

La Rotación

JULY 17, 2009

Programs & Events

JULY 17: Caryn West, artist and author of *The Trouble with the Alphabet*. A creative look at global issues. (See page 3.)

JULY 24: Off site at the Salvation Army.

Pictured below: Jackie Igon, noted landscape architect and former club president.



SERVICE ABOVE SELF



IF WE MISSED YOU ON JULY 10

Rotary Express Departs for the New Year With a VIP Speaker and Lots of Guests

—BY ALLEN BOND

Another beautiful day as we met at the Palos Verdes Country Club for another highly anticipated Rotary gathering of our club. We were greeted with a warm handshake **Keith Disesenroth** and one of our newer members, **Art Yoon**. Speculation was that **Art** was working towards fulfilling all his blue-badge requirement in one meeting, as we'll see

later. **Bob Gulcher** provided the invocation and **Art Yoon** (does he get his blue badge yet?) led the pledge. And rejoice! Our real singer, **Dian Ashley**, led the patriotic song.

Guests were plentiful. **President John Polen's** special guest was jeweler Robert Medawar. Rolling Hills Estates City Councilman Frank Zerunyan and Gordon Tueber were guests of our

speaker, Janice Hahn, I assume. **Marcia Haber** had four guests, including her son, Josh, who is headed to Cooperstown to play baseball, and special guest Lisa Norris. **Marcia** will have to bring her other guests back so I can get their names. **Steve Day's** guest was Audrey Stansbury and **Dave Buchholz** brought his father, Richard.

John Polen started the meeting by saying he had trouble with the speaker. I think he meant the microphone but thankfully our guest speaker hadn't yet arrived. **John** introduced his board and the consensus was that all club members appear to be on the board. He then announced there will be some changes to

—“EXPRESS” CONTINUES, PG 2



Dave Buchholz, right, brought his dad, Richard, as his Rotary-lunch guest.

—“EXPRESS” CONTINUES FROM PG 1

the raffle, hopefully without consulting with the club’s attorney to figure it out. He did remember to have the raffle and asked for an honest visitor to draw the winning tickets—turning to Robert Medawar to do the honors. What’s wrong with this picture? **John Evans** garnered the red and **Dian Ashley** the white.

Charlie Ellias was in charge of introducing guests and made an attempt to bring up our speaker prior to the welcome song. I was so aghast that I can’t remember who led us in the welcome song, but we did have **John Schuricht** at the piano. Thanks John!

Julia Parton announced two offsite meetings for which we have all received

e-mail invitations: July 24 at the Salvation Army and August 7 at Wilson Park that has something to do with trains and **John Polen** being the engineer of the club. Everyone: PLEASE e-RSVP.

Finally the right time arrived and **Charlie Ellias** brought up our speaker, Los Angeles City Councilwoman Janice Hahn. She is a lifetime member of the Lawndale club but wore no Rotary pin. Must be a fine here somewhere.

She is impressed with our motto and the creed of Rotarians around the world: Service above self.

Janice touched upon the Michael Jackson memorial service and her difference of opinion with fellow councilmembers regarding the expenses

incurred by the city. Her point was to look also at the revenue it brought the city, and by the stats she had I think the city did pretty well. She shared with us that tourism has surpassed the movement of goods through the ports as the number-one industry here. The Port of LA is still the number-one port in the country, but use is down 10% to 14%. Furniture was the number one product coming into the port, but with the current state of the housing market, it’s no surprise those numbers are down.

She touched on the effort to get the port to be greener, as pollution from the ships has a serious effect on our air quality. It will soon be required that

—“EXPRESS” CONTINUES, PG 3

—“EXPRESS” CONTINUES FROM PG 2

ships “plug in” to the DWP grid while in port; hopefully, 90% of ships will be compliant within five years.

With the new green requirements for trucks, a new market for trucks has been created and sales are up in our area, whereas they are down in the rest of the country. Los Angeles is hoping to get its fair share of transportation dollars for upgrades to our infrastructure. The number-one reason the ships come into a port to get goods out and delivered on time.

Janice then turned her thoughts to LAX and its needed improvements. The last time it was remodeled was in 1984 for the Olympics. Each flight that comes into LAX means about \$4 million in commerce for the area. The hope is to have a green line go into the airport, a connection from Union Station, as well as transit from other airports. As a by-product of these upgrades, jobs will be created, certainly a needed commodity in any city these days.

Janice was both entertaining and informative and another enjoyable lunch came to an end. ♦



Caryn West

CARYN WEST’S VIBRANTLY ILLUSTRATED BOOK, *THE TROUBLE WITH THE ALPHABET*, ILLUMINATES THE WORLD’S INJUSTICE IN A COMPELLING AND UNFORGETTABLE MANNER

PRESENTING THIS WEEK’S PROGRAM

Artist-Author-Humanitarian Caryn West

The first portrait Caryn West ever created was a life-size drawing of Sammy Davis Jr. to accompany a book report about his autobiography, *Yes I Can*. The portrait was done in crayon, and she was only nine years old.

Though she attended the Pasadena Art Center College of Design, most of Caryn’s abilities are self-taught through taking on projects with an intuitive belief of “I can do this.” Over the years she has experimented with a variety of mediums, amassing expertise in acrylic painting and graphic design. Along the way she developed a passion for telling stories through art and has always dreamed of becoming a writer as well.

Caryn’s work has been primarily in the commercial arena but her passion is working on humanitarian projects, where she can use her artistic skills and creativity to highlight global issues.

In 2006 Caryn conceived *The Trouble with the Alphabet*. In this project she has found the inspiration to say “Yes, I Can”—we all can make a difference for children around the world.

The Trouble with the Alphabet illustrates the world’s injustice in a compelling, unforgettable manner. The book features 26 countries, one for each letter of the alphabet. The countries selected represent the wide range of human rights abuses and injustices that plague the world and prey on the smallest and youngest in society: the children. Vibrant portraits illustrate the emotions and vulnerability of the youngsters.

This Friday, don’t miss Caryn’s presentation. See the images; hear the cries for help; understand the issues with a new sense of humanity. Refuse to be complacent. Make a difference. ♦

Marcia Haber brought four guests, including her son, Josh.





Pictured above: L.A. City Council-woman Janice Hahn, who was guest speaker.

CLUB NEWS

CLARA DURAN REED needs our prayers. She's been diagnosed with a life-threatening disease and is completing tests to determine the best course of treatment.

ED CLAY is out of the hospital after a six-week stay. His eyesight is failing fast and he's being monitored to see what level of care he needs. Phone calls are really important to Ed. Call him at 425.453.7786. Keep Ed in your prayers, too.

Sympathy to **DONNA DUPERON** in the loss of her sister.

OFF-SITE MEETINGS: HAVE YOU REPLIED YET?

On June 25, invitations for off-site meetings were sent via e-mail to every club member. Check your inbox and PLEASE RSVP for the July 24 meeting at the Salvation Army in RPV, and the lunch and train ride on August 7 in Wilson Park.

The July 24 program will have important details about our club's revamped web site, which will soon be a primary source of information about our club and for our members. Tour guide Greg Sparkman will show us how to update our contact information, get club news and much more.

On August 7, **John Polen** will demonstrate his prowess as a train engineer/conductor at our lunch in Wilson Park. Be there for the fun and fellowship.

RVSPing for these events is easy. Open your invitations; then just follow the on-screen directions. **Do it today!** ♦



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

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