



# LA ROTACIÓN

Rotary Club of Palos Verdes Peninsula · November 14, 2008

## If You Missed Us On November 7

### NO CONFLICT HERE

—by Greg Sparkman, reporter

**Major Steve Smith** greeted club members as we entered the PV Golf Clubhouse on this gorgeous SoCal day. Looks like the **Major** is working hard on that Blue Badge! Steve Day was busy pushing raffle tickets as Sgt. At Arms.

**President Bruce Attig** rang us to order at 12:15 to get the show on the road. **Jim Hartman** delivered a brilliant invocation (see sidebar, page 3, for a reprint). **John LaBella** led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. “Amer-

ica the Beautiful” was the appropriate choice by **Dian Ashley**—we still need a pianist.

The lunch buffet was awesome, with *arroz con pollo* and succulent *beef machaca*. This reporter got his money’s worth!

We had great news from **John Jaacks** about our club’s Interact Club at Peninsula High. **John** took a trip to the campus with the expectation that he would begin the resurrection of a failed club. He found instead a

*(continues on the following page)*

### UPCOMING PROGRAMS

**NOVEMBER 14:** John Clayton with “Dreams Do Come True in America”

**NOVEMBER 21:** TBA

**NOVEMBER 28:** DARK. Happy Thanksgiving.

### CLUB CALENDAR

**NOVEMBER 12:** Educator of the Year.

**DECEMBER 7:** Holiday Party.

*PICTURED ABOVE: Members of the PV High Interact Club who joined us for lunch last Friday.*



**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.ROTARY528OLA.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: Sofia Lekos

**CHAIRS:**

PROGRAM: Mel Schrier  
 COMMUNICATIONS: Hal Lazar  
 MEMBERSHIP: Greg Sparkman  
 PUBLIC RELATIONS: Julia Parton  
 PHOTOGRAPHER: Chris Stillian

*LA ROTACIÓN* EDITOR: Steve Day  
 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Phyllis Pelezzare  
 PAST PRESIDENT: Harry Kitter  
 RI FOUNDATION: Jim Hartman  
 CHAMBER LIAISON: Shawn Nejad  
 CONCOURS LIAISON: Shuja Oberoi  
 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  
 penpeople@easyreader.info  
 (310) 375-3051, (310) 372-4611 x107



*Peter McCormack shared with us the importance  
 of the science of physics in his life.*

*(continues from the previous page)*

resurging organization, with new faculty sponsor, Mr. Quyen Tran, a math teacher; two acting presidents, Sydney Tomita and Nicole Chow; two vice presidents, Ryan Kang and Sean Bonnell; and a list of members in the neighborhood of 60 students! *Wow, what great news.* They already have plans to participate in the Christmas Train that goes to Mexico to distribute gifts. Don't you think our club should add a few gifts for that trip? The group of officers visited our club on Friday to be introduced. Fantastic! Thanks to **John** for arranging their visit.

We also had a Three Minutes of Fame presentation from our very own **Peter McCormack**. He explained how physics has played such a pivotal role in his life, with thanks to his high school teacher, John Edwards. Edwards captured his students' interest by showing them a film of the

1947 self-destruction of the Tacoma Narrows Bridge through wind-generated resonance. Later, as a physics instructor at the American School in Paris he met his future wife, Mary. On their first date he regaled Mary with the fascinating story of the bridge, only to discover that Mary was from Tacoma! Providence. The rest is history.

**Kjell Hellberg** introduced our one guest, aside from our Interact students and speaker. She was Sharon Ryan, from the Sunset Club. **Hang Up Moon** valiantly led the "Welcome Song." Man, we really need a pianist to keep us singing in the same bar of music. There were at least three different versions going on in some type of progressive cacophony. It's all good.

*(continues on the following page)*

# PVP ROTARY CLUB NEWS

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION RECEIVED.** The club has received, and the Board approved, a membership application for Tim Dickins. He is sponsored by David Rowe with the proposed classification TBA. Tim was previously a member of our club for 17 years and served as club president in 1994–1995. If there are objections to Tim becoming a member (again) of our club, please state the objections in writing and hand to any Board member within 10 days. ●

**LOOKS LIKE WE'RE GOING TO HAVE** a major media show for our guest speaker, John Clayton, this week: The press from the *Daily Breeze*, *PV News*, *Peninsula People*, Cox Cable, and more are expected to attend. His speech will be televised on the local cable channel. ●

# CELEBRATING IN NOVEMBER

## ROTARY INDUCTIONS

- Shell Hellberg \_\_\_\_\_ Nov 01, 1975
- Ralph Manuel \_\_\_\_\_ Nov 01, 1984
- Len Danryd \_\_\_\_\_ Nov 01, 1988
- Peter McCormack \_\_\_\_\_ Nov 01, 1993
- Bruce Attig \_\_\_\_\_ Nov 01, 1995
- Linda P. Elliott \_\_\_\_\_ Nov 15, 1996
- David Johnsen \_\_\_\_\_ Nov 19, 2004
- Rita Bhatia \_\_\_\_\_ Nov 19, 2004
- Clara Duran Reed \_\_\_\_\_ Nov 29, 2005
- Nancy Crawford \_\_\_\_\_ Nov 09, 2007

## BIRTHDAYS

- Allan Colman \_\_\_\_\_ Nov 09
- Steve Day \_\_\_\_\_ Nov 10
- Irwin Gebroe \_\_\_\_\_ Nov 15
- Carolyn Lehr \_\_\_\_\_ Nov 26
- Bruce Attig \_\_\_\_\_ Nov 29

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- Clara I. Duran Reed & James \_\_\_\_\_ Nov 17

***Congratulations to all!***

—continues from the previous page

Our guest speaker was Marc Purchin, a conflict-resolution and mediation practitioner. Purchin plies his expertise in the Southwest Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA). Southwest SELPA is committed to helping families and schools solve problems and conflicts in the fastest and easiest way. A SELPA is a group of school districts that cooperate in sharing load in attending to special needs students. Mr. Purchin talked about the efforts to train faculty and administration in communication and negotiation skills, viewing problems with different perspective, anger issues, cultural differences, positive feedback and team building. The objective is to allow parents of special needs children and school systems to improve communication and avoid conflicts, rapidly mediate

before issues escalate. It turns out that Rotarian **Marcia Haber** helped train our speaker in his present work.

Mr. Purchin left us with five key strategies for getting to “Yes”, from the book “Getting to Yes”, which are worth repeating:

1. Know your Best Alternative to Negotiation Agreement (BATNA);
2. Separate interests from positions;
3. Invent options for mutual gain;
4. Insist on object criteria;
5. Be hard on problems and gentle on people.

President Bruce once again left us with an inspiring story before adjourning at 1:30 pm. ●

## INVOCATION

—presented by past President Jim Hartman on November 7, 2008

In view of the recent election and its historical significance, please join me in a prayer of support for our country, its leadership and the significance of the minority view for all of us.

Please bow your heads.

With respect to something, each of us is at times a minority. It might be race, religion, sexual orientation, or any way we may be regarded as being different. Each one of us is also part of some majority. When we wear our majority hats, we need to be mindful of how we treat other minority opinions and we must pledge our best efforts to help one another and defend the rights of all citizens and residents.

We gather here today with the shared belief that we can and will treat our fellow human beings with respect and dignity. What sometimes divides us is the degree of commitment we have to equal freedom of conscience for all people. Keep your eyes open to new ways of understanding our community and our world. Stay open to serving our community and knowing what we can accomplish by applying our talents and experience to problems that confront us.

May we gain strength from one another through reason and compassion. Abraham Lincoln said: “When I do good, I feel good; when I do bad, I feel bad. That is my religion. And Democrat Harry Truman said, “It’s remarkable how much you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit.” Bless our past and future political leaders. They need our support more than ever.

Bless our country for its spirit and its intentionality for good. Amen