

# Rotary Rooter

EST. 11/30/1978

MARIPOSA YOSEMITE ROTARY CLUB

VOLUME 40 ISSUE 4

## Building peace at every level

### Rotary peace fellow applies lessons to life in Bogotá

As a child in Bogotá, Colombia, Lucas Peña was shocked to learn that violence between government forces and insurgent groups prevented his family from visiting relatives elsewhere in the country.

Years later in college, he studied the conflict from what he calls an “academic, analytical point of view.”

Only after graduating and joining the effort to demobilize ex-combatants did he really begin to understand the issues behind the violence that has plagued the nation for decades. (In February, members of the country’s largest insurgent group began surrendering their weapons as part of a peace deal with the government.)

Thanks to the Rotary Peace Fellowship, Peña earned his



master’s degree in conflict, security, and development at the University of Bradford in Bradford, England, in 2015.

He now works for the World Wildlife Fund as a specialist in land governance. A member of the Bogotá Capital Rotary Club, Peña encourages other Colombians to become peace fellows. And it’s working: Five peace fellows were selected from Colombia for 2017.

Q: After college, you began working with the Organization of American States Mission to Support the Peace Process in

July 27, 2017

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### 4 Way Test

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?

**Programs:**

July 2017

27 Phil deBry

August 2017

3 Marilyn Saunders

10 Vince Kehoe

17 Alan MacPhee

24 Dennis Mattiuzzi

31 David Wise

September 2017

7 Glenn Sutherland

14 Wayne Schultz

21 Chery Davis

28 Pam Beery

October 2017

5 Duane Robinson

12 Susan Robinson

19 Ron Iudice

26 Roger Leonard

November 2017

2 Mike Fagalde

9 Debbie Peters

16 John McCamman

23 Thanksgiving

30 Dave Gerken

Colombia, helping monitor the demobilization process of right-wing groups. What did that process entail, and what was your role in it?

A: At that time, the paramilitaries were laying down their guns, demobilizing their combatants, and participating in judicial processes. This was in exchange for spending only five to eight years in jail. As part of the demobilization process, the government had to issue identification to the ex-combatants, because without identification, they couldn't reintegrate into society. The government provided them with health insurance and education, too.

What I did was report on their security conditions and the re-integration process of the ex-combatants. I did that by talking to people – local government officials, military, police officers, victims.

Q: How does your current work at the World Wildlife Fund pertain to peace?

A: We are working toward a policy for the provision of land to peasants who live in natural parks in Colombia. The peasants' lack of land is what made them go to the

national parks and live there illegally. There's plenty of land in Colombia, but the good stuff is already owned; less than 1 percent of the population owns more than half of Colombia's best land.

We expect the public-policy response will include the provision of land, but it also has to ensure that the peasants will be given productive land, as well as the means of making that land productive. Solving this problem is part of the peace accord that the Colombian government has reached with FARC [the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia], the biggest guerrilla group.

Q: What did you learn from your time as a Rotary Peace Fellow?

A: Peacebuilding is not only a matter of local communities, not only a matter of national government, and not only a matter of the international community; it's a mix of all those levels. Another thing I learned is that the world itself is getting safer, in that the number of people killed in conflicts has decreased proportionate to the population. It's a very long and slow process, but the world is becoming more secure.

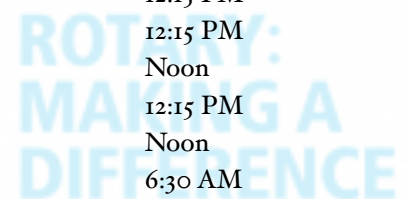
**Where to Make Up Locally**

Monday	Lodi Tokay
Tuesday	Oakhurst Sierra Sunrise North Merced Groveland
Wednesday	Oakhurst Sierra Merced
Thursday	Chowchilla
Friday	Merced Sunrise

Lodi Elks Lodge
Ol'Kettle Restaurant
Fernandos
Pine Mountain Lake Country Club
Best Western Yosemite Gateway Inn
Branding Iron
Farnesi's Restaurant
Paul's Place

Noon
7:00 AM
12:15 PM
12:15 PM
Noon
12:15 PM
Noon
6:30 AM

\*\*\*Any day, any time: [www.eclubonline.net](http://www.eclubonline.net)



# Rotary remembers Sam Owori for his 'quiet confidence,' integrity, and friendship

The Rotary flags in front of Rotary International World Headquarters in Evanston, Illinois, USA, and Rotary offices around the world fly at half-staff this week as friends and colleagues mourn President-elect Sam F. Owori, who died on 13 July from complications after surgery.

With an engaging smile and a calming voice, Sam put everyone he talked to at ease, says Hilda Tatria, a member of the Rotary Club of Gaba, Uganda, and a close friend of Sam and his wife, Norah.

"I call it the 'Sam Smile,'" says Tatria. "It made him very approachable and easy to talk to. I think his smile is one of the things Rotary and his friends will miss most."

Sam, who had been elected to serve as president of Rotary International in 2018-19, would have been the second African Rotary member, and the first Ugandan, to hold that office. He joined Rotary in 1978 and was a member of the Rotary Club of Kampala, Uganda.

"No matter the situation, Sam was always upbeat, always joking around and putting everyone else in a good mood," says Tatria.

One of the admirable things about Sam, Tatria says, was his love and devotion to his wife. They met in primary school in Tororo, Uganda. Sam described Norah Owori as beautiful, well-educated, and full of character.

"He adored Norah and always put her first," Tatria says. "They were



"Optimism is what brings us to Rotary. But Rotary is not a place for those who are only dreamers. It is a place for those with the ability, the capacity, and the compassion for fruitful service."

best friends and partners for life. It was very sweet to see them together. They never left each other's side."

Sam was highly respected in Uganda, Tatria says, for his high integrity and consistent ethical standards. Those qualities, she says, are important in a Rotary president. "He was a man everyone could trust."

She adds, "He preferred listening to speaking. It's one reason he was so well-liked."

The road to president-elect Like many members, Sam was invited to Rotary by a persistent friend. "I did not want to go," he cheerfully acknowledged years later. "I had no interest. But I had respect for my friend, so I went. And when I got there, I was in shock. The room was full of people I knew."

The more Sam saw of Rotary's good work, the more enthusiastic he became. He is largely credited with

## **RI President:**

*Ray Caporos*

## **District Governor:**

*Ian H. S. Riseley*

## **Club President:**

*Ophelia McInturff*

## **Bulletin Editor:**

*Susan Stonum*

## **RI Website:**

*[www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)*

## **District Website:**

*[www.rotary5220.org](http://www.rotary5220.org)*

## **Club Website:**

*[www.mariposarotary.org](http://www.mariposarotary.org)*

## **District Events:**

August 12, 2017

Foundation/Membership Seminar

November 18, 2017

Foundation Dinner

April 20-22, 2018

District Conference

Tenaya Lodge

## **Club Events:**

Aug. 31-Sept. 4, 2017

Fair Parking Project

the tremendous increase in clubs in Uganda: from nine in 1988, when he was district governor, to 89 today. His friends called his enthusiasm “the Owori madness” — to which he mildly replied, “If it is madness, I would be glad if more people would catch it.”

Sam described himself as “an incorrigible optimist” who chose to see the best side of everyone and the bright side of any situation. Gentle in manner, unflinching modest, and quick to smile, Sam is remembered as “Smiling Sam,” says RI President Ian Riseley.

John Smarge, who was selected by Sam to be his presidential aide, called Sam a “rock star” among Rotary members. “In just the two weeks he was president-elect, you could see how much he was loved,” Smarge says. “The Rotarians in Uganda view him as a national treasure.”

Smarge adds, “He spoke with quiet confidence and simple complexity.”

Sam brought an unyielding sense of right and wrong to his work as chief executive officer of the Institute of Corporate Governance of Uganda, to his previous work with the African Development Bank and other institutions, and to his work with Rotary.

Sam, who was one of 15 children, attributed his deep ethical sense to his upbringing, and particularly his father, who had been a school principal and then a county chief in Uganda. “He was a very strict

disciplinarian,” Sam remembered, “and when he became chief, he ran that county like a big school — with a ruler. He insisted that everything was done the right way.”

Sam’s Rotary career spanned some of Uganda’s most difficult years, including the dictatorship of Idi Amin, who was deeply suspicious of Rotary and often sent agents to spy on Rotary meetings. “Sometimes people came as guests, and you wouldn’t know exactly where they were coming from or who invited them,” Sam said later. “We always welcomed them. We had nothing to hide.”

Prominent Ugandan Rotary members, including Sam’s own manager at the bank where he worked, were picked off the streets by Amin’s forces and killed. Many Rotary clubs closed and most members withdrew: from a high of 220 members, Rotary membership dropped to around 20.

One day, Sam recalled, a member was taken right in front of Sam’s club. “We had just finished our meeting and were standing in front of the entrance of the hotel. He got picked up right there in front of us. Two guys threw him in the truck of a car and we never saw him again.”

Undeterred, Sam was back at his meeting the next week.

An avid learner, Sam held a graduate degree in labor law from the University of Leicester, England; a business management degree from California Coast

University; and a management graduate degree from Harvard Business School.

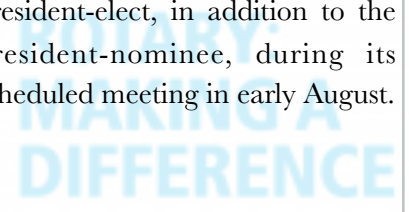
He served Rotary in many capacities, including RI director, trustee of The Rotary Foundation, regional Rotary Foundation coordinator, regional RI membership coordinator, and RI representative to the United Nations Environment Program and UN-Habitat. He was a member or chair of several committees, including the International PolioPlus Committee, the Drug Abuse Prevention Task Force, and the Audit Committee.

Sam and Norah became Paul Harris Fellows, Major Donors, and Benefactors of The Rotary Foundation.

Sam is survived by his wife, Norah; three sons, Adrin Stephen, Bonny Patrick, and Daniel Timothy; and grandchildren Kaitlyn, Sam, and Adam. Condolences can be addressed to Mrs. Norah Agnes Owori, c/o Institute of Corporate Governance of Uganda, Crusader House, Plot 3 Portal Avenue, Kampala, Uganda or via [sam.owori@rotary.org](mailto:sam.owori@rotary.org).

Memorial contributions in honor of Sam can be directed to the Sam F. Owori Memorial to Polio.

Rotary’s 2017-18 nominating committee will select a new president-elect, in addition to the president-nominee, during its scheduled meeting in early August.





### The Rotary Rooter

Ophelia McInturff	President	Mike McCreary	Past President	Daniel Horner	Director
Jim Tucker	President elect	Heather Boothe	Director	Susan Robinson	Director
????????????	Vice President	Jay MacDonald	Director	David Butler	Director
Chuck Kendall	Secretary	Bill Yaley	Director	Mike Fagalde	Director
Susan Stonum	Treasurer	Debbie Peters	Director	Karen Smith	Director
		Richard McInturff	Director	Tony Roberts	Director
		Marilyn Saunders	Director	Glenn Sutherland	Director

Official Publication of the Mariposa Yosemite Rotary Club  
 Club meets Thursday, 7:00 AM at the Senior Activity Center  
 Mariposa Rotary Rooter, P.O. Box 1001 Mariposa, California 95338  
 Susie Stonum, Editor Email: sastonum@sti.net

Ian H. S. Riseley      Rotary Club of Sandringham, Victoria, Australia      RI President  
 Ray Caparros      Escalon Sunrise Rotary Club      DG District 5220

ARANGUENA, Jeff	School Admin.	MATTIUZZI, Dennis PHF	Maintenance Manage.
BEERY, Pam PHF	Comm. Banking	McCAMMAN, John	Govt. Admin.
BINNEWIES, Doug	Law Enforcement	McCREARY, Mike	Education
BOOTHE, Heather PHF	Natl. Park Admin.	McINTURFF, Ophelia PHF	Bookkeeping
BROWER, Randy PHF	Construction	McINTURFF, Richard PP PHF	Personnel Recruiting
BROWN, Paul	Education-Secondary	MICKEL, Gene PP PHF	Real Estate Agency
BUTLER, David PHF	Construction	MURRELL, Norm PHF	Lodging - B & B
CANN, Kevin PP PHF	Natl. Park Admin.	PETERS, Debbie	Special Pro. Manage.
CASSADY, Dan PHF	Physical Therapy	ROBERTS, Tony PP PHF	Chiropractic Serv.
CARLSON, Dane	Commerce Manage.	ROBINSON, Duane PP PHF	Architecture
CASTO, Kris PP PHF	Wine Grape Prod.	ROBINSON, Susan PP PHF	School Admin.
COOKE, Thomas PHF	Criminal Law	ROTHELL, Glen PHF	Vacation Rental Manage.
COSTA, Don PHF	Olive Oil Prod	SAUNDERS, Marilyn PHF	Insurance Manage.
DAHLEM, Steven PHF	Civil Law	SCHULZ, Wayne PPAC PHF	Forestry Services
DAVIS, Chery PP PHF	Real Estate Sales	SEYMOUR, Elaine	Retail Sales
DE BRY, Phillip PP PHF	Dentistry	SMITH, Karen PP PHF	Real Estate Sales
DOUGLASS, Neal	Law-Criminal	STONUM, Neil CM PP PHF	Title Services
ESTEP, Heidi	Financial Services	STONUM, Susie PP PHF	Title Services
FAGALDE, Mike PP PHF	Admin. of Justice	SUTHERLAND, Glenn PHF	Bank Consulting
FOSTER, Troy PP PHF	Merch./Retail	TUCKER, Jim SPHF	Natl. Park Admin.
GERKEN, David	Construction	WALL, Walter	Farming
HAGEN, Becky	Law Enforcement	WEIHE, Eric	Construction
HOPPER, Robin	School Admin.	WEIHE, Sue	Homemaking
HORNER, Daniel PHF	National Park Serv.	WISE, David PHF	General Contract.
IUDICE, Ron PHF	Photography	WITTKOPE, Jim	General Contract.
IWAMA, Robert PHF	Law – Prosecution	YALEY, Bill PP PHF	Real Estate Appraisal
KEHOE, Vince PPAC PHF	Real Est. Appraisal	<b>Honorary Members:</b>	
KENDALL, Chuck PP PHF	Test Laboratory	BROWDER, Hal	ESKRA, Jim
KING, Margarita**	Nursing	GERKEN, Darlene	STONUM, Bob CM PP PHF
LAFLER, Marion PHF	Financial Services	CM	Charter Member PHF
LEONARD, Roger PHF	Education	PP	Past President PPAC
MacDONALD, Jay	Engineering - Civil	SPHF	Sustaining Paul Harris Fellow
MacPHEE, Alan	Hospital Admin.		
MARTIN, Dennis	Financial Consulting	** Newest Member	
MARTIN, Nancy	Financial Manage.	Sponsored at least one member	

Cog Club Members