

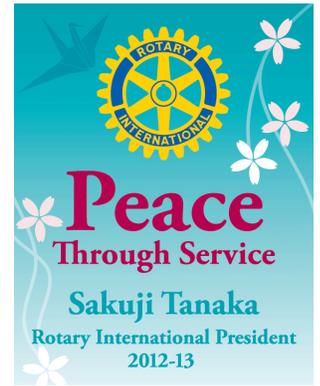
Rotary Club of Greater Van Nuys

www.greatervannuysrotary.org

Service Above Self

Meeting at 94th Aero Squadron
Thursdays, 12:10 p.m.

16320 Raymer St., Van Nuys, CA 91406



August 16, 2012

Flag Salute: Robin Kellogg
Invocation: Rich Miller
Song: Judy Coates
4 Way Test PDG Eli Gauna

Attending Members: Mauricio Aranda, Renée D'Auria, PDG Eli Gauna, Alice Gauna, Judy Coates, PDG Les Grossman, Frank Santucci, Tom Harris, Robin Kellogg, Barbara Pampalone, Rich Miller, Don Reinken, Patrick Fahey, Razi Sheikh, Don Fetherolf, Clinton Jones, Jim Tenner, Ron Wolf, Roz Kogler, Peter Satuloff, Rosie Jones, Clinton Jones, Guy Mangia, Raul Castillo, Marie Valencia, Javier Nunez, Beth Ullman

Guests: Mary Carmen-Wright, Mary Kay rep (661-490-5689) and guest of the club invited by Rich; Carrie Nicoletti, Van Nuys Airport; Fernando Mareno of New York Life (818-587-3080), guest of the club invited by Emilio; and Ken Craft, our speaker

ANNOUNCEMENTS / Reminders

Coming District Events

September 9 will be our first opportunity to compete with out clubs in our new district in the annual cardboard boat race – a fun challenge in water just knee deep – as part of the annual district picnic. There will be games for all ages and everyone is invited – Rotarians, family and friends. Every club is also asked to bring food to share with the group, or to contribute money to help support this event. Please visit the website (www.rotary5280.org) or check the flyer for more information.

Robin has opportunity drawing tickets for both the Dodger Game Night, September 15, where you could win prizes that include meeting with the team on the field, and the October 27 Foundation fundraiser – you could win \$500, \$1,500 or \$3,000! Each ticket is just \$10.

Afghanistan Dental Clinic Fundraiser

Barbara reminded us the Evening in Kabul dinner fundraiser for the Afghan Dental Relief Project is next Saturday, August 25, from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. This promises to be the best event yet for this very worthwhile project. Please help support it by buying tickets (\$35 each), donating a silent auction item or spreading the word about this event. RSVP by August 23 to 818-882-2395 or by email to bpampalone@gmail.com.

Calendar

- 8/22, Wed. **Board Meeting**, 6:00 p.m.,
- 8/23 **Shelley Bell**, Laughter Yoga
- 8/25, Sat. **Afghanistan Dental Clinic Fundraiser**
5:00 – 9:00 p.m. at Barbara's house
- 8/30 **Anthony Marks**, Current Pharmaceutical Problems
- 9/6 **Michele Pincus**, Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society
- 9/9, Sun. **District Picnic**, Seaside Lagoon, 100 Portofino Way, Redondo Beach, 11 - 4:00
- 9/13 **Ira Saltzman, Esq.**
- 9/15, Sat. **Polio Plus Dodger Game Night**, Dodger Stadium, 6:10 p.m.
Dance for Those Who Can't – PolioPlus fundraiser, 7:00 – 10:00 p.m., Greater SFV E-Club event at Arthur Murray Sherman Oaks, 4633 Van Nuys Blvd.
- 9/20 **Clarissa Black**, Pets for Vets
- 9/27 **Mel Powell**, Membership Development
- 9/28 – 30, Fri. – Sun. **Bishop Safari**
- 9/29, Sat. **Granada Hills Rotary Blood Drive**
- 10/4 **Dr. Barry Leonard**, Optometrist
- 10/10, Wed., **Bingo**, 6:30 p.m. Union Hall
- 10/27, Sat. **District 5280 Foundation Dinner**
- 11/1 **DG Lew Bertrand, Governor's visit**
- 1/9, Wed. **Bingo**, 6:30 p.m. Union Hall
- 4/10, Wed. **Bingo**, 6:30 p.m. Union Hall

Club Payments

Razi announced he will be able to take credit card payments at meetings starting next week.

Bingo

Rich reported the bingo committee decided at their meeting this past Monday to shake things up a bit for our October 10 event. They are also looking at increasing the advertising, particularly adding a large ad in the weekly bingo newsletter. Rich also presented Javier with checks

totaling over \$360 for the union local's share of our bingo and concession profits at the July 11 games.



Javier Nunez and Rich Miller

Membership

Rich is also our Membership Director. He attended Sunday's district membership meeting, at which Mel Powell, our Zone Membership Chair, gave some interesting new ideas on bringing in new members. Mel will be our speaker September 27, at which point he'll share those and other ways to encourage more young people to join.

Other Reminders

Contact Beth or Robin if you need help correcting our on-line club **roster** or uploading a new photo.

Rich has the club's supply of business card sized **"What's Rotary" handouts** and **lunch invitations** to our meetings. Please see him if you'd like more to pass out to potential members.

We need a **new club logo**, both for our bulletin and our new flag. If you have a great idea of what that should look like, please bring a sketch to a meeting or give it to a board member. There may even be a prize in it for you.

Speaker: Ken Craft, Hope of the Valley Mission (*with some information from their website*)

Robin introduced our speaker, Ken Craft, who founded of Hope of the Valley Mission (previously the valley Rescue Mission) three years ago next month. In that time the Mission has served over 70,000 hot nutritious meals, distributed over 35,000 articles of clothing, provided over 10,000 hygiene kits, 850 showers and numerous referrals for shelter, as well as completing and opening their 22,000 square foot facility in Sun Valley. They provide more than 50 showers a day to those living on the streets, and serve 1,100 meals a week.

After serving six years as Director of another local rescue mission, Ken Craft, along with the advisory board that served with him, felt it was time to start a Rescue Mission that would be headquartered in the San Fernando Valley and led by the people that live and work here. Each night LA has nearly 73,000 homeless people and only 17,000 shelter beds available, leaving 56,000 homeless

people in LA County with no place to sleep tonight. One out of every 9 homeless persons in the US (about 660,000 nationally) lives in LA County. As Ken told us, most people think of this as a skid row problem, and there are 10,000 people concentrated into that area. But at least 7,000 live in the Valley, spread out among the various communities, where, on average, there are only 850 shelter beds available, including those at the Mission.

The fastest growing homeless group is women and children – 41% of all who are homeless are families, and most of those are headed by women. While there are alcoholics and addicts among the homeless, most are in that situation because of an unexpected change in their life. The top three causes of homelessness in Los Angeles are loss of a job, abandonment of the family by a significant other, and a health care crisis, any of which can lead to a loss of sufficient income to pay for food, housing and medicine. One third of the Valley residents live below the national poverty line.

The suicide rate among the homeless is very high. Ken told us of a 60 year-old man he spoke with just yesterday who was in despair because he didn't have the \$15 he needed for his essential medication. He had tried his pastor and his family with no luck, and was hopeless enough he was contemplating suicide. Ken gave it to him, helping for now, but there needs to be an on-going level of support for people like him.

Ken observed that people don't care how much you know until they know how much you care. The first step in helping someone is to give them a good hot meal. Each week, Hope of the Valley Rescue Mission provides between 700 and 800 hot nutritious meals to the homeless living on the streets in the Valley. The Mission also provides between 175 and 250 hot showers each week to the same population. A hot shower and hot meal often are the first step to a changed life.

The Mission focuses on "the 5 H's": Hope, Hot Meals, Housing, Health Services and Healing. With the support of the community, they offer:

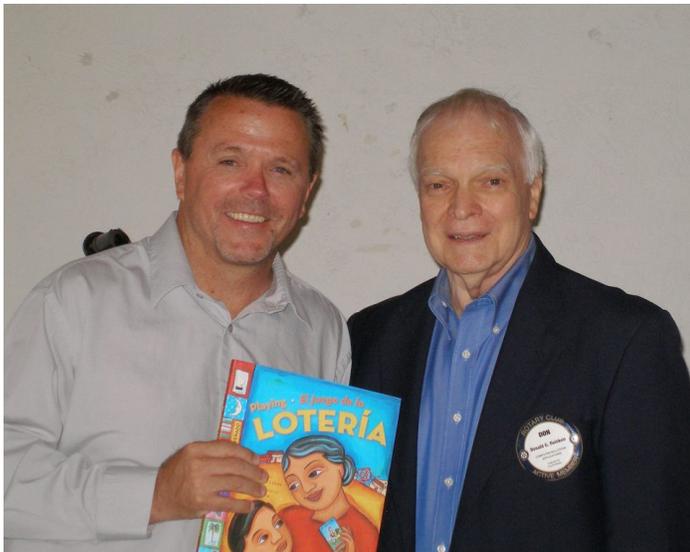
- Daily hot meals
- Mobile hot showers
- Community food box distribution
- Emergency shelter for families
- Men's in-patient drug and alcohol recovery program
- Emergency shelter for men and women
- Transitional shelter for families
- Transitional shelter for men and women
- In house and mobile medical and dental facilities
- Homeless drop in center for mail, showers, computer learning, case management etc.
- Mentoring and tutoring programs for homeless children
- Job training courses
- Life skills classes, e.g., money management, parenting classes, etc.

A very generous donation of \$25,000 from a couple who were touched by Ken's presentation at a church allowed him to buy a canopy, which now covers the inner courtyard of the Mission. It allows 50 people to sleep there every night, regardless of the weather. Retelling the story of the little boy saving starfish stranded on the beach, Ken said he wishes he could help everyone, but he feels good knowing he makes a difference to each one he can help.

Currently they are renovating a 12 bedroom, 6 bath house in Pacoima that will house 10 mothers and 20 children. It is a partial donation on which they had to get a mortgage for half the property's value, but well worth that investment, plus some remodeling. They are putting in new doors and windows and hope to have it open soon. It is very much needed in that area, since Women's Care Cottage closed in 2009 for lack of funding.

The fourth "H", Health Services, they tackle in several ways. A recent partnership with Santa Maria's Children and Family Center allows the Mission to provide, free of charge, a wide array of medical services to the homeless. The clinic sets up at the Mission and provides prenatal care, consultations, blood work and lab tests, vaccinations, physicals and more.

Healing has to come from the inside out, so they also offer therapy and addiction rehabilitation – whatever a person needs to recover. To help them continue, and to provide hope, they offer classes to the adults on job skills, parenting, etc., and tutor children on school work. There are many other ways they help individuals and families get back on track. July 18 they gave away 2,500 new backpacks to homeless and underserved children throughout the Valley as part of a special day for them. (The children were also treated to a professional soccer game and given a healthy meal.)



Ken Craft and Don Reinken

Homelessness is a community problem. "When you help your community, you help yourself!" There are many ways to join the rescue effort:

- Give a financial gift
- Donate your time (tutoring, cooking, donation pick-ups, cleaning, serving, office assistance, etc.)
- Donate food
- Donate your clothes and household items for sale in the Thrift Store (if an organization fills one of the Mission trucks with donations for the Thrift Store, the Mission will give it \$1,000)
- Donate a vehicle
- Conduct a drive for food, clothing, hygiene items, etc.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Laurie Urcuyo, laurie@hopeofthevalley.org, for anything to do with food, and Jonathan Leeper for anything else; jonathan.leeper@hopeofthevalley.org. They can both be reached at 818-392-0020, as can Ken., whose email is ken.craft@hopeofthevalley.org.

Happy Bucks

Thank you to everyone who contributed to Happy Bucks today, including Beth, who was celebrating her 42nd wedding anniversary today.

Priscilla Pig for PolioPlus

Thank you to everyone who contributed to Priscilla today. Remember, we will be drawing a member's name periodically and that person will receive Foundation credit toward a Paul Harris Fellow for the amount collected.

Opportunity Drawing

Congratulations to Mauricio, who won half of this week's \$90 pot.

Correction

Lawrence Pleet received his Ph.D. from Oregon State University, not Verne State as reported in the July 19 bulletin. My apologies for the error.

Notable Quotables:

"A decent provision for the poor is the true test of civilization." Samuel Johnson, lexicographer (1709-1784)

"To remain neutral in situations of injustice is to be complicit in that injustice." Dr. Desmond Tutu

"Let me never fall into the vulgar mistake of dreaming that I am persecuted whenever I am contradicted." Ralph Waldo Emerson, writer and philosopher (1803-1882)

Member Profile
Robin Kellogg

Rotarian since Jan. 15, 2007
 Past President 2009 – 2010
 Past and current District PR Chair
 Married to Ken (an aeronautic engineer at Boeing)
 Son Max is now 21
 Professional Copy Writer
 NVRCC and GSFVCC member
 Loves to laugh

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.rotaryclubgreatersfv.org>

Northridge/Chatsworth, Tuesdays at 12:00 p.m.
The Olive Garden
19724 Nordhoff Pl.
Chatsworth, CA 91311

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

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

Woodland Hills, Wednesdays at noon
Woodland Hills Country Club
21150 Dumetz Rd.
Woodland Hills

Beth Ullman
17426 Napa St.
Northridge, CA 91325

2012-2013 Club Officers:

Co-Presidents:

Martha Stulman H 818-708-8947
Jim Tenner H 818-241-9435

Immediate Past Presidents

Barbara Pampalone H 818-882-2395
Don Reinken H 818-368-3341
Razi Sheikh C 818-621-4841

Director, Administration:

PDG Emilio Basile H 818-886-4142

Secretary: Robin Kellogg

H 818-993-5378

Treasurer: Razi Sheikh

C 818-621-4841

Director, Membership:

Rich Miller W 818-994-8234

Director, Projects:

Mauricio Aranda W 818-634-4043

Director, Foundation:

PDG Les Grossman H 818-757-0157

President Van Nuys Rotary Foundation:

Donald Fetherolf H 818-986-146

Director, Public Relations

Raul Castillo C 818-636-9125

Bulletin Editor *pro tem*:

Beth Ullman H 818-701-6889

Community Co-chair:

Marie Valencia H 818-929-7118

Int'l Co-chair:

Zoraida Suarez W 818-788-883

New Generations Co-chairs:

Rosielee Jones W 818-782-0022

Mauricio Aranda W 818-634-4043

Vocational Chair:

Programs Chair:

Mauricio Aranda W 818-634-4043

Sgt. at Arms: