

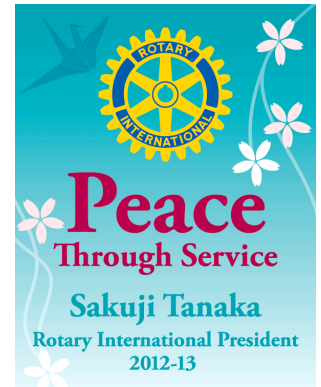
Rotary Club of Greater Van Nuys

www.greatervannuysrotary.org

Service Above Self

Meeting at 94th Aero Squadron
Thursdays, 12:10 p.m.

16320 Raymer St., Van Nuys, CA 91406



March 21, 2013

Flag Salute: PDG Les Grossman

Invocation: Wynne Ritch

Attending Members: Alice Gauna, Barbara Pampalone, Dave Friedman, Don Fetherolf, PDG Les Grossman, Don Reinken, Elaine Bern, Guy Mangia, James Tenner, Ken Worthen, Marc Tapper, Rich Miller, Mauricio Aranda, Judy Coates, Patrick Fahey, Pete Satuloff, Robin Kellogg, Ron Wolf, Rosielee Jones, Zoraida Suarez, Wynne Ritch, Tom Harris; Beth Ullman

Guests: Guest of the club at Wynne's invitation, David Fletcher, Business Development Representative at OfficeMax (cell 323-445-9899, office 877-969-6629), who donated some very nice goodies for our raffle; Jim Winchester on his second visit to our club; Jan Goforth, and Kevin Luperchio, Rebecca Lienhard and Monica Esquivel of Tierra Del Sol with honorees Alejandra Hernandez, with her step-mom, Ann Hernandez, and Marius Endeward

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Member Update

PDG Emilio Basile is home, but not yet up to joining us. Please keep him and his family in your thoughts and prayers. You can call him at 818-262-6028. Cards and letters can be sent to his home: 9855 Aldea Ave., Northridge, CA 91325.

April 7 Eye Clinic

Mauricio passed around a volunteer sign-up sheet for our project with Dr. Barry Leonard coming up Saturday, April 7, from 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. It will be held at Dennis Zine Community Center, 21400 W. Saticoy, Canoga Park and Barry is asking for a dozen volunteers to augment the optometrist students he'll be bringing. Anyone in need will be examined; "readers" will be given on the spot, if that's all they need, or new glasses will be made for them and delivered on another date. Please let Mauricio know if you can help: 818-634-4043.

Bingo

Help at the next bingo game and sell tickets! Rich has lots more tickets for the next game, **Wednesday, April 3**. They are just \$20 each and include several games. We also need a few more people to help. Please contact Rich or Marco at 818-994-8234 to volunteer or get tickets.

Calendar

- 3/27, Wed. GSFV Chamber of Commerce breakfast, 7:15 – 9:00 a.m.** \$20 if reserved by 3/24; \$30 at the door, (818) 989-0300.
- 6:00 Track Planning dinner** at the Satuloffs' home, RSVP by 3/24 to Don R.
- 3/28 Club Assembly ** this is a change**
- 6:30 p.m. Fundraiser Planning Meeting**, Les Grossman's office, 18663 Ventura Blvd.
- 4/3, Wed. Bingo**, 6:30 p.m. at Union Hall, 14800 Devonshire St. (SW corner at Woodman)
- 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. GSFVCC After 5-Networking at Night**, hosted by Buca di Beppo Encino, \$10, call 818-989-0300 to RSVP
- 4/4 Tommy Gilinas, Birmingham Honorees**
- 4/7, Sun. Eye Clinic**, 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Dennis Zine Community Center, 21400 W. Saticoy, Canoga Park
- 4/11, Wolfgang Kovacek, New Horizons Honorees**
- 4/13, Sat. Van Nuys Track Meet**, Birmingham H.S.
- 4/17, Wed. 6:00 p.m. Board Meeting**, Rich Miller's office
- 4/18 Steve Bertolino, Tierra Del Sol Honorees**
- 4/25 Open**
- 4/21, Sun. Calabasas Rotary Club Canine Classic Dog Walk & Festival**, 10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., Juan Bautista de Anza Park, 3701 Lost Hills Rd., Calabasas; call: 818-880-2993, email info@canineclassic.org; or go to www.canineclassic.org for more info
- 4/27, Sat. Rotarians at Work Day**
- 5/2 – 5/5, Thurs. – Sun. District Conference**, Fess Parker's Doubletree Resort, Santa Barbara
- 6/1, Sat. Reverse Raffle Fundraiser**, 6:00 p.m., Union Hall, 14800 Devonshire St. (SW corner at Woodman) \$15/person for buffet

Track Meet April 13

We're getting a decent turnout, but still have openings we need to fill, so Don passed around the volunteer sign-up sheet again for our April 13 track meet, as well as for the potluck dinner and planning meeting at the Satuloffs' home next Wednesday, March 27. Please call Don at 818-368-3341 or email him at dreinken@socal.rr.com to

help at the meet or attend the dinner, including any guest volunteers or significant others you'd like to bring.

Leadership Awards 6th – 8th Grades

Both the junior high student leadership awards and mini-grants to middle school teachers will be presented this afternoon, March 21. Grants for teachers are to encourage creativity in teaching, while including aviation and community service in their curricula. They are especially appreciated in this era of budget cuts and large classes. Jan Goforth gave us the list of winners: Among the teachers, LaRue Fernandez at Frost will receive a \$200 third prize, Janice Wald at Nobel will get \$300 for second prize, and the first prize of \$500 goes to Aphrodite Antoniou at Frost.

Students will be recognized for excellence in several areas. A \$100 prize for excellence in academics will go to Citlalli Castillo at Madison Middle School; the prize for athletics will be split, with \$50 each for Brian Piche at Avlley Alternative Magnet and Nancy Alanis at Vista Middle School; the \$100 arts award will go to Justine Yap at Vista, and the Community Service/Leadership award will be split, with \$50 each going to Nayellie Barragan-Mejia at Madison and Inkiad Ahmed at Frost.

Jim Tenner pointed out that these awards and grants are in keeping with the club's tradition of honoring and recognizing those who might be overlooked, but should be told "You're doing well! Thanks! You deserve this, and keep up the good work."

If you are able to attend this event, please send photos of this joint project between our club and the Van Nuys Airport to bethullman@gmail.com, and I'll include some in our next newsletter. Thank you!

Foundation

Very special thanks to Don Reinkin, for keeping his promise and donating \$100 to PolioPlus as part of the drive we are tying into the track meet. Don encouraged all of us to follow suit – in any amount. PDG Les also encouraged each of us when he accepted the check, and reminded us any contributions to be counted for this year for either PolioPlus or the Annual Fund need to be in to him before June 15 – that's when he leaves for Lisbon. So far we have contributed \$3,700.

Speaker – Kevin Luperchio and Rebecca Lienhard, Tierra Del Sol

A career counselor at Tierra Del Sol for 6 years, Kevin introduced honorees Alejandra Hernandez and Marius Endeward. Alejandra had worked at two different retailers before losing her job, but after two years of looking with Kevin just got a new position at Vons yesterday that starts Saturday. Marius is interning at the Van Nuys courthouse, but he's still looking for a permanent job.

Rebecca Lienhard showed us a short video about the families Tierra del Sol helps with its programs, and then told us about their history, current efforts and plans for the future. She explained that Tierra del Sol was started 42 years ago by 8 families with children who had disabilities, and who did not want to follow the prevailing pattern of putting them in an institution. They bought – and the Van Nuys Rotary club helped convert – a convent in Sunland,

which is still the main campus. The idea was to keep the kids at home and give them places they could feel safe, isolated from the dangers of and lack of understanding in "normal" society. Over time, and with legal challenges for school and other services, the climate changed and those with disabilities stated to be "mainstreamed", making it easier for the Tierra del Sol clients to widen their scope of opportunities.

As Rebecca observed, Tierra del Sol families had always felt those with disabilities had a right to a full, productive and integrated life. "Rather than worry about what people *can't* do, we focus on what they *can*", and help develop those skills into job skills. Their clients "may have a disability, but everyone also has abilities." They help them love what they do, and do what they love. In some cases groups of clients work for some of the many companies who have found hiring these dedicated and conscientious workers to be good business.

Besides developing job skills, Tierra del Sol teaches how to navigate the public transit system, handle money and do their own banking. In the last year or so they have added Nexus, a post-secondary education program at Pierce, Valley and Mission Colleges. That led to their adding another 150 families in the last 6 years, so that over 600 are helped by Tierra del Sol. After getting their AA degree, students get job internships.



Foreground, L-R: Alejandra Hernandez, Mauricio Aranda and Marius Endeward

Other classes, offered at their own sites, include computer programs and art development. Over 50 of their artists display their art at galleries in Claremont, the Sunland location and around the world. They have had exhibitions in Japan, Germany and elsewhere that have been so well received the artists actually support themselves with their sales. They are seen as artists who happen to have disabilities, rather than disabled people who make art. For all of us, focusing on our own and others' abilities, rather than disabilities, makes us a stronger community.

Autism may be much more widespread than previously believed, or we may be seeing a major increase in numbers – 1 in 88 children have been diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder, with LAUSD seeing possibly 1 in 50. Thanks to California's entitlement program, we are the only state to guarantee education and services to the disabled, so these children will be

taught, but State money has been reduced (\$300,000/year for the last three years), and doesn't cover as much as it used to, forcing them to do more fundraising.

What can we do to help? Hire and help find jobs for Tierra del Sol graduates! They can do so much more than most people think. But also help them refurbish and update the campus. Rebecca pointed out the Van Nuys club had put the roof on the Sunland campus and painted Terra West. She hopes we'll again become more active helping on site. For more information, visit their website: <http://tierradelsol.org>.



L-R: Don Reinken, Kevin Luperchio, Rebecca Lienhard and James Tenner



L-R: Alejandra Hernandez, Kevin Luperchio, Marius Endeward and Monica Esquivel

REMINDERS:

Fundraiser

Our June 1 fundraiser will be from 6:00-10:00 p.m. Prizes include the \$10,000 first prize, a \$500 second, and a large screen TV third. In addition to the reverse raffle, entertainment and buffet, the event will also have a silent auction and a "Chinese" auction. People are needed to help serve the food, be greeter, help set up the auctions, etc. Please note the event is open only to friends, family and other Rotarians, not the general public, for legal reasons. Subscription sheets for the raffle tickets will be covered at the next planning meeting, which will be Thursday, March 28, at 6:30 in Les's office. Please sign up to help and let Les know: 818-757-0157.

Calabasas Rotary Canine Classic Dog Walk & Festival,

The 3rd annual Canine Classic Dog Walk & Festival will be put on by the Calabasas Rotary club from 10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Sunday, April 21, at Juan Bautista de Anza Park, 3701 Lost Hills Rd., Calabasas. This fun event is for dogs, their people and folks who would just like to have a good time. Go to www.canineclassic.org for more information or to register, or you can call: 818-880-2993 or email info@canineclassic.org.

District Rotarians at Work Day

If you are interested in helping the District clean up a park in Los Angeles, please visit the District website: rotary5280.org to sign up.

District Conference

This year's District Conference will be held at Fess Parker's Doubletree Resort in Santa Barbara, May 2-5. If we book early we can get rooms for just \$179, but it we wait...they will go back up to their regular \$400/night. Reservations do have to be made through the hotel, even if we turn in our Conference registration forms early. Registration forms are on the website: rotary5280.org.

Membership Subcommittee

There's just one opening left on the Membership Retention subcommittee. If you'd like this last, coveted spot, send an email to marctap@aol.com or give him a call at 818-425-6667.

Priscilla Pig for PolioPlus

Thank you to everyone who contributed to Priscilla.

Opportunity Drawing

Congratulations to Don Fetherolf, who won half the \$60, and to Jim Winchester, who won the goody bag of OfficeMax items.

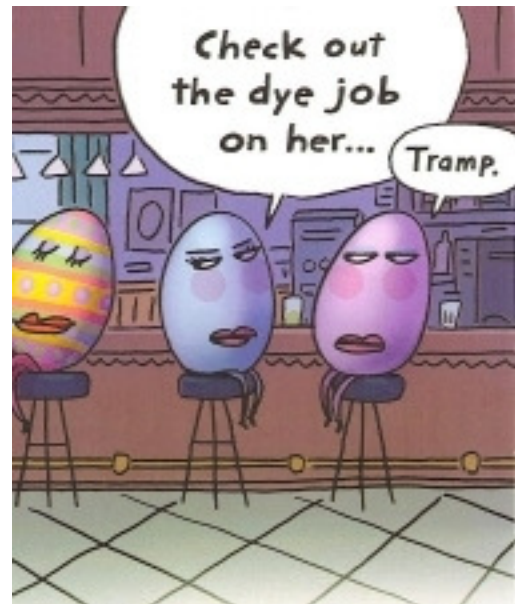
Notable Quotables

"Errors like straws upon the surface flow: Who would search for pearls must dive below." John Dryden, poet and dramatist (1631-1700)

Just for Fun

There were too many good cartoons submitted to choose just one – enjoy!





2012-2013 Club Officers:

Co-Presidents:

Martha Stulman H 818-708-8947
 Jim Tenner H 818-241-9435

Immediate Past Presidents:

Barbara Pampalone H 818-882-2395
 Don Reinken H 818-368-3341
 Razi Sheikh C 818-621-4841

President-Elect: Rich Miller W 818-994-8234

Director, Administration:

PDG Emilio Basile H 818-886-4142

Secretary: Robin Kellogg H 818-993-5378

Treasurer: Razi Sheikh C 818-621-4841

Director, Membership:

Rich Miller W 818-994-8234

Director, Projects:

Mauricio Aranda W 818-634-4043

Director, Foundation:

PDG Les Grossman H 818-757-0157

Director, Public Relations *Open*

President Van Nuys Rotary Foundation:

Donald Fetherolf H 818-986-1460

Bulletin Editor *pro tem*:

Beth Ullman H 818-701-6889

Community Co-chair:

Marie Valencia H 818-929-7118

Int'l Co-chair: Zoraida Suarez W 818-788-8838

New Generations Co-chairs:

Rosielee Jones W 818-782-0022

Mauricio Aranda W 818-634-4043

Programs Chair: Mauricio Aranda W 818-634-4043

off the mark

by Mark Parisi

www.offthemark.com



**Have a very
 Happy Easter!**

Beth Ullman
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 Northridge, CA 91325