



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

April 12, 2012

Invocation: PDG Emilio Basile

Flag Salute: Sara Vasquez

4 Way Test: Jean Mabilon

Attending Members: Martha Stulman, Rosielee Jones, PDG Emilio Basile, Clinton Jones, Rich Miller, Lisa Long, Jean Mabilon, Roz Dubrow, Renée D'Auria, Robin Kellogg, Sara Vasquez, Marc Tapper, Carlos Menjivar, Bub Pickup, Barbara Pampalone; Beth Ullman

Guests: Max Kellogg and our speakers/panelists from Toastmasters: Dean Puretz, Doris Klaus, Peter Harrison, Stan Kockler and Marilee Burton

Please Bring Food Items

So far we've donated about 220 pounds of food to North Valley Caring Services, a food pantry in North Hills. But they still need items for both their food pantry and breakfast program until May. They prefer non-perishable food but do take fresh fruit and vegetables. If you can't (or forget to) bring items to a meeting, you can deliver them to the church: Sepulveda United Methodist, across the street from Green Arrow, is open Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Office Manager Jennifer Rodriguez is at 818-891-0481 x23, and Yvette Pineda, Executive Director, x24. Because of the locked gates it is helpful to call before going or when you are close.

Announcements:

Vision Aid

Jean delivered another batch of glasses to our friendly optometrist in Van Nuys (Barry Leonard, former member of the VN Club) who helps get them to needy individuals all over the world through Volunteer Optometry Services to Humanity (VOSH).

May 10 Club Assembly will include possible new names for the merged club. Please talk to Emilio about any suggestions you may have before then, if possible. Lunches at the 94th will be \$17.28 each, to be paid to Frank, who will then pay the Van Nuys club for all of us.

Four Way Test Essay Contest

Sara announced the winners at Monroe High School of our Four Way Test Essay contest, all of whom will be honored, with their principal and parents, at our May 3 meeting. The 11th grade winner is Leo Romo, 12th grade is Kevin Ortiz, and the video essay winners for their joint film

Calendar

- 4/26 **Mel Powell**, Membership Development
- 4/28 Sat., **Van Nuys Track Meet**, Birmingham H.S. and **Haskell Creek Clean-up** with the Audubon Society – *Rotarians at Work Day*
- 5/3 **4 Way Test Essay Awards**, presentations to Monroe High School winners
- 5/10 **Joint meeting**, club assembly, 94th Aero Squadron, 16320 Raymer St., Van Nuys
- 5/12, Sat., **Entrepreneurial Training**, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at Rich's office, 7120 Hayvenhurst Ave. #108, Van Nuys
- 5/17 **TBA**
- 5/24 **TBA**
- 5/26, Sat., **Van Nuys Rotary Car Show**, Valley College
- 6/2 Sat., **District 5280 Assembly**, Carson Community Center, 3 Civic Plaza Dr., Carson
- 6/6, Wed., **Bingo Event** at Union Hall (tentative date)
- 6/6 – 6/9, Wed. – Sat., **Rotary Intern'l Convention**
- 6/8 & 9, Fri. & Sat., **District Conference** at the Beverly Garland Hotel, 4222 Vineland Ave., North Hollywood, \$20 + meals
- 7/8, Sun., **Demotion Party**, Beth's house

are Faisal Shah and Jose Mares. Congratulations! We are really looking forward to having you join us for lunch.

Arts and Crafts Faire

On April 21 and 22, 2012 the Woodland Hills club held their semi-annual Arts & Crafts Faire. As always, it was full of wonderful things! From honorary member Ferne Saltzman's beautiful photographs to amazing glass and wood art works to a wide variety of hand-crafted jewelry and clothing. If you missed it, do plan on visiting the next one, coming in the fall. Or you can find some of the vendors at the Studio City Rotary club's Art show, May 12 and 13. For information call 818-775-3877.

Rotary Knitting Communities Together

We received a very nice thank you note from Newborns in Need, to which Roz delivered another 14 baby afghans with matching caps last week.

Dental Project

Barbara now has a cavitron to remove plaque and calculus from teeth without major tool scrapping, which proved extremely useful when she worked on a woman in her 40's at New Horizons who still has 2 baby teeth but no

permanent teeth. She still needs an additional dentist, as the one from the Woodland Hills club just accepted a position downtown LA, as well as some items of equipment and supplies for this project. Please contact her with any ideas or suggestions you may have.

Rotary Minute

Marc noted there is an article on polio survivors in this month's Rotarian, and talked about our friend and former member Johan van Nimwegan, who was paralyzed and in an iron lung for many months with the disease. It wasn't until after he joined Rotary that he learned the facility he'd been treated at was funded by Rotary. With his personal experience he became one of the prominent faces of and speakers fundraising for PolioPlus in our district. Thank you, Van, for all you've done. You accomplished some amazing goals. We miss you, and hope you and Ronnie will come visit soon!

Speaker: – Toastmasters, Sample Meeting

With Rich acting as MC and Dean Puretz as speech master, we were given a taste of what a Toastmasters meeting is like, sans the normal "um" counters and grammarian. Dean did select a word for the day ("dilemma") which was supposed to be woven into any of the spontaneous talks the speakers gave, if they could.

Toastmasters starts members off with a 10 speech training manual, starting with an introduction talk or "icebreaker". Successfully delivering all 10 earns you the Competent Communicator title. To give us a feel for the talks, club president Marilee started with an icebreaker focused on the hats of her life. Below is a picture of her in one of the dozen or so she used during her talk, a hat created to wear with the kindergarteners she taught. From the first few words, she had us completely enchanted.



Marilee Burton in one of her choice chapeaux

Marilee took us from her baby bonnets to the cowboy hat owned by her older brother that she coveted, and eventually inherited when he outgrew, to those she wore every day when she worked in New York to hats from almost every other stage of her life. Including those from her trips visiting her mom back here in LA and making sure her mom's electrician would only work during those visits. After a bi-coastal dating year, they now own a house together in Van Nuys. And she is still discovering new hats for each new stage of life.

Peter gave a very short talk on whether we just have or make our luck, relating a story of a Holocaust survivor – the father of a friend of his. Taken away from his family by the Nazis when Peter's friend was just 7, the father was allowed to return a month later. He was determined to leave Germany with his entire family, as difficult as that was. He had been given a reprieve, and only a reprieve, because he had fought for Germany during WWI and been honorably discharged. During the early part of the war German Jews in Berlin were allowed to live a little longer in recognition of their military service.



L-R Marilee Burton, Peter Harrison, Rich Miller, Dean Puretz, Doris Klaus, Stan Kockler and Barbara Pampalone

Dean then tossed out phrases from famous movies for people to talk about for at least one minute and no more than two. Stan responded to a line from *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Max gave a charming synopsis of the *Wizard of Oz* and Marc got *Casablanca*, while Sara gave an amazingly developed talk that even tied into her job search, Rotary and the coming year based on *Forest Gump*. Doris then gave an example of switching the topic you're given to one you prefer to talk on. Thanks, everyone! That was fun.

Toastmasters is an international organization focused primarily on education. There are talk booklets that focus on different skills, such as humor, motivation and management. Clubs are autonomous, and vary in size. This club, Rich's club, has 20 members and is looking to grow. If you'd like to visit and see more, they meet every Tuesday morning at 7:00 at the Denny's on the west side of Sepulveda Blvd. just south of Burbank Blvd.

Reminders:

Entrepreneurial Training

Are you going to help teach students how to be good business people? Join us Saturday, May 12, at Rich's office for a half day of training for the instructors.

The Rotary Foundation

While we are on track for meeting our annual Foundation giving goal (we have met the amount for the award recognizing contributions to the general fund averaging at least \$100/member), we are still shy of 100% member participation. Some of us are also very close to the next level of Paul Harris recognition, so if you haven't yet given anything to the Foundation this year, or need just a small contribution for your next PHF, please contact (or expect a call from) Barbara or Emilio.

Merger

Volunteers are still needed for a variety of positions. Please talk to Sara or Emilio if you are interested in either a board or committee chair slot. Or the Sergeant-at-Arms position – you get to be fine-master!

April 28 Van Nuys Track Meet, Rotarians at Work Day

Join the Van Nuys and North SFV club members at the 33rd annual track meet for high-schoolers from all over the area at Birmingham H.S. on Saturday, April 28. Leo O'Biecunas is co-ordinating times and events for all the volunteers, but Barbara noted it's important to be there early for your assigned time to have some overlap and allow a smooth transition. Judy volunteered to bring three fellows from the ARC to help. Leo can be reached at 818-891-1160 (H), 818-988-0180 (W) or leo_ob@zolan.com.

May 6 Prom Prep for Girls in Foster Care

Valley Beth Shalom is holding a special event on May 6, from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. to help girls in foster care go to their high school proms. They will be given dresses, makeup and makeup advice, hair care and jewelry so that they can share in this coming of age ritual. If you would like to volunteer to help for an hour or two, from hanging up dresses to helping the girls make their selections, please email Shelley Margulies at shelleyfara@att.net.

District Conference June 8 & 9

Remember to register for this year's 5260 District Conference – our last. It will be held at the Beverly Garland Hotel, 4222 Vineland Ave., North Hollywood. It is close by and just a day and a half, so it should be easy for all of us to attend at least part of this celebration and transition. You can register online or download the form from the district website: www.rotary5260.org. Cost is just \$20 plus meals.

Priscilla Pig for PolioPlus: Thank you to everyone who contributed to PolioPlus today.

Happy Bucks: Thank you to everyone who contributed today.

Raffle: Roz won the \$5 again, and Jean won the chance to try for the joker, but pulled the 8 of clubs. There are just 12 cards left, and about \$940 in the pot!

Notable Quotable:

"Moral certainty is always a sign of cultural inferiority. The more uncivilized the man, the surer he is that he knows precisely what is right and what is wrong. All human progress, even in morals, has been the work of men who have doubted the current moral values, not of men who have whooped them up and tried to enforce them. The truly civilized man is always skeptical and tolerant, in this field as in all others. His culture is based on 'I am not too sure.'" H.L. Mencken, writer, editor, and critic (1880-1956)

Meeting Information for Nearby Clubs

Calabasas, Tuesdays, 12:15 p.m.
Wolf Creek Restaurant
26787 Agoura Rd.
Calabasas, 91302

Granada Hills, Thursdays at 12:10 p.m.
Porter Valley Country Club
19216 Singing Hills Dr
Northridge CA 91326-1716

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

North San Fernando Valley, Thursdays at 12:00 p.m.
94th Aero Squadron (with the Van Nuys club)
16320 Raymer St.
Van Nuys

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, Thursdays at 12:00 p.m.
94th Aero Squadron
16320 Raymer St.
Van Nuys

West San Fernando Valley, Thursdays at 7:15 a.m.
Coco's on Victory and Topanga
Topanga

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
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Robin Kellogg H 818-993-5378
Bulletin Editor *pro tem*:
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 818-620-2569
Programs Chair: Robin Kellogg H 818-993-5378
Sgt. at Arms: Renée D'Auria H 818-882-1659

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