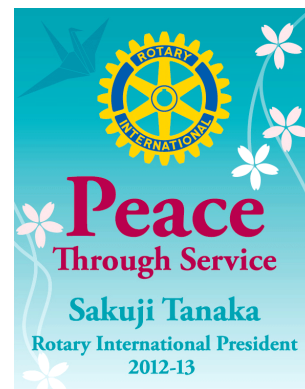


Rotary Club of Greater Van Nuys

www.greatervannuysrotary.org

Service Above Self

Meeting at 94th Aero Squadron
Thursdays, 12:10 p.m.
16320 Raymer St., Van Nuys, CA 91406



February 7, 2013

Flag Salute: James Tenner

Invocation: James Tenner

Attending Members: Alice Gauna, Barbara Pampalone, Dave Friedman, Don Fetherolf, Don Reinken, Elaine Bern, Guy Mangia, Jean Mabilon, James Tenner, Judy Coates, PDG Les Grossman, Marie Valencia, Mauricio Aranda, Mike Quiroga, Patrick Fahey, Steve Bertolino, Renée D'Auria, Pete Satuloff, Rich Miller, Robin Kellogg, Ron Wolf, Roz Kogler, Tom Harris, Wynne Ritch, Zoraida Suarez; Beth Ullman

Guests and Visiting Rotarians: Lynne Harris; Jan Goforth; Jeff Hayne of Springer & Daly (guest of the club); Solange Darbouze, a friend of Barbara's, and Monique Garrity, another friend of Barbara's and our speaker

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Member Updates

PDG Emilio Basile is due home from the hospital by tonight, according to Steve. We look forward to seeing you again soon, Emilio!

New Members

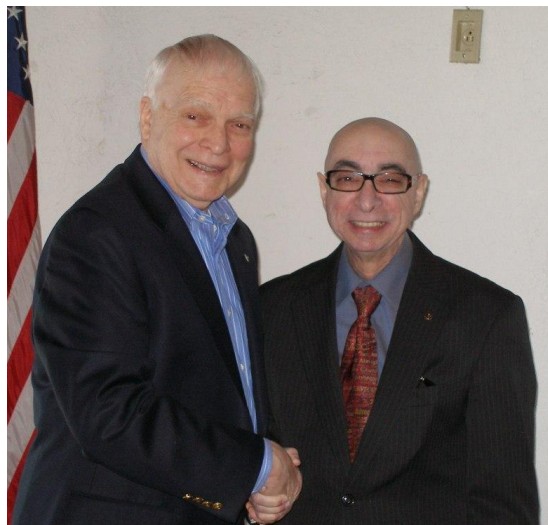
PDG Les Grossman had the privilege of inducting our two newest members, Dave Friedman and Steve Bertolino, with the assistance of their respective sponsors, Rich Miller and Don Reinken. Les advised them that their new Rotary pins are their passports to a world of service, fellowship – and love. So they should never take them off, not even for bed!



Dave Friedman and sponsor Rich Miller

Calendar

- 2/21 **Pete Satuloff, Cuba**
Recognition: New Horizons
- 2/27, Wed. **Bingo**, 6:30 p.m. at Union Hall, 14800 Devonshire St. (SW corner at Woodman)
- 2/28 **Dan Donlian, Braille Institute**
Recognition: Tierra Del Sol
- 3/7 **TBA**
- 3/14 **TBA**
- 4/13, Sat., **Van Nuys Track Meet**, Birmingham H.S.
- 5/2 – 5/5, Thurs. – Sun. **District Conference**, Fess Parker's Doubletree Resort, Santa Barbara



Sponsor Don Reinken and Steve Bertolino

Demotion Party

Sorry – I reported too quickly last week that this year's demotion party would be at Marie Valencia's home. While she has graciously offered her place for this year's party, Rich reported there are other options, such as restaurants, that are also being explored. If you'd like to help pick a place and/or plan this event, please see Rich to join the committee.

Fundraiser

PDG Les asked for a consensus of having the reverse raffle fundraiser June 1. As he and Zoraida explained, it is a lot of work to sell the tickets, but the NSFV club had

been very successful with these, raising \$25,000, and explained how it works. Wynne offered that his Kiwanis club did the same thing, but made the prize just \$5,000 (vs. \$10,000) and allowed people to buy part of a \$100 ticket, which made the price point an easier entry. They raised \$40,000 the last time they did this. The club enthusiastically voted to go ahead with this event, with big thanks to Wynne for his donation of a big screen TV to use as a prize.

Bingo

Have you gotten and started selling your tickets for our next Bingo game yet? It's coming up soon – February 27. Rich and Marco have tickets for you, just \$20 each, which includes a number of games. Bring your friends!

Pacoima Middle School

PDG Les noted that Pacoima Middle School's Performing Arts Magnet is having a fundraiser of their own, offering a T-shirt and two tickets to one of their performances for \$50. This will be presented to the board for a possible contribution, but if you'd like to attend or help on your own, please contact Les.

Happy Valentine's Day Fundraiser

Since today was Valentine's Day and, as she put it, "you are all sweethearts", Beth offered everyone their choice of heart-themed jewelry (in a heart shaped box, no less) for a \$10 or more contribution to the club, the club foundation or The Rotary Foundation, raising \$160 when almost every piece sold.

SPEAKER: Monique Garrity, Education in Haiti

It was a stroke of good luck that we were able to have Dr. Monique Garrity as our speaker today during her brief time in Los Angeles. In her capacity as a representative for the World Bank, overseeing development loans, she travels constantly. But she was already familiar with Rotary, having spoken to one for the first time in 1989, and knowing of the many clean water and education projects Rotary has done in Haiti, the country of her birth.

Monique told us about her big family and how her grandmother emphasized education – rare for the time, when 9th grade was the usual maximum level for even those girls lucky enough to get any schooling. She was lucky enough to escape with most of her family to the U.S. in 1959 when Duvalier came to power (the rest went to other countries), and continue her education. She eventually earned her Ph.D. in economics, which allowed her to do research in Africa, then be a university professor, until she joined the World Bank about 20 years ago. That job has taken her to the Republic of Congo (previously Zaire); China; Papua, New Guinea; Senegal, Fiji and finally, after many years of not being able to enter in spite of having become a U.S. citizen, Haiti.

Haiti was filled with only strangers when she returned because all her family and everyone they knew had left. (Fully 85% of those with a college degree left, leaving the country with limited intellectual resources.) But she visited her home town, in an agricultural valley in the center of the island, to see how it had changed. She found a school and an orphanage for girls run by nuns with a surprising

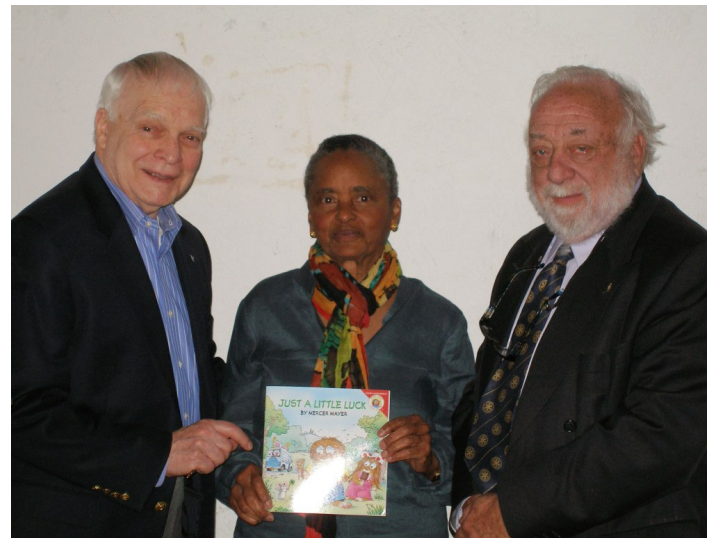
tie – in its building was a photo of her grandmother. She learned her grandmother had donated the land!

The connection made the organization even more perfect – Monique had been looking for an organization "on the ground" to help, rather than setting up a new, outsider, group. At the time they had 35 girls in the orphanage and 125 students (boys and girls) in the school, which covered only the first 4 years of education.

Only 20% of school-age children are in school, and most start very late. An 18 year-old in 7th grade or earlier is common. Most parents are illiterate and unable to help or read about their options. Teachers' pay is at the poverty level, so it's also hard to get enough teachers even for the few students who attend.

Monique helped set up Partners for Haitian Children to help in 2009, when it grew to 300 students. The board of the organization focuses on the school at the site, rather than including the orphanage. Since then, their support plus two grants and internet fundraising have helped it grow to 700 students, they've increased teachers' wages a bit and gotten textbooks for 500 students. Textbooks are so rare that the students really treasure their new possessions, showing them off with great pride.

Classes are very crowded – 60 to a teacher and room – but they are making progress in this area, as well. Soon they hope to add a library and job assistance. The nuns often keep a child there after they're 18 because there are so few jobs available and so little support – hunger is a serious problem. But the kids are always cheerful, and eager to learn.



*Don Reinken, Monique Garrity and James Tenner
with a book for Casa Esperanza*

Since the devastating earthquake there has been limited relief: some new building is in place and some areas are getting cleaned up, but the capital still looks like a war zone. A new state-of-the-art hospital is now open, but there are now 2 million people where there were 150,000 in 1959, with almost no improvement in the infrastructure. As a result, the World Bank, and Monique, are focusing on self-sustaining development. To reach her, please contact Barbara Pampalone.

REMINDERS:

Membership Subcommittee

Marc's Membership Retention subcommittee has two openings and he's looking for volunteers to help call absentees. If you'd like one of these coveted spots, send Marc an email to marctap@aol.com or give him a call at 818-425-6667.

Congratulations!

On Friday, February 15, three of our members were inducted to the board of the North Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce. Robin Kellogg is the incoming Secretary, and Carlos Menjivar and Dave Friedman are Members at Large.



Mitch Englander inducts the NVCC (Carlos is directly in front of Mitch, who has the mike, and Robin is in back on the right, above. Below, Dave is on the right in the back)



No Happy Bucks or PolioPlus this week

Opportunity Drawing

Congratulations to Judy Coates, who won half the \$90 pot.

Notable Quotables

"Every advance in civilization has been denounced as unnatural while it was recent." Bertrand Russell, philosopher, mathematician, author, Nobel prize in literature (1872-1970)

"It is a truism that almost any sect, cult, or religion will legislate its creed into law if it acquires the political power to do so." Robert A. Heinlein, science-fiction author (1907-1988)

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

President-Elect: Rich Miller

W 818-994-8234

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

Director, Public Relations

Raul Castillo C 818-636-9125

President Van Nuys Rotary Foundation:

Donald Fetherolf H 818-986-1460

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 818-788-8838

New Generations Co-chairs:

Rosielee Jones W 818-782-0022

Mauricio Aranda W 818-634-4043

Programs Chair: Mauricio Aranda

W 818-634-4043

Vocational Chair: *Open*

Sgt. at Arms: *Open*

Meeting Information for Nearby Clubs

Calabasas, Tuesdays, 12:15 p.m.
Wolf Creek Restaurant
26787 Agoura Rd.
Calabasas, CA 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, 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 – now closed, new location not yet known
Woodland Hills, CA 91367

Woodland Hills, Wednesdays at noon
Woodland Hills Country Club
21150 Dumetz Rd.
Woodland Hills, CA 91364

Beth Ullman
17426 Napa St.
Northridge, CA 91325