



# Mid San Fernando Valley

[www.midsanfernandovalley.org](http://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

## May 3, 2012

**Invocation:** Lisa Long  
**Flag Salute:** Frank Santucci  
**4 Way Test:** Sara Vasquez

**Attending Members:** Frank Santucci, Martha Stulman, Rosielee Jones, Clinton Jones, Rich Miller, Lisa Long, Judy Rockey, Jean Mabilon, Roz Dubrow, Robin Kellogg, Sara Vasquez, Carlos Menjivar, Marc Tapper, Bub Pickup, PDG Emilio Basile; Beth Ullman

**Guests and Fellow Rotarians:** Gina Low, founder of Alpeca, a non-profit doing work in Peru that has partnered with Rotary there on a number of water projects; Alice Irving, a long-time friend of Rosielee's; Natalie Petrossian, the Monroe High School English teacher who worked with us on the essay contest, and her students: Kevin Ortiz, Leo Romo, Faisal Shah and Jose Mares

### Announcements:

**Martha** ran today's meeting since Barbara had to be at a 3 day dental training conference. She definitely hasn't lost her touch!

### Bingo

It's time to start promoting our bingo games! now that we have our license and first date, June 6, we need to let our families, friends and the public know. Among other things we need to place some ads and create flyers. Rich announced a planning meeting at his office on Monday at 5:30. So far the committee includes Les Grossman, Zoraida Suarez, Lisa, Emilio, Martha, Beth and Rich. If you'd like to participate, please contact Rich at his office: 818-994-8234.

### Merger

PDG Emilio also let us know that he's been working on the budget for the merged clubs, and if we keep 45 members of the 57 currently on our collective rosters, it looks like the annual dues will be about \$225/person. To continue all the projects currently supported and the new ones we voted for the club will need to raise an additional \$14,000. We expect our bingo games to bring in a minimum of \$4,500, are looking for track meet sponsors and have not yet included any funds from the foundations the other two clubs have.

### The Rotary Foundation

PDG Emilio reported we are just 6 people shy of 100%

### Calendar

- 5/7, **Mon.**, Bingo planning meeting, Rich's office, 5:30
- 5/10 **Joint meeting**, club assembly, 94<sup>th</sup> 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 **GSE Team from Peru**, 94<sup>th</sup> Aero Squadron
- 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
- 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
- 6/24, **Sun.**, **Farewell Party** for Judy & Tim Rockey, at the Salvation Army ARC, 21375 Roscoe Blvd., Canoga Park
- 7/8, **Sun.**, **Demotion Party**, 4:30 p.m. at Beth's house

participation in our donations to TRF annual fund this Rotary year. We have already achieved \$100+/member average, so we need just \$5 or \$10 dollars from those 6 to reach the second milestone, and award. Have you made your contribution yet? If not, please consider doing so, and help us reach 100% member participation. If you have not yet received your first PHF, remember that if you contribute at least \$100, every dollar will be matched by the club. Contact Emilio for more information, or contribute online at [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org).

### District 5280 Assembly

Robin reminded us that the Assembly for our new district will be held June 2 at Carson Community Center. This is a great opportunity to meet people in our new district, as well as offering the training all our chairs need for the coming year. Hope to see you there!

### Van Nuys Track Meet

Saturday was the 33<sup>rd</sup> annual Van Nuys Rotary Track Meet at Birmingham High School. Rich reported it went well, though computer problems slowed the start. Many, many thanks to our members who helped out, including Judy, who got three men from the Salvation Army ARC to help, Rich, Barbara and especially Renée, who spent the entire day there, giving out awards!

## Interactors and RYLA

Rosielee told us she had texted with our four Interactors attending RYLA this weekend until they got on the bus, and checked in with them again once they returned. They are stoked! Energized and eager to move forward with all their new skills, we have no doubt these young women will soon put into action everything they learned and spur their club to great new projects and even better fellowship.

### Speaker: 4-Way Test Essay Contest

Sara explained why we sponsored the 4 Way Test essay contest held at Monroe High School, and credited the late John Alexander for the idea. As the code of conduct Rotarians have used to guide behavior for 70 years, we know it is also an excellent standard for young adults to learn and follow. As she introduced each student, she told us something about him and how the test is affecting his life. Leo Romo, the 11<sup>th</sup> grade winner is using the test both at home and school, and finding it improves his life and relationships. After he read his essay, Sara gave him an award certificate, a check for \$100 and a 4 Way Test coin. She then introduced 12<sup>th</sup> grade Kevin Ortiz, who uses the test to not just guide his own behavior, but determine who among his acquaintances also behaves according to them to select who his friends are. After reading his essay, Sara gave him his award certificate, a 4 Way Test coin and a check for \$125.

Video essay winners Faisal Shah and Jose Mares told us how they discussed current topics at length to find one that could be used to show the impact of the 4 Way Test on modern life. They decided upon the economy, realizing how tempting it is to steal when money is tight. Their film showed that and how the 4 Way Test can help us make good decisions in a well done film of less than 5 minutes. The arts program in which Faisal and Jose (Joe) made their film also teaches painting, drawing and other arts. Sara gave each of them a 4 Way Test coin, award certificate and a check for their half of the first place prize.



*Sara Vasquez and Leo Romo*

It was impressive to hear how these young men are finding new ways of looking at and dealing with the world, thanks to the 4 Way Test. This guide will no doubt help them as they move onto college – Jose is planning on majoring in neuroscience, Leo in music, Kevin in business and economics, and Faisal in film. We predict they will all do very well! As Marc pointed out, they have already done exceptional work (and with his writing and film background, he speaks from experience). Bub had us all laughing when he noted that when he was in high school it seemed the girls won all the awards, and added “good going, guys!”

Sara also presented Natalie Petrossian with a special certificate and 4 Way Test coin, and our thanks for all her help to make this contest a meaningful success. Later Sara received the following note from Natalie:

“Ms. Vasquez,

“On behalf of my students, I would like to thank you and the Rotary Club for today's luncheon.

“The boys were so nervous, making jokes on the way over, asking me what to expect, sheepishly tucking in their shirts outside the restaurant.

“Afterwards, the pride they [had] filled the car ride back to Monroe. The boys couldn't believe that other adults were so interested in their words and stories.

“It is one thing to have their teachers tell them how great they are and encourage them to take risks, but it means just as much to be recognized by someone outside of school.

“The seniors, Joey, Faisal, and Kevin, are outstanding young men and have earned their share of recognition through the years. I have no doubts that each of them will continue their success in college.

“However, Leo, as you can see, is on the cusp of turning his life around. It was one thing to read his essay, but to hear it read by him was so powerful. I know this experience will stay with him.

“Thank you so much, again and again.

“Sincerely, Natalie”

It was our pleasure!



*L-R Faisal Shah, Kevin Ortiz, Natalie Petrossian, Sara Vasquez, Leo Romo, and Jose Mares*



L-R Faisal Shah, Sara Vasquez and Jose Mares

**Belated Happy Birthday!** We sang a pretty decent “Happy Birthday” to Judy, in honor of the birthday we missed two weeks ago when she was out of town. Hope you had fun!

**Priscilla Pig for PolioPlus:** Thank you to everyone who contributed to PolioPlus today. We’ll draw a name in the next week or so to select the member in whose name the money we’ve collected will be donated to TRF for PolioPlus. These funds count toward your Paul Harris Fellow, but not toward the Annual Fund.

**Happy Bucks:** Thank you to everyone who contributed today, including Clinton, in advance of his knee replacement surgery coming up on Monday. Hope it goes very well and that you’ll rejoin us quickly.

**Raffle:** Emilio won the \$5 and the first chance to find the joker, but pulled the 8 of diamonds. As promised, we then pulled another ticket: Martha tried but got the jack of clubs. And another – third time was the charm! Roz found the joker, and won half the \$1,002! Congratulations, Roz! She immediately gave \$25 of it to The Rotary Foundation to help us achieve 100% participation.



Sara Vasquez and Kevin Ortiz



Roz draws the winning card!

**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.

**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 94<sup>th</sup> will be \$17.28 each, to be paid to Frank, who will then pay the Van Nuys club for all of us.



Natalie Petrossian and Sara Vasquez

### GSE Team Needs Housing

Our visitors from Mexico are coming this month and need places to stay. For the last two weeks of May they'll be in the east valley areas, then the first two weeks of June in the west valley. If you have a spare room and can handle the excitement of getting to know an energetic young professional from our neighbor to the south for two or three days, please let Jim Miceli know, 818-395-7473 or jimmiceli@aol.com.

### District Conference June 8 & 9

Mel shared that this last District 5260 Conference will celebrate not just this year, but our entire district history, with lots of activities, photos and more. Be there! It will be at the Beverly Garland Hotel, 4222 Vineland Ave., North Hollywood. Register online or go to [www.rotary5260.org](http://www.rotary5260.org) and download the form. If you don't have internet access, just ask one of the club officers for a paper copy. Cost is just \$20 plus meals.

### Spring Concert May 19

Lisa announced Community Choir's Spring Concert on Saturday, May 19. There will be two shows, at 4:00 and 7:30 p.m., at the First Presbyterian Church, 10400 Zelzah Ave. in Granada Hills. Cost is just \$20/ticket. Visit [www.coacc.net](http://www.coacc.net) or email [coaccinfo@yahoo.com](mailto:coaccinfo@yahoo.com) for information or reservations.

### 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.

Beth Ullman  
17426 Napa St.  
Northridge, CA 91325

### Notable Quotable:

Two from Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790), American publisher, author, inventor, scientist and diplomat:

"Without Freedom of Thought, there can be no such thing as Wisdom; and no such thing as public Liberty, without Freedom of Speech." *The New England Courant*, 1722

"Dost thou love life? Then do not squander time, for that's the stuff life is made of. *Poor Richard's Almanac*

### 2011-2012 Club Officers:

<b>President:</b> Barbara Pampalone	H 818-882-2395
<b>Immediate Past President</b> Martha Stulman	H 818-708-8947
<b>Administrator &amp; Club Chair:</b> Beth Ullman	H 818-701-6889
<b>Secretary:</b> Rosielee Jones	C 818-703-3201
<b>Treasurer:</b> Frank Santucci	C 818-652-7529
<b>Membership VP:</b> Marc Tapper	H 818-425-6667
<b>Projects VP:</b> Rich Miller	W 818-994-8234
<b>Foundation VP:</b> PDG Emilio Basile Sara Vasquez	H 818-886-4142 H 818-368-6682
<b>Public Relations VP</b> Robin Kellogg	H 818-993-5378
<b>Bulletin Editor <i>pro tem</i>:</b> Beth Ullman	H 818-701-6889
<b>Community Chair:</b> Judy Rockey	C 818-683-3510
<b>Int'l Chair:</b> Sara Vasquez	H 818-368-6682
<b>New Generations Chairs:</b> Clinton & Rosielee Jones	C 818-609-7105
<b>Vocational Chair:</b> Carlos Menjivar	818-620-2569
<b>Programs Chair:</b> Robin Kellogg	H 818-993-5378
<b>Sgt. at Arms:</b> Renée D'Auria	H 818-882-1659