Published in The Santa Monica Star, Volume XIX Number 7, July 2020



Lisa C. Alexander, Esq. Jakle & Alexander, LLP

## **Rotary Opens Opportunities**

I am the incoming President of the Rotary Club of Santa Monica. My term runs from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 and I am so excited for the coming year! The theme of my year is "Opportunities". We are finding opportunities at every turn.

First and foremost, we are finding opportunities to "do" Rotary differently. If you have heard of Rotary but never quite knew what it was about, or too shy to come to a meeting, or found it difficult to fit a Friday lunch meeting into your day, now is the perfect opportunity to check us out. We are meeting remotely by Zoom on Fridays from 12:30 to 1:30. We continue to have great programs. I promise it will be worth your while to Zoom with us!

Second, Rotary is a service club. We provide endless opportunities to provide service to our community, locally and globally. During this time of "safe distancing" some of our favorite service projects are postponed, but we are finding opportunities to do all kinds of service remotely, from making health & wellness phone calls to clients of Meals on Wheels, donating and helping to sort food at the Westside Food Bank, and helping the Salvation Army with food boxes provided to families in need. Our Emergency Covid-19 Fund continues to give grants to our local nonprofits so they can fund critical needs while donations are low. We hope to be back building houses with Habitat For Humanity as soon as possible. If you have wondered how to get involved in the community, where to find a service project to join with, or a fun activity to do with your friends or family, Rotary is your answer. Come "play" with us!

Third, Rotary is about friendship. We are friends with a shared desire to do good in the world. Even when we can't meet in person, we are creating opportunities to meet and stay connected through Happy Hours, Health & Wellness events (we've done cooking classes, fitness classes, learned how to start and maintain wellness habits), Game Nights, Book Club, Movie Night and other activities still to come. We enjoy each other's company and we love to have fun. When friends get together to serve, it is more play than work. If you have wanted to make new friends and form deeper connections in Santa Monica, Rotary may be perfect for you. You are welcome to meet us on Zoom and hopefully you will come again.

The Santa Monica Rotary Club is active and welcoming. Check out our website at <a href="www.ro-taryclubofsantamonica.org">www.ro-taryclubofsantamonica.org</a>. And if you would like to join us for a Zoom meeting, I personally invite you to contact Savi at <a href="mailto:rotaryclubofsantamonica@verzon.net">rotaryclubofsantamonica@verzon.net</a> for details.