



San Luis Rey Rotarians Holiday Greetings Newsletter

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This is a special time of year. A time of giving thanks to family, friends, and work associates. Unfortunately it is also a time of year that can become frantic easily. I wish for each of you time to enjoy family, friends and associates. I wish this a time when you are aware of the blessings that have been bestowed upon you and that will come your way in the New Year.

Thank you one and all for your contributions to our San Luis Rey Rotary Club this past year. Let's come back recharged in the New Year. See you all then.

Sarah, your prez [see news article on page 4]

My wish for all you dear Rotarians for Christmas and the coming New Year:
May God in His infinite wisdom and love smile upon you from heaven above.
May God shower upon you good fortune, happiness, and peace. And may all of your blessings forever increase.
David Plank



I am so happy to be a part of San Luis Rey Rotary, and never more so than at Christmas. When I look around the room at breakfast, I am just stunned by the depth of generosity and capacity to care that abounds in each heart. We are not a club, we are not an organization, we are a family. I wish each member of my family a calm and tranquil Christmas season filled with the spirit of love that truly signifies what we celebrate.
Laurie and Hefner



No Christmas Spirit (have a tissue ready) submitted by the Kastrups

I had no Christmas spirit when I breathed a weary sigh,
And looked across the table where the bills were piled too high.

The laundry wasn't finished and the car I had to fix,
My stocks were down another point, the Cowboys lost by six.

And so with only minutes till my son got home from school
I gave up on the drudgery and grabbed a wooden stool.

The burdens that I carried were about all I could take,
And so I flipped the TV on to catch a little break.

I came upon a desert scene in shades of tan and rust,
No snowflakes hung upon the wind, just clouds of swirling dust.

And where the reindeer should have stood before a laden sleigh,
Eight Hummers ran a column right behind an M1A.

A group of boys walked past the tank, not one was past his teens.
Their eyes were hard as polished flint, their faces drawn and lean.

They walked the street in armor with their rifles shouldered tight,
Their dearest wish for Christmas, just to have a silent night.

Other soldiers gathered, hunkered down against the wind,
To share a scrap of mail and dreams of going home again.

There wasn't much at all to put their lonely hearts at ease,
They had no Christmas turkey, just a pack of MREs.

They didn't have garland or a stocking I could see,
They didn't need an ornament-- they lacked a Christmas Tree.

They didn't have a present even though it was tradition,
The only boxes I could see were labeled "ammunition."

I felt a little tug and found my son now by my side,
He asked me what it was I feared, and why it was I cried.

I swept him up into my arms and held him oh so near
And kissed him on the forehead as I whispered in his ear.

There's nothing wrong, my little son, for safe we sleep tonight,
Our heroes stand on foreign land to give us all the right,

To worry about the things in life that mean nothing at all,
Instead of wondering if we will be the next to fall.

He looked at me as children do and said it's always right,
To thank the ones who help us and perhaps that we should write.

And so we pushed aside the bills and sat to draft a note,
To thank the many far from home, and this is what we wrote:

God Bless You all and keep you safe, and speed your way back home.
Remember that we love you so, and that you're not alone.

The gift you give you share with all, a present every day,
You give the gift of liberty and that we can not repay.

(Author unknown)



Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year!!
Love,
The Gallagher-Murillo family
Hector, Leslie, Scarlett (& Hudson)



Isn't Christmas a wonderful time of
year? [Click here: Santa's Jigsaw - animated
Flash ecard by Jacquie Lawson](#)

Jingle Bells

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year, Barbara



Blessings, Joy, Peace, Love,
Health and Happiness are
wished for all our wonderful
Rotarians and their families,
Barbara

MERRY CHRISTMAS ROTARIANS

Every day in Oceanside is a day for thanksgiving and blessings. The past 6 months with hurricanes and earthquakes around the world our sense of thanksgiving is even more pronounced.

I want to take this time to thank each and every SLR Rotarian for your Service Above Self the past 6 months. Looking back it is awesome how we have shared our blessings with our local community. Think a moment at what we have done:

Fourth of July Parade

(all 3 clubs rode on a SLR Towing truck donated by Pres Elect Reinseth)

OceanShore High School

- Binders for each student and two new picnic tables/benches
 - Students helped us with FRC Dinner
 - Christmas Party with Nick as Santa and members providing gifts for children of students
- Future events (Jan – June)
- RYLA scholarships (2)
 - Graduation Scholarships (budget \$1000)
 - Rotarians @ Work Day 4/29/06 – beautifying grounds

Family Recovery Center

- Baby Food – member donations
- Thanksgiving Dinner – Rotarians provided food and serving help
- Donation of ½ Opportunity Drawing to general fund – generous member

SUN Project – City neighborhood revitalization project. All 3 Rotary Clubs together tackled one house with help from Club Interact clubs.

RAP Program: Honored 5 military wives for Service Above Self. Club hosted wives and husbands at breakfast and secured packet of donated items to make them feel honored and thanked.

Boy's and Girl's Club, Oceanside: In addition to landscaping the front of their facility, we presented the organization with a check for \$1000.

El Camino High School Veteran's Day Program: Held our annual Veteran's Day program for the students at El Camino High School

LA Katrina Relief: Club members dug deep in their pockets to send Home Depot and Lowe's gift certificates to a Rotarian family in Louisiana District 6200.

Merry Christmas to all and
to all a Happy Holiday Season.
See you in January. Your grateful Prez, Sarah