



Mid San Fernando Valley

Service Above Self

Meeting at Denny's restaurant
 Thursdays, 12:10 p.m.
 16575 Sherman Way, Van Nuys, CA



February 24, 2011

Flag Salute: Carlos Menjivar

Invocation: Zak Nahmoulis

Attending Members:

PDG John Alexander, PDG Emilio Basile, Carlos Menjivar, Jean Mabilon, Robin Kellogg, Beth Ullman, Rich Miller, Barbara Pampalone, Sara Vasquez, Frank Santucci, Zak Nahmoulis; Marc Tapper

Visitors: Clinton Jones, D.C., Renie D'Auria, Christina Clay, Sara Portillo and Larry Small, our speaker

Announcements:

New Member

Rich Miller happily announced that frequent visitor Renie D'Auria will soon be inducted as our newest member! Welcome to the family, Renie! Barbara Pampalone is her very delighted sponsor.

District Conference

This year, our District Conference will be held June 9-12 at the Long Beach Hilton. Reserve your spot by April 30 and save half of the \$35 conference registration fee. Register by April 30 and received half off the \$35 registration fee. Sign up for all the meals and receive an additional \$25 discount. Make certain to reserve your hotel room by Monday, May 9 for the special room rate of \$115/night. Registration forms are included in the March District newsletter.

Club Website

Emilio announced our bulletins are now all available on our club website: www.midsanfernandovalleyrotary.org. If you miss a newsletter, or just want to share one with a friend, they are now easily accessible.

Interact and Relay for Life

Our Birmingham Charter High School Interact club is busy getting ready for this year's Cancer Society Relay for Life event on their campus, June 4 and 5. As usual, our club will be joining them. To sign up as part of the walking team or just to contribute, go to the website for this location: www.relayforlife.org/encino.ca. As part of their fundraising, the Interactors are holding a laser tag party on March 29. Let Beth know if you'd like to be a chaperon for that. Or play, if you think you're fast enough.

Fundraisers for LAUSD Field Trips

Don't forget to stop by McDonalds, 17641 Ventura Blvd.

Calendar

3/3	Joyce Tapper , Didi Project
3/4-3/6	RYLA , Salvation Army's Camp Craig, Malibu Creek
3/10	Paul Eisenstadt , New Technology for Residential & Commercial Security
3/12	CLM , New Horizons, Sam's Café, 15725 Parthenia Ave., North Hills, CA, 8:00-11:00 a.m.
3/17	Gail Meyer , Moving Matters LLC , "Senior Moves"
3/18 Fri.	Salvation Army Sobriety Banquet , St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, 9501 Balboa Boulevard, Northridge
3/24	Richard Cortes , Rotoract
3/31	Star Tomlinson , Cover Those Toes
4/2	District Assembly , Desert Christian Schools, 44648 15 th St. W, Lancaster, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
4/30 Sat.	Rotarians at Work Day
5/10	District Awards Due
5/23-26	RI Convention New Orleans
6/9-12	District 5260 Conference , Long Beach, Hilton Hotel and Executive Center, 701 W. Ocean Blvd.

in Encino, on March 3 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. when our club holds its fundraiser to pay for a field trip school for LeMay Elementary's Early Education Center. Just show up, tell the staff person, and McDonalds will give our club 20% of the proceeds. Then, during the week of March 14-20, frequent the Denny's at which we hold our meetings (16575 Sherman Way, Van Nuys). Show the server the flyer and we'll receive 15% back to give the Early Education Centers at Gledhill, Joan Elam, Nobel and Northridge Elementary Schools. If you didn't get a flyer, or need more, please contact Sara.

District Assembly April 2

Join our club and the rest of the district at our annual District Assembly, being held this year at Desert Christian Schools, 44648 15th St. W, Lancaster, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. It is free to all Rotarians, lots of fun, and a great place to learn – all incoming officers and Avenue of Service Chairs will have break-out training sessions to help them prepare for next year. Please let Martha know if you plan to attend, so she can turn in our headcount.

Bingo Fundraiser

If you love Bingo and want to find out about our next fundraiser speak to Beth, Emilio or Rich.

Salvation Army Sobriety Banquet & Awards Ceremony

The Salvation Army of Canoga Park is holding its annual Sobriety Banquet and Awards Ceremony for graduates of its Adult Rehabilitation Center. The event will be held at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, 9501 Balboa Blvd., Northridge. Our club is invited to attend. The cost is \$24 per person. A donation of \$150 will sponsor a table. Any other donations toward sponsorship would also be very much appreciated. RSVP no later than March 12. Help support the great efforts of Judy, Tim and the entire Salvation Army program.

Four-Way Test Contest

Monroe High School will present the Four-Way Essay Contest to students in their 10th, 11th, and 12th grade English classes on March 1st. They will have until March 25th to complete their essays. The winners will be announced at Open House in April, at which our club will present the award. We have also been invited to have a table at this event displaying Rotary information. Prizes will be awarded to the winning essay from each grade. The winning student in the 10th grade will receive \$75, the 11th grade winner will receive \$100, and the 12th grade winner will receive \$125.

The eighth grade English classes at Frost Middle School will participate later in the year.

Club Collecting for Cuba

Thank you for all the items donated to the humanitarian trip to Cuba that we are supporting. Robin planned on shipping the items following our meeting today. If you would like to donate directly to the Hillel, please do so by March 18 by going to <http://hillel.kintera.org>. The team name is "NU ASB Cuba Year 5". Then click on Morgan Greenwald. The money will all go to the Hillel's humanitarian efforts in Cuba.

E-Waste Collection #2

If you didn't get a chance to dispose of your e-waste at the Helping Hands for Seniors Fundraiser this past weekend, you get a second chance. The Greater San Fernando Valley Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring an e-waste collection March 12-13 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. It will be held in the parking lot of the Canoga Bowl, 20122 Vanowen St., at the corner of Vanowen and Winnetka.

Speaker: Larry Small, Community Service Counselor, Dignity Memorial

Larry Small can sell anything—and has. Starting out as a luggage salesman and then a brief stint in the world of insurance, he now works closely with families to plan their “final party” as a Community Service Counselor for Dignity Memorial, the largest funeral/cemetery organization in North America. Larry remarked that you actually need a real estate license to sell cemetery plots.

Said Larry, “In our business, there are no do-overs”, so he encourages clients to specify exactly how they want to be interred or cremated, what type of service they would prefer, including music and how much they want it all to cost.

Why is this important? Preplanning:

- Reduces stress on the family
- Allows you to plan your memorial service the way you want it
- Guarantees the price

Larry spoke of one client who arranged every aspect of her departure except for the music. That was left up to her twenty-something granddaughter, who chose a rap song. That's the down side of not planning every detail. The upside was epitomized by another client who purchased a package with Dignity Memorial back in 1969. Every so often she would stop in and check on her arrangements. When she passed away, her funeral, which would have cost her family \$12,000, was covered by the \$850 she contracted for all those years ago.



Larry Small, our speaker, with Robin

As its name implies, Dignity Memorial offers families far more than a burial. Counselors like Larry will hold your hand throughout the planning process, and when the time comes to make final arrangements, they will do the leg work for you. They will even pick you up and take you to the funeral home, cemetery or anywhere you need to go to make arrangements. In addition, the Dignity Memorial also offers a:

- Bereavement travel service that will help you find the lowest airfare, hotel, and car rental at no charge for anyone who needs to attend the funeral.
- Relocation service that will help you locate the closest Dignity Memorial provider when you move, no matter where it is in North America. (Your plan is completely transferable to any other Dignity provider.)
- Transportation service, which will transport your

body home if you die elsewhere, even in another country, for a one-time fee of \$425.

- Special plan that covers the cost of the funeral of any child or grandchild under the age of 21 up to \$10,000, at no extra charge.
- Plan covering the funeral costs for law enforcement and firefighters who lose their lives while on duty,
- Veterans plan that provides discounts to veterans and pays for the interment of homeless veterans.
- A free 24-hour compassion hotline for up to a year after your loss.

To find out more about Dignity Memorial and how their plans can help you painlessly make your final arrangements, contact Larry Small at 661-803-0075, or laurence.small@sci-us.com.

PolioPlus: Thank you to everyone who contributed this week.

Happy Bucks: Thank you to everyone who contributed this week.

Raffle: Zak won the \$5. Rich won the chance to pick the Joker out of an ever-decreasing deck of cards with a chance to win half of the \$450 pot. He chose the three of hearts.

2010-2011 Club Officers:

President:

Martha Stulman H 818-708-8947

Immediate Past President & Public Relations VP:

Robin Kellogg H 818-993-5378

Club Administrator:

Emilio Basile H 818-886-4142

Secretary:

Sara Vasquez H 818-368-6682

Treasurer:

Frank Santucci C 818-652-7529

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Rich Miller W 818-994-8234

Marc Tapper H 818-992-8211

Projects VP:

Beth Ullman H 818-701-6889

Foundation VP:

Emilio Basile H 818-886-4142

Community Chair:

OPEN

International Chair:

Barbara Pampalone H 818-882-2395

Vocational Chair:

OPEN

Youth/Interact Chair:

OPEN

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Robin Kellogg H 818-993-5378

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