



*Automotive Service Councils of California*  
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## **Automotive Service Councils of California**

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### **For Immediate Release ASCCA Annual Legislative Day**



*Pictured (left to right): Julie Scorziell, Kate Scorziell, and Rory Balmer*

**Sacramento, CA, May 6, 2014**

Greetings members,

In addition to my involvement with ASCCA, I am a proud Rotarian. Recently, a fellow Rotarian, Pat Davis, pointed out how helping others has a "ripple effect". We were fortunate to see the "ripple effect" in action last month. Mountain Sunrise Rotary in Lake Arrowhead hosted "The Four Way Speech Competition". I know that many of you are aware of the guiding principles of Rotary International that are encompassed in the "Four Way Test". This test applies to the things we think, say, or do.

#### **The Rotary Four 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?**

Every year we are amazed by the bright students that compete in the competition delivering their thoughtful speeches in front of a packed room of Rotarians, parents, and community leaders. This year was no exception. All the participants did a tremendous job. Lake Arrowhead is fortunate to have Rim of the World High School that does an exceptional job preparing students for their future vocational and continuing education. One of the participants this year, Kate Scorziell, really got my attention as she spoke about our loss of personal privacy due to new technologies. In particular, she mentioned new technologies like the telematics system. Telematics is the technology that allows vehicles to send, receive, and store information via telecommunication and global positioning systems. Many of us are concerned about the types of information the telematics systems will send and who will have access to data. Telematics has the potential to invade our privacy in ways we have never experienced before.

After all the speeches were delivered, the participants were asked to introduce themselves and tell about their future aspirations. Kate expressed the desire to be involved in politics in some way. I began to think about ASCCA's legislation day event and how beneficial it would be for Kate to participate in our trip to the state capital. Kate's participation would be a great way for her to put her speech to action and help us deliver our message. After the meeting, I shared my idea with Kate and later that day with her mother, Julie.

Both Kate and Julie enthusiastically agreed to join Cindy Brown, Glenn Davis, and me in representing ASCCA chapter 14-Inland Empire in Sacramento for this event. Our goal was to help support all the participating ASCCA chapters and leaders. One of ASCCA's principle missions is to bring our member's concerns and recommendations to the state legislators. On Wednesday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, we started the morning with breakfast in a wing of Governor Brown's office. At breakfast the group was addressed by ASCCA State President, Mary Kemnitz, and our association attorney, Jack Molodanof, to prepare us for the day's events. Our ASCCA members and leaders were excited to meet Kate and Julie and hear about their concerns. After breakfast, our first meeting was scheduled with David Lynch, Chief of Staff for Senator Mike Morrell. Our timing couldn't have been better because we happened to catch Senator Morrell as he was leaving his office. This gave us the opportunity to speak directly to the Senator. The Senator was very supportive of our concerns and was delighted to hear how Kate was taking action as a result of her Rotary speech. After speaking with Senator Morrell, we met with Mr. Lynch. Kate and Julie both brought up some very poignant concerns and effectively stated their case. Mr. Lynch was very receptive to all our concerns and commented that we brought up some issues he wanted to further investigate in regards to the telematics system and privacy issues. We were happy with our accomplishments in Senator Morrell's office and we all left with smiles.

At breakfast ASCCA State President Mary Kemnitz asked Kate if she would be willing to present her speech to the group at lunch. Kate was enthusiastic about the opportunity to deliver her speech in the Governor's office, but she wanted to practice before lunch. We decided to take a break outside and give Kate some time to read through her speech. We were surprised to find that the Annual Capitol Frog Jumping event was taking place on the Capitol buildings lawn. Julie and I enjoyed watching the frog jump while Kate studied. At lunch we had wonderful speakers including Senator Huff, two representatives from the Bureau of Automotive Repair, and Betty

Jo Toccoli, President of the California Small Business Association. The highlight for me was introducing Kate and listening to her deliver a wonderful speech to ASCCA in the Governor's office.

After lunch we met with Assemblyman Donnelly, who also agreed with our concerns and reiterated his support of small business. Assemblyman Donnelly commended Kate for taking action and was obviously thrilled to see her at the Capitol. After lunch we asked Senator Morrell's office if they could arrange a photo with the Senator and Kate. Again Senator Morrell exceeded our expectations by guiding Kate, Julie, Cindy, and me to the Senate Chambers for a photo with him. The Senator even put our names in lights!

Many members of our group met for dinner to discuss the day's events. We all agreed that it was an amazing day that would not be forgotten. I think this experience proves Pat Davis's theory of "the ripple effect." Pat has personally proved "the ripple effect" theory with her commitment to the art students in our community.

Sincerely,  
**Rory Balmer**  
ASCCA Chapter 14 President

*Founded in 1940, the Automotive Service Councils of California is the largest independent automotive repair organization in California. Its members represent all areas of the automotive repair industry, including mechanical, auto body, suppliers and educators.*

*"To elevate and unite Automotive Professionals, and give them voice."*

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