



# Mid San Fernando Valley

**Service Above Self**

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



## May 12, 2011

**Flag Salute:** Renie D'Auria

**Invocation:** Marc Tapper

**Attending Members:** PDG John Alexander, PDG Emilio Basile, Roz Dubrow, Renie D'Auria, Jean Mabilon, Judy Rockey, Robin Kellogg, Marc Tapper, Frank Santucci

**Visitors:** Al Feldman, Business Consultant; Lonie Breidoet, Therapeutic Living Centers for the Blind, and our speaker, Katie Perry, also Therapeutic Living Centers for the Blind

### Announcements:

#### Renie Receives Rotary Badge



*Renie D'Auria is now official! Robin Kellogg, who stood in for Martha Stulman at the meeting, presented Renie with her badge.*

#### Joint Meeting with GSE Team

After taking a head count at our meeting, Rich determined that approximately 15 members of our club would be attending the joint club meeting on May 19. Besides our club, the meeting will include the Northridge/Chatsworth Rotary Club, North San Fernando Valley Rotary Club, and Granada Hills Rotary Club. It will take place at New Horizon's Sam's Café, 15725

### Calendar

**5/18 Wed. 5:30 Board Meeting**, Rich's office  
**5/19 Joint Rotary Club Meeting and Meet and Greet with the GSE Team from Peru**, New Horizons, Sam's Café, 15725 Parthenia Ave., North Hills, noon,  
**5/23-26 RI Convention New Orleans**  
**5/24 Monroe High School Four-Way Test Awards**  
**5/26 TBD**  
**6/2 Max Izenberg**, Healthy Living  
**6/9-12 District 5260 Conference**, Long Beach, Hilton Hotel and Executive Center, 701 W. Ocean Blvd.

Parthenia St. in North Hills. The visiting Group Study Exchange team from Peru will present the program. If you've never had the opportunity to hear an incoming GSE team at a District Conference or one of our meetings, please don't miss this chance! It is always an extra-special presentation.

#### Bingo Redux

Emilio announced that 56 people paid for tickets at our Bingo game a few weeks ago. We grossed \$2,116 and netted \$778.28. That amount was then further divided between our club, North San Fernando Valley Rotary club and Union Local 300 for a total of \$259.42 per organization.

Not bad for a first try. Now that we've gotten a bit more familiar with the rules of Bingo and all the logistics, we're set for our next big Bingo tournament.

#### Earthquake Kits to be Sold at Women's Business Forum

On July 8<sup>th</sup>, the Women's Business Forum, which meets at the Woodland Hills Country Club the second Friday of each month from 8:00 to 10:30 a.m., will feature a senior trainer from the Los Angeles CERT program. The forum's facilitators—Laurie Gaynes Basile, Dalia Hayon and Susie Jacobson—have offered us an opportunity to be a part of this program by selling our earthquake kits. The kits will be sold for \$20 each (a \$6 profit for our club). To expedite the matter, we took a consensus of the club and decided to order 36 kits.

### Handouts Available

Robin reminded us that she still has some of those great Rotary postcards to hand or mail to potential member, as well as the new "What is Rotary?" folded cards. Use them to good advantage!

**Speaker:** Katie Berry, Fund Development, Therapeutic Living Centers for the Blind

Imagine not being able to see the world around you. So much of what we absorb as children is through our eyesight. To top it off, what if you were also unable to make sense of the world because you had a developmental disability. You don't fit in well with services for the blind or those for the developmentally disabled. Where do you go? The Therapeutic Living Centers for the Blind (TLC) in Reseda, CA. The organization was established by eight families in 1975. At the time, services for this community were non-existent. Today, TLC offers a multitude of services from infancy through adulthood and serves 180 individuals and their families.

Katie Berry joined TLC a couple of months ago in their Fund Development Department, joining Lonie Breidoet, who also attended the meeting. Katie said that she immediately felt a karmic pull toward TLC's mission. Eleven years ago, Katie gave birth to twins. One of the boys was whisked off to intensive care. His lungs had collapsed. When he cried and his heart valve closed as it does in infancy, it didn't reopen due to his decreased lung capacity. Katie couldn't touch her son for the first four weeks of his life. She and her husband were told that he would likely die. Today, he is a happy, healthy 11-year-old boy with no sign of brain damage from his ordeal. Katie calls him her "miracle baby", but admits it could have turned out differently.

"Every day 300 parents go through what I did and don't have the same outcome", she said, adding that TLC works with families from when they are still in the hospital onward.

TLC offers home support to families, including counseling siblings and other family members. They offer an after-school program until 6:00 p.m. for children 5 to 17 years of age. In addition, for families who need to place their relative in group homes, TLC has six on-campus houses and eight in the community. "Our goal is to help them become as independent as they can be," Katie noted.

In addition, TLC offers a day program everyday but Sunday which incorporates music and occupational therapy. It is done in coordination with the Jewish Home for the Aged.

Volunteers are always welcome. TLC is currently looking for volunteers for events and a birthday club they are starting, as well as other projects.

TLC's main funding has come from government grants with 1% being covered by private donations. As you can image with all the government cutbacks, they are looking for any help they can get.

To find out more about volunteering or touring their facilities, contact Katie or Lonie at (818) 708-1740, or visit their website at: [www.tlc4blind.org](http://www.tlc4blind.org).



*Robin Kellogg with Katie Berry*

### Reminders:

#### 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. 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, and are now on the district website as well: [www.rotary5260.org](http://www.rotary5260.org).

#### Walk on the Horizon

New Horizons is sponsoring its 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk on the Horizon at California State University, Northridge on June 5. Registration for the walk begins at 8:00 a.m. with the walk commencing at 9:15 a.m. There will be a concert by Arrest My Sister at 10:45 a.m. For more information contact: Courtney Kanner (818) 221-0629 or [clkanner@newhorizons-sfv.org](mailto:clkanner@newhorizons-sfv.org).

#### PolioPlus

Thank you to everyone who contributed to PolioPlus this week.

#### Happy Bucks

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

#### Opportunity Drawing

Marc won the \$5 this week. Roz won the chance to pick the joker out of an ever-decreasing deck of cards to win half of the \$113 pot. She chose the four of spades.

**2010-2011 Club Officers:**

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Martha Stulman H 818-708-8947

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**Administrator:**

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**Programs  
co-Chairs:**

Debbie Navarro H 818-838-7218

Robin Kellogg H 818-993-5378

**Sgt. at Arms:**

John Alexander H 818-899-2045

**Bulletin Editor:**

Robin Kellogg H 818-993-5378

Robin Kellogg  
18604 Stare St.  
Northridge, CA 91324