



Mid San Fernando Valley

www.midsanfernandovalley.org

Service Above Self

Meeting at Denny's restaurant
Thursdays, 12:10 p.m.

16575 Sherman Way, Van Nuys, CA



Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

January 19, 2012

Invocation: Rich Miller

Flag Salute: Razi Sheikh

4 Way Test: Clinton Jones

Attending Members: Frank Santucci, Jean Mabilon, Renée D'Auria, Clinton Jones, Rosielee Jones, Rich Miller, Roz Dubrow, Barbara Pampalone, Marc Tapper, Robin Kellogg, PDG Emilio Basile and Beth Ullman

Guests and Visiting Rotarians: Honorary member Maritza Artan, of Casa Esperanza; Roz Kogler; Zoraida Suarez; PDG Les Grossman; Alice Gauna; Ron Morgan; Francisco Arrizon; Ron Wolfe and President Razi Sheikh; all of the North San Fernando Valley club (welcome!); our honorary member Mercedes Moreno; Melanie Bickelman, our speaker, and her mother, Helen Schiff

Announcements:

Let's Network!

At this week's board meeting we agreed to try finding ways to increase our networking and introduce business people to Rotary and our club. Our first step in this effort will be our February 9 meeting. Please invite business owners and managers you know to join us for lunch and the chance to share what they do. We'll give them each an opportunity to address the group and some space to showcase their products or services.

Thanks!

Maritza Artan presented two beautiful plants to our two club presidents, Barbara and Razi, to thank them and the clubs for all the gifts we gave Casa Esperanza for the holidays. She said the parents were teary-eyed with joy because they knew donations were generally down and had expected very little for their children, but then received so much. Over 300 families were given toys, clothes and other items. Maritza said the box of bows and ribbons were also very much appreciated for wrapping other items. Those had originally been donated a few years ago by our former Salvation Army members for our annual gift wrap – still being of service!

Barbara also gave her thanks, to Robin, for her help in rewriting an article on a project of the new provisional Chatsworth Sunset club. They sent donated teaching aids to the local Rotary club to distribute to schools affected by the devastating tornado that tore through Joplin, Missouri. As Barbara said, Robin turned the facts into a story.

Calendar

1/26

Zoe International, Human Trafficking

2/2

TBA (Happy Groundhog Day)

2/9

Networking Meeting – Invite businesses and guests to promote their services



Barbara Pampalone, Maritza Artan and Razi Sheikh with thank you gifts from Maritza

Dues Are Due

It's January already, so please, get your club dues into Frank ASAP. We no longer send in dues payments to RI for those who have not paid the club. It's \$100 for this six months, plus any contribution you are making to The Rotary Foundation. Thank you to everyone who has paid.

PolioPlus

PDG Les Grossman announced that we collected \$202 million for our \$200 million goal matching the Gates Foundation grant of \$355 million by the end of 2011. As a result, and because the fight has not yet been won, the Gates Foundation has just donated another \$50 million. With India polio free for the first time last year, we are that much closer to eradicating this debilitating disease.

Bingo

Rich reported that our letters for approval of a bingo license were sent to the Police Commission, and Frank said he will be calling the assigned State auditor today. We are getting close!

Salvation Army Store Grand Re-Opening

Many of us attended the big re-opening of the Canoga Park Family Store this morning (Barbara, Rich, Frank, Mercedes, Marc, Beth, and Capt. Judy, of course) to hear the nicely brief speeches, meet the press and politicians, and get a first-hand look at the renovation. It's gorgeous! Not only was the inside of the store completely redone, but much of the outside, as well. There is a lovely little sitting garden, fresh paint even on the office building, and new plantings in the parking area. Visit and check out all the wonderful bargains!

Community Dental Project

Barbara told us that she and Drs. Shannon and Chetty have been working on determining the exact equipment they need, including the best models of a portable chair, cleaning tools, etc., for the portable dental setup. It will be housed mainly at New Horizons, where it will also get a lot of use. Almost all the promised funding has been received.

Medical Supplies to Pakistan

Dr. Zoraida Suarez announced the donation of medical equipment to clinics in Pakistan (last year they made a major donation to Peru, for which they won first place in our District Awards), and a simple treatment being given for cervical cancer. The cancer treatment involves using iodine to identify

Tour Tickets Available

Therapeutic Center for the Blind sent us 3 tickets for a tour of their facilities in February, but invited us to come any third Thursday of the month to see their programs in action. Roz has gone on a tour and said it is worth while and very interesting. The tickets and letter are in the blue folder Barbara passes around at each meeting.

Rotary Minute

Roz Dubrow told us about a The Bridge Initiative, a project a friend of her granddaughter's is involved in. Thanks to funding in part from Rotary, the youth of Kenya are being taught bio-intensive organic gardening of indigenous crops, performing arts and life skills while also being funded for a year of school, which is just \$50! Volunteers live as guests in the village where they teach. In addition, some help build wells for clean water – one well provides water for 1,700 villagers. For more information, including to volunteer, call 808-269-0077, visit www.thebridgeinitiative.com, email bridgekenya@me.com, call Zuni Migoze in Kenya at 011-254-70-128-2878, or call Francesca there at 011-254-70-372-3895. The Bridge Initiative is led by Zuni Migoze, an African cultural educator, singer, musician, composer and actress. Francesca Hunter came to the project from Maui, Hawaii, and is now the Director and Volunteer Coordinator.

Speaker: Melanie Bickelman, Newborns in Need

A registered nurse for 12 years, including a time in pediatrics, Melanie stayed home to raise her two daughters and then started looking for a non-profit idea when they reached their teens. While she considered starting her own organization, she was captivated when

she learned of Newborns in Need. The organization started in North Carolina in 1992 to provide basic supplies to infants whose parents could ill afford them. Being fairly new, there are still not many chapters, and Melanie decided to start the third California one here in the San Fernando Valley.

Strictly a volunteer-run organization, they collect and distribute formula, diapers, afghans, clothing, toys, books and toiletries to hospitals and clinics for families in need. This is often those whose infants are born premature, as 450,000 are each year. Or some of the 12,000 infants born each year to single parents, or the 2,500 every day born in poverty, a growing problem. Families make up 40% of the homeless in LA County now.

Melanie concentrates on donations to shelters, including those for battered women. At the holidays she gave 15 huge bags of supplies to LA Family Housing, another organization helping the homeless. The shelter they provide is in such demand that each family, no matter how large, gets only a single room. And since donations are down, she is working closely with them to find new ways or sources to meet the supply needs of their tenants.



Barbara Pampalone and Melanie Bickelman

With her chapter less than a year old, Melanie is also looking for information and resources of her own that can help her meet those goals, from ways to raise money to places she can put a collection box, such as churches. She gave us some creative ways we or others can help, including holding a baby shower or craft meeting where people donate or make needed items. Most needed are diapers, formula and baby wipes. For her speaker gift, we gave Melanie one of the beautiful baby afghans and matching hats made by Roz's friend Sara Miller and collected through Rotary Knitting Communities Together, plus an infant-safe stuffed animal.

Melanie can be reached by phone at 818-704-7805 and by email at SoCalSFV@newbornsinneed.org. The website is www.newbornsinneed.org/socalsfv. Please contact her if you can help in any way. Patterns are available on the main website. Knitted or crocheted items can be given to Roz for delivery.

Reminders:

Rotary Zone Meeting

There will be a Zone meeting February 4 at the Boy Scouts of America Facility, 1211 E. Dyer Road, Santa Ana for district level officers, but everyone is welcome. If you elect to go, our district PRLS committee will refund the \$30 cost, which includes lunch. Registration starts at 7:30 a.m. and the final plenary session ends at 3:00 p.m. For more information, visit the district website: www.rotary5260.org.

PolioPlus: Thank you to everyone who contributed to PolioPlus today.

Happy Bucks: Thank you to everyone who contributed today. These contributions go into our general fund for expenses and projects that aren't self-supporting.

Raffle: Jean won the \$5 and Barbara won the chance to try for the joker, but pulled the 8 of clubs. The pot is now \$718, and there are just 21 cards left.

Notable Quotable:

"So many gods, so many creeds, So many paths that wind and wind, While just the art of being kind is all the sad world needs." Ella Wheeler Wilcox, poet (1850-1919)

"There may be times when we are powerless to prevent injustice, but there must never be a time when we fail to protest." Elie Wiesel, writer, Nobel laureate (b. 1928)

2011-2012 Club Officers:

President: Barbara Pampalone	H 818-882-2395
Immediate Past President Martha Stulman	H 818-708-8947
Administrator & Club Chair: Beth Ullman	H 818-701-6889
Secretary: Rosielee Jones	C 818-703-3201
Treasurer: Frank Santucci	C 818-652-7529
Membership VP: Marc Tapper	H 818-425-6667
Projects VP: Rich Miller	W 818-994-8234
Foundation VP: PDG Emilio Basile	H 818-886-4142
Sara Vasquez	H 818-368-6682
Public Relations VP Robin Kellogg	H 818-993-5378
Bulletin Editor <i>pro tem</i>: Beth Ullman	H 818-701-6889
Community Chair: Judy Rockey	C 818-683-3510
Int'l Chair: Sara Vasquez	H 818-368-6682
New Generations Chairs: Clinton & Rosielee Jones	C 818-609-7105
Vocational Chair: Carlos Menjivar	818-996-7337
Programs Chair: Robin Kellogg	H 818-993-5378
Sgt. at Arms: Renée D'Auria	H 818-882-1659

Selected Nearby Clubs and Meeting Information

Granada Hills, Thursdays at 12:10 p.m.

Porter Valley Country Club

19216 Singing Hills Dr

Northridge CA 91326-1716

North San Fernando Valley, Thursdays at 12:10 p.m.

IHOP

1225 Truman St.

San Fernando CA 91340

Northridge/Chatsworth, Tuesdays at 12:10 p.m.

Porter Valley Country Club

19216 Singing Hills Dr.

Northridge CA 91325

Studio City-Sherman Oaks, Tuesdays at 12:10 p.m.

Sportsmen's Lodge Hotel

12825 Ventura Blvd. Vista Room

Studio City CA 91604

Tarzana Encino, Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.

John O'Groats

16120 Ventura Blvd.

Encino CA 91436

Van Nuys, Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.

94th Aero Squadron

16320 Raymer St.

Van Nuys

West San Fernando Valley, Thursdays at 12:00 p.m.

Canoga Park Bowl

20122 Vanowen Street

Winnetka CA 91306

Greater San Fernando Valley **E-Club**, Mondays at 12:00 p.m., Online 24/7, <http://www.rotaryclubgreatersfv.org>

Beth Ullman

17426 Napa St.

Northridge, CA 91325