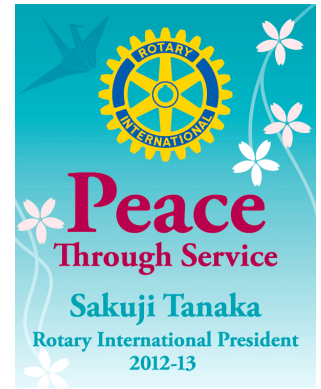


Rotary Club of Greater Van Nuys

www.greatervannuysrotary.org

Service Above Self

Meeting at 94th Aero Squadron
Thursdays, 12:10 p.m.
16320 Raymer St., Van Nuys, CA 91406



September 20, 2012

Flag Salute: Frank Santucci

Invocation: Raul Castillo

Attending Members: Alice Gauna, Barbara Pampalone, Carlos Menjivar, Don Fetherolf, Don Reinken, Martha Stulman, Ed Viramontes, PDG Eli Gauna, PDG Emilio Basile, Frank Santucci, Guy Mangia, Jim Tenner, Zoraida Suarez, Judy Coates, PDG Les Grossman, Mike Quiroga, Mauricio Aranda, Leo O'Biecunas, Patrick Fahey, Paul Davis, Pete Satuloff, Raul Castillo, Tom Harris, Rich Miller, Razi Sheikh, Robin Kellogg; Beth Ullman

Guests: Carol Whitney (Van Nuys Airport PR), Fernando Mareno, and William Vietinghoff, our speaker

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members Update

Patrick let us know he is going to have major surgery next week, and then will be recuperating – without any driving – for about 5 weeks, so he'll be missing meetings. Zoraida will keep us informed of his progress. Patrick observed that one of the reasons for surgery is to remove his gall bladder. He quipped that the next time someone tells him he has a lot of gall he'll say "Yes, but I have no where to put it!"

Congratulations! Paul told us that Valley Community Clinic is honoring him and his partner, Alberta Bellisario, at a roast fundraiser. They have long supported the clinic, which provides free healthcare to thousands of people in the Valley who have few other resources. The "light roast" event will be Tuesday, October 9 from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at the Hilton Woodland Hills (6360 Canoga Ave.) in the Girard Ballroom. Individual tickets are \$75, and can be reserved online at www.valleycommunityclinic.org. RSVP by October 1 to Regina Zeinali, 818-301-6371, or by email to rzeinali@valleyclinic.org

Board Meeting

Martha reported one of the decisions made at last night's board meeting was to research possible major fundraisers. PDG Les, Zoraida, Rich, Raul and Pete already volunteered to be on the committee; today Patrick also volunteered. We're getting great support, including at board meetings, with 15-17 people attending, though only 13 are officially board members.

Calendar

- 9/27 **Mel Powell**, Ignite Membership!
- 9/28 – 30, Fri. – Sun. **Bishop Safari**
- 9/29, Sat. **Granada Hills Rotary Blood Drive**, and bone marrow database donation info from E-Club, Greater SFV, Granada Hills Recreation Center, 16730 Chatsworth St.
- 10/2, Tues. **District Breakfast**, Westin Hotel at LAX, 7:00 a.m.
- 10/4 **Dr. Barry Leonard**, Optometrist
- 10/7, Sun. **Multi-Club Food Drive**, Gelson's in Sherman Oaks and North Hollywood / Valley Village
- 10/9, Tues. **Valley Community Clinic Roast** of Paul Davis & Alberta Bellisario 5:30 – 7:30 pm at the Woodland Hills Hilton
- 10/10, Wed., **Bingo**, 6:30 p.m. Union Hall
- 10/11 **TBA**
- 10/18 **Assemblymember Bob Blumenfield**
- 10/25 **Club Assembly**
- 10/27, Sat. **District Foundation Masquerade Ball**, Westin Bonaventure Hotel, 404 S. Figueroa St., Los Angeles
- 10/31, Wed. **Harvest Festival**
- 11/1 **DG Lew Bertrand, Governor's visit SFV Chapter Association of Fundraising Professionals Awards Luncheon** honoring Mike Quiroga and Rotary Club of GVN
- 11/8 **TBA**
- 11/15 **Joint Service Club Luncheon**

Bingo

Rich said we need a few more volunteers for our next bingo game, October 10 – he and two other regulars cannot be there. If you can help, please let him know ASAP. And please take some tickets and sell them to family and friends! Checks should be made out to *Rotary Bingo Project* and given to PDG Emilio, who is tracking the tickets and funds. Rich can be reached at 818-994-8234 or by email to rtm@richardtmillerlaw.com.

Harvest Festival October 31

PDG Les is also looking for volunteers for our special

Halloween event for children living in the high-risk area of Arleta and North Hills. The event will be held again at Victory Outreach Church in Arleta (13580 Osborne St., half way between the Golden State freeway and Nordhoff St.). Volunteers will be needed starting around 5:00 to set up, with lots of help from the congregation. There will be space for a table or booth with Rotary items in addition to the games, so a volunteer or two will be needed for that in addition to the games, costume judging, slide, petting zoo and dental check-ups, which hopefully all three of our dentists/orthodontists will do. Barbara has already promised to bring toothbrushes for the 100 – 150 children expected to be seen. A total of about 700 people will attend. Les will bring the volunteer sign-up schedule to next week's meeting. Things need to be well organized early, as he'll be out of state from October 16-30.

Joint Service Club Luncheon

Our club will be hosting the annual Thanksgiving Joint Service Club Luncheon this year, on November 15, so Martha asked for volunteers to check people in and be greeters that day. Please be sure to attend this special, once-a-year event!

Major Honor Awarded Our Club

Raul shared with us that our club was one of many nominees for the San Fernando Valley Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals' annual award to the organization doing the most or best philanthropic work, and we were selected! We also have in our club the one individual to be honored as Philanthropist of the Year – Mike Quiroga! Congratulations, Mike! Your hard work and award makes the club's recognition even sweeter. Both awards will be presented at a special luncheon to be held November 1. Unfortunately that conflicts with the Governor's visit, so we will not have everyone at both events. (We will have one of our bulletin editors at each.)

New Members

Next week we'll be inducting two new members, and a third two weeks later! Rich tells us we a few have more good prospects in the wings, but we need to increase that number. "Bring more guests and give them the thrill of Rotary!"

Reminders

November 1 will be our **official Governor's visit** from District Governor Lew Bertrand. Please make every possible effort to attend! We look forward to hearing what he has to share about 5280, and his vision of where he wants it to go.

Hope of the Valley Mission is in need of clean socks, underwear and suitcases for their homeless daily shower guests. Razors and razor blades are also needed. If you can help provide some of these essentials, please contact Jonathan Leeper at 818-392-0020, or by email to jonathan.leeper@hopeofthevalley.org. Items can also be delivered to the First Presbyterian Church in Northridge, 10400 Zelzah Ave. (between Devonshire and Chatsworth). Their phone number is 818-360-1831.

We need a **new club logo**, both for our bulletin and our new flag. If you have a great idea of what that should

look like, please bring a sketch to a meeting or give it to a board member. There may even be a prize in it for you.

The **October 27 RI Foundation fundraiser** is a masquerade ball, with auctions. Tickets are \$125 each, but the club will contribute \$25/member or \$50/couple to encourage every one to attend. Let Jim know if you are going – we may end up buying a table or two. Jim has the opportunity drawing tickets – you could win \$500, \$1,500 or \$3,000! Those tickets are just \$10.

Speaker: William Vietinghoff, Engine Development at Santa Susana

Originally from Chicago, William (Bill) Vietinghoff got his degree in chemical engineering and moved to Canoga Park in 1953. Retired after many years as a Senior Aerospace Engineer for Rocketdyne and Boeing (which bought Rocketdyne), where he was the Development Engineer for the Atlas and Space Shuttle engines, he now gives talks and tours of the Santa Susana site he used to work at. Besides being a Visitor Consultant for Boeing, Bill is on the board of the Canoga Park Community Center.

Using a PowerPoint show, he told us about the Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL), a complex of research and development facilities on 2,850 acres in Simi Valley. SSFL was used mainly for the testing and development of liquid-propellant (just 10% were solid fuel) rocket engines for the space program from 1949 to 2006, nuclear reactors from 1953 to 1980 and a U.S. government-sponsored liquid metals research center from 1966 to 1998.

Located approximately 7 miles northwest of Canoga Park and approximately 30 miles northwest of downtown Los Angeles, the site is also home to listed Burro Flats Painted Cave (on The National Register of Historic Places). The drawings within the cave have been termed "the best preserved Indian pictographs (rock art paintings) in Southern California", as well as petroglyphs (rock art that has been scored or incised into the rock surface). Many rare native species live in its riparian woodlands – several tributary streams to the Los Angeles River have their headwater watersheds on the property, including Bell Creek, Dayton Creek, Woolsey Canyon and Runkle Creek.

At its peak 3,000 employees worked on "the hill", as it was called. That included nurses (in crisp white uniforms) to treat the inevitable burns, cuts, poison oak and snake bites that came even with a stellar safety record. Field personnel dressed very casually for the heat, while office types wore dress shirts and ties. Personal cars were not allowed, so one either walked or hitched a ride on the site's ambulance or one of two jeeps used by the management.

Use of the SSFL started right after WWII, with tests of a German missile engine that had 250,000 pound of thrust at a time the US engines weren't even close to that. Rocketdyne, originally a division of North American Aviation (NAA), used the information from those tests to develop many of the first successful and reliable liquid rocket engines, including those used in the Navaho cruise missile, the Redstone rocket, the Thor and Jupiter ballistic missiles, early versions of the Delta and Atlas rockets, the Saturn rocket family and the Space Shuttle Main Engine. Tests took days to set up, from installing the fuel tubing to hooking up monitoring equipment. The first tests were

done at very small percentages of the engines full power. Each succeeding, successful test got to a higher percentage of power and was longer in duration, ending with a full power test perhaps months later – that lasted just 11 seconds.

As it grew, SSFL was divided into four administrative areas – Area I, Area II, Area III, and Area IV – and two "undeveloped areas." Areas I, III, and IV and the undeveloped areas are owned and operated by the Boeing Company. Area II, consisting of 409.5 acres, along with 41.7 acres in Area I, are owned by the U.S. Government and used by NASA. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has long held a lease on land in Area IV. Areas I and II were used primarily for rocket testing. (The Atomic International division of NAA utilized a separate and dedicated portion of SSFL to build and operate the first commercial nuclear power plant in the United States and for the testing and development of compact nuclear reactors including the first and only known nuclear reactor launched into Low Earth Orbit by the United States, the SNAP-10A.)

Between 1954 and 1957, NAA built the Alfa, Bravo, Coca, and Delta test stands in Area II, under contract with the USAF. Later that area and others were used for programs under the Department of Defense (DoD) and NASA. The liquid-fuel burned in rocket engines included kerosene, which required trichloroethylene (TCE) flushing to remove residual hydrocarbons (they were combustible and potentially explosive when exposed to liquid oxygen – LOX) leading to some of the contamination now being cleaned up. A TCE recycling system was implemented at SSFL in 1961.

The major rocket engine Navaho Program was awarded to NAA by the USAF in 1946 to study supersonic surface-to-surface missiles. Though it never became operational before it was cancelled in 1957, Navaho research development contributed a great deal to research. It was capable of Mach-3 speeds, and used an improved V-2 engine, was boosted into the air by three liquid-propellant rocket engines of 135,000 pounds of thrust each. Variants of these engines were developed for Army's Redstone, Jupiter, Thor, and Atlas engines.

Atlas engine testing started in 1957, focusing on quick and safe ignition at high altitudes – an essential ability for rockets to function successfully in actual use. If they didn't ignite quickly enough, the fumes would accumulate and the missile could explode on the launch pad. Testing of Atlas engines and thrust chambers continued at Alfa through 2000 and at Bravo until its closure in 2005.

The Jupiter rocket was a direct offshoot of the Redstone for DoD's Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile (IRBM) Program. It was first launched at Cape Canaveral on March 1, 1957. Testing and production of the Jupiter engines occurred at SSFL through 1963 and at Rocketdyne's Neosho, Missouri plant. Its development resulted in a successful intermediate ballistic missile, even though the Department of Defense moved its operational development to the Air Force.

The Thor engine was also initiated (in 1955) by the USAF as part of its Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile Program. But it became the booster stage for NASA's Delta launch vehicle, which has placed more satellites into

orbit than any other rocket, starting in 1960, following the launch of Sputnik in 1957. It became NASA's primary launch vehicle for putting communications, weather, scientific and other satellites into orbit.

Development started in the 1950's on the 1.5-million-pound-thrust F-1 engine for use on launch vehicles even before a vehicle was designed for it, as part of the USAF's Rocket Engine Advancement Program. The goal was to produce a single thrust-chamber rocket engine capable of 1.5 million pounds of thrust. Previously, this level of thrust was possible only with clusters of smaller engines. With its success, space flight became feasible. Five of the F1's provided a total thrust of 7.5 million pounds in the Saturn V S-IC (first) stage of the flight that sent men to the moon.

Too big for the SSFL area, F-1 components were tested at the Bravo test area between 1960 and 1970. Other components, from later Atlas engines to stage 4 of the Peacekeeping missile, were also tested at Bravo.

The Coca site is owned by the Federal government and managed by NASA. Its test stand is made of 6,000 cubic yards of concrete, and it has a flame bucket – to keep ignition from the rocket so the metals don't melt – that weighs 400 tons. From 60-70,000 tons of water are used to cool it down during testing – the temperature reaches 6000° F.



Martha Stulman and William (Bill) Vietinghoff

Use of the Delta area ceased in the mid-1970s. Engine and component testing continued past 1983 in the Alfa, Bravo, and Coca areas. TCE use was discontinued in 1994 at the Alfa and Bravo areas. TCE use at Coca was discontinued when those test stands were deactivated in 1988. In 1996, Boeing became the primary owner and operator of the Santa Susana Field Laboratory when they bought Rocketdyne, and kept the site when they later sold the division in 2005, part to United Technologies Corp. and part to Pratt Whitney. In 1996 test stands 2 and 3, plus part of 1, were demolished. The rest were torn down later for environmental clean-up, to make sure any contaminants under the concrete were removed. That clean-up, and clean-up of the nuclear testing areas, continues still. New engines are tested in Mississippi and at Edwards Air Force Base.

As part of its requirement to clean and restore the area, Boeing graded the land after the foundations and

aboveground concrete supports were removed in 1996, and the site has been re-graded to conform to natural topography.

Through the end of the 20th century, Rocketdyne engines launched U.S. satellites and the country's first crewed spaceflight, and powered the Saturn V and every major space program in the United States, including Skylab, Pioneer 2, the space shuttles and the Atlantis space probe. Engines developed at SSFL sent our first man, John Glenn, into space in 1962, and in 1988 sent him back into space – the oldest man ever sent, at 77. Ostensibly he was to study the effects of space on the elderly. In 1981 the first Space Shuttle was launched; the only engine that had never had test flights.

Bill can be reached at.805-358-7762 (cell) or by email to willvee@verizon.net. Tours can be arranged by email to santasusanacommunitybustours@boeing.com.

Notable Quotables:

"Of all the preposterous assumptions of humanity over humanity, nothing exceeds most of the criticisms made on the habits of the poor by the well-housed, well-warmed, and well-fed." Herman Melville, novelist and poet (1819-1891)

"I long to accomplish a great and noble task, but it is my chief duty to accomplish humble tasks as though they were great and noble. The world is moved along, not only by the mighty shoves of its heroes, but also by the aggregate of the tiny pushes of each honest worker." Helen Adams Keller, lecturer and author (1880-1968)

Just for Laughs...Classic Insults

"I am enclosing two tickets to the first night of my new play, bring a friend... if you have one." George Bernard Shaw to Winston Churchill

"Cannot possibly attend first night, will attend second...if there is one." Winston Churchill, in response.

"I've had a perfectly wonderful evening. But this wasn't it." Groucho Marx

Beth Ullman
17426 Napa St.
Northridge, CA 91325

Opportunity Drawing

Congratulations to Don Fetherolf, who won half of this week's pot.

2012-2013 Club Officers:

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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

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

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Director, Foundation:

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Vocational Chair:

Sgt. at Arms: