

Rotary Year 2006-07

Officers

President	Pete Hedley
President-elect	Rich Stakelum
Secretary	Philip “Flip” Heintz
Treasurer	Bob Baker

Directors

Club Service	Nat Webster
Community Service	Judy Byram
Vocational Service	Dan Johnston
International Service	Larry Brenner
Immediate Past President	Byron Dyck/David Pettigrew*

*Byron Dyck moved to Colorado in October 2006; his predecessor, David Pettigrew, assumed some of the tasking that ordinarily accompanies the position.

During **Pete Hedley’s** tenure as president, the Point Loma Rotary Club continued to showcase its commitment to “Service Above Self.” Generally, the contours of the year’s club activities were much the same as those of preceding years.

Budgetary constraints, however, dictated some changes to the details of those contours. Specifically, the year’s principal fundraising vehicle—a raffle that offered the prize of a week at the La Costa Resort---failed to net the proceeds necessary to bolster funding for future service-related projects. This development required the club to carefully husband resources earned by previous fundraisers to prevent tapping the corpus of its endowment fund for augmentations.

One of the year’s major achievements was reorganization of the club. Developed by President-elect **Rich Stakelum** and approved during a mid-year club assembly, the reorganization aimed to align the club’s structure with that of Rotary International, beginning in Rotary year 2007-08, by shifting specific service responsibilities from members of the board of directors to committee chairs.

Membership

The club began the year with 42 members on the roll. The net result of gains and losses was a year-end membership of 41. Two new members—**Tim McCully** and **Joanna Tsai**—were inducted in ’06-’07. However, the balance sheet reflected the losses of **Byron Dyck** (see above), **Dave Carey** (deceased), and **Sumner Bookwalter**.

Programs

President-elect **Rich Stakelum** performed stellarly by arranging programs that included the following impressive array of speakers:

- San Diego County Supervisor **Greg Cox**;
- San Diego *Union-Tribune* columnist **Reuben Navarette**;
- **Andrea Stone**, Executive Officer of the Rescue Task Force;
- Rotary District 5340 Governor **Philippe Lamoise**;

- Past District 5340 Governor **Bob Watson**;
- Colonel **Mike Walker**, U.S. Marine Corps, who discussed humanitarian affairs aspects of the war in Iraq;
- **Ian Campbell**, General Director of the San Diego Opera;
- **Paula Corderro**, Dean of the University of San Diego School of Leadership and Education;
- Rear Admiral **Len Hering**, U.S. Navy, Commander Navy Region Southwest;
- Captain **Hart Sebring**, U.S. Navy, Commodore, Sealift Command Pacific;
- **Bob McElroy** of Project Alpha, who talked about homelessness in San Diego;
- San Diego City Attorney **Mike Aguirre**;
- **Kim Eurich**, Outreach Counselor for Point Loma High School;
- **Ted Cuevas**, Media Arts teacher at High Tech High School;
- **Al Pavich**, President and CEO of Vietnam Veterans of San Diego;
- Rotary Exchange student **Quinn Heron**;
- **Curt Lutz** of the Ocean Beach Community Development Council;
- Congresswoman **Susan Davis**;
- San Diego City Councilman **Kevin Faulconer**;
- San Diego County Supervisor **Ron Roberts**;
- San Diego County Assessor **Gregory Smith**; and
- **Lydia Goularte-Ruiz**, City of San Diego Redevelopment Agency, who discussed the North Bay project.

Other programs featured PLRCers **Larry Blumberg**, who spoke about the North Island Classic Car races, and **Tim McCully**, who discussed the USNS MERCY humanitarian mission to Indonesia after the tsunami.

The club continued its traditional Christmas caroling at St. Paul's Manor and annual Christmas party to mark the end of calendar 2006. The club's Four-Way Test speech competition, a visit from RYLA attendees, and a field trip to Liberty Station helped to round out the program agenda.

Club Service

This year marked the end of the relatively long plateau of \$185 for quarterly dues. Club members approved an increase to \$210 per quarter, beginning with Rotary Year 2007-08. The increase was deemed necessary to keep pace with rising food costs.

Director **Nat Webster** continued his club service responsibilities for a second year, drawing on increased support from several club members to sustain the week-by-week operations. **Dave Leedom** conducted the weekly raffle while **Dave Brummersted** edited the club's newsletter for the ninth consecutive year. Incidentally, after eight years of producing the newsletter twice each month, Dave B. reduced the frequency to one issue a month. Also, as sergeant-at-arms, **Bob Thomas** secured fines—and thus funds—to augment the club's endowment fund.

Frank White assisted Nat with organizing club socials during the year. On September 22, 2006, **Shannon** and **Ken Osborne** hosted "Oktoberfest" for the third straight year. As he has done for so many years, **Bill Cole**, the PLRC's venerable "sausage king," grilled the wursts. Then, on December 9th, the Osbornes again opened

their home for the club's holiday social. The annual Demotion Dinner on June 29, 2007, capped the Rotary year.

Community Service

Judy Byram extended her tour as community service director for a third year. Her activities included continued liaison with the Port District for finishing the landscaping and the sculptural seat light at the Rotary pavilion on Shelter Island. This effort was bolstered significantly by a \$16,000 grant from the office of San Diego County Supervisor **Greg Cox**.

Despite budgetary constraints---mentioned in the opening paragraph---the club continued to contribute financially to organizations and activities within the local community. Recipients included:

- Armed Services YMCA;
- San Diego Humane Society;
- Family Literacy Foundation;
- Boy Scout Troop 24;
- Point Loma Library (book purchases);
- Cub Scout Pack 588;
- Rescue Task Force;
- Challenged America;
- Point Loma concert series;
- Peninsula Family YMCA;
- U.S. Marine Corps Semper Paratus Fund;
- Fleet Week Foundation Breakfast;
- Children's Hospital; and
- Monarch School.

Jerry Henberger ably served on the Community Service Committee, helping to coordinate distribution of the checks to all beneficiaries.

On April 28, 2007, PLRCers joined with the Ocean Beach Community Development Council for a community cleanup as part of the second annual district-wide Rotarians-at-Work Day. The effort included weeding, collecting trash, and otherwise sprucing up the Robb Field roadside area near the gateway to Ocean Beach. **Mark Nokes** did a superlative job in organizing the activity as well as arranging the picnic lunch that followed.

Vocational Service

Director **Dan Johnston**, also a holdover from the previous Rotary year, continued his efforts to help Point Loma teens. On February 23, 2007, Vocational Service sponsored a Four-Way Test speech competition, featuring students from Point Loma High, High Tech High, and High Tech International High. **Dave DeRosier** again emceed the competition.

The PLRC sponsored eight students from High Tech High (2), High Tech High International (3), and Point Loma High School (3) to attend the Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) at Idyllwild in the Spring of 2007. The club also hosted an exchange

student from Brazil, **William Samoas**, who attended Point Loma High and went to RYLA under the auspices of District 5340.

Although not actually part of the vocational service program, two ambassadorial scholars from Germany, **Nils Maack** and **Fabian Zimmer**, came to the club via **Dick Thorn's** efforts. Both attended RYLA and Nils later emceed the RYLA presentation to the club.

International Service

Director **Larry Brenner**, who assumed leadership of the committee from **Gary Stephany**, managed the club's vested interest in a matching grant for a clean water project in Africa. That project was initiated in Rotary Year 2004-05. Moreover, the club embarked on another matching grant project, that of helping to establish a micro-credit activity in Ghana. In addition, the club sponsored a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar.

Looking Ahead

Rotary Year 2007-08 will test club members' acceptance of the new reorganization. Fittingly, new president **Rich Stakelum**, the architect of the restructuring, and his board of directors and committee chairs will have the opportunity to try to make the system work. Regardless of that outcome, club members have every reason to believe that the new leadership will sustain a collective commitment to achieving the PLRC's ongoing community, vocational, international, and club service objectives.