

P.O. Box 13164 \* El Paso, TX 79913

Website: <a href="www.rotarywestelpaso.org">www.rotarywestelpaso.org</a></a><br/>
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# March is Rotary "Literacy" Month

"You're the same today as you'll be in five years except for the people you meet and the books you read." – Charlie Jones

"Not all readers are leaders, but all leaders are readers." - Harry Truman

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## Speaker for Monday, March 4, 2013



Cemelli de Aztlan

#### Events for March/April 2013

Friday, March 8 – Board Meeting – 7:30am – UBS Conference Room

Fri/Sat, March 8/9 – PEACE Forum

Mon - March 11 - Club Meeting - Speaker - Dr. William Serratta—EPCC President

Mon – March 18 – Club Meeting – Speaker - Anita Werner – West Star Bank – Financial Literacy

Mon – March 25 - Club Meeting – Speakers - Elizabeth Gamez & Tina Carlsen – KCOS-TV Mon – April 1 – Club Meeting – Youth Exchange (Inbound & Outbound)

Thu-Sat – April 4-6 – PETS Conference – Albuquerque

Sat – April 20 – RCWEP Yard Sale – Padilla Homes Parking Lot

As the Racial Justice Program Manager at the YWCA, Cemelli de Aztlan conducts trainings and presentations about civil rights, diversity, cultural appreciation & anti-bullying rights at schools, universities, and organizations. She develops curricula focused on these issues for all age ranges, conduct Racial Justice facilitator trainings, and coordinate 50+ trained volunteers to conduct presentations throughout the city. The mission of the program is to facilitate insightful explorations of our social structures and confront the inequities that exist within it. One of deAztlan's proudest endeavors at the YWCA was the establishment of the Librotraficante Underground Library, where they house a collection of banned books from the Mexican American Studies program in Tucson, Arizona public schools. Through the establishment of this library, they raise awareness and engage community members to reinterpret Mexican-American literature through the lens of censorship and discrimination. Please contact her if you are interested in training to becoming a certified Racial Justice Facilitator. Cemelli is from El Paso, Texas and currently holds a B.A. in English and Religious Studies from Concordia University, and an MDiv with a focus on Women in Religious Studies & Indigenous Religious Studies from Harvard University. She is proud to be back in her hometown raising her daughter, Ameyalli de Aztlan.

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Last Week - Randy Wastradowski-YMCA Westside - Talked About LIVESTRONG



Randy is the Executive Director of the Westside Family YMCA and the YMCA of El Paso Association Project Manager for LIVESTRONG at the YMCA. He started with the YMCA in 1990 in Fort Wayne, Indiana and has worked at YMCAs in Indiana, Washington, Oregon and Texas. He has been in El Paso for 3 ½ years starting out as Executive Director at the Loya Family YMCA. Randy has a B.S. in Physical Education from Huntington University in Huntington, Indiana and has been married for 25 years to Shannon Wastradowski. They have two children, Kyle who currently is serving in the Navy and Kiana who is a junior at Trans Mountain Early College High School.

Randy spoke about LIVESTRONG at the YMCA, which is a free 12 week small group exercise class designed for adult cancer survivors who have recently become deconditioned or chronically fatigued from their treatment and/or disease. The goal of the program is to help patients build muscle mass and strength, increase flexibility and endurance and ultimately improve functional ability. The program helps participants reduce the severity of therapy side effects, prevent unwanted weight changes and improve energy levels and self-esteem. LIVESTRONG at the YMCA is about saying "goodbye" to being a patient and saying "hello" to being a healthy, whole person again.









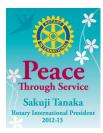






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# **Presidents Message** – (This Rotary year - RI Celebrates 50 Years of Interact)

During the 2012-13 Rotary year, RI celebrates the 50th anniversary of the first chartered Interact club. To help celebrate, the Presidential Citation for Interact clubs and new Interact Certificates of Organization will feature a special anniversary logo.





Interact is Rotary International's service club for young people ages 12 to 18. Interact clubs are sponsored by individual Rotary clubs, which provide support and guidance, but they are self-governing and self-supporting. Club membership varies greatly. Clubs can be single gender or mixed, large or small. They can draw from the student body of a single school or from two or more schools in the same community. Each year, Interact clubs complete at least two community service projects, one of which furthers international understanding and goodwill. Through these efforts, Interactors develop a network of friendships with local and overseas clubs and learn the importance of

- Developing leadership skills and personal integrity
- Demonstrating helpfulness and respect for others
- Understanding the value of individual responsibility and hard work
- Advancing international understanding and goodwill

As one of the most significant and fastest-growing programs of Rotary service, with more than 10,700 clubs in 109 countries and geographical areas, Interact has become a worldwide phenomenon. Almost 200,000 young people are involved in Interact.

The Rotary Club of West El Paso sponsors several Interact Clubs. Under the leadership of New Generations Director – Lorraine Huit and our Interact Chair – Annette Graves, we have been able to "light the fire" with clubs at several local high schools – Coronado, Chapin and Santa Teresa. Also efforts are underway to re-ignite the flame at Franklin high school. Special thanks also go to District Interact Chair – Gail Gale for her guidance, and all the hard work she has done over the past several years to grow the Interact program within District 5520.

I had an opportunity to experience the enthusiasm and eagerness in the faces of the 15+ students who came to hear our presentation about Interact this past Thursday when Lorraine & I visited Chapin high school. These young people are ready to make things happen. They have the energy, willingness and desire to experience Interact and share our Rotary values. All of us, as Rotarians, need to keep spreading the word about Rotary and Interact. Thank you to all who do, and keep up the good work. Want to learn more? Visit Interact on YouTube <a href="http://www.youtube.com/interactofficial">http://www.youtube.com/interactofficial</a> to learn this year's theme and to watch winning videos from previous years.

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#### March Birthdays & Anniversaries:

<u>Birthdays</u> March 20 – Carol Lewis

### Anniversaries (Years with RCWEP)

31 Years - Izzy Duran

20 Years - Ken Slavin

14 Years - Joanne Latimer

3 Years – Francis Reyes

3 Years – Genaro Mier











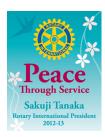


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#### Come to the PEACE forum - See details below:

Rotary International President, Sakuji Tanaka's theme for this Rotary year is Peace through Service. At the 2012 Rotary International Convention he challenged Rotary Presidents around the world to hold local Peace Forums. The Rotary Club of El Paso with the assistance of the Ft. Bliss, the YWCA, Rotary District 5520 and the Sunrise and West Rotary Clubs of El Paso has risen to President Tanaka's challenge. Through our partnerships we have designed several events around peace on March 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>.

Our Peace Begins at Home luncheon on **Friday March 8**<sup>th</sup> will bring awareness to issues of domestic violence in our community. The Rotary Club of El Paso Foundation is sponsoring our keynote speaker Wambui Bahati of New York, New York with her dramatization, "I am Domestic Violence." This will be followed by breakout sessions focusing on aspects of domestic violence in our community.

**Friday night, (March 8)** Rotary District 5520 Governor, Mark Glenn will be hosting a Peace Reception in the Sky Lounge at the Double Tree Hotel from 5:30 – 7:30. Please join us for fellowship and a glass of wine!

**Saturday morning (March 9)** we will join our sister Rotary District 4110 for an International Peace Breakfast in Juarez. Safe transportation will be provided. We will leave from Double Tree at 8:00 AM and will return to the Double Tree no later than noon. El Paso City Manager Joyce Wilson negotiated on our behalf with the US Port Authority to grant our bus Fast Pass entry back into the US. We will have you safely back in El Paso by noon on Saturday. (Note – You will need to bring your passport to travel across the border.)

**Saturday afternoon,** please make plans to bring your family to the YWCA Imagine Peace: An Afternoon of Cultural Celebration. This fun event is designed for kids of all ages. Please see the attached flier for a list of activities.

**YOUR ASSISTANCE** is needed to help get the word out on our Peace Begins At Home luncheon on Friday. This is open to the public. Please help us get the word out on this event so everyone can attend. *Ms. Bahati's presentation of "I am Domestic Violence" is a must see!! Please invite someone to come with you to lunch or forward the invite to anyone who works with the public!!* 

Please take a minute to register yourself to attend the luncheon, RSVP for the District 5520 reception and the International Peace Breakfast and invite family members to the YWCA's Imagine Peace event. Contact RCWEP President-Elect Joanne Latimer to register.

# Dear Rotarians,

As all of you know, our theme this year is "Peace Through Service". The Rotary Club of El Paso has taken the lead on this theme this year and under the leadership of President Deborah Falkner are providing a wonderful event in one and a half weeks. Please mark your calendars and go to the District website to register.

This not only supports our district but also our sister District in Northern Mexico. Your support is vital. Please plan to join us for the weekend in a proactive effort for family, community and international peace. Please see the information below and come be part of history.

Mark Glenn - District Governor 2012-13















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#### **Local Clubs, President's & their Meeting Times:**

El Paso "Downtown Rotary Club" - (Pres - Deborah Falknor) Meetings Thursday at Noon at The El Paso Community Foundation -333 North Oregon Street -1st Floor

<u>The Sunrise Rotary Club of El Paso</u> - (Pres - Regina Gines) Meetings Wed at 7:00am Holiday Inn Sunland Park Rotary Club of El Paso Franklin Mountains - (Pres - Jackie Caton) Meetings Thursday at 6:00pm El Paso Community College - Transmountain Campus

Rotary Club of East El Paso - (Pres - Joe Nebhan) Meetings Tuesday at Noon at Chihua's Restaurant Northeast El Paso Rotary Club - (Pres - Jose Amezcua) Meetings on Friday at Noon at Golden Corral on Transmountain Road

Rotary Club of El Paso - Vista Hills - (Pres - Hugo Noriega) Meetings on Wed at Noon at Vista Hills Country Club Camino Real Club - (Pres - Juan Villalba) Meetings Wednesday at 6:30pm at Camino Real Hotel Anthony Club - Meetings Thursday at Noon at Das Lagos Country Club













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