



# The Rotations

Dec 4, 2013

SANTA ANA NORTH ROTARY 1959

WWW.SANTAANANORTHROTARY.ORG

## Santa Ana City Councilman Visit

### PRESIDENT'S REMARKS.

Welcomed speaker David Benavides, Santa Ana City Councilman since 2006.

Matt Schauer was given honorary membership status.

Mel announced that he, like his predecessor, will forego attending a Rotary International convention and would like to move the \$2,000 club funding for that from the General to Foundation account, and use \$1,000 of it to fund the Marty Lockney scholarship program and reserve the other \$1,000 for later community support. Lisa S. so moved, Ali seconded, motion approved.

### COMMITTEE UPDATES

#### Community Service – Denise

Santa visits scheduled for Dec 19 & 20.  
Franklin Thurs Dec 19 (8:30 – 11:30 am)  
Hoover Fri Dec 20 (8:30– 11:30 am)  
Please let Denise know if you can attend.

Tis the season to stuff things (turkeys, stockings and bags)! The annual goodie bag assemble will be Monday, December 9, 5:30pm at Boy Scout offices on Dyer Road just off the 55 freeway. Come and work up an appetite for the Holiday Dinner the following evening!

#### CLUB SERVICE – Penny

Holiday party is Tuesday, December 10@ 5:30 pm. Cost is \$65/person. Optional \$20/gift exchange.



Wednesdays 12:15 PM  
Antonello Ristorante  
3800 S Plaza Drive, Santa Ana, CA

### UPCOMING SPEAKERS

Dec 11 - DARK

Dec 18 – Anthony Coe, Neighborhood  
Legislature

Dec 25 – DARK

Jan 1 - DARK

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec 10, Holiday Party

Dec 16, Interact Meeting

Dec 19, Franklin Elementary

Dec 20, Hoover Elementary

Jan 13, Interact Meeting

### What's happening in Santa Ana...

Santa Ana City Councilman (since 2006) David Benavides thanked our club for many years of investment in our community.

David learned about Kidworks as a student at Biola, and that's what brought him to Santa Ana – a project to recruit college students to mentor kids "in challenging neighborhoods" for 8 weeks in the summer.

Santa Ana, David reminded us, was the start of Orange County and has evolved overtime. First the downtown area declined with the advent of shopping malls and suburban flight, but is coming full circle with downtown redevelopment. The Artists' Village is a popular destination, with the Art Walk the first Saturday of each month. There are exciting new restaurants, and people are moving back to downtowns, with mixed use development.

Some new projects mentioned were The Mark, at Main x MacArthur, to be the signature project for the developer, as well as another nearby. There's also anticipation of high end redevelopment coming to the South Coast Metro area around South Coast Plaza. The Santa Ana City Council is looking at a Harbor Blvd specific plan – to continue the usage shown in Anaheim and Garden Grove. There is also anticipated development in the area of "Metro East" – around the 5 freeway at 1st and 4th Streets, and Cabrillo Parkway.

Santa Ana has just recruited City Manager David Cabazos from Phoenix, the 6th largest city in the U.S. 18 months ago, Forbes published a study of major cities showing Santa Ana is the #4 safest in the country for its size. Crime rates are declining in double digits, reflecting that the focus on redevelopment and reinvestment has a snowballing effect on the community.

David stated that one strength of the city is the people who care. Not only organizations such as Rotary, but all the after school programs. Another example was that the police department has a focus on community relations and involvement.

At 340,000, the population is 10% of the county, and has a median age of 26. That means there are a lot of children in Santa Ana, and they are the future of the county. Organizations like Rotary allow Kidworks and their ilk to do their work and support the development and success of that future.

### Background

([www.ci.santa-ana.ca.us/elected\\_officials/ward4](http://www.ci.santa-ana.ca.us/elected_officials/ward4))

The fourth of seven children to immigrant parents, David Benavides was born and raised in East Los Angeles. He was the first in his family to attend college and the first to run for elected office. David attended Biola University, where he earned his bachelor's degree. During his college years, he was introduced

to KidWorks, a Santa Ana based non-profit organization which focuses on mentoring and empowering at-risk youth and families in some of the most under-resourced neighborhoods of Orange County. Initially moving to Santa Ana for an 8-week internship with KidWorks, David later became the Director of the non-profit for over six years. During his tenure, David prepared the organization for growth and later continued providing leadership as Board Chairman for over five years.

As a Santa Ana Councilmember, David is committed to creating and developing programs aimed at serving Santa Ana's youth and families. David places a strong emphasis on supporting community revitalization efforts and mobilizing people and resources to Santa Ana in order to improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods. In addition, David is an active member of the Santa Ana business community. He is both a Realtor and licensed Real Estate Broker. He understands the importance of having a positive business climate to promote investment in our City and is a strong supporter of local business.

Responding to community concerns, David helped establish two neighborhood associations, the Bella Vista Neighborhood Association where he now lives and the Casa Bonita Neighborhood Association which is just north of his own neighborhood. In 2000, David was a recipient of the Neighborhood Hero Award presented by the Communication Linkage Forum (Com-Link). He is also a recipient of a Santa Ana Community Building Award. In 2001, David received an Exceptional Volunteer Recognition from the Santa Ana's Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Agency.

David is a member of the City Council's Transportation Committee, Public Safety Committee and Neighborhood Improvement/Code Enforcement Committee. As an Alternate Director, David helps represent the City of Santa Ana on the Orange County Sanitation Board. He is the City of Santa Ana representative to the Orange County Fire Authority's Board of Directors. In addition, David is a Board Member of the Biola University Alumni Association, a member of the Rancho Santiago Community College District's Community Advisory Committee, a Board member of the Comunidad Latina Federal Credit Union in Santa Ana, and also a member of the KidWorks Board of Directors.

**Occupation:** Realtor, Real Estate Broker

**Education:** Bravo Medical Magnet, Los Angeles Biola University, B.A.

**First Elected:** November 2006

**Term Expires:** November 2014

**E-Mail:** [dbenavides@santa-ana.org](mailto:dbenavides@santa-ana.org)

**Councilman David Benavides**

**Office Hours at Southwest Senior Center**

2201 W. McFadden

9:00 a.m. to noon

The first Saturday of every month!

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Santa Ana North Rotary  
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