



Rotary Club of Palos Verdes Peninsula · June 19, 2009

## If You Missed Us On June 12

### CLARA DURAN REED: WONDERWOMAN!

—by John La Bella

The writer arrived at the Club a few minutes early to get a head start on writing the weekly minutes for *La Rotación*. Instead of the usual “open wide,” **Norton Donner** requested a “smile” as he took position behind the lens of **Chris Stillians’s** and **Hal Lazar’s** camera for the weekly club photos. **Norton** was substituting for our club cameramen for this weekly session. While on the subject of substitutes, **John Polen** (*Have you ever seen John’s train collection? And yes, they do run!*) was substituting for **Bruce At-**

**tig** who was rumored to be in Chicago obtaining a second dose of Midwestern ambiance after his demotion dinner and 10-point bull ride at the Cattle Company last Sunday.

**Shell Hellberg** greeted members with his characteristic enthusiasm while **Debbie Deitch** and **Phyllis Pelezare** sold tickets for the door prizes (Sorry **Rita Bhatia**, but I do miss Shuja Oberoi’s description of the weekly bottle of wine door prize.)

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### UPCOMING PROGRAMS

**JUNE 19:** Program will include the winning artists and their entires from our recent art contest.

**JUNE 26:** TBA

**JULY 3:** DARK. Have a happy and safe 4th of July!

**JULY 10:** Speaker: Janice Hahn, Councilwoman, City of Los Angeles

### CLUB CALENDAR

**JUNE 21–24:** RI Convention, Birmingham, England. Incoming president, John Polen, will attend.

PICTURED ABOVE: Dian Ashley and John Polen.



## PVP PENINSULA · ROTARY CLUB LEADERSHIP 2008–2009

District #5280  
**ROTARY CLUB OF  
 PALOS VERDES PENINSULA**  
 Chartered March 26, 1962

### ROTARY NEWS ON THE 'NET

**PVP CLUB:** www.Rotarypvp.com

**DISTRICT 5280:**  
 www.ROTARY5280LA.org

**ROTARY INTERNATIONAL:**  
 www.rotary.org/

**08–09 RI PRESIDENT:**  
 Dong Kurn Lee

**08–09 DISTRICT 5280  
 GOVERNOR:** Chuck Anderson

### DIRECTORS:

PRESIDENT: Bruce Attig  
 PRESIDENT-ELECT: John Polen  
 SECRETARY: Keith Deisenroth  
 TREASURER: Rita Bhatia  
 CLUB SERVICE: Debra Deitch & Liz Fitzgerald  
 COMMUNITY SERVICE: Tony Cangas & Dave  
 Johnsen

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE: Gustavo Demoner  
 VOCATIONAL SERVICE: Joan Behrens  
 YOUTH SERVICE: Inga Liden

### CHAIRS:

PROGRAM: Les Fishman  
 COMMUNICATIONS: Hal Lazar  
 MEMBERSHIP: Greg Sparkman  
 PUBLIC RELATIONS: Julia Parton  
 PHOTOGRAPHER: Chris Stillians

LA ROTACIÓN EDITOR: Steve Day  
 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Phyllis Pelezzare  
 PAST PRESIDENT: Harry Kitter  
 RI FOUNDATION: Jim Hartman  
 CHAMBER LIAISON: Shawn Nejad  
 HISTORIAN: Marcia Haber

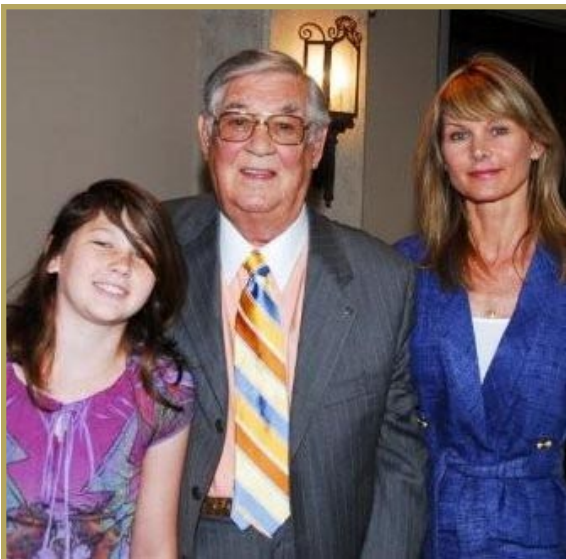
### SUNSHINE COMMITTEE:

Please let one of these Rotarians know if you have news about a fellow member.

LIZ FITZGERALD  
 (310) 373-8060, lizfitz@earthlink.net

KJELL HELLBERG  
 (310) 378-2517

MARY JANE SCHOENHEIDER  
 mjsels@aol.com  
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Len Danryd brought his daughter, Marie, and his granddaughter, Briana, to Rotary lunch.

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**John Polen** called the meeting to order promptly at the 12:15 PM kickoff time. **Gary Tossell** led the invocation followed by **Steve Day** and the the pledge of allegiance. **Dian Ashley** led the patriotic song.

**Mel Schrier**, from New York and a Mets fan, *(You can always spot those New Yorkers a mile away.)* initiated the guest introductions. **Len Danryd** *(Dressed in a nice, I believe, new suit)* introduced his daughter, Marie, and his granddaughter, Briana, who were visiting from Scottsdale, Arizona. **Julia Parton** also introduced a guest as a potential member.

**Greg Sparkman** initiated the welcome song while **John Schuricht** pounded on the piano keys. By the way, for an engineer **John** plays pretty good! Adrenaline levels increased significantly

after members accompanied the **Sparkman/Schuricht** duo.

**Greg** took the podium to give us a summary of the status of the Boys and Girls Club College-Bound Program. A \$4000 scholarship from our foundation was awarded to Marlene Chavez, a "graduate" of the College-Bound program. More than 200 students are enrolled in the program this year. Students have been accepted to NYU, Brown, and Berkeley Universities. Graduation ceremonies were held at the Warner Grand Theatre in San Pedro last week.

**John Polen** next pulled the weekly ticket numbers to determine the raffle winners. **Rita Bhatia** had the first winning number and chose the \$10 cash prize over the customary bottle of wine. **John Schuricht's** winning ticket pro-  
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Sergeant-at-Arms **Phyllis Pelezzare** sold winning raffle tickets to **Rita Bhatia** and **John Schuricht**.

cured the remaining bottle of wine.

**Shell Hellberg** reminded members that there is an open house at former club president Jack Gonzales's home on Sunday June 14th between 2 and 4 PM.

Next **Julia Parton**, the program chair for '09-'10, introduced the speaker: club member **Clara Duran Reed**, who gave a craft talk. For those of us who have only worked one or two jobs during our professional life time, **Clara's** "resume" is quite interesting if not amazing. My note-taking skills were severely tasked trying to keep up as **Clara** reviewed different phases of her life.

**Clara** was born in Bogota, Columbia. She came to this country with her parents at the age of 4. She is a product of Catholic schools and later attended Queens College, majoring in psychology and political science. She has a minor in French and speaks French fluently. She lived and worked in France and Greece. Returning to this country to study law, she enrolled in Fordham University School of Law. She enjoys surfing and snorkeling. Realizing the weather was much more favorable for surfing and snorkeling, she moved from the East coast to LA. After working in a LA Law firm she opened up her own law firm. Her firm worked with the elderly and young girls requiring assistance. She married Jim Reed and has two children. Currently, she manages her own brokerage and law firms. She summed up her "philosophical" beat on life as "*When you do the right thing, good things come back to you!*" Good job Clara!

**John Polen** adjourned the meeting. I have to admit that I miss one of **Bruce's** little "lessons-of-life" stories. However, every chief executive has his demeanor and we have only a couple of "**Attig-isms**" left. Being a train collector, like **John**, maybe using a train whistle, as well as sporting the appropriate cap, would be a good way of adjourning the meeting! ●

## CLUB NEWS

### ED CLAY HEALTH UPDATE

—As sent by Ed's daughter Martha to Gary Tossell on Friday, June 12

Just thought you would want to know that Dad has had a series of mishaps recently that have landed him in the nursing home again. He fell on Tuesday, June 2, splitting open his head, but no broken bones. He was released from hospital on Friday, June 5, only to fall again that same night, and land in the hospital again, this time with some serious disorientation. He had an infection so virulent that it made him hallucinate all weekend. Now, just released yesterday, he is so weak, that he needs nursing care, and, of course, his virulent staph infection has returned, which makes it impossible to return to his assisted living home until it is under control again.

We are lucky to get a room at the place that is just blocks away from his apartment. It makes it easier for us, and his friends can come and visit him. In fact, he discovered that two friends from The Gardens are here recovering from their own falls as well! So he is in good company.

His new address:

c/o The Springs at Pacific Regent  
919 109th Avenue NE  
Bellevue, WA 98004

He is in room #215.

Phone number 425-646-3818

(Editor's note: Give Ed a call (preferred) or send a card. If you send a card, please remember that Ed has trouble seeing, so large handwriting is imperative.) ●