



March 9, 2016

Volume 99 Issue 34

Dear Fellow Rotarian,



This week's program should be very interesting--the intrigue and back story behind the Rams relocation to Inglewood and the dealings of the City of Inglewood and Stan Kroenke, the Ram's owner. We are lucky to have Mayor James Butts joining us, so be sure to get to the Queen Mary and enjoy the companionship of your fellow Rotarians and the insights of Inglewood's dynamic Mayor.

For those of us born and raised in Southern California, the Los Angeles Rams were part of our region's identify for many decades, and to have them return to LA is a great day for NFL fans in Southern California.

Here's a list of just some of the LA Ram luminaries: Elroy Crazy Legs Hirsch, Merlin Olson, Deacon Jones, Rosey Grier, Roman Gabriel, Tom Mack, Jackie Slater, Eric Dickerson, Hacksaw Reynolds, Jack Youngblood, Rod Perry, Pat Thomas, Lawrence McCutcheon, Dennis Harrah, Rich Saul, Joe Scibelli, Tank Youinger, Wendell Fumbles Tyler, Vince Ferragamo, Harold Jackson, Flipper Andron.

Little known fact, at least according to the infallible Wikipedia: Notorious CEO of Death Row Records, and current murder suspect Marion Suge Knight played for the Rams during the "replacement players season following the 1987 NFL Player Strike." Another little fact per Wikipedia: Suge Knight is reputed to have dangled recording artist (it pains me to type those words) Vanilla Ice outside a hotel window by his ankles to threaten Vanilla Ice into signing over royalties to his one-hit wonder, Ice Ice Baby...suffice to say Ice signed over the rights and Death Row Records had its first real hit.

Yours in Rotary Service,
Greg Burnight, FY 2015-2016, Pres# 99

Visit our Website [[here](#)] District 5320 [[here](#)] Rotary International [[here](#)] E-Club of the West [[here](#)]

THIS WEEK'S MEETING



Wednesday - March 9 - Mayor James Butts- "Inglewood Brings Home the Rams" - 12 noon

James T. Butts, Jr. was elected Inglewood's 12th mayor in 2011. In less than 5 years his operational expertise prevented impending bankruptcy and his strategic vision created the "Best Neighborhood in Los Angeles." The 80,000-seat stadium and 6,000-seat performing arts venue are stimulating other major real estate re-development. Butts has more than 43 years of public safety and municipal government experience including Deputy Chief of Inglewood PD, Chief of Police for the City of Santa Monica, and assistant general manager for the LA World Airports.

NEXT WEEK'S MEETING



Wednesday - March 16 - Steve & Meredith Shaw - "Adventure of a Lifetime" - 12 noon

SPECIAL IRISH BEER TASTING 12 NOON - 12:30

Steve and Meredith Shaw retired in October 2012 and immediately bought a boat in the Miami area to realize their dream of navigating the Great Loop: the Intercoastal Waterway from Florida to New York, the Hudson River, the Erie Canal through the Great Lakes, the Mississippi River, the Gulf Coast. Their 15-month trip covered over 7,000 miles--proving that the eastern 1/3 of the US is actually an island! Find out what happens when you try to live out your retirement dreams.

LAST WEEK'S MEETING



If you were there last week, you met **Russ Lesser** of Body Glove International. Not many CPAs go from managing partner of one of the largest single office CPA firms in the country to presiding over a company that makes wet suits. After 20 years of partnership, he left to join Body Glove International, dropping his suit and tie to switch to jeans and flip flops. Lesser credits the capitalistic system for lifting the most people out of poverty. And that it is important to know our nation's history and the sacrifices made by some many others who make it possible for entrepreneurs to flourish. Body Glove International is a classic start-up business emerging to solve a problem--people getting cold in the water. Because the manufacturing of wet suits is often more expensive than the importing cost of the raw rubber, Body Glove relies more on the licensing of its brand name, than the production of water-based products.

Willetta McCulloh provided the *Inspiration of the Day*; **John Pope** led the club in the *Pledge of Allegiance*; and in tribute to our guest speaker, the club sang "*Fun Fun Fun*" with **Marcelle Epley**. **Sergeant-at-Arms Walter Larkins** helped celebrate the birthdays of **Nelson Kerr**, **Alfredo Velasco**, **Dr. Seuss (via Paul Kennard)**. **Karen Widerynski** reminded the club of the Breakfast Business Roundtable (March 3). *Paul Harris Fellow* recognitions for this month: PHF (Shannon Burnight, Maria Cochran) and PHF+1 (**Greg Burnight, Matt Kinley, Sarah Naccarato, James Naccarato**).

COMING UP



Thursday - March 10 - Information Meeting (Greg Owen's) 6:00pm-8:00pm

Even if you've been a long-standing member of the club, there is always something to learn about what we do or, more importantly, why we are Rotarians. Bring a prospective member, or come meet prospective members who are interested in joining the Rotary ranks. Hosted by: **Greg and Val Owen** (5350 East El Prado Ave)



Saturday - March 12 - Centennial Park Clean-up 8:00am

We created this park in 2005 to celebrate Rotary International's 100th anniversary. Each month we continue to keep it clean and safe. Join us for the fastest and most fun way to do community service. Entrance on Pacific Coast Highway (between Junipero and Cherry Streets), near the purple and yellow burger joint.

Contact **Mike Jensen** (jensen@pacret.com)



Thursday - March 17 - 5 O'Clock Somewhere - Forbidden City 5:30-7:30pm

Do something really different for St. Patrick's Day and come to our monthly mixer at Forbidden City (6380 E. PCH)!! Enjoy the appetizing hors d'oeuvres and stay for dinner in a non-traditional ambience for this popular "holiday". This is especially good for those who missed celebrating Chinese New Year last month---this applies especially to all you "monkeys".

5 O'Clock Somewhere is our after hours mixer on the 3rd Thursday of the month.

Sunday - March 27 - Ronald McDonald House Sunday Meal Prep 4:00pm



It's Easter Sunday but, unfortunately, for some families their child must be in the hospital for medical treatment. Come give them some extra support on a holiday when hope is the message.

Contact team captain **Wayne Slavitt** (waynes@mobulstore.com)

NEW MEMBER INTRODUCTION

Mitch Dion introduced the club's newest member, **Sathya Chey**.



Sathya (which means "truth") was born in a refugee camp in Thailand as her family was trying to escape from the Cambodian Genocide. Her family made their way to Long Beach in 1985 and eventually opened up a market in Cambodia Town. No slacker, Sathya has been working since she's been 9 years old and can press 245 pounds.

No wonder Halbert Hargrove hired her 9 years ago !

Welcome, **Sathya**, to your new Rotary family!

◀Mar2016▶

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More information about upcoming events [[here](#)]. The above events qualify for makeup credit [[here](#)] or you can review EClub programs [[here](#)]

This Week's BIRTHDAYS



- **Scott Lidgard** - 3/13 Lidgard & Associates (Real Estate - Appraisal Services)
- **Jack Senske** - 3/13 Pactrust Bank (Real Estate - Mortgage Loans)
- **John Gilligan** - 3/19 Gilligan Law Corporation (Attorney at Law - Family Practice)
- **Joel Garnica** - 3/19 Garnica Interiors, Inc. (Interior Design)
- **Tom Reep** - 3/19 Reep Capital Group (Consultant - Board Advisory Services)



For Rotarians, The Four-Way Test is the cornerstone of all our actions.

Of the things we think, say or do ...

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

The Rotarygram is published weekly by the Rotary Club of Long Beach, the largest Rotary club in Rotary District 5320, and with over 300 members, among the 50 largest clubs in the world of Rotary International.

Club number 840, chartered November 1, 1917.

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