traumatic Stress Disorder). For about 45 minutes Jason shared his gut wrenching life story with us and how PTSD almost tragically ended his life after many tours of duty in the Middle East. What saved his life, and Axel's, was an organization by the name of K9's for Warriors based in Florida. They helped turn Jason's life around with extensive training, counseling, and being paired with a trained canine, Axel. So 2 lives were saved, Jason' and Axel. Axel was found at a local animal shelter and was within 1-2 days from being put down due to his length of time in the Shelter. Eventually Jason and Axel became part of the staff at K9's for Warriors and have since appeared on many Radio & TV Shows as well as being honored at the White House.

Shortly after this visit to our Rotary Club, and others, K9's for Warriors became a group 4 Rotary project.

I have been a member of this committee for several years and during this time we have done many fund raisers to help fund training to pair up a trained K9 with a trained soldier, men and women, suffering from PTSD . To date we have funded 14 such pairings by sending K9's for Warriors over \$200,000.

Many more Rotary high light moments for me over the past 9 years including launching the Car Show portion of the annual Street Festival as a means of boosting attendance, our Plant Tours, Meals on Wheels, Feeding the Hungry, The 4 Way Test, and many more enjoyable projects which collectively have enhanced my Rotary experience. Other interests include Sports, all of them, and have been lucky to have attended World Series games, NBA Finals, Stanley Cup Finals, Summer Olympics, World Cup Finals, Super Bowl , and much more.

I also have a passion and love of old Classic/Vintage cars ranging from the 1930's to the 1960's era. Favorite places to travel to are Hawaii and Alaska.





## #14 JAN ZEGEL

PEOPLE OF ACTION

### STORY OF THE WEEK

Celebrating 50  
Years with  
your favorite  
Rotary Club of  
Westlake  
Village Story



#14

All I could think of  
was...



tly put it in my purse. Both Chris and I ended buying several things and we walked out with a bag of goodies. We both knew without saying it that she needed help.



All I could think was.. how nice to have walked in with a fellow Rotarian. Rotarians know when to ask and when to give.

#### My Rotary Moment:

We were trying to find vendors for Holiday's in the Village. Chris and I had gone to a couple of stores we thought would be a good fit and had talked to the owners.

We decided to try a place on TO Blvd. We walked in and it was apparent the place was struggling. I had the flyer in my hand and gen-



*Rotarians know when to ask and when to give*

## #15 ERIN CLUBERTSON

PEOPLE OF ACTION

### STORY OF THE WEEK

Celebrating 50  
Years with  
your favorite  
Rotary Club of  
Westlake  
Village Story



#15

I knew there had to be  
something to it...



My Rotary AHA! Honestly, I have so many! All of which I'm thankful and grateful for. My first introduction to Rotary was when my daughter Morgan and her best friend Michelle of Newbury Park High School were selected to attend Ryla. I knew nothing of Rotary at the time and certainly nothing about Ryla! I drove the girls to the camp and picked them up. The drive home was FABULOUS! They were so inspired, excited and loved every minute of the leadership camp. They couldn't stop talking

about it and what it meant to them.

I was inspired and intrigued by their inspiration. I knew there had to be something to it. So, I attended the Ryla luncheon held at the "Big Club" in TO. I loved the people and the stories they told. My kids were getting older so I was looking for something to fill that community need of mine. This was perfect. I was hooked and all in!

## #15 ERIN CLUBERTSON

PEOPLE OF ACTION

### STORY OF THE WEEK

Celebrating 50 Years with your favorite Rotary Club of Westlake Village Story

Rotary Club of Westlake Village

#15  
I knew there had to be something to it...



Erin Culbertson

Move forward a few years and I had the good fortune of joining Westlake Noon! I checked out a few clubs and this one felt just right. Not too big, not too small, but just right. Big enough to get things done, small enough so your voice was heard and intimate enough to know the members. AND FUNNY! That was the real ringer for me!

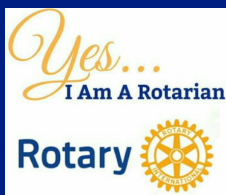
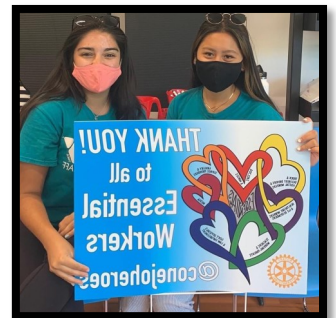
These folks are not only do-gooders, but they are fun and funny!

Perfect! Everyone has the same goal in trying to make a difference in our world near and far while having fun along the way.

*So, I attended the Ryla luncheon held at the “Big Club”*

Move forward again to Covid and the lockdown. Where our club rallied around the community and the heroes who saw us through it. Collaborating with this club in trying to find a way to help, to give back and support those in need and those supporting us, was absolutely beautiful. #ConejoHeroes and Drive-In Movies were born! I got to know so many members in such an intimate way (bring on The Goose!!) even though we were rarely together physically.

Our members, Rotarians, are forever joined by a common soul and drive to help others. Knowing that we are the true beneficiaries in the bonds and friendships we make along the way. I am forever grateful, blessed and so darn lucky for each and everyone of these do-gooder Rotarians, my friends. True and wonderful friends.



## #16 DAWN PETTERSEN

PEOPLE OF ACTION

### STORY OF THE WEEK



Dawn Pettersen

Celebrating 50  
Years with  
your favorite  
Rotary Club of  
Westlake  
Village Story



#16

My favorite so far..

My favorite moment thus far is volunteering at Ride On Horse Therapeutics. I enjoyed getting to know the members/volunteers with whom I had the privilege to work. Seeing the facility before, and after our work was completed was so fulfilling. The appreciation of the staff at the center was overwhelming.

This is the type of difference I want to make in our community, and around the world!



## #17 KIMMY THARPE



I had been a Rotarian for a few years and had tried to participate in as many service and fundraising events as possible.

One of my favorites was always the Christmas Shopping Spree at Target but until December 2017, I hadn't felt the full gravity of what we were doing with the kids at the Boys and Girls Club.

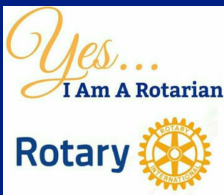
That morning I was paired with a little girl – we'll call her "Sarah." I had always gotten paired with a boy so immediately I was excited. Sarah was quiet and timid and her dad started to follow us as we began shopping. This isn't the norm for this

*That morning I was paired with a little girl ...*

shopping spree but maybe he didn't feel comfortable leaving his daughter with a stranger.....I can understand that as a mom. He was communicating with her directly about what was on her list and she was dutifully putting the items he pointed out in her cart. I wasn't really sure how to handle the situation – this wasn't how this was supposed to go. The purpose of the shopping spree is to allow the kids shop for themselves and get things THEY need and it didn't seem like Sarah was getting what she needed or wanted. She was totally underwhelmed by everything going in the cart.

At just the right moment, one of the counselors from the Boys and Girls Club came by and talked to Sarah's dad. Somehow she convinced him to go get coffee with her and he followed her up to the front of the store. We hadn't made a dent in the budget so I turned to Sarah and told her we could forget about the list for now and look for something she wanted. She said she could use some jeans but had no idea where to start. Great! I have little girls and love to shop for them – I told her she had the perfect shopper for the job!

We made our way to the girls' clothing department and proceeded to pick out new jeans. They were on sale so I told her she could pick two. Suddenly Sarah was bright eyed and walking quickly between racks. She turned to me and told me that she had never bought new clothes for herself. This was the first time she had





## #17 KIMMY THARPE– CONTINUED

ever picked out new clothes that were just for her. Of course I melted and started throwing everything in the cart we could! By the time we were done she was getting really concerned about going over the budget. I assured her that it would be fine – lots of this stuff is on sale and I was going to take care of anything that went over J.

By the time we got back to the front of the store she was smiling and couldn't wait to tell her dad what she picked out. She gave me a big hug and her dad shook my hand thanking me for putting smile on her face. That day I felt the full weight of what we were doing for these kids through this fundraiser. Totally worth the 4:30am wake up on a Saturday!



## #18 PEYTON GLOVER



My name is Peyton Glover. I joined the Rotary Club of Westlake Village in 1997. Seven years later, I had the honor of serving as the club's Centennial President. I did not understand the magnitude of what Rotary International truly was about until I became the club's President-Elect Nominee.

In 2003, Club President Terry Oberman, and President-Elect Andy Lupanow received an invitation to participate in a "Discovery Trip". The purpose of this trip was to go and "discover"

what important projects our local rotary clubs might participate in with clubs located in Honduras.

Because of professional obligations, President Terry was unable to attend. The invitation to go in his place was offered to me. It was thought it would be a good experience for a president-elect nominee. For me, however, it turned out to be much more than that.

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*Every day was a new adventure!*

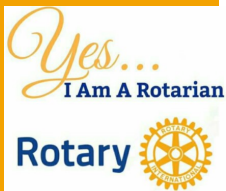
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Andy and I met up at the airport with other Rotarians from the Conejo Valley. Among them were Drs. Michael Zapf and Stan Weinstein. Both were local podiatrists. Mike was a member of the Westlake Sunrise Rotary Club, and Stan, a member of the former Agoura Rotary Club. In addition to the school and clothing supplies we were asked to bring, they brought a few extra cases of surgical supplies.

I learned that they were volunteering their time to go to Honduras to participate in a project called "**Operation Footprint**". This project brought together volunteer Podiatrists, Orthopedic surgeons and medical/surgical staff, to evaluate and repair impoverished patients who had been born with clubfeet. Because of poverty, and the lack of medical care, the condition was never corrected. The result of which for these people caused difficulties with ambulation, and in some cases, public humiliation.

After settling in with our local Rotary Host Family, we went to the hospital. This would give us a chance to see where our doctors would be working. I was astonished to find how deplorable the local medical facility was. (Please note that I was a former RN with many years of ER experience). I immediately noticed how antiquated much of the equipment was. I suspected some of the equipment had been retired and imported from our own state-side hospitals.

Scores of people, young and old, came from all over the country for a chance to have the corrective surgery performed. Some patients would be turned away because the condition was inoperable. Other patients arrived too late to be added



## #18 PEYTON GLOVER CONTINUED

to the list for this particular year. They could try again, providing Operation Footprint found the funding to have another week scheduled the following year.

Despite the hospital conditions, Drs. Zapf and Weinstein piled through and performed many clubfoot repairs that week. One cannot describe the joy displayed on the faces of the patients, and parents of the children, who received their care.

Every day was a new adventure! We met with the Peace Corps, who held one day “schools” in the five different market regions of Tegucigalpa. That way minor children who worked in the markets with their families could at least have an opportunity to learn to read and write. We met with agencies looking to prevent child prostitution. We met other medical teams who corrected cleft palates. Each group had a need for funding and assistance. Each project was equally deserving. (There is not enough time, or space, to discuss each one of them in this brief article).

Everything was going along quite well, until one day we arrived at a “senior center” funded by the Catholic Church and local Rotary clubs. To me, it had more the appearance of an older California county animal shelter in disrepair.

We met with the priest and local volunteers. They provided care, food and shelter

*That project helped so many people ...*

to senior citizens who were rescued from the city dump by workers. **THE CITY DUMP!** These seniors had been abandoned by their families to fend for themselves. I was horrified. Later, when I found time to be alone, I wept.

The priest and his volunteer team presented us with a rough business plan on how they could continue the operation. These volunteers did the best they could do to provide each “resident” with dignity. Each room had that resident’s name on the door and above their bed. There was a night table, and an old bed. Clean linens provided on a weekly basis.

That evening I began thinking how blessed I was to be living in a country that had an abundance of privilege, often taken for granted. I thought about how many medical

malformations are corrected at birth, as a function of our medical system. I thought about how our social services assists and tries to protect the elderly. I thought how clean water and malnourishment, is not, for the most part, a challenge for our population. I thought about each member of my club who gladly donated their time, and money. I felt badly that some may never have the privilege of seeing the result of their contribution.

That’s when the power of Rotary became crystal clear to me. Even the smallest contribution can reach so many, in so much need. Each Paul Harris Fellow presented, every “Happy Dollar” collected, each Memorial Gift given in the name of Rotary International has extreme significance. Especially, when coupled by matching grants, the donations



## #18 PEYTON GLOVER CONTINUED

have the power to vastly improve one person's life, and the lives of an entire community.

From the eradication of Polio, providing clean water, correcting medical conditions, or simply just giving a child a "*brand new*" Ticonderoga #2 pencil with a clean eraser on top, can be so rewarding. It is the dividend you receive by being a Rotarian.

As it turned out, we gave our support to "Operation Footprint". There was only so much money to go around. That project helped so many people walk correctly and forever changed their lives. Still, I will never forget the senior center in Tegucigalpa, and the conditions that existed that led to the creation of the center itself.

Respectfully submitted,

Peyton Glover, CFP®

Past-President,

Centennial Year 2004-2005



Fred Raio (Founder)



Rotary Anns



Save The Date!

**Rotary**  
Club of  
Westlake Village



THE MEMBERS OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF WESTLAKE VILLAGE  
INVITE YOU TO THEIR

*Fifty Year  
Anniversary  
Celebration*

**Thursday, June 16th, 2022**

The Gardens @ Los Robles Greens

299 Moorpark Road, Thousand Oaks, CA 91361

5:30pm – 6:30pm cocktails. No host bar.

6:30pm dinner and program.

Tickets: \$40 in advance

RSVP By May 30th at [RCWV.org](http://RCWV.org)

Questions? Email [KAQuigley@QuigleyInsuranceAgency.com](mailto:KAQuigley@QuigleyInsuranceAgency.com)

## #19 GRANT WILKINS



I have two stories about Rotary. The first story is how after joining The Rotary Club of Westlake Village, I found a project that I was passionate about. The second story is just funny.

Story number one: the Scoreboard at Westlake High School I should mention that I am a Westlake High School Graduate (Second Graduating class, 1981); and, all five of my children have since graduated from

WHS. When the oldest child was there, she played on the Softball team.

The school had been operating for 27 years at that point and it did not have a scoreboard for the softball team. I thought of an idea: if the Rotary Club could donate the money (\$5,000) for a scoreboard, we could put the Rotary logo on the scoreboard and have permanent signage. I presented it to the Board. President Ed Pope says it's a great idea but it's not in the budget. So, I countered what if we held a fundraiser and raised the funds? He said, absolutely!

### *It's not in the budget...*

So, we teamed up with Pleasant Hawaiian Holidays (now AAA Travel) and we raffled off a trip to Hawai'i. We had the softball team join us at lunch for the drawing. President Pope won the raffle! He has never been to Hawai'i, nor has he been since the raffle (that I know of). He never did use the voucher for airfare and accommodations for 5-Nights. He actually donated the trip back to the Club and the Club auctioned it off and made more money a year or two later. But we sold about \$10,000 worth of tickets. That paid for the \$5,000 Scoreboard at WHS and the \$2,000 trip to Hawai'i. There was several thousand dollars left over!

Second Project: The Ronald Reagan Presidential Library did not have U.S. flags for the opening of the Air Force One Pavilion. A representative at the Library asked me to secure ten U.S. flags to use during the ceremony (president George H. W. Bush attended). I scurried around to different schools and secured the flags. So, I presented the idea to buy ten U.S. flags with poles and stands to donate to the Presidential Library. The idea was well received. And, on June 14, 2006 our Club donated the flags, poles and stands to the Library during a ceremony when the Post

## #19 GRANT WILKINS (CONT)

Office unveiled its stamp of President Reagan. They had a Pony Express Rider whiz past everyone. Mary Guy said, "that was really cool!" Anyway, on the stand, we engraved the Reagan Presidential Library logo and the Rotary logo! They look really cool.

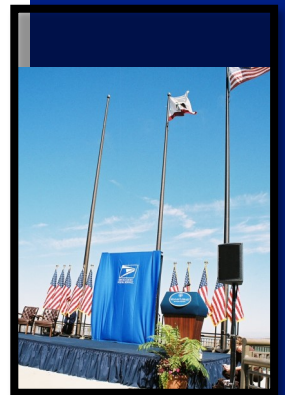


After we donated the flags, the Director of the Library accepted them and said, Reagan was the governor of California and they needed California State flags too! President Pope turned around and said, someone tell the President Elect she has a project to do! The next year we donated the California State flags.

*I enjoyed my ten years in the Club. ...*

### Story number 2: Happy Dollars

I was listening to KCLU during one of its pledge drives. Mary Olsen and Lance Orozco were on the air and somehow the subject of a "Cougar" came up. Cougar in the sense of older women dating younger men. Anyway, the following meeting Mary Olsen is asked to Squeeze people for "Happy Dollars." She does a great job and is hugging all the men in our Club and they are pulling out their wallets and handing over money. People like Sam Greene; Jock Mackenzie and Cy Johnson. I think the average age was 80 of these gentlemen at this time! So, she finally gets over to the younger side of the room and I stand up to donate a few dollars. I say something to the affect, you know, you are going have a hard time keeping that Cougar reputation hugging the men in this Club! People laughed. As I sit down, DeAnn says, "that was funny." I have never seen DeAnn smile except at that time.





## # 20 JEAN LUC JUBIN



My Rotary moment happened in April 2021 -- Classroom Furniture Project at Elementary School of Tonkobangou in Liboré, Niger. The children have nothing in class. A chalkboard and dirt.

**Project Scope :** Supply of 60 tables, chairs and benches for three classrooms.

**Outcome:** Every student has a chair and a desk

in the classroom

*Complicated but worth it...*



Things will come of this.



The Rotary moment was to visualize the village celebration on the day of the desks delivery. So touching, many good things will come of this.





## #21 SEMIH SINIK



Semih Sinik: Took Rotary Club of Westlake Village very seriously. Sgt at Arms, International Chair.

A craft story found about a new member...

Craft Talks? All about the member.

Steve Kerrigan sponsored Semih and his mentor was Pastor Dickey, but Bob now helps him. His classification is Imaging

Technology. Semih sold high speed cameras at the time, some of which shoot 10,000 frames per second. The military, universities, and manufacturers buy them.

### *Craft Talks?*

Semih was born in Istanbul, Turkey on the European side. He came to the US as an exchange student when he was 15, and ultimately ended up in Eerie, PA.

Semih said his work can sometimes be dangerous. He had been near radiation and falling helicopters, but has so far escaped unscathed.

He has two older sons, one of whom lives in London and the other lives locally. His wife's name is Stasia, and they have one son, who is working in New York this summer and will return to Harvard to finish his degree in Finance in the fall. Semih and Stasia met at Kodak, while both were working there.

He and Stasia love to travel and like Tahiti and Bora Bora. He also loved Botswana, Thailand, the Philippines and India. He likes rock music and has been going to the Outside Lands concerts in SF every year. His favorite food is Turkish cuisine, and his wife Stasia is a good cook. He enjoys downhill skiing in Park City, and also loves soccer. He played professionally for a year before coming to the U.S. permanently.



## # 22 GARY DICKEY

### PEOPLE OF ACTION STORY OF THE WEEK

Celebrating 50  
Years with  
your favorite  
Rotary Club of  
Westlake  
Village Story



Gary Dickey

Rotary  
Club of  
Westlake Village

#22

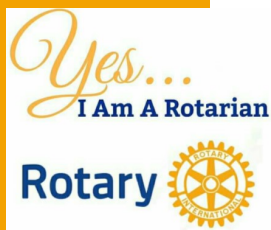
For some reason...

I have been a member of Rotary since 1980, a past President, and have been on many Rotary outreach programs.

In my Presidential year I travelled for 3 1/2 months in Europe visiting a different Rotary Club each week in the many countries I visited. I did not always understand the language being spoken, however, the one thing I realized was how Rotarians around the world join in the same spirit of cooperation, helping others, and making a difference in our communities and around the world.

### *In my Presidential year...*

After these many years, I continue to see that same spirit and it DOES make a difference! And most of the time, they even liked when I played the bagpipes!



## # 23 STEVE KERRIGAN



My aha moment in Rotary was in 2016 I attended the Rotary International Convention in Seoul, Korea 2016.

I was there with 43,000 other Rotarians from around the world.

Working with so many different people was a life changing and inspiring experience.

This experience really opened up my eyes to a different world. And now look at us!!!

### *My Rotary AHA Moment...*





## #24 MARY CATHERINE MCBRIDE



I was new to the area. Migrated from New York to Santa Monica, eventually landing in the Conejo Valley with my husband and two daughters, it was 2003.

I had never heard of Rotary but when I was a new parent member of the Newbury Park High School PTA and looking to raise funds for a new football field, I heard the NP Rotary club was a group of community minded citizens dedicated to helping worthy causes and they would be the

perfect organization to help us in our fundraising efforts.

We met. They got on board and the event was a success but what happened after that changed the direction of my life. I'm the classic example of when inviting someone to join Rotary it takes three asks before they commit and, for me, the third time was the charm.

### *I never heard of Rotary...*

I can't say I've had one "Ah Ha moment" but from the first day my passion as a Rotarian grew, and grew, and grew...and continues to grow.

What I found is a brotherhood of like-minded people that were not about personal growth and enhancement but about living with integrity and truth, with a commitment to helping any way we could, to move the bar higher and higher, to change the course of humanity one building block at a time and before we knew it we had built bridges, sky scrapers, water wells, schools, healed the sick, found cures for disease, fed the hungry,

worked as peacekeepers, and on and on and on.

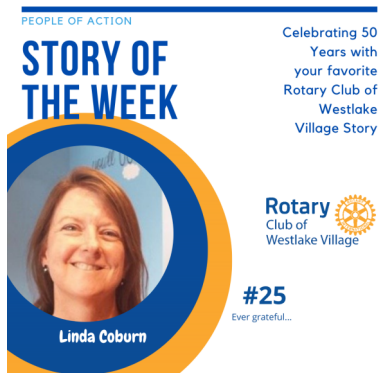
I discovered this was how I could personally pay it forward. To be a participating Rotarian means I can make a difference in the world I leave my children. Change the world I live in today. Change the existence of those less fortunate.

That's a great legacy. That's how I want to be remembered. That I made a difference.

That's my Rotary moment.



## #25 LINDA COBURN



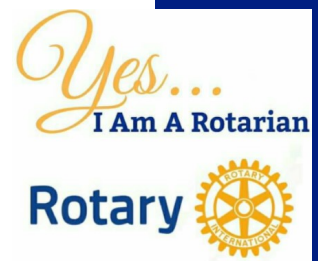
As a small business owner new to Westlake Village, I wanted to become a real member of the communities I serve and to meet more people. I tried several networking groups but something was missing. Then I realized the missing piece was community involvement.

When I was introduced to Rotary, I

found a home where everyone has a huge heart and invests so much of their time and resources into making the world a better place. Each meeting and event is an uplifting experience and I will be ever grateful to A-aron for bringing me into the fold.



*I will be ever grateful...*



## # 26 AUDREY BROWN



I would say that my largest Rotary aha moment was my trip to Honduras for the Operation Footprint project.

It is one thing to hear about a Rotary International Service project and another to actually experience it. Operation Footprint brings together doctors and interns from all over the country along with volunteer Rotarians and others to as-

sist with providing medical care to both children and adults in Tegucigalpa Honduras who have a condition called "Club Foot".

### *One of the highlights ...*

As a volunteer, I assisted the doctors with the intake process, brought toys and kept the children occupied waiting to see the doctors, received and inventoried the medical supplies, and took photos and videos during the actual surgery. As part of the trip, we had the opportunity to interact with several of the local Honduras Rotary Clubs, attending their meetings and participating in social activities. The Honduran people were friendly and so appreciative of the services and supplies we brought.

Additionally, we had the opportunity to visit several water projects and experienced first hand how these projects are able to get fresh water to the residents of remote areas that otherwise would not have access.

One of the highlights of the trip was meeting with members of Congress to present the medical equipment to the local hospital discussing how we can continue to ensure success with Operation Footprint in the future. To experience in person the impact that Rotary has on the world was life changing. When I first retired, I was hoping to participate in a couple of Rotary International Humanitarian projects each year. The trip took place just as COVID started and has been the last since. I am looking forward to once again being part of something so special and finding a way to give back.



## #27 CRISTINA AUDA

PEOPLE OF ACTION

### STORY OF THE WEEK



Cristina Auda

Celebrating 50  
Years with  
your favorite  
Rotary Club of  
Westlake  
Village Story



#27

Meals on Wheels  
Youth Exchange

My dearest Rotary family and Club of Westlake Village:

With you, I have delivered food to the homebound, raised funds for local charities, worked with international students from all over the world, built wells, built schools, manufactured special wheelchairs, trained therapy dogs, awarded outstanding teachers, created a magical holiday event, donated

Christmas gifts to local children, spread the values of the Rotary 4-Way test, fought to eradicate Polio, embraced any opportunity to reach out and help communities across all continents. In return, you have filled my heart with joy, love, compassion, hope, laughter and many precious Rotary moments.

*In return, you have filled...*

In you, I have found a treasure chest of friends. You hugged me when I was down and in mourning, you cheered with me and celebrated with me for important milestones, and most of all, by sharing my same values, you allowed me to grow into the Rotarian that I always wanted to be.

Together, may we continue to be focused in our goals, pure in our causes and driven by love, with clarity in our vision, compassion in our actions and perseverance in our Rotary missions.

Thank you God for uniting us in Rotary and thank you Rotary for uniting us in purpose. May we continue to grow as unique human beings, always different, but always united in Rotary. We are many, yet we are one Rotary. We are one, yet we are many beautiful Rotary moments.

Happy 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to our wonderful Club! Let us celebrate and be proud for everything we have achieved together! You are my Rotary family and I love you! I will forever be grateful for joining this Club.

Let's get to work. I am ready!





## # 28 DANA MOLDOVAN



My Rotary Moment was in Kano, Nigeria in 2005. We were the first foreigners to be admitted into the country after many political problems that stop completely any children immunization.

I had traveled before to many countries for work, but being in “hi tech” sector, I got to go to the most developed parts of the world. Nigeria was such a shock to me !

The extreme poverty was much worse than anything that I could have imagined. Do you know that Nigeria has huge oil reserves and in the same time is one of the poorest countries of the world?

### *It was in Kano, Nigeria in 2005*

The city of Kano was an important center for trans Sahara trade routes for more than 1,000 years. Trading brings prosperity, but not to Kano that I was seeing. In the streets you could see so much poverty... and so many people crippled by Polio.

We met with many political and religious leaders. Our primarily role was to try to mediate the situation about Polio immunization and try to disperse all the negativity about the vaccination. It was very stressful at many times. We went as well to immunize children door to door. The poverty was overwhelming...

I started asking myself what can I do to help and I could not figure it out ..?

We got together at our hotel one evening and I have started asking my team about what can we do ? We started together planning on several grants that we had implemented upon our return. From feeling completely overwhelmed we got energized ...

This experience showed me the power of Rotary, of working together, in order to help less fortunate people. Also, it built strong friendships among our team members as we shared this extreme experience.

...And as you all know Nigeria is now Polio free and in fact Africa was declared Polio free about one year and a half ago.

Thank you, Rotary, for the opportunity to help and be part of something bigger than myself ! Thank you, Rotary, for the friendships and for the memories !



## #29 KELLY HONIG

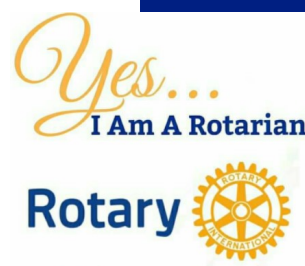


My Rotary story is a short one. I grew up knowing about Rotary because my father was an active member of the Sacramento Rotary Club. At that time, about 45-50 years ago, Rotary was men only. My sister and I had to attend the annual Father/Daughter event, which was long and boring. But I was aware how much my father, a very social guy, enjoyed the club, its service projects and social activities. When my father passed away, the Rotary chaplain officiated at his funeral.

*I grew up knowing...*

When I became a Council member for the City of Westlake Village, Ray Taylor and Audrey Brown invited me to our club, and encouraged me to join. I remembered my father's Rotary membership so I agreed to check it out. I came, I liked it, I joined and the rest is history. I am glad I did! Our club is fantastic and a true benefit to our community.

Kelly Honig.

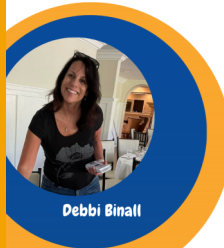


## #30 DEBBI BINALLI

PEOPLE OF ACTION

### STORY OF THE WEEK

Celebrating 50  
Years with  
your favorite  
Rotary Club of  
Westlake  
Village Story



Debbi Binall



#30

Together We Can...

My first introduction to the Rotary Club was a volunteer day at Ride On Therapy.

As I walked through the barn door to offer my help, I was greeted by a warm group of women who instantly made me feel welcomed.

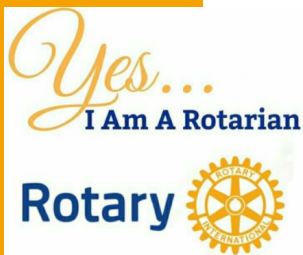
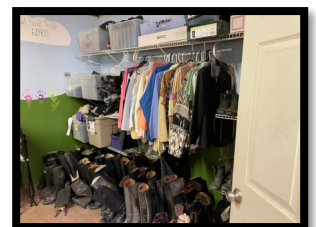
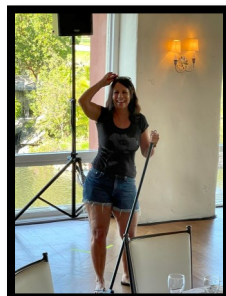
Together we organized a pile of donated items such as riding boots, saddle and grooming supplies, while also working hard to organize the space.

The Ride On Staff members were amazed by the transformation and so appreciative of all our efforts.

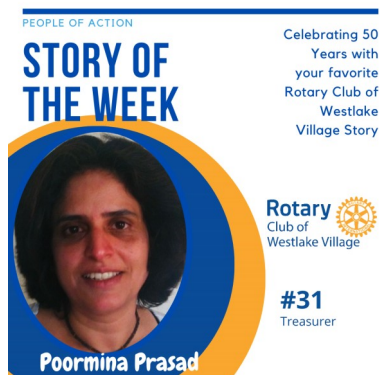
I left feeling so good about the quality and hearts of the wonderful people I met that day. So much so that I decided to further get involved in Rotary and am now a member.

The message I take away from each event I've volunteered at since is....  
Together We Can!!!

*I left feeling so good ...*



## #31 POORMINA PRASAD



I was introduced to Rotary very early in my life growing up in India and was re-associated with it in the last decade as my family in India became active Rotarians and would share their impact on the various causes that Rotary was involved in. It was interesting to have recurring updates on the activities of the Rotary Club of Westlake Village from my neighbor and good friend Jeanne Murphy. After a few introductions to the club members, I decided to join in 2013

and it has been a very fulfilling decision with the friendships that I have made and satisfying my need to help humankind and do philanthropy both locally and globally. My AHA moment was when my family and I attended the Rotary International Convention 2018 in Toronto, Canada. The size and scale of the event with 25,188 Rotarians from around the world were impressive and gave me an insight into how large Rotary was and how it attracted people across the world with similar viewpoints.

*The size and scale of the ...*

The stories we heard and the speeches from the speakers really inspired us. My twin girls who were part of the Interact club in high school were so inspired, and they adopted 2 projects that were showcased in the international house of friendship and raised funds to help the projects.

Every day I am grateful that I am part of this wonderful organization, and we are all striving to make the world a better place.





## # 32 DAPPER SPAR



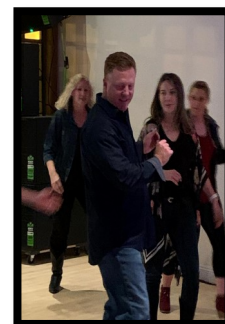
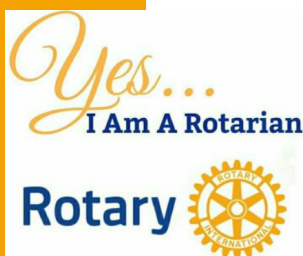
I joined Rotary in May of 2004. Mark Jaffe was a member and we met each other in Indian Guides and he suggested I should take a look. My mom passed from cancer in November of 2003 and I was looking for something to fill the void. Obviously nothing can replace your mom but I thought something else to care about couldn't hurt.

Boy was I right. Within weeks I was working on Youth Service projects and within six months I was running youth service. I got involved with international the following year and joined the board the year after that.

### *A tutoring program...*

I have been really impressed with the people in our club. They all give up their time and money to help people they have never seen and most certainly never will. The idea of "service before self" really rings true in our club and probably every Rotary club around the world.

My "AHA" moment came my first year in the club. We used to run a tutoring program within youth service where we would volunteer an hour a week at a local title IX elementary school in the area. I was working in a class in Thousand Oaks and there was a little boy in a wheel chair in the class. His name was Ryan and he was cute and funny and obnoxious. He and I hit it off right away and during recess he and I would read and/or throw a ball. I didn't keep in touch with him which is a shame but I'm sure he's a great young adult now. He doesn't know it but he changed my life and cemented my desire to help to others.



## # 33 ANDY LUPANOW



My Rotary journey began twice with two very different outcomes. I first joined the Rotary Club of Westlake Village in 1986. I was a 28-year-old fledgling entrepreneur that just started a computer business. I was very excited to join a Club that was very prestigious. Membership consisted of the president of the biggest bank in town, the publisher of the area newspaper, the city manager, and many other prestigious businessmen. These were the movers and shakers of the community and I often wondered how I managed to sneak into this group without anybody noticing. I was aware of service projects the club was doing but I mainly enjoyed the friendship of members and the business advice I got. I had to leave Rotary for personal reasons in 1988 but always felt like something was missing and stayed in touch with fellow members.

### *The appreciation that...*

I joined Rotary Club of Westlake Village a second time in 1990 and was fortunate to be in Rotary when women were finally allowed to join. Many of us were worried about how this change was going to affect the old boys club we enjoyed. It took a couple years and some fantastic female members to bring us around, but we eventually realized how much better Rotary could be with a diversity of viewpoints. My second time around, I felt much more like I belonged and resolved to get involved in the community service aspects of Rotary. Our club was working with non-profits such as Many Mansions on projects affecting low-income youth in our community and I found myself drawn to these kids and the opportunity to help them. At this time, I was heavily involved in coaching soccer and saw an opportunity to blend my two passions, kids playing soccer and Rotary service. With the help of fellow Rotary members, the AYSO soccer organization, Many Mansions, businesses in the community and my family members, I was able to put together a project that allowed underprivileged children to participate in the AYSO soccer experience. AYSO waived the membership dues, stores in the community donated or reduced prices for soccer equipment and uniforms and fellow members arranged rides for the kids whose parents were working two or three jobs and couldn't get them to their soccer practices and games. All my family members spent time sorting all the equipment and had gathered to help with distribution.

## # 33 ANDY LUPANOW– CONTINUED



My first Rotary Aha moment happened on that day when we met with the children. I saw the impact on my children when they saw the smiles and excitement of the children we were helping. I still remember, to this day, when I slipped a pair of soccer cleats on a 10 year old boy and he told me these were the first new pair of shoes he had ever gotten. Through this project, I saw the transformational power of Rotary service. AYSO went on to make

helping low-income youth an ongoing part of their annual budget and the parents of these kids made changes to their work schedules to see their children play and get them to their practices. Seeing the smiling faces of the kids we helped at the games each weekend made everything seem possible.

### *The appreciation that...*

When I was asked to be President of my Club for the 2002-2003 Rotary year, I was very honored. My wife Joy and I were worried about the toll the job would take on our family and business but knew that we had to step up to the challenge. The fact that the Club was sending us to a Rotary Convention in Brisbane, Australia did make the decision a bit easier. This was our first of many Rotary International Conventions and I could write a long story on each of them and how amazing they were. Since I was now a President-Elect, our Club offered me the opportunity to join a discovery trip to Honduras to look at projects being developed there.

This was my second Rotary Aha moment, seeing the disparity between our lives and the people of Honduras. The appreciation that the people of Honduras had for the small things we were doing to help them was inspiring. I remember visiting a school in a very rural area and the excitement the kids showed when they received a #2 pencil. Many were asking for extras for brothers and sisters. We gave them donated clothes and I remember the confusion some kids had when they received pajamas as these are a luxury they don't get to enjoy. We were helping seniors that were forced to live in dumps, teens that were forced into prostitution, patients with cleft palates and had many other projects on the horizon. These experiences helped me to see the direct impact Rotary has on the world and gave me the motivation to

## # 33 ANDY LUPANOW– CONTINUED

do my best as President of the Rotary Club of Westlake Village, District Representative of Group 4, Assistant Governor for Groups 4 and 5 and Assistant to the District Governor. All of these positions helped me see the power of Rotary but none of them were as impactful as the look in the eyes of a single child whose life Rotary has changed.



*Seeing the disparity between our lives...*





## #34 JOY LUPANOW



The impact of the Rotary Club of Westlake Village:

Our club went to an orphanage in Mexico several times. We brought clothing, toys, toiletries, and pen pal letters. We would read, do crafts, and play soccer. We built a bunk house for volunteers to stay while helping, we built beds for sleeping in, and brought shoes for the workers there amongst many things. The children had very small personal spaces. They had their own bed, drawer, and a shelf to keep any personal belongings such as pictures, a stuffed animal, a pencil,

*Every Rotarian should attend*

One girl was proudly showing me her shelf, with her pictures and her personal belongings that were very important to her (and all that she had), I told her how beautiful and impressed I was. She told me that her parents were not able to visit her often and that she had seen us more than her parents. As a mother, it made me feel very sad. I know that we were important to her because she offered to share her soap with me. The simple offer of sharing what she had with me has made an impact on me for many, many years. I have had many



pleasures of service with the Rotary Club of Westlake Village, this is one that stands out as to what impact Rotary can have on an individual child, sometimes it is just as simple as a bar of soap.



Just how “international” is Rotary International? Growing up I always thought of Rotary as a men’s club. I soon realized that that notion was antiquated. Rotary International was that exactly that, international

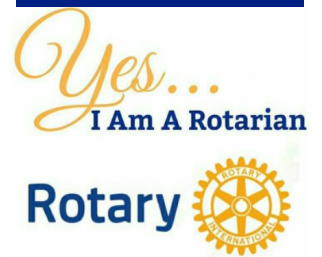
## # 34 JOY LUPANOW CONTINUED

and it is also diverse and inclusive.

After attending my first Rotary International Convention I was gob smacked as to how truly international an organization can be. All the voices, sounds, smells and such. You can run into a past President of Rotary International (Frank Devlyn) walking swiftly down the hall, trying to go to their next meeting and noticing that you are trying to take a picture of yourself and your husband. He stops to join in the picture, he smiles and quickly hands you a glass wipe for your eyeglasses and is on his way. Or meeting with Sylvia Whitlock, the first woman president of a Rotary Club.

Every Rotarian should attend at least one Rotary International Convention. There are many activities in which to join, opening and closing ceremonies, entertainment, House of Friendship (don't forget to get your ribbons), learning sessions, meals and every Rotarian should attend the Home Hospitality Night, that is where you will meet the people from the area where the convention is held. It is a crapshoot. You have no idea as to what will happen, what you will do, or what you will eat. Extreme fun! I have been to baseball games, ate wild food, rode street cars, listened to local bands, danced, watched shows, played golf (oh wait I do not play golf, I watched golf...), and enjoyed bar-be-que.

Cheers!

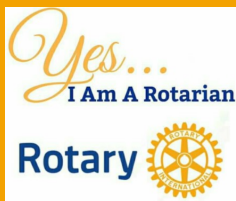


## # 35 LEE ANN PARKER



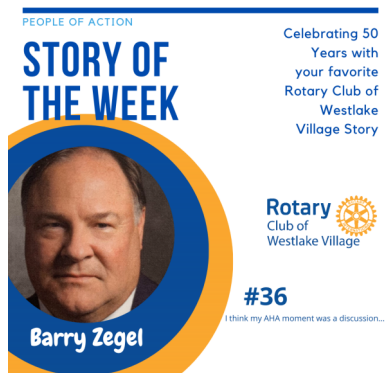
I can say this about our club ( hopefully it is what you are looking for) it is wonderful to be a part of such an amazing group of Rotarians who are mission minded and share the same passion for helping and enriching our community. From the very first meeting and intros, I have felt so welcomed! and also very supported in the work I'm doing with The Turner Foundation.

*From the very first ...*



From my first phone call with Aaron ( membership) , I think we talked an hour about all the amazing opportunities to serve within our club, to meeting Karen Quigley ( my sponsor) and learning more about the history of the club, to my first club social outing experience with Chris Clark... I can't say enough .. how much I appreciate the amazing people and new friendships I've made in such a short time! Love this club!!

## #36 BARRY ZEGEL



### My Rotary Story

I have a very good friend who had polio as a child. He was bed ridden for over a year but thankfully recovered. Polio is such a horrible disease and I had no idea how much the Rotary had to do with the eradication of this disease.

I think my AHA moment was a discussion at one of the Rotary meetings about the success that was achieved by the Rotary world wide in addressing this problem.

### *About the success...*

I was really impressed at the types of things that the Rotary Club is capable of taking on, large and small, to help both the local community and challenges all over the world.





## # 37 ANDY DOMINGUEZ



In 1997 the Conejo Valley YMCA, where I worked, was looking to expand into the Newbury Park area. A few of our Y Board members were also Rotarians in the Rotary Club of Newbury Park. They invited me to a meeting to check it out. The group was full of jokes and laughter, close friends and like-minded, ethical and community service-oriented folks. Besides being an early morning meeting, which worked great for me with volun-

teer meetings 3 nights a week for the Y already, the group was a perfect fit for me. I joined the RCNP a few months later in 1998. Besides being the Programs Chair, Community Service Chair, Foundation Chair, Membership Chair and Oktoberfest Co-Chair in my time, I got to attend the RI Convention in Osaka, Japan and I was Club President once and shared the role a second time with 2 others in a year the Prez-Elect had to back out. As many things in life go, our

*Low and behold, poof...*



RCNP “spark” fizzled out between members retiring, moving out of State and simply moving on in life and it became increasingly difficult to find leadership and motivation for the Club. In 2020, Covid hit and it was truly the straw that broke the camel’s back, as the saying goes, and it was clear we needed to dis-ban the Club, which left many of us devoted to the Rotary movement

feeling in limbo....

Low and behold, poof!, another Club, the RC of Westlake Village, opened their arms in a completely refreshing, welcome hug (although with Covid the “hugs” were all virtual for the first year it seemed). After many years of being one of a few who helped keep things going as best we could in our previous Club, I felt like I needed to sit back for a bit and see where the needs might be in my new “home.” It’s been great to be a part of another vibrant Club and to also be able to be just a “worker bee”. I’m sure sometime in the future there will be an opportunity to be a part of the leadership and who knows, perhaps a new stint at Club Prez.... Way off in the future. For now it’s just nice to be involved.

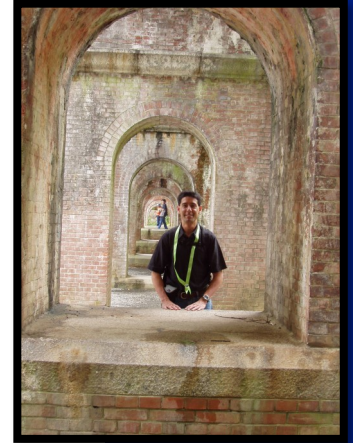
Oh, the famous “Rotary AHA Moment” everyone talks about....It’s really hard to

## #37 ANDY DOMINGUEZ-CONTINUED

say after being a Rotarian for 24 years when my AHA moment was. Maybe just all of Rotary and it's World missions, the Service Above Self motto, the 4 Way Test and all the folks involved just "fit" with who I am, who I strive to be and who I want to share and help with those efforts to keep and make our communities better places, that I haven't needed an AHA moment. Maybe it was just the invite to become a member. Maybe it's the great lunches. Maybe it's all the nice smiles and laughter. Maybe it's the volunteering we all do and lives we change. I can't lock any moment in time to an AHA moment. But the lunches are pretty good, right?

I'm looking forward to sharing more of my new Rotary family's adventures, experiences, successes and relationships. Here's to another 50 years! Cheers!

Yours In Rotary, Andy Dominguez



## # 38 CHRISTINA ORTEGA



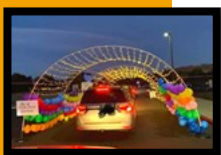
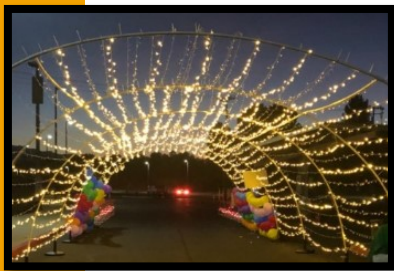
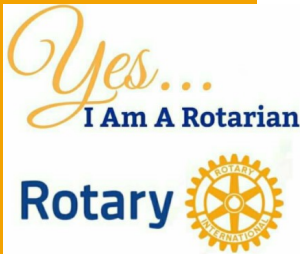
I decided to join The Rotary Club of Westlake Village after seeing Erin Culbertson posting so many photos of all the fun events the club was doing around the community. I joined during the Pandemic so did not have the opportunity to meet everyone right away. My first in person meeting was at Stonehaus to discuss social events. I sat across this woman with beautiful

wavy blonde hair, a great smile and a very cool FreeMasons hat. She introduced herself as Lynn Jacobsen and became one of my very first friends of many to make in Rotary.

*I had a very ambitious idea of creating a tunnel of lights*

As the months progressed, I continued to meet so many beautiful souls in our club that have dedicated their time and energy to make changes for the commonwealth. My AHA moment was the day of our very first Drive-In movie, Elf. I had a very ambitious idea of creating a tunnel of lights to bring a dazzling experience to our movie goers. I was not entirely sure how many people were going to show up to help set up for the event but I was amazed at the amount of those that did arrive to help bring my vision to life. All I can remember are the smiles, the laughter, the stories being shared while working, the overall sense of joy and the building of life long friendships that day. Everything turned out spectacular and I was overwhelmed with a sense of achievement that

we were able to pull off such a successful event. Since then I have been captivated by all the incredible people within our club; and our unified mission to bring wonder and change to our community. Every moment since has created so many more marvelous memories, friendships and skill sets to treasure for years to come. Living so far away from home (Texas) I have discovered a new





## #39 RYAN MAJUS



I've only been a Rotarian for less than a year but have been an honorary Rotarian for a year and a half.

I've enjoyed helping with the projects produced by the club, starting with 'Elf', the drive-in movie. Since then we've done several fundraisers, including 'The Incredibles' drive-in and Holidays in the Village (HITV). I got hooked on the first one, seeing the

willfulness and comradery that flows through the club members. Difficult not to fall in love with the group.

*Difficult not to fall in love with this group...*

The HITV project was sizable, yet the members chipped in greatly and made it all happen. My most impressive feelings thus far were moments before the event started, looking across the landscape and realizing we made it in time. Scanning the area and observing the members standing there, seeing that it all came together because of an amazing team. It was quite moving. In between bringing the community together, it's nice to meet regularly to enjoy everyone's company. I'm very grateful for getting the opportunity to be a part of such a wonderful group.





## # 40 LEE GINSBURG



### My Rotary Aha Moment

My Rotary experience began when I started my work career around 1985.

Believing I should join many organizations to get my business name out in the community, a client, Harry Cook, invited me to his Rotary Club in Agoura Hills, where my business was located.

After the meeting, Harry said I should join as all the business owners in Agoura Hills were members.

I was young so for many years I was a great fork and knife member, would go to a social occasionally and not often get involved. However, I ultimately learned that Rotary is not about my getting new business but rather about what the club and I could do for Rotary International and our local community.

### *I said Yes...*

Ray Taylor, the President of my current Westlake Village noontime club, asked if I would like to be President for the 2017-2018 year. Although I was a 20 something years of membership member, I had never even has a thought of being President.

I said yes! Wow, talk about learning what Rotary is all about...I have even more admiration for the organization. I got involved. As President Elect Nominee I loaded up on Rotary, I learn everything. I went to all the Avenue of Service meetings, all socials and participated in all our club projects.

What really brought me closer to Rotary was the events I was able to share with my family, like Meals on Wheels, feeding the homeless and feeding the needy on Thanksgiving morning. It brought our family together and showed my children that life of giving results in more comparison and a better community.



## #41 ROSE TUBOR



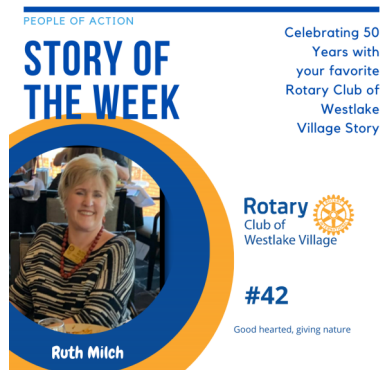
I was introduced to the Rotary organization by my daughter Sheri, she was President of the Coronado Club.

As they would throw their different events mariachi night, picnic in the park, I would attend and have a great time.

Finally, Sheri said mom why don't you join a club near you so she pulled up three

clubs all of which I have visited including Westlake Rotary. A gentleman by the name of Bob greeted me and made me feel very comfortable and I requested to join. And here I am still enjoying Rotary Club of Westlake Village.

## #42 RUTH MILCH



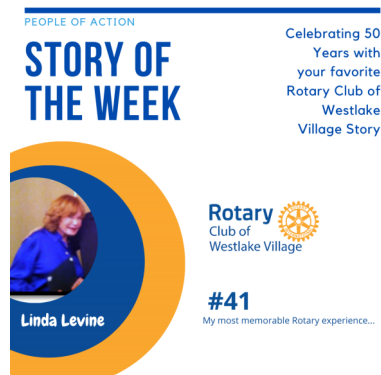
When I moved to Westlake Village six years ago, I wanted to find a way to get acquainted and take part in the community.

When I visited the WLV Rotary Club, I was impressed by the good hearted, giving nature of it's members. This was the kind of group I wanted to be involved in.

I'm pleased to say that I'm enjoying the Club, it's activities, and my friendships with my fellow members.



## # 43 LINDA LEVINE



When the old woman opened the door her unsteady gate, bent back and wrinkled face were evidence of many decades lived. My first impression of Doris, however, was the lovely smile she showed me when I said I was delivering food from Meals on Wheels. I told her that I was a member of the Rotary Club of Westlake Village and how proud I am that our members work so hard to help people in need.

On this particular day, I had nine people on my Wheels on Meals list and Doris was my first stop. We warmly exchanged names and she sadly confided in me that she was lonely and that her Meals on Wheels volunteers were the only people that visited her.

### *MY MOST MEMORABLE ROTARY EXPERIENCE...*

I placed the hot and cold food on the kitchen table while she commented on how she always loves the flavors of the food and how well it is prepared. Doris saw me glancing at the framed pictures on a side table. With tears in her eyes, this beautiful woman told me that they were family members who died or no longer contacted her. She had been a nurse when she was younger and had loved helping people. I touched her hand and told her I was glad to meet her and that we shall see each other again soon.

On my next delivery I walked past a wheelchair ramp into a small mobile home. A sign pasted on the door instructed me to open it and walk in. A man who appeared to be about seventy with thinning charcoal hair rolled towards me in his wheelchair. "I very much appreciate that you are visiting me." John said as he softly touched my arm. After putting the food down on a low table where a knife and fork were already placed, he asked me to please pick up a magazine on the floor which he couldn't reach. He mentioned that he was a war vet and would like to share his memories with me sometime. I was sorry I couldn't stay longer to converse with this very interesting man, but I needed to attend to the others on my list.

My following contact lived in a small apartment on the second floor. When I entered, Dorothy, a middle-aged woman wearing thick bifocals, gently shook

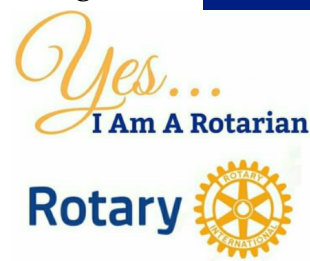
## # 43 LINDA LEVINE CONTINUED

my hand. After placing the food on a small tray in the living room, she requested that I take out a soda from her refrigerator for her. She explained the refrigerator door was too heavy to open as she had arthritis in her hands. I noticed there was very little food in her refrigerator. The sound coming from the small television was very loud and I assumed it was because she had difficulty hearing. During our conversation she mentioned that she needs new hearing aids but cannot afford them. I made a mental note to look into her situation. Because of her arthritis, she could not walk the stairs to leave her apartment so she was literally a prisoner in her home. I had a warm happy feeling knowing that at least she wouldn't go hungry that day.

With a sense of joy, believing I was making such a positive difference in people's lives, I reached my next destination. Marie, an elderly woman with thin orange tinted hair piled neatly on top of her head, greeted me at the door. She wore a pretty flowered dress, and she smelled of a lovely gardenia perfume that I remember my mother wearing during the fifties. Entering her tiny neat apartment with frayed mismatched furniture; I could hear a Frank Sinatra record playing from an antique record player. It was as if time stood still. I know she tried her best to set a mood for my visit and to dress up for the occasion. We both agreed on how delicious the food smelled and we left each other with a friendly hug.

My next destination was nearby to a neglected motel that was now rented to tenants that could not afford a nicer place to live. The two individuals receiving the food occupied converted separate residences a few doors away from each other. Most of the quarters consisted of a combined living room and bedroom; a tiny kitchen and a miniature bathroom. The painted walls were peeling from neglect. A narrow bed sat next to a wall in each of the tenant's apartments. The two people, with their slight unsteady bodies, had waited anxiously for my arrival. They were hungry and were so grateful for the food.

The next visit was with Henry, a person who remembered me from previous visits. We made a special connection because he grew up in a European city that I was familiar with. Because he was dependent upon an oxygen tank, he had limited mobility. Henry loved to talk about his childhood and would reminisce about places we had both been to. His son had been killed in the war (I'm not sure which war) and he had nobody left in his family. Henry wore his son's college sweatshirt each time that we met. He told me that this article of clothing gave him some feeling of comfort and a link with his past. I said I would look forward to seeing him again and I really meant it. With a glad heart, I drove to deliver the food to the next person on my list.





## # 43 LINDA LEVINE CONTINUED



Becky lived a few blocks away from Henry and I knew her well. Her tiny apartment had only a few basic furniture pieces with a tattered brocaded velvet chair by one of the walls. Next to the chair was a table with about a dozen pill bottles resting on top of it. Becky said she paid so much for her necessary medicine that she could not afford to buy food. Meals on Wheels made it possible for her to be fed.

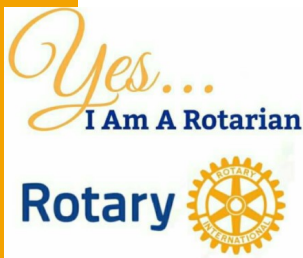
My last delivery of the day was for Shirley, a frail gentle woman who had waited eagerly by her patio door for my arrival. This was probably her only meal of the day and she was hungry. After leaving the food next to her kitchen sink, as she requested, I sat down on her faded crimson sofa to chat. I admired the beautiful flowers placed all around her small apartment. She told me they are artificial because she doesn't always have the energy to take care of real flowers. I said I couldn't tell the difference. The flowers were her way of bringing the outdoors into her life even though she seldom left her home.

Driving home, after completing my deliveries, I reflected upon the immensely good feeling I had knowing that I touched these special people in such a meaningful way. I gave them food and they fed my soul. Living in our beautiful community and being blessed by never having to go hungry, I feel an obligation to give back so that others are also well fed.

Meals on Wheels is a wonderful organization that brings nutritious food and a human touch to many people in need. Oftentimes the Meals on Wheels volunteer is the only person with whom the recipient has any social contact. What an incredible way to spend just a few hours of your day!

Meals on Wheels is always seeking volunteers. To contact them in your community, consult the Meals on Wheels website and follow the easy instructions. It is one of the best experiences you will ever have.

Thank you, my Rotary Club of Westlake Village for making this experience possible.



## SPECIAL MEMBERS ACKNOWLEDGED

### PEOPLE OF ACTION STORY OF THE WEEK



Celebrating 50  
Years with  
your favorite  
Rotary Club of  
Westlake  
Village Story



President 1995-1996

Born on July 8, 1934 in Sacramento, CA. He attended schools in Sacramento until he went to Cal Berkeley. He along with his wife founded PTS Furniture in Thousand Oaks, California. Joe was an extremely kind and generous person and active in the community. He was very involved in the Westlake Rotary Club and was President from 1995-1996. Joe initiated the Rotary Club of Westlake Village first Street Fair. He also supported and contributed to many local non-profit organizations, as well as some nationwide. Joe and Pat Paulucci, were the primary donors to the new station KCLU in 2011. "We feel very strongly about KCLU," said Joe Paulucci. "We've become a sound-byte society and the whole story doesn't get told a lot of times." He was a great communicator and loved a good conversation with customers, fellow Rotarians and friends.



On this most auspicious occasion of the Westlake Village Rotary Club's Fiftieth "Golden" Anniversary, I wish to congratulate all past and current members for achieving this incredible milestone.

Our Rotary Club is a special organization with a heart of "gold" for what it represents and what it has accomplished in enhancing and improving the lives of countless individuals it's touched over five incredible decades.

Congratulations Rotary Club of Westlake Village! Here's to the next fifty years of outstanding service above self! **Ray Taylor**

### PEOPLE OF ACTION STORY OF THE WEEK



Celebrating 50  
Years with  
your favorite  
Rotary Club of  
Westlake  
Village Story



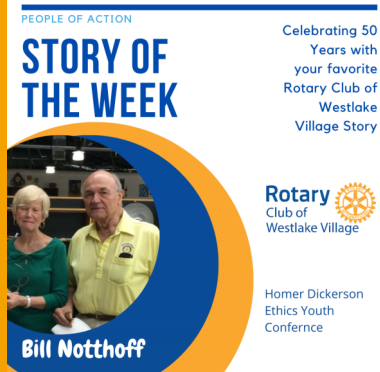
1972  
Honorary Lifetime Member

**Homer Caston** is an Honorary Lifetime Rotarian of this club. A PP of 1978-1979. In 2014, he was still going to meetings and celebrating being a member for 42 years.

A special note Homer's wife Diane was a Rotary Ann (Active Rotarian Wives Group)

Looks like he is now 97 years old living in Camarillo.

## BILL NOTTHOFF



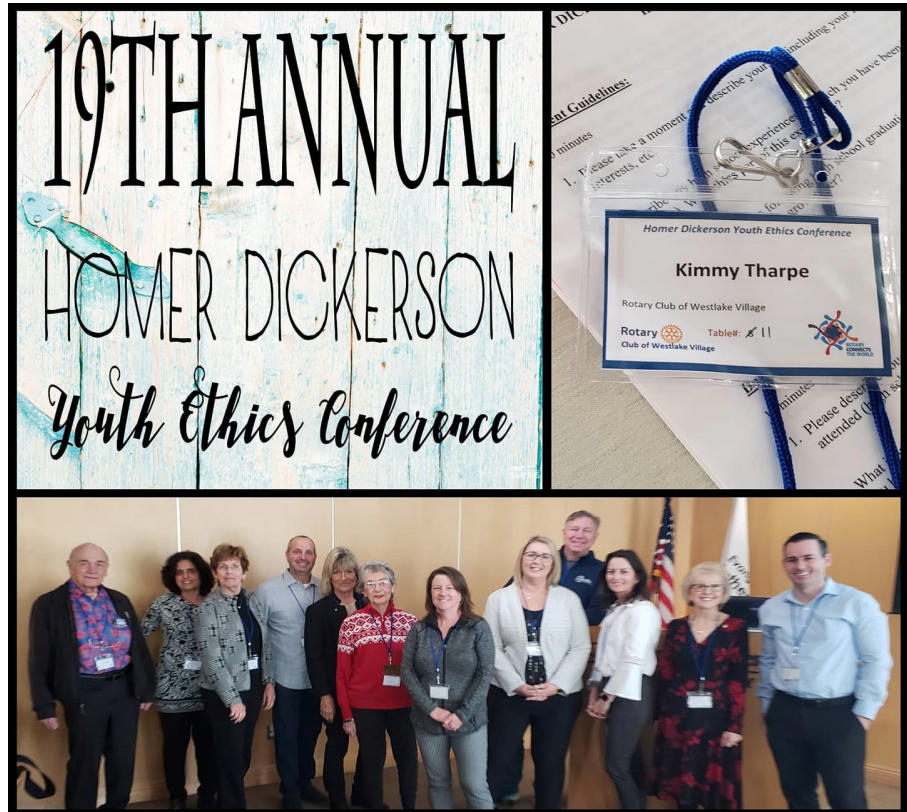
“Most profound and long lasting, being the chairman of Homer Dickerson Youth Ethics Conference. The club holds the leadership conference each year to encourage students to think about how ethics plays an important role throughout life. “



**Homer Dickerson**

**Rotary**  
Club of  
Westlake Village

**Youth Ethics  
Conference**



Bill Notthoff, Poormina, Nadine, Lee, Chris, Naomi, Linda, Kimmy, Mike, Jeanne, Karen, Dwight.

## SAM GREENE



In 1957 Sam joined the Rotary Club of New York City. He served on several committees of that club and on the committee for the Rotary International Convention held there in 1959.

In 1963 where he became a member of the Rotary Club of Santa Monica and eventually Director. Rotary Club WLV President in 1983-84. He was District Governor of District 5240 in 1990-91. Along the way, he has served in virtually every responsible position at the club and district level. In addition, he was chairman of the Rotary Rose Parade Float Committee in 1996. Sam traveled to New Delhi, India in January of this year to be a delegate to the Council on Legislation.

Sam received Rotary's highest recognition, the Service Above Self Award and the Rotary Foundation's Citation for Meritorious Service. Of particular note, Sam has visited Rotary meetings in 36 countries and has addressed Rotary Clubs and Conferences in Argentina, Canada, Singapore, Bahrain and England.

In September of 1997, Sam was nominated to be a member of the Board of Directors for Rotary International. His term will be 1999-2001. It was a special honor that he was formally elected in his home state of Indiana when Rotary International held its annual convention in Indianapolis, Indiana in June of last year.

An inspiring person, Sam was an exceptionally active member in the Westlake Village Rotary Club, his Rotary home for the past 25 of his 57 years of service. The aid he provided to people/countries in need far exceeded inspirational as he gave so much of himself asking so little in return.



Melinda Crown - Relay for Life Team in Honor of Sam Greene.



Sam Greene



Cy Johnson & Sam Greene



## # 44 CHRIS DALEIDEN



Rotary AHA , might have been ...

In December of 2019, I went Christmas shopping with the RCWLV and the kids from the Boys and Girls Club, I wasn't a Rotarian yet, but I went anyway and helped a very nice young boy who wanted to be a mathematician and get a pair of much needed shoes and a jacket during this shopping spree. I tell you the look of anticipation on the children's faces getting ready to shop was delightful.

February of 2020 when I became a Rotarian and experienced the Homer Dickerson Ethics Conference first off, which left me in awe about the youth that attended and the event itself. What a wonderful opportunity for them and for the facilitators to work through ethical questions.

The very next month Covid19 struck and everything changed. The Rotary luncheons were replaced with Zoom meetings and members who did not attend were called just to check in and to see if all was well with them. Service Projects, socials and fundraisers as this Rotary Club knew them were gone for now but the club pivoted and designed a service project with little or no contact in

### *The very next month...*

the community. Identify Conejo Heroes and Thank Essential Workers, up went yard signs and banners, cards and posters were created and sent. The Club did make a splash, a bit of money in selling the yard signs to give back to the community and received a few donations but most of all created a lot of smiles...

It sure was a great project, especially with what was going on in the world.

Next up, during Covid working on the Drive-In Fundraisers with a spectacular group of new and existing Rotary members, the energy and teamwork was exhilarating especially during the pandemic. Building that sense of fellowship and friendship was really special for me.

As the country was starting to ease out of the pandemic, the club was trying to decide what to do about a big fundraiser which is when Holidays in the Village. A European Marketplace was conceived. This project took over some people's lives and watching so many Rotarians bring the vision to fruition was pretty powerful. This all being done while they were working full time careers and families was just mind boggling. So much respect for these people that really lived up to the Service Above Self Mantra.

Service projects like, filling Easter baskets, Food Drives, work days at Ride On Therapeutic Horsemanship and the YMCA, make lunches for the homeless, MOW deliveries and everyone of them have just been so rewarding, in

## #44 CHRIS DALEIDEN CONTINUED

completely different ways. Which does segue way into an AHA Rotary Moment, just not mine.

Because of the difficulty to get 50 Stories for this anniversary book, I took to perusing the internet for Rotary stories about past RCWLV members. I learned many things about Rotarians, I learned individual service club members do not get a lot of press, for that matter service clubs in general don't get very much press. While I did not find as many Rotary stories about RCWLV members that I hoped to, I did about other Rotary members locally and internationally. I am overwhelmed with their accomplishments and their Rotary AHA moments when members really get Rotary, its pretty powerful.

Which one of these was my Rotary AHA Moment?

You can tell that in a very short amount of time, I have had some pretty powerful experiences since I became a member, but I haven't had what I would call a Rotary AHA moment where I really get Rotary. But instead I received a gift, meeting and working along side of some pretty, wonderful and giving people. People that I am completely humbled by.

Maybe that is my Rotary AHA Moment, the people.



PEOPLE OF ACTION  
**STORY OF  
THE WEEK**

Celebrating 50  
Years with  
your favorite  
Rotary Club of  
Westlake  
Village Story



Rotary  
Club of  
Westlake Village

**#45**  
My most memorable Rotary experience...

## # 45 ARMANDO LOZANO

My name is Armando Lozano, owner of Lozano's Diamond Jewelry. When I started Rotary in Camarillo Sunrise Spanish Hills I was invited by fellow entrepreneurs and city council of Camarillo.

I soon became involved with holding certain chair positions. The one that was most meaningful to me was working with Frontier Continuation High School. The staff would pick the student of the month and I would get prizes and ensure the process of each student every month visiting our club. The gratitude on their face and appreciation from the students were the most memorable.

In my career as owner of Lozano's Diamond Jewelry I later moved from Camarillo to Westlake Village. I was approved and joined the Westlake Village Rotary

### *Two Trolleys...*



Club Noon. I met Dapper Spar, Kimmy Tharpe, Aaron Guerrero Karen Quigley, Barbara Chilton, Ray Taylor, Kelly Honig, and many, many more names dear to me. I remember one speaker coming to North Ranch, who was at one time a troubled soul who came from a broken background. The words that he impacted me with were "If you don't help these neighborhood children from broken homes then they will come rob you some day!" So from there I

became a speaker to children in bad neighborhoods in the Los Angeles area. I feel I have made an impact by helping people in these neighborhoods and continue to do what I can for all people in our local neighborhoods. It doesn't matter what neighborhood your in you can make a difference!

Not to be confused there are two trolleys in this story. One was owned by me and it's not the best picture of my Moley the Trolley. The other Trolley that Ray Diskette and our group was on that night was filled by my friend and customer Charles Sandlin who use to own Roadrunner shuttle





The third Picture is of Harvey in front of my store. I personally started a car show in front of my store. I use to be on the Board of Directors for Camarillo Fiesta so I had access to the Car show list. Camarillo fiesta had a car show for 30 plus years on the Arnell bridge and we developed a huge list. I gave that to Harvey and he combined it with his list and created a super car show list. We are about to start another Car show. This time it will be in the early evenings, with shaved Ice and ice cream and whatever else we decide to add. Coming soon! I will try to dig up some more dirt.



## # 46 DEANN JUSTESEN

PEOPLE OF ACTION

### STORY OF THE WEEK

Celebrating 50  
Years with  
your favorite  
Rotary Club of  
Westlake  
Village Story



#46

I didn't join Rotary because I wanted to...

I did not join the Rotary because I wanted to or because of all the good things it did in the community and around the world.

In fact I did not know much about what Rotary actually did. I joined because my boss told me I should. I had recently received a promotion and my boss, a longtime member of Rotary, said I should consider it. He suggested I join the Rotary Club of Westlake Village. When a good friend's father of-

fered to sponsor me, I decided to give it a try. It turned out to be one of my better decisions.

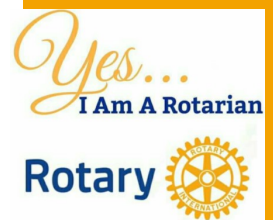
At the time there were not many women in Rotary and I liked being one of the first few women in the club. I met a lot of really good people almost immediately.

### *I didn't join Rotary because I wanted to...*

One person, Sam Greene, taught me early on what Rotary was about. He invited me to go with him and his wife, Caki, to feed homeless people at a local church.

It amazed me how many people, including some families, showed up and how grateful they were to be served a warm meal. I had no idea at the time that there were so many needy people in an affluent city like Thousand Oaks. The feeling of being able to help them just a little bit was overwhelming. It really taught me how people working together through Rotary can have an impact on their communities. For me it started with feeding the homeless and has continued with many other fulfilling Rotary projects that have helped a lot of people.

What I have seen accomplished by this club both in the community and around the world convinced me being a Rotarian was something I would do even when I no longer had a boss telling me I should. The Graduate...





## #47 JAMES SHIPE



I have always wanted to help others and the community I am involved in. In my prior Career as an EMT I was able to assist and continue to do it now as a Financial Advisor. I am the Chair on the Advisory Board for the Bumblebee Foundation which is a non-profit that helps kids who have Cancer. I knew I wanted to help the community I live in even more, so I started looking into other options. What better way than joining Rotary whose goal is to do exactly that.

I joined the Rotary just a few months ago. I originally planned to join pre-covid but unfortunately life happened, and I had to postpone it. During Covid, I realized that kids in our area did not have anything to do for Halloween. I put together a team of local professionals including the president of the Westlake Village Rotary Club,

*I originally planned to join pre-covid...*

and together we were able to have a very successful Halloween Drive Thru event. Shortly after this I decided which Rotary Club I wanted to join.

As soon as I joined The Westlake Village Rotary Club, I noticed the impact they are having on the community. I was with likeminded individuals who don't just talk the talk but also walk and even run. They were working on a park project in Agoura Hills, setting up scholarships for local High School kids along with other tasks to bring fun and joy during the holidays. I look forward to the next decade or more of working with other individuals, learning from them, and helping our community grow for the current generations and generations to come.



## # 48 PEACHES JENSEN

PEOPLE OF ACTION

### STORY OF THE WEEK

Celebrating 50  
Years with  
your favorite  
Rotary Club of  
Westlake  
Village Story



Rotary  
Club of  
Westlake Village

#48  
My AHA Moment...

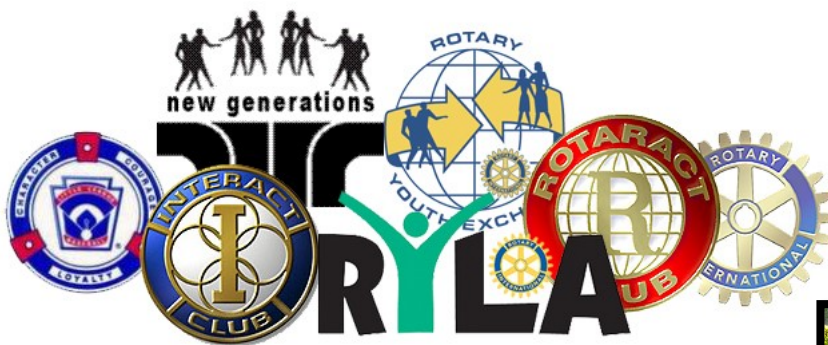
Once upon time, I attended a few events sponsored by the Rotary Club of Westlake Village and was very impressed by the Rotarians' considerable investment of time and effort to generate funds for local charities in need. I decided to take a closer look and was welcomed with opened arms by every member of the Club. I decided to become a member and have been a part of this wonderful club for about five years now.

My "Aha" moment or Rotary Story starts with the first time I heard how Rotary supports and guides kids through the RYLA and Interact Club. This resonated with me because my daughter was in Middle School at the time, so I wanted to learn more about these programs so I could help her get involved when she started high school. I couldn't believe how much a difference it's made in our lives. My daughter, Brandy Jensen, attended RYLA this year and had a wonderful time, enjoyed the guest speakers and learned a

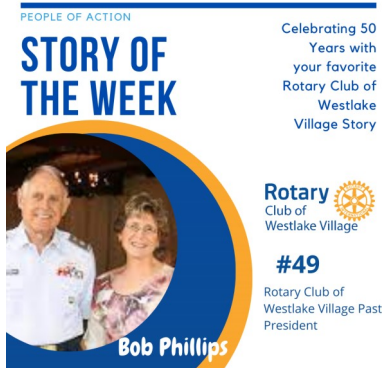
#### *My AHA Moment...*

lot about Rotary and leadership. She also made great connections with other students from the different high schools at RYLA.

To sum it up, Rotary is multi-generational "Service Above Self" which is passed down from Rotary to Rotaract and then to Interact. What a wonderful concept and legacy of a gift that keeps giving!!! I am very proud to be a part of the Rotary Club of Westlake Village!



## #49 BOB PHILLIPS



My Story are the Rotarians that I served with. President 2009-10

Back Row Right side of pic  
Greg Nesen PP Auto Dealer,  
Founder

Homer Caston PP. age 96??  
Founder

Russ Huse, PP, dec, Russell  
Family History,

Westlake Village, Founder

Bob Phillips PP

Peter Winter

Skip Padberg

Milt Towle (News Chronicle)  
dece, Founder

Dave Davidson

RON Tunic

Cy Johnson age 95 PP,  
DG, founder

Unknown

Roy Musgraves CPA dec

Fred Raio, 1st Pres, Decs, Banker

Right Middle

Unknown(United Van Lines)

Kel Aiken (storage sites) de-  
ceased

Larry Cronkite my sponsor

Rabbi Ed Zerlin

Reed Harrison attorney dec  
plane crash 1994

John Kohlbrand attorney PP

Lee ??? Banker

Fred Wilson CPA PP, dec, very  
famous in Conejo Valley,  
Founder

Lee Ross PP

Al Holtz PP, expert on Rotary  
Info

Sid Hamilton, Courtesy Chevro-  
let, dec Founder

From Right Lower

Jerry unknown

Bob Christian Church Minister

Gene Landis PP

Paul Kranz PP

Murray Neftin, auto dealer Neft-  
in Auto

Unknown

Unknown

Don Magruder, M&M Termite,  
dec

Unknown

Top Row Left

Phil Gatch, City of Thousand  
Oaks, deceased

Leonard Alexander, Attorney,  
PP, Founder

Harry Schad, founder Builder,  
dec

Richard Young, PP, Realtor

Sam Greene, dec, PP, DG, Rotary  
Director, 50 plus years Perfect  
Attendance

Wayne Butterbaugh Conejo  
School Superintendent

Dean Maddox, dec, NY Stock  
Exchange President

Bottom Row Left

Unknown

Unknown



## # 49 BOB PHILLIPS

PEOPLE OF ACTION

### STORY OF THE WEEK

Celebrating 50  
Years with  
your favorite  
Rotary Club of  
Westlake  
Village Story



Rotary  
Club of  
Westlake Village

#49

Rotary Club of  
Westlake Village Past  
President and more...

How do you put all your club history memories of a 46 year membership in a club into a few paragraphs but let's see what I can do. Service Above Self Service from the beginning and accepting club leadership when able and asked, attending District and International Conventions is a good start for any new member.

Keep all of your Rotary Roosters and saved pictures, these will help to refresh your memory. I have attended 2 International Conventions in Los Angeles and Birmingham, UK my year as Club President. Many Rotarians travel every year to

the RI International Convention, you learn so much about how Rotary fits in the community and Internationally.

You develop many new friends like Wade Nomura (great Rotary Slide History and PRLS Presentation that every n new member should view) and past RI Director Sam Greene when help is needed on Rotary and Personal Matters. Many clubs set up member resource committee to help club members with their own

*Many sub Rotary Clubs like the Flying Rotarians ...*

personal confidential problems. Sam helped my Westlake High School acquaintance in Miles City, Montana be released and acquitted from jail for a capital offense thru his Montana Rotary contacts. I have seen during my 46 club years over one thousand RCWLV members in attendance at the Westlake Inn, Hyatt Hotel and North Ranch CC meetings. Many of these members were leaders in the Conejo Valley with their own history and experiences. I remember them all starting in a male club and then the transition to men and women with the US Supreme Court decision. Weekly RI Club 3 minute information presentations, club singing and fine sessions and recognition added to my own understanding of Rotary.

I was fortunate during my year as President to have such speakers, twice Ja Hanoi Hilton Prisoner, Wade Nomura, Deepa Willingham, Rotary 1st woman Sylvia Whitlock, Director Sam Greene. Before the start of the Street Fare, I started off my first week of Rotary as the new Chairman of the "Conejo Valley Days Kick Off Picnic" in my 20's which was a big job for the new kid on the block attending all the service clubs meeting in the CV. Wow what a leadership jump start for a new member. Parades, Contests, Whiskbroom, Badgerow, Miss Conejo Valley, Donna Fargo, etc., were all part of Conejo Valley Days. RCWLV ran the Rodeo at Conejo Valley Days with such performers as actor James Can.

I remember being the first club director of the Polio Plus Funds program working under Founding Member RCWLV Cy Johnson who later became District Governor.

My 9 years as District 5240 Director and Judge for the Rotary International



## 72

## # 50 FRED RAI0

PEOPLE OF ACTION

### STORY OF THE WEEK

Celebrating 50  
Years with  
your favorite  
Rotary Club of  
Westlake  
Village Story



Rotary  
Club of  
Westlake Village

#50

Rotary Club of  
Westlake Village  
Founder

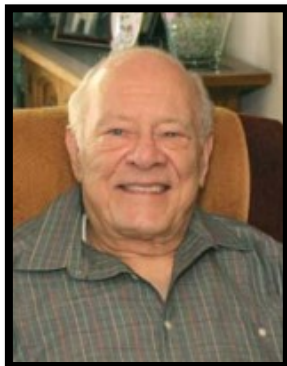
The Founder of Westlake Village Rotary Club Fred Raio was born July 8, 1933 in Rocky Ford, Colorado. His family moved to California when he was 12 years old. He married his wife, Barbara, in 1952. A young banker, Fred, arrived in 1966 and recognized the need for a local bank. Relationships forged with other Chamber members led to the founding of Bank of the Oaks, a friendly institution

whose first location was the Village Square Shopping Center, now occupied by Best Buy. It would be hard to overstate the role that Bank of the Oaks played in the economic fabric of the Conejo Valley. There wasn't an auto mall at the time;

### *Founder of Westlake Village Rotary Club*



Fred and the Chamber worked with the first Conejo auto mall dealer, Syd Hamilton, to open Courtesy Chevrolet, followed by Paul Ladin's Buick dealership and Murray Neftin's Volvo shop. Bank of the Oaks believed in young entrepreneurs; their confidence was rewarded with success. Fred and his colleagues at the Chamber knew that the enviable quality of life in the Conejo Valley couldn't be sustained with stagnation. The highways of California were paved with towns that ignored that truth but here, "everything was done great." Fred was quick to emphasize his partnerships with the late Joe Brown, future Chamber Chair Leonard Alexander and the late D.K. Ludwig, founder of neighboring Westlake Village. "I'm particularly proud that our Chamber continues to be visionary. That strength is necessary now more than ever." Fred was well integrated and highly acknowledged in the business community; president of Chamber of Commerce and Conejo Valley Days, and founder of Westlake Village Rotary Club.



Chair Emeritus, a 1970 Original Signer on the Conejo Chamber's Articles of Incorporation Founder, First State Bank of the Oaks. Following the Chamber's incorporation, Fred Raio, became Board Chair.



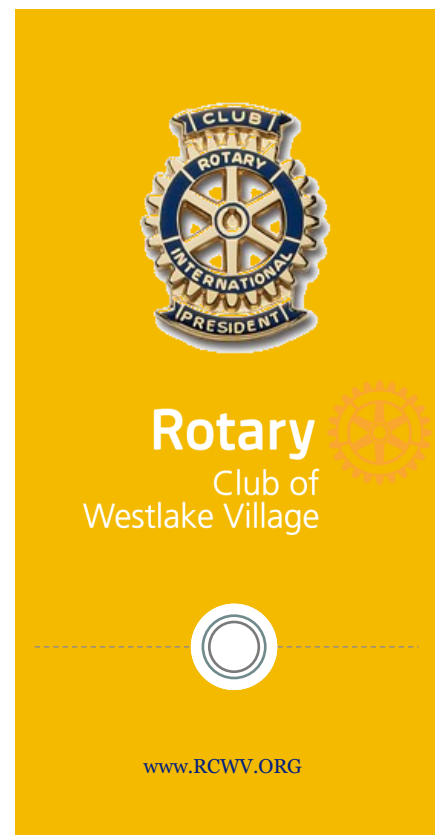
Yes...  
I Am A Rotarian  
Rotary

## ROTARY CLUB OF WESTLAKE VILLAGE PRESIDENTS

1971-72 Fred Raio	1990-91 Sam Palermo	2009-10 Bob Phillips
1972-73 Greg Nesen	1991-92 Dave Melton	2010-11 Edward Pope
1973-74 Leonard Alexander	1992-93 Tony Mortellaro	2011-12 Gloria Rocca
1974-75 Cy Johnson	1993-94 Gib Poiry	2012 Andy Lupanow
1975-76 Roy Musgrave	1994-95 Mike DeLeeuw	2012 Karen Quigley
1976-77 Richard Pierce	1995-96 Joe Paulucci	2012-13 Edwin Velarde
1977-78 Homer Caston	1996-97 Karen Jordan	2013-14 Jean Archer
1978-79 Fred Wilson	1997-98 Bill Notthoff	2014-15 Ray Taylor
1979-80 Lee Ross	1998-99 Dave Watson	2015-16 Dapper Spar
1980-81 John Kohlbrand	1999-00 Elaine Marchessault	2016-17 Steve Kerrigan
1981-82 Richard Young	2000-01 Brad Ormsby	2017-2018 Lee Ginsberg
1982-83 Gene Landis	2001-02 Bing Han	2018-2019 Lee Ginsberg
1983-84 Sam Greene	2002-03 Terry Oberman	2019-2020 Audrey Brown
1984-85 Jock MacKenzie	2003-04 Andy Lupanow	2020-2021 Kimmy Tharpe
1985-86 Paul Kranz	2004-05 Peyton Glover	2021-2022 Mike Dutra
1986-87 Max Keesling	2005-06 Edward Pope	2022-2023 Mike Dutra
1987-88 Bob McBrien	2006-07 Cheri Blessing	2023-2024 Jan Zegel
1988-89 Jim Price	2007-08 Mark Jaffe	
1989-90 Bob Amenta	2008-09 Gloria Rocca	

Our club meets most Wednesdays from 12:10 to 1:30pm at the North Ranch Country Club in Westlake Village. Meetings include a delicious lunch, fellowship, discussion of current club projects and activities, and a featured speaker to share information about local businesses, charitable organizations, and other interesting topics of local interest. Club members represent a diversity of professional backgrounds and retired professionals with the goal of working together to do good in our local community and internationally.

The mission of the Rotary Club of Westlake Village is to provide service to others, to promote high ethical standards, and to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through its fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders.





## Name that Person, Event and/or Year

(for more photos see RCWLV's Facebook page)





# ROTARY CLUB OF WESTLAKE VILLAGE IN THE NEWS

THE STAR ■ Monday, April 7, 2014

## Westlake Village race aids clean water effort



Jonathan Reid (left) and Billy Ridge race the final leg of the 5K held by the Rotary Club of Westlake Village on Sunday morning. The club also organized 10K and children's races.

### ■ Fest benefits local charities

By Robyn Flans  
Special to The Star

About 300 people supported the Rotary Club of Westlake Village on Sunday in 5K, 10K, and children's races and a new family bike ride as others saw what the Westlake Village Community Street Festival had to offer.

The races raise money to bring clean water to poor countries. The street festival benefits local nonprofits, festival leader Charles Bloomquist said.

Edwin Velarde, chairman of the footraces, said organizers hope to match or top last year's figure of \$10,000, but more important is to raise awareness of the global clean water

crisis.

"They love the fact that they are able to help people beyond their community," Velarde said.

Dawn Berrien, reservations manager at the Four Seasons Hotel in Westlake Village, organized a group of almost 20 runners to race in the 5K or 10K.

"Global clean water is close and dear to my heart," Berrien said. "There are so many people who do not have the benefit of having clean water. ... Those stories are not told, and we take it so for granted."

Ben Atkins, 40, of Westlake Village, won the 5K and 10K races.

See FESTIVAL, 3A

### FESTIVAL from 3A

"This is such a cool event," Atkins said. "This is beautifully organized; it's a lot of fun; everyone is friendly and local. And it's nice for the kids with the street fair. The community races are always the best ones."

Thousand Oaks' Ahmed Virgines and his 9-year-old daughter, Nikki, ran the 5K because of the cause.

"We came from a Third World country, from the Philippines, so we know how important it is for kids her age to have enough clean water to drink," Virgines said. "We want to show that to her."

The Rotary is doing



Maya and Mosen Rahn look at a vendor's art at a festival Sunday morning in Westlake Village.

projects in Honduras, the Philippines, Thailand and soon in Brazil.

"There are billions of people who don't have clean water or basic sanitation," Velarde said.

"Infections that are common here in the States are preventable, but elsewhere, death sentences are handed out because the clean water is the

VC Star.

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NEWS

## Westlake Rotary Street Festival

By Naomi Finkel

Westlake Rotary Annual Street Festival

Posted March 18, 2013

2 Comments

Share f t e

Come and join the fun! Sunday, April 13, the Rotary Club of Westlake Village will host its 14th Annual Street Festival from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Westlake Village on Lakeview Canyon between Agoura Road and Watergate. Free admission and parking.

Each year over 5000 people attend to enjoy the food booths, ongoing musical entertainment, displays of original arts and crafts and fun stuff for the kids. Major sponsors this year include Dole Food Company, Westlake Inn, Warner Pacific Insurance, Pierce Brothers Cemetery and Mellon Bank. Raffle prize winners could have a vacation rental in Jackson Hole, Wyoming valued at \$2000, four box seat tickets to the Hollywood Bowl, home plate Dodger game tickets for 4, iPods, gift baskets, certificates, and cash. A 5k/10k and kids 1 mile run will precede the race with registration starting at 7 a.m.

The festival was initiated 14 years ago by Westlake Rotarian Joe Paulucci. His company, PTS, was the first major sponsor donating \$10,000. Rotary is a service organization. Throughout the years, thousands of dollars in proceeds from the festival have benefited many local charities and organizations, schools, and international causes. Working hard for the past six months, the festival committee members are: Chairman Pat McDade, Ray Taylor, Bill Hang, Edwin Velarde, Bob Phillips, Gary Trow, Brad Ormsby, Naomi Finkel, Marty Blumenthal, Robert Bartolomea, Eric Wiltfang, Dapper Spar, Carolyn Jones, Sandra Schmidt, Jack Dwyer, Sean Ogin, Dennis Schmitz, and Ronnie Stone. For information, call (805) 378-5044.





On his way from his home in California to the Rotary International Convention in Hamburg, Germany, Edwin Velarde took an unusual detour.

In an effort to raise awareness of diabetes, Velarde, 57, rode a bicycle for the last leg of his trip, cycling 525 miles from London to Hamburg. After making stops along the way to visit Rotary clubs and talk about the impact of diabetes, he arrived on 31 May after 13 days of riding. He spoke to clubs in the United Kingdom, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Germany.

This was not the first time Velarde, a board member of the Rotarian Action Group for Diabetes, had cycled to a convention. “I thought I could create awareness by riding to conventions,” says Velarde, who was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes when he was 29. He biked from Busan to Seoul, Korea, in 2016, from Chicago to Atlanta in 2017, and from Rotary headquarters in Evanston, Illinois, to Toronto in 2018. This year, the journey had added meaning; Velarde dedicated this ride to his son Davis Edwin Velarde, who died at 22 of lymphoma in April. Diabetes is a chronic illness that occurs either when the pancreas does not produce

insulin (type 1) or when the body cannot effectively use insulin (type 2). When diabetes is not controlled, it can result in severe damage to the eyes, kidneys, and nerves and can double a person’s risk of heart attack and stroke. The World Health Organization estimates that the number of people with diabetes rose from 108 million in 1980 to 422 million in 2014.

Several years ago, when Velarde was feeling fatigued and depressed about his illness, a friend gave him a bike. He took it out for a spin. “That ride woke me up to the fact that I was not fit,” he recalls. “I realized I wanted to become a cyclist, and not just someone who rides a bike.”

Velarde’s goal is to rally support among Rotarians to find a cure for diabetes, and to spread the word that a healthy lifestyle can help people who have type 2 diabetes better control the illness.

“We have what it takes to conquer the diabetes epidemic,” he says. “Imagine the 422 million people we could help.”

ANNEMARIE MANNION September 2019 issue of [The Rotarian](#) magazine.



# ROTARIANS OPENING THEIR HOMES AND HEARTS

Posted by Jeanne Archer on Jul 20, 2011

Everyone knows that if you need to get something done, ask a Rotarian. A group of 36 children from Haikou City, China, were scheduled to come to California for a cultural and language exchange through the EF Program (ef.com). Somehow, their hosting city handed off that responsibility to the hosting group in Moorpark. The Moorpark group already had over 100 kids from Finland, Spain, and Indonesia that were placed. In desperation, they broadcast their need for help. That call was heard by Mel and Linda Levine, who sprang into action. Mel got the word out to our club, and Mel and Linda opened their home to - not one, but - two students! Then Charles Bloomquist offered to take one student. And Robert Marshall volunteered to host one as well.

How lucky could these students get? Not only are they in Southern California, but they're being hosted by some of the best people-- Rotarians from Westlake Village! And what a great opportunity for Rotary. These 40 children will return to China and mini-ambassadors for Rotary. Watch the bulletin for updates and pictures when they become available.

Thanks to all who even considered this hosting job! And to Mel, Linda, Charles and Robert, a very heartfelt thank you.



## WLV Rotarians

The Rotary Club of Westlake Village has named the officers and directors for the 2011-12 Rotary year.

Club officers are Gloria Rocca, president; Edwin Velarde, president elect and international service director; Ed Pope, immediate past president; Elaine Marchessault, secretary; and Nadine Larson, treasurer.

Avenue of Service chairs are Steve Rocklin, New Generations (youth service); Grant Wilkins,



### Event Details

#### Rotary Club Day of Service in the City of Westlake Village

Saturday, March 16, 2013



In a highly collaborative effort, the City is partnering with five local Rotary Clubs on the Club's annual Community Service Project Day. Scheduled for March 16, Rotarians from the Conejo Valley will join community volunteers, student Rotaract members affiliated with Rotary, and City representatives to plant shade trees at a local elementary school and place metal medallions that state "Don't Dump Drains to Lake" at all curbside inlet drains within the City. The Rotary Clubs are always looking for additional volunteers. If you would like to participate, please contact Steve Kerrigan of the Westlake Village Rotary Club at 805-443-3310. If you are a student looking for I-serve hours, please contact Brienne Anderson, Community Services Coordinator at 818-706-1613.

### Los Angeles Times

BY ED BOND  
MARCH 17, 1997 12 AM PT

A change in seasons and location for the third annual Community Street Festival--a Westlake Village Rotary Club fund-raiser--paid off with a slight increase in turnout Sunday, organizers said.

"The weather is helping in that it's not pouring rain," said William Notthoff, chairman of the fair. The event, held in May last year, was moved to March despite fears the weather would not cooperate.

Skies were overcast and temperatures were cool, keeping beer sales down but boosting visitors to other booths, Notthoff said. The club expected to raise at least \$16,000, all to be donated to local groups including the Agoura High School music program, the Boy Scouts, and senior citizen, youth, hospice and church groups.

As many as 5,300 people attended this year, guessed Max Keesling, last year's fair chairman, who said that was an increase of about 1,000 people.



## NEWS

## Westlake Rotary Street Festival

Posted: March 18, 2008

By Naomi Finkel

YOUR LOCAL NEWS

By Naomi Finkel

## Westlake Rotary Annual Street Festival

Come and join the fun! Sunday, April 13, the Rotary Club of Westlake Village will host its 14th Annual Street Festival from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Westlake Village on Lakeview Canyon between Agoura and Watergate. Free admission and parking.

Each year over 5000 people attend to enjoy the food booths, ongoing musical entertainment, displays of original arts and crafts and fun stuff for the kids. Major sponsors this year include Dole Food Company, Westlake Inn, Warner Pacific Insurance, Pierce Brothers Cemetery and Mellon Bank. Grand prize winners could have a vacation rental in Jackson Hole, Wyoming valued at \$2000, four box tickets to the Hollywood Bowl, home plate Dodger game tickets for 4, iPods, gift baskets, certificates and cash.

A 5k/10k and kids 1 mile run will with registration starting at 7 a.m.

The festival was initiated 14 years ago by Westlake Rotarian Joe Paulucci. His vision was the first major sponsor donating to the festival is a service organization. Over the years, thousands of dollars in donations to the festival have benefited many local charities.

## Rotary Day of Giving



Joe Paulucci, with the Boy Scouts of America, is a past president of the Rotary Club of Westlake Village.

By Naomi Finkel

## Rotary Day of Giving

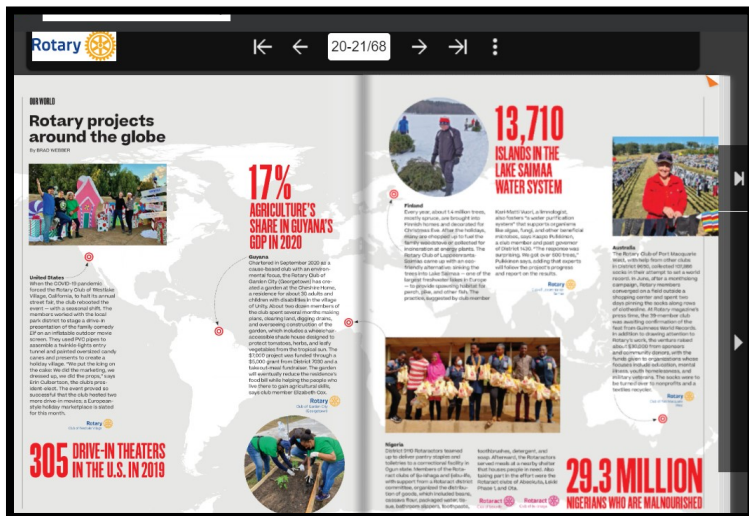
In April, at a highly successful 5k/10k Race and the 14th Annual Street Festival sponsored by the Rotary Club of Westlake Village, thousands of dollars were raised. Recently, at a luncheon meeting at the North Ranch Country Club in Westlake Village, this money was donated to 16 local charities and organizations.

First, the Day of Giving applauded all the Rotarians who worked on the Race and Festival committee. Next, plaques and certificates of appreciation were given to the 22 sponsors whose logos were displayed on a huge banner at the front of the room. A committee member proclaimed, "Our success and this Day of Giving is based upon their generosity."

Now it was time to disperse the donations. Suzzie Bombardieri, Executive Director of Lutheran Social Services, said the money will be used to help the homeless in the Conejo Valley. The Disaster Communications Team from the County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department was represented by Reserve Captain Tom Fakhoury. They will use the money to replace damaged equipment caused by the winds and the fires.

And the giving continued. Sharon Baind from the Conejo Free Clinic said, Rotary has supported us for years enabling us to protect the health of many in the community in need of medical, pediatric, nutritional and educational care. Scrumptious Gary King from Troop 718 proudly stated, "We will use the Rotary donations to replace troop camping equipment and purchase fund raising supplies. Thank you."

Finally, a round of standing applause was given to The Volunteer of the Year, Mel Wilson, over 58 years with the Boy Scouts of America... and will go on strong! The Rotary Day of Giving is a tradition that brings joy and appreciation to all who participated. Same time next year.









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NEWS

## Westlake Village City Council honors Rotary Clubs for service



**YOUR LOCAL NEWS**

- Camarillo
- Conejo Valley
- Fillmore
- Moorpark
- Ojai

**NEWS TOPICS**

- Local News
- Education
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- Culture
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- Health

**MORE NEWS**

- Roads remain closed after fire
- Baby giraffe in San Diego zoo says
- Applications sought for sanctuary advisory board
- President reduces state budget
- Ventura County plans night out

Westlake Village Mayor Philippe Klessig, left, presents to give certificates of appreciation to Rotary Club members Susan Murata, Thousand Oaks, second from left, Ron Yamashiro, Westlake Village, Joe Joyce, Thousand Oaks, and Dave Kerrigan, Westlake Village, from left, Westlake Village City Council members Susan Murata, Thousand Oaks, and Dave Kerrigan, Westlake Village, and Westlake Village Mayor Philippe Klessig.

By Michael Hoffman-2020 Network P

The Westlake Village City Council honored five Conejo Valley-area Rotary Clubs on May 29 for a Community Service Day that improved an Agoura Hills elementary school and heightened water-quality awareness.

Mayor Philippe Klessig presented certificates of appreciation signed by the entire Westlake Village City Council to club representatives.

"This is what makes a community special, the volunteers -- the heart blood? that go the extra mile," Klessig said.

The clubs, which comprise Group 4 of Rotary District 5240, are Thousand Oaks, Thousand Oaks Sunrise, Westlake Village, Westlake Sunrise and Conejo Valley.

Accepting the awards were Rotary Club members Susan Murata, Thousand Oaks; Ron Yamashiro, Westlake Sunrise; Joe Joyce, Thousand Oaks Sunrise; Steve Kerrigan, Westlake Village; Edwin Velarde, Westlake Village; and Vern Miller, Conejo Valley.

The clubs are being recognized for their March 18 Community Service Day Work

Success Story

## The World's Best Drive-In Movie, Elf!

Raised \$5,200 for the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Conejo Valley



Rotary Club of Westlake Village

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB

Sunday, April 26, 2020

## CLASSIC & EXOTIC CAR SHOW

SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2020  
11AM - 5PM

25th Annual Rotary Club of Westlake Community Street Festival

People's Choice Awards  
Exotic, Classic and Best in Show

RAIN OR SHINE!!!

Cars may arrive at 8:30am but no later than 10:00am

Car Show is part of an annual event held at the Westlake Village Community Center. Proceeds donated from this Car Show will be used to support the following Rotary programs. Donations are \$5.00 - \$25.00 for members. \$10.00 for non-members. Parking is free. The show will be held at the Westlake Village Community Center. For more information, please contact the Rotary Club of Westlake Village at (805) 495-1234 or visit our website at www.rotarywlv.org

www.rotarywlv.org

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# Acorn

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## Rotary recognizes Scout leader

| March 17, 2011

SHAPING THE LIVES OF YOUNG MEN—The Rotary Club of Westlake Village presented Grant Wilkins, right, a 45-year Thousand Oaks resident, the Cliff Dochterman Award for service in the community through his efforts in Boy Scouts. Wilkins serves as unit commissioner to seven Boy Scout troops chartered by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The Cliff Dochterman Award is given by the International Fellowship of Scouting Rotarians to nominees who have rendered exemplary service to Scout...

TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 1997 / DAILY NEWS

## Rotary organizing Sunday street fair

The Westlake Noon Rotary Club will host the third annual Community Street Fair on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The event, which is free and open to the public, will include live entertainment, a food court, more than 100 arts and crafts booths and activities for children.

Profits from the event go to local nonprofit agencies.

The event will be held at a new location on Lakeview Canyon Road, between Agoura and Watergate roads.

— Daily News



### Rotary Stonhaus 2014 - Sep 19, 2014

<https://www.wlv.org/documentcenter/view/581>

**Westlake Village Rotary Club Social Event - September 23, 2014 5:00 - 7:00 PM (or Whenever!)** Come out and enjoy a No Host Evening in the heart of **Westlake Village** with your fellow Rotarians - Casual with Great Coffee, Wine Tasting and Food 32039 Agoura Road **Westlake Village**, CA 91361 818 / 483-1152 Check out the menu of...

215 KB



### Holidays in the Village - Nov 23, 2021

Home › City Departments › Parks & Recreation › Special Events › Holidays in the Village

<https://www.wlv.org/488/holidays-in-the-village>

Holidays in the **Village**! Celebrate all month long with the City's Holiday Sing-A-Long Event and the **Rotary's** European Marketplace Event!



## Westlake Village Rotary Club shopping spree

/ December 14, 2017

**SANTA'S HELPERS**—Right, Target employee Michael Miles bags up the fluffy blanket chosen by 11-year-old Rebecca McLean of Mendocino Park during the fourth annual Westlake Rotary Club's Children's Holiday Shopping Spree on Dec. 9 at the local Target store. Nearly 30 underprivileged children were each given \$115 to spend. They also received two \$10 gift cards to give as gifts. At top, Rotary Club member Gabby Grassia helps 12-year-old Jorge Dominguez of Thousand Oaks choose the perfect toy during Saturday's shopping spree.



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### EVENTS - EDWIN VELARDE SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TOURNAMENT ROSE PARADE

Posted by Valde Stephens

Edwin A. Velarde, a proud member of Rotary Club of Westlake Village since 1994, where he served as President in 2016-2017, has been selected to represent District 5160 in this year's Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena. Edwin will ride on the Rotary Rose Parade float with the theme of "Changing Lives Through Clean Water." Partnering with Rotary Club of Malibu South, Velarde developed "Water for Life and Health in Montenegro Island." Coordinating with the local government and engaging local Filipino workers, this project provides clean water access to hundreds of poor families in 8 villages in Montenegro Island and a village in Pangasinan Province. Volunteer classes are now being prepared from selected state families and young children improving the quality of their lives and their health.

"Velarde developed and managed Rotary humanitarian projects in the Philippines. "Changing Lives through Freshwater" providing mobility for the physically challenged and "For tomorrow the Future" that helped a super typhoon damaged school by providing math, science & technical books, a computer lab and laptops.

## Westlake Village races, street fair raise money for clean-water projects, local charities



People walk by vendors Sunday at the Rotary Club of Westlake Village Community Street Festival in Westlake Village.

By Rachel McGrath

To help provide clean water to poor people in developing countries, the Rotary Club of Westlake Village hosted the Westlake 5k/10k Run/Walk for Global Water on Sunday in Westlake Village.

"I thought if I'm going to exercise, I may as well help out a cause," said Nomi Greenwald, of Oak Park, after crossing the finish line on Lakeview Canyon Road at the intersection with Agoura Road.

"I like that the proceeds go to a good cause. It costs a lot to sign up for all these races, and so it's good to know it's going somewhere," said Evelyn Gonzales, who ran with friends Danah Palmer, of Moorpark, and Maria Morales, of Los Angeles.

There were 208 runners in the timed 5K and 10K road races, and the fastest in

Posted: April 14, 2015

Comments

f t e

With "Tomb Raider" Guinevere cast member Imbrie fires his gun during a performance at the street fair in Westlake Village.

### Holidays in the Village

Welkom. Bienvenue. Willkommen. Bienvenidos. Bienvenidas. Willkommen. Welcome.

**Feast Garden Food and Beverages**

- 1. Beer Garden
- 2. Champagne Bar
- 3. Italian Food & Wine
- 4. French Food & Wine
- 5. Spanish Food & Wine
- 6. Greek Food & Wine
- 7. Mexican Food & Wine
- 8. Thai Food & Wine
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# Rotary Street Fair Has a Musical Flair

BY JASON TERADA

MARCH 12, 1997 12 AM PT

Clogging, jazz, mariachi music and sounds from the rain forests of South America will be featured at the Westlake Noon Rotary Club's third annual Street Fair on Sunday.

The free event, scheduled from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Lakeview Canyon Road between Agoura and Watergate roads, will include more than 100 booths offering handmade arts and crafts, ethnic foods, face painting and other children's activities.

Musical entertainment will begin at 11:15 a.m. on the fair's main stage with a performance by the Mariachi Juvenil Azteca de Camarillo, followed at noon by the Conejo Valley Cloggers.

Musical entertainment will begin at 11:15 a.m. on the fair's main stage with a performance by the Mariachi Juvenil Azteca de Camarillo, followed at noon by the Conejo Valley Cloggers.

After a 1 p.m. performance by Cal Lutheran University's jazz band, artist Martin Espino will play indigenous music using instruments from ancient Mexico and South American rain forests. Forty years of popular music from the 1950s to the 1990s will be featured during a 4 p.m. performance by the band Visions.

Proceeds raised during the fair by the Westlake Noon Rotary Club, which draws members from Thousand Oaks and Westlake Village, will be donated to local nonprofit community service organizations. For information, call 497-2757.



## Alumni Day

Today was a special day as former club members came home

- Pat McDade
- Skip Padberg
- Elaine Marchessault Past President 1999-2000
- Gib Poiry Past President 1993-1994
- Bob Amenta Past President 1989-1990
- Robert Bartolomea
- Cheri Blessing Past President 2006-2007
- Mary Guy
- John Kohlbrand Past President 1980-1981
- Mark Gurich
- Sean Olgin
- Tony Salzman
- Margie Tobin-True
- Donna Miller
- Joe and Pat Paulucci Past President 1995-1996
- Dave Watson Past President 1998-1999
- Russ Stone

Club President Ray Taylor thanked the former club members

## Los Angeles Times Rotary Club Plays Santa to Needy Kids

BY CHRIS G. DENINA

DEC. 16, 1999 12 AM PT

At first, the children seemed shy and frightened at the prospect of strangers taking them on a shopping spree. But by the end of the trip, the 25 kids were all smiles as they lugged giant bags of clothes, shoes and pants out of the JCPenney store at The Oaks mall.

"It's fun to get all the stuff," said Robert Diaz, 8, who used his \$165 from the Noon Rotary Club of Westlake Village to buy pants, a jacket and tennis shoes. They were clothes he otherwise would not have gotten this Christmas.

"I think the members get as much out of this as the kids," said Rotarian Jamie Taylor, 49. "It's just so fun to see their excitement. We donate a lot of money to scholarships and other things within the communities, but this is one of the rare opportunities we get to see, face to face, the kids who are benefiting."



## Local Rotarian Elected to International Board

L.A. TIMES ARCHIVES  
JULY 19, 1998 12 AM PT

\* Samuel Greene of Westlake Village was elected to serve as a member of the Rotary International Board of Directors.

Delegates representing the more than 28,000 Rotary Clubs from 159 countries cast their ballots at the association's annual convention in Indianapolis.

Greene, a Rotarian since 1957, is president and owner of S.L. Green Associates, an international consulting firm. He will serve two years beginning in 1999 as one of 18 members of the board. The board develops policies and establishes priorities for the global network of 1.2 million volunteers.

### SUBSCRIBERS ARE READING >

L.A. Times electoral endorse

Welcome to Portugal, the new Californians, please go home

Your guide to California's 202

### FOR SUBSCRIBERS

9 magical swimming holes in escape the heat

### FOR SUBSCRIBERS

NEWS

## Westlake Village races, street fair raise money for clean-water projects, local charities



People walk by vendors Sunday at the Rotary Club of Westlake Village Community Street Festival in Westlake Village.

By Rachel McGrath

To help provide clean water to poor people in developing countries, the Rotary Club of Westlake Village hosted the Westlake 5k/10k Run/Walk for Global Water on Sunday in Westlake Village.

"I though if I'm going to exercise, I may as well help out a cause," said Nomi Greenwald, of Oak Park, after crossing the finish line on Lakeview Canyon Road at the intersection with Agoura Road.

"I like that the proceeds go to a good cause. It costs a lot to sign up for all these races, and so it's good to know it's going somewhere," said Evelyn Gonzales, who ran with friends Danah Palmer, of Moorpark, and Maria Morales, of Los Angeles.



Stars cast member giving a performance Westlake Village.

### YOUR LOCAL

Camarillo  
Conejo Valley  
Fillmore  
Moorpark  
Ojai

### NEWS TOPICS

Local News  
Education  
Elections  
Courts  
National News  
Price Of Paradise  
Health

### MORE NEWS

Roads remain closed  
Fire

Baby giraffe in S.  
zoo says

Applications sou  
sanctuary advise

### AROUND TOWN (CONTINUED)

The Ball is Community Conscience's largest fundraiser and its proceeds and other donations allow Community Conscience to provide space rent-free to 13 local nonprofits, enabling them to more effectively serve the community. Union Bank was this year's title sponsor. CommunityConscience.org

### + GET READY FOR THE WESTLAKE ROTARY STREET FESTIVAL

The Rotary Club of Westlake Village hosts the 25th Annual Westlake Village Street Festival on Sunday, April 28, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This family and dog friendly community event takes place on Lakeview Canyon Road in the City of Westlake Village, between Agoura Road and Watergate Road. This year's Festival features over 150 diverse vendors selling and showing arts and crafts, home décor, jewelry, toys, clothing, housewares, electronics and more. Additional attractions include an expanded Pet Zone, a Kids Zone, gourmet food trucks, a beer and wine garden, and live entertainment all day. This year's Festival also features the classic and exotic car show with over 100 vintage and exotic cars. Joe Paulucci, the original creator of the Street Festival and owner of PTS Furniture in Thousand Oaks, is this year's Grand Marshall.

Funds raised support local organizations like Manna, Meals on Wheels, Senior Concerns, KCLU Public Radio, the YMCA and others. This year, Rotary will also be donating part of the Festival's proceeds to the Borderline victims and families. RotaryWLV.org

## Westlake Village Rotary Club to Hold Street Festival

BY KELLY DAVID  
MAY 17, 1996 12 AM PT

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

Last year, the most exotic food to be found at the Westlake Village Rotary Club's so-called International Street Festival was Chinese chicken salad.

But that didn't stop the thousands of Conejo Valley residents attending the organization's first major fund-raiser from gobbling up all the food before midafternoon.

On Sunday, organizers say, they will live up to their billing with a more global mix. And, they promise, there will be enough for everyone. "There will be Greek, Middle

### SUBSCRIBERS ARE READING >

L.A. Times electoral endorsements for 202

Welcome to Portugal, the new expat haven  
Californians, please go home

Your guide to California's 2022 primary el

### FOR SUBSCRIBERS

9 magical swimming holes in California to  
escape the heat

### FOR SUBSCRIBERS

'Firefighter down': He walked into a burnin

## Los Angeles Times

The event, featuring food, music and crafts, debuted as a way to raise money for Conejo Valley volunteer and service groups. But it was such a success--raising \$17,000 and attracting more than 4,000 residents--that organizers decided to make it an annual attraction.

"The response we got from the community, including the City Council, was complimentary to the point of being effusive," Keesling said. "So many people came that the food vendors all sold out by 3 p.m."

## Los Angeles Times

Modeled after the Thousand Oaks Rotary Club's October street fair, now in its third year and that group's second largest fund-raiser, the Westlake Village festival will remain much the same as the premiere event--only bigger, Keesling said.

There will be nearly twice as many food and beverage booths, 12 total, and 114 arts and crafts vendors selling everything from pottery and wood carvings to flower arrangements and jewelry.

Last year, organizers had to beg artisans from other street fairs to come. "We had to scrounge to get about 70," Keesling said.

But this year, more than 300 artisans from throughout Southern California applied for 114 spots.

"They had to apply and send pictures of their work, so they are the cream of the crop of craft vendors," said Joe Palucci, president of the Rotary Club of Westlake Village.



*The 2004-05 RI Membership Development and Retention Committee chair reflects on the committee's successes and the challenges that await next year.*

**Samuel L. Greene** is a member of the **Rotary Club** of Westlake Village,



## Los Angeles Times

Entertainment will include the Conejo Valley Cloggers, a Scottish dance troupe; the Agoura High School Jazz Band; Danza Azteca, a Mexican dance group; Country in Motion, a line-dancing ensemble; and Art Slade's Band playing hits from the 1940s.

Palucci attributes the success of last year's festival to its location.

Situated on the border of Ventura and Los Angeles counties at Lake View Canyon Road, the event drew people from throughout the Conejo Valley and the Agoura area.

And because the fair spilled from the street onto the front grounds of Westlake Village Inn, people relaxed on the hotel's grassy lawn, he said.

"It is not like most street fairs where you walk by a bunch of booths and go home," he said. "People came and stayed a long time because of the layout."

Rotary Club organizers hope to raise up to \$20,000 this year from private sponsors and vendor fees. The money will be funneled to nonprofit groups such as Many Mansions, Senior Concerns and the Wellness Community.

## Los Angeles Times

Service and volunteer groups are expected to bring in additional thousands of dollars by selling everything from hot dogs to strawberry shortcake.

Grethe Rivera, executive director of Hospice of the Conejo, said her group earned more than \$5,000 last year selling barbecue beef sandwiches and running a face-painting booth. They will operate the same booths this year.

"It was very successful," she said. "It is important for the community to know we are there . . . and it is a significant amount of money for us."

The festival will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Lakeview Canyon Road between Agoura Road and the Los Angeles County line. Free parking is available at Charter House Hospital on Via Merida. A double-decker bus will transport drivers to the festival.

Admission is free.

### LETTERS TO THE

#### Rotary brings joy to the children

The Rotary Club of Westlake village is an organization involved in helping people and making the world a better place.

Dec. 8 was a particularly special day as we held the annual shopping event at Target for economically disadvantaged children. These are children who have never had anything new in their entire lives.

Thirty-six children from the Boys & Girls Club were escorted through the store, each with their own Rotarian helper. Target graciously opened the store one hour early so that the only shoppers were the children.

They were able to spend up to \$110 on anything they wished and were given two \$10 gift cards with the suggestion that they spend it on others.

It was beautiful to see the joy on the children's faces as they realized that they were able to select a new backpack or jacket or other item of clothing for the first time in their lives. Happy faces and squeals of joy emanated from everyone.

Each Rotarian is looking forward to participating in this event next year.

Although our community has recently been saddened by tragedy, during this special time, Christmas joy and love were everywhere. Rotarian and project coordinator Ken Snow called this heartwarming event a complete success.

Linda Le Vine  
Agoura Hills

Malibu | Local Event

## Holidays in the Village. A European Marketplace.



Chris Clark, Neighbor



### Event Details

✓ Like 9

Share

Sun, Dec 12, 2021 at 11:00 AM

[Add to calendar](#) ✓

Lakeview Canyon / Watergate, Westlake Village, CA, 91361

For 26 years, the Rotary Clubs of Westlake Village has brought the community the favorite Westlake Village Street Fest.

Now the Rotary Club of Westlake Village and the Rotary Club of Westlake Village Sunrise have joined forces and invite you to their signature event *Holidays in the Village*. A European Marketplace. [holidaysinthevillage.org](https://holidaysinthevillage.org)

Holidays in the Village provides a magical experience that transports guests into an authentic European holiday market. Shop for hard-to-find and handmade gifts from around the world while taking in the sights and sounds of the holidays. Savor the traditional food and libations ranging from European Bier and steaming Glühwein to smoked sausage and European pastries which can be enjoyed in the Village MerryMaker's Entertainment Center filled with traditional and holiday music.

## *WHERE WE HAVE MET and things we have done...*

### **Meeting Venues**

North Ranch Country Club  
Westlake Village Inn  
The Stonehaus  
Los Robles  
Reagan Library  
Cal Lutheran

### **Social and Service Projects**

Boccaccio's  
Golf Tournaments  
The Stonehaus  
Wades Wine  
14 Cannons  
Lady face  
4th of July Picnics in the WLV  
Parks  
Conejo Creek Park  
Members Homes

### **Ride On Therapeutics**

Street Fest  
Car Show  
Drive In Movies: Grease, Elf, In-  
credibles  
Boasts on the Lake  
Los Robles Golf Course  
Solvang  
Stuff Back Packs  
Lunches for Harbor House  
Easter Basket Project  
Target Christmas Shopping with  
children from the Boys and Girls  
Club  
Bowling  
Global Clean Water Run  
Love Run Team  
#ConejoHeroes

### **Penney's- Christmas Shopping with children from the Boys and Girls Club**

Holiday Parties  
Peacemaker  
Solvang Weekend Field Trip  
International Projects  
Boat Rides  
House Parties  
Morrison Playground  
Electric Bike Ride Tour  
Holidays in the Village. AEM

## Rotary International Conventions... Find out which ones our club members went to...

2022	Houston, Texas	2005	Chicago, IL (USA)	1988	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (USA)
2021	Taipei, Taiwan	2004	Osaka, Japan	1987	Munich, Germany
2020	Honolulu, Hawaii (USA)	2003	Brisbane, Australia	1986	Las Vegas, Nevada (USA)
2019	Hamburg, Germany	2002	Barcelona, Spain	1985	Kansas City, Missouri (USA)
2018	Toronto, Ontario, Canada	2001	San Antonio, Texas (USA)	1984	Birmingham, England
2017	Atlanta, GA (USA)	2000	Buenos Aires, Argentina	1983	Toronto, Canada
2016	Seoul (South Korea)	1999	Singapore, Singapore	1982	Dallas, Texas (USA)
2015	Sao Paulo (Brazil)	1998	Indianapolis, Indiana (USA)	1981	Sao Paulo, Brazil
2014	Sydney (Australia)	1997	Glasgow, Scotland	1980	Chicago, Illinois (USA)
2013	Lisbon (Portugal)	1996	Calgary, Canada	1979	Rome, Italy
2012	Bangkok (Thailand)	1995	Nice, France	1978	Tokyo, Japan
2011	New Orleans, LA (USA)	1994	Taipei, Taiwan	1977	San Francisco, CA (USA)
2010	Montreal, Canada	1993	Melbourne, Australia	1976	New Orleans, Louisiana (USA)
2009	Birmingham, England (UK)	1992	Orlando, Florida (USA)	1975	Montreal, Canada
2008	Los Angeles, CA (USA)	1991	Mexico City, Mexico	1974	Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN (USA)
2007	Salt Lake City, Utah (USA)	1990	Portland, OR (USA)	1973	Lausanne, Switzerland
2006	Malmo, Sweden & Copenhagen,	1989	Seoul, Korea	1972	Houston, Texas (USA)



## ROTARY CLUB WLW SPECIAL DATES

1971-1972— Rotary Club of Westlake Village Begins

March 30, 1972 — Charter Date

Rotarian Ann's (1914) -Stephanie Harborne started as a Rotary Ann

1983— Started helping Meals on Wheels raise money and service

April 26, 1989-Named Service Group of the Year

1990- Four Way Test Essay

May 1994— International Spring Festival (changed to a street fair in 1995)

Spring 1995 - First RCWLW Street Festival

1996-1997 First Rotary Club of WLW Female President

July 1998-First Rotary WLW Club member to be elected to the RI Board of Directors

December 1999 - First Christmas Shopping Spree for Boy Girls Club

2002 —Homer Dickerson Ethics Conference

Back Packs

Date—YMCA Clean Up

August 2, 2009 - Started Social Media via FB

March 2014-Milt Towle, Fred Raio, Homer Caston celebrated 42nd Anniversary as a Rotarian of Westlake Village Rotary Club

April 2014 - Race for Global Clean Water

Food Drives

Happy Dollars

2020 #Conejo Heroes & Essential Workers Covid 19 Project

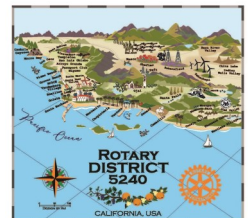
December 2020 First Drive In Movie Night (Elf, Incredibles, Grease)

December 12, 2021—1st Holidays in the Village. A European Marketplace.

February 2022-First Service Project Ride On Therapeutic Horse Clean Up Project

April 2022-First Easter Basket Service Project

## LOGOS



THANK YOU  
to all of the Rotarians  
who participated in creating this book.  
Stories of where  
Rotary Club of Westlake Village  
started, where it has been and where its headed.

HAPPY 50TH  
*Anniversary*



BUSINESS, CULTURAL, ENTERTAINMENT, EVENTS, FAMILY, LOCAL, NEWS

## Enjoy Holidays In The Village, A European Marketplace on Dec. 12

by [Community Contributor](#) • October 27, 2021 • Comments Off

### WESTLAKE VILLAGE

— Holidays in the Village, A European Marketplace will celebrate the warmth and joy of the holiday season with lots of food, music, kids' fun, and artisan and craft vendors—all with a European flair. The Marketplace is Sunday, December 12 from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Lakeview Canyon Road and Agoura Road (adjacent to Stonehaus) in Westlake



Courtesy photo.

Holidays in the Village is being hosted by the two Rotary Clubs of Westlake Village.

