



**ROTARY CLUB OF WEST EL PASO**  
 P.O. Box 13164 \* El Paso, TX 79913  
 Website: [www.rotarywestelpaso.org](http://www.rotarywestelpaso.org)  
 Email: [westelpasorotary@elp.rr.com](mailto:westelpasorotary@elp.rr.com)



*“Magic is believing in yourself, if you can do that, you can make anything happen.”* Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

**MONDAY, AUGUST 13, PROGRAM – Center Against Family Violence, Stephanie Karr, Executive Director**

The Center Against Family Violence was incorporated in 1977 as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization governed by a board of directors serving the tri-county area of El Paso, Hudspeth and Culberson counties. Guiding CAFV in its mission to confront and prevent domestic violence in all its forms by advocating for safety and justice through intervention, education and community collaboration is executive director, Stephanie Karr. CAFV addresses family needs in times of emergency and works to rebuild families by providing the needed guidance and resources to put them back on the road to a healthy recovery. The Center Against Family Violence provides confidential assistance, educational programs and, most importantly, hope to families in need. The scope of family violence is limitless: from the casualties of physical and mental abuse, to the after-effects of violence spanning generations.



**President's Message: (Do You Believe in Magic?)**

When I was at RYLA Camp during the last week in July, I kept hearing the phrase **"The Magic of RYLA."** So I began to think about it. What is the MAGIC exactly? Let me start by giving you the basics of RYLA as listed in Wikipedia and related sources.

**Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)** is a leadership program coordinated by Rotary Clubs across the globe. Each year, thousands of young people participate in this program. Young people ages 14–30 are sponsored by Rotary Clubs to attend the event run by the club and district committees. Participants are chosen for their leadership potential. Rotary Clubs and the Rotary District cover all expenses for the participants. The format of the event varies from district to district, but commonly takes the form of a seminar, camp, or workshop to discuss leadership skills and to learn those skills through practice. Rotary clubs and districts select participants and facilitate the event's curriculum.

In 1959, the state government of Queensland, Australia, invited local Rotary Clubs to help plan an event to celebrate the upcoming centennial of the state. Princess Alexandra, who was in her early 20's was due to attend the celebrations, so activities were planned specifically for the princess's age group. The *gundoo*, an aboriginal word meaning "festival" or "fun together," was deemed successful with more than 300 men and women between the ages of 17 and 23 attending. Encouraged by the event's popularity with the young attendees, Rotary saw the potential to create an annual youth program based on *Gundoo*. The governor of the then District 260, Art Brand, approved the project and on May 2, 1960, RYLA became an official Rotary project. Australian districts 258 and 260 established a



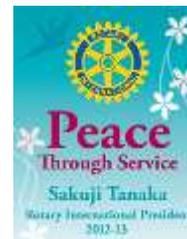


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committee together that developed the official framework of RYLA to train youth ages 14-30 in character, leadership, personal development, and good citizenship. These guidelines helped RYLA expand to all Rotary districts in Australia and led to its approval as a Rotary International program by the RI Board at the 1971 Convention in Sydney, Australia. By 1998, RYLA had become an established program in more than half of the 521 Rotary Districts worldwide. At that time RI President James Lacy appointed an international RYLA committee dedicated to improving and expanding this program to the entire world. Rotarians with different RYLA experiences were invited to RI headquarters to exchange information and ideas and participants agreed that RYLA could be improved through regional training workshops.

District 5520's first RYLA was held in 1979 at a camp near Taos, NM. For the first 13 years RYLA only had sessions for boys. The girls' camp started in 1986. Several years ago the camp was moved to Manzano Mountain Retreat, an apple orchard and camp facility near Mountainair, NM, owned by an Albuquerque Rotarian named Scott Garrett. Since then it has served as the permanent home for our annual July two week camp - week 1 - for girls, and week 2 - for boys. To qualify for this camp a participant must be approaching his/her senior year in high school, and be able to be selected after a rigorous interview conducted by adult RYLA district and club leaders.

RYLA aims to demonstrate Rotary's respect and concern for youth; provide an effective training experience for selected youth and potential leaders; encourage leadership of youth by youth; and recognize publicly young people who are rendering a service to their communities. Every RYLA program covers the following core topics:

- Fundamentals of leadership
- Ethics of positive leadership
- Importance of communication skills in effective leadership
- Problem-solving and conflict management
- Rotary's purpose and service to the community
- Building self confidence and self-esteem
- Elements of community and global citizenship

This past July I completed my 5th year as a counselor, with many thanks to Jim Maxon and several others who mentored me during the first year or two. During those years I've been able to witness the "Magic" by observing these young men when they first come into camp, and the transformation that takes place in them by the end of the week. These "strangers" become the best of friends and gain a confidence in themselves that is hard to describe. The physical, mental and emotional challenges they faced and overcame while having an incredible amount of FUN doing it, taught them leadership skills, teamwork and perseverance through a process which can only be described as magical. My only regret is that this camp was not available when I was their age. I would like to thank everyone in our Club who supported RYLA and especially Francis & Jesse for serving as counselors. RYLA is truly an experience you want to be part of and it fits perfectly with the Rotary motto of "Service Above Self."



Rotary Club



Rotaract



Interact



Friendship Exchange



RYLA

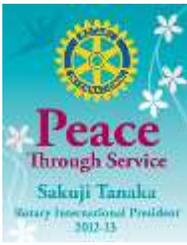


Youth Exchange

**"SERVICE ABOVE SELF"**



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**UPCOMING PROGRAMS**

- August 20, 2012 - Monday - Youth Exchange Student - Laura Swanz
- August 27, 2012 - Monday - RCWEP Board Meeting - Holiday Inn Conference Room 11:00am
- August 27, 2012 - Monday - District Governor - Mark Glenn
- September 2012 \*\*\* New Generations Month \*\*\*\*\*
- September 3, 2012 - Monday - No Meeting Labor Day
- September 10, 2012 - Monday - Australian Rotarians
- September 15-18, 2012 - Saturday -Tuesday - England RFE Team
- September 17, 2012 - Monday - England RFE Team
- September 21, 2012 - Friday - RCWEP Board Meeting UBS Conference Rm 7:30am
- September 22, 2012 - Saturday - First Tee Desert Classic Golf Tournament - George Underwood Course
- September 24, 2012 - Monday - EPCC Librarian Susan Barnum

**SAVE THE DATE:**

**19th Annual Celebrity Chef Evening** - Thursday, October 18th, 2012 - El Paso Convention Center. The various Rotary Clubs of EL Paso will host this event and the doors will be open at 6 pm and the buffet lines open at 7 pm. They will also tempt you with a silent auction, offering trips, jewelry and days at the spa, among many other exciting items and a gift basket raffle. Our club is once again being asked to sponsor a table of 10 for \$1,000. The Rotacare Clinic of El Paso will be supported by the funds derived from this event. The clinic will be free standing without any government funding. Let's do our best to support this outstanding project.

**50th Anniversary Event** - As you know, our club is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year and Saturday - September 29th, 2012 marks the exact date (plus 50 years) when our original Charter Dinner took place - September 29, 1962. That event was held at the El Paso Country Club. Let's do it again. A recent survey showed support from about 1/3 of our membership to hold a dinner this coming September 29 at the same place with a similar menu. If you haven't responded to the email about this event, please let President Carey Beamesderfer know so we can finalize the decision on whether we should proceed with this or not.

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**Local Clubs & their Meeting Times:**

- [El Paso "Downtown Rotary Club"](#) - Meetings Thursday at Noon at The El Paso Community Foundation -333 North Oregon Street -1st Floor
- [The Sunrise Rotary Club of El Paso](#) - Meetings Wednesday at 7:00am Holiday Inn Sunland Park
- [Rotary Club of El Paso Franklin Mountains](#) - Meetings Thursday at 6:00pm El Paso Comm College - Transmountain
- [Rotary Club of East El Paso](#) - Meetings Tuesday at Noon at Jaxons on Airway Blvd
- [Northeast El Paso Rotary Club](#) - Meetings on Friday at Noon at Golden Corral on Transmountain Road
- [Rotary Club of El Paso - Vista Hills](#) - Meetings on Wednesday at Noon at Vista Hills Country Club
- [Camino Real Club](#)- Meetings Wednesday ay 6:30pm at Camino Real Hotel

