

# EL RODEO

THE ROUNDUP

Year 114  
Issue 03  
Oct 2022



LA5 Rotary Club of Los Angeles  Rotary Club of Los Angeles Foundation 1909

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# #5

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1909 AND AGING LIKE  
FINE WINE

## FROM THE EDITOR

LA5 Rotarians,

This issue is short and sweet but only because you are making my job far too easy! I challenge you to challenge me by sending me your committee and project updates. I'll even take life updates! In all my 3 years as a Rotarian, I have never known this club to be shy.

So, don't be. Brag!

Reach out to me directly:

**[Tammy.nguyen@rotaryla5.org](mailto:Tammy.nguyen@rotaryla5.org)**

YIRS,

*Tammy Nguyen*

LA5  
**Rotary**   
Club of Los Angeles

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5

NOVEMBER

WALK TO END  
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CONGRATULATIONS

Mr. & Mrs  
McGurk







*Having won zero awards or accolades, El Rodeo's very own Page Six is the finest news source in America, maybe even in the world.*

## By Ken Chong, Past President

I want to thank **President Malinda** for asking me to fill in for her last Friday while she continued her Italian vacation. The meeting started with the obligatory standing ovation for the fill in Past President running the meeting.

I hope that LA5 tradition doesn't die. I milked it for every second because there aren't a whole lot of circumstances where I get one of those anymore. When I come home, the only one that happy to see me is my labradoodle, Scout. President Malinda had a nice full agenda for me to run. She saved a little bit of everything for me: September birthday-ites, Rotary Anniversaries, a remembrance of former LA5er **John Burrows** by **PP Mike Birkholm** and we welcomed new member **Rebecca Haussling**, Ability First, Sr. Director of Marketing & Communications.

I thought President Malinda was trying to trip me up. The timeline took the meeting to 1:37PM, assuming everyone stayed within their time allotment perfectly!

I started the meeting under the gun, 10 min late because we couldn't get the zoom to work, but the upside is there is no recording of my follies from the mic. I dusted the cobwebs off my gavel and got the meeting timeline back on track, our speaker got a full 25 min plus time for two questions from the audience.

Once the cobwebs were off the gavel, she was ready to go to work! I was trolling Facebook the week leading up and low and behold, look at this celebratory news in my feed- **Paul St John** just celebrated his 33rd wedding anniversary, \$50 fine! President Malinda is so caring and always thinks of others. She knows what I like.



Before she left for her trip, she made sure to leave me a Presidential care package at the podium. She tee'd up a nice \$100 fine for Rudy Ramirez. He had been MIA for a few years, but work has brought him back to downtown! Welcome back to LA5 Rudy!





One of my all-time favorite people to fine...**John Green**. He has levied plenty of actual fines, penalties and punishments during his career. Thank you for playing along with my shenanigans with the gavel. John paid his fine of \$100 to celebrate the upcoming wedding of his daughter.

Last but not least, Past President and Club Treasurer, **Marc Leeka**. I did not like levying this fine. I do not like seeing Past Presidents fined...because I am one. We have red badges and we should be able to run amok in LA5 without consequence. But **PP Marc**, an executive member of the board, has purposefully been absent during meetings to save money, so he can travel first class around the world with his lovely bride, Pearl.



For the 6 people that read my monthly missives, you know I put a \$50 picture bounty on **PP Marc's** head if I received a photo of him eating lunch. I ended up paying \$100 for the rare photo in the wild, but not before I fined **PP Marc** for finally showing up to a full meeting.



I collected \$450 in fines, not bad, still got it! In all seriousness, thank you **Paul, Rudy, John and PP Marc** for playing along and supporting LA5!

# THANKS FOR ALL THAT YOU DO.

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Sign  
Up

# LA5 Arts Committee

Samantha Kim & John Spokes

## Join **Arts** Advocacy!

[sign up here](#)

LA5 Members **Samantha Kim** and **John Spokes** cordially invite you to join the Arts Committee.

If you choose to join, you will be e-vited to local arts events throughout the year. Some of the events will be free, and some will be at cost. You get to choose which events to attend.

We hope you will join us (and recommend your favorite events) and look forward to celebrating the diversity of culture in Los Angeles.

*Examples of  
upcoming events:*

- *Open Exhibits at the Hammer Museum*
- *"A Few Good Men" by Aaron Sorkin at La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts*



# Secretary Spokes

THE SECRETARY'S REPORT

BY JOHN SPOKES

Greetings Fellow LA5ers-


I am honored to be serving as Club Secretary during Prez Malinda's adventurous year of community service and deep engagement of our membership.

As I bang this out on my keyboard with two fingers, I clearly remember drafting the agenda for the first meeting of our Club's 114th year.

I mused that if we accomplished 50% of our plan, we'd still be setting a meaningful course of "Service Above Self."

At July's meeting, the Board 1) endorsed our two objectives of raising \$200,000 and making community distributions at an unprecedented level, 2) engaged Samantha Kim as our Club Operations Manager (a task she has delivered with perfection), 3) approved the Club Operating and LA5 Foundation budgets, 4) motioned to distribute over \$150,000 to key community service projects and our Community Grants Fund and 5) still squeezed in reports from each of the Division Co-Chairs. I was pleased to adjourn the meeting with 6 minutes to spare. The early end gave us all a bit more time to fellowship at the home of our host, Foundation Division Co-Chair, Azim Vishani. What a start!

The highlights of our August meeting included a speedy conclusion of our regular business to do a deep dive into the results of the LA5 Membership Survey. Division Co-Chair Barry Hytowitz put forward a summary of the results and led the board in a discussion about how to address sending critical information to all members of the Club. The outcome was the establishment of a clear partnership between Membership and MarCom to get the word out to all. Board members also selflessly offered to take time to call all members of the Club to see how each member is receiving notice of Club Luncheons and Service Projects.



In September, we picked up where we left off on the item of membership engagement and reserved 15 minutes of the agenda to develop strategies to connect meaningfully with all members.

Also on the agenda was the approval of distributing up to \$179,000 to our Club's Scholarship recipients. Members of the board expressed gratitude to Joshua Mandell and all the Scholarship Committee members for their dedicated service to this important initiative of the Club.

Looking forward, I am eager to hear an update from JT Warring on the work in Myanmar and a proposal from Lauren Schlau and IPP Ekstrand on a new project requiring our support.

The minutes of our meetings are always available to you.

Feel free to reach out to me anytime at [john.spokes@rotaryla5.org](mailto:john.spokes@rotaryla5.org).





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*and recognizing the good deeds of the Rotary Club of Los Angeles*

REGISTRATION AND TABLES:

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[rotaryla5.org/events](http://rotaryla5.org/events)



**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18  
NOON - 2 PM**

AT THE CALIFORNIA CLUB



# Get To Know Your Board

a not-so-in-depth feature of your favorite board member





Director

## HI, I'M TERUKO WEINBERG

Q: What makes you stay in Rotary?

A: I enjoy myself through the Rotary activities and I also feel pride to be a member of it. And first and foremost, everyone is so kind!

Q: What is your favorite meal, or place to eat?

A: My frequent lunch place is Ise Shima Restaurant at Hybrid Miyako Hotel in Torrance.

Q: What is your love language?

A: Acts of Service.





Director

## HI, I'M AZIM VISHANI

Q: What do you do when you're not at work or Rotary?

A: I enjoy cooking, traveling, sporting events.

Q: What is your favorite meal, or place to eat?

A: Lobster spaghetti, sushi, Il Pastaio.

Q: Who is your hero?

A: My dad.





Director

## HI, I'M CHARLES HAMILTON

Q: Why did you join Rotary?

A: I wanted to be more involved in my community and I wanted to honor my Dad who was an active Rotarian.

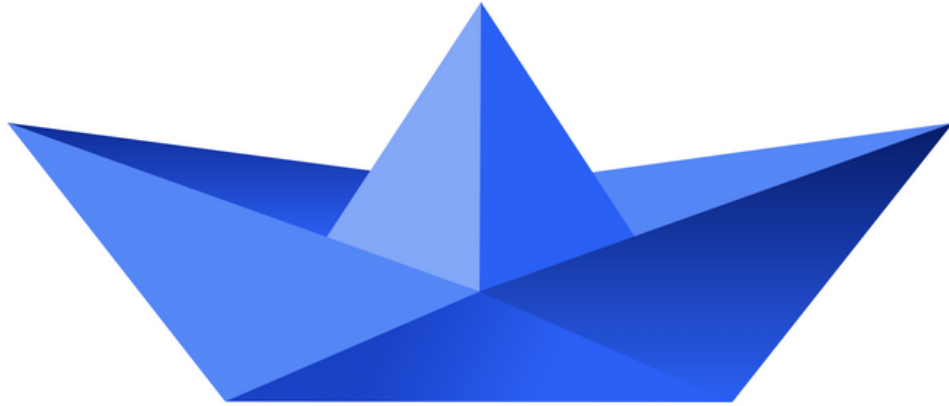
Q: What album or artist are you listening to right now?

A: Always listening to Ray Lamontagne. His album, God Willing and the Creek Don't Rise is perfection...

Q: What is your favorite meal, or place to eat?

A: Salty, greasy, cheesy smash burger, hot crispy French fries and an ice cold IPA





# Student Corner

**thank you**

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AND MEMBER JARED SMITH

for helping us keep the lights on, fun, and fancy



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