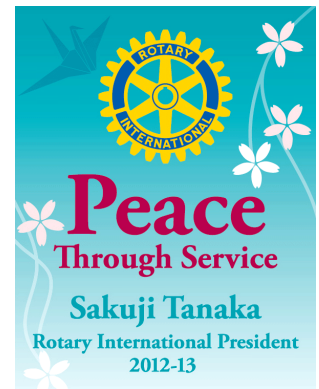


Rotary Club of Greater Van Nuys

www.greatervannuysrotary.org

Service Above Self

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



January 3, 2013

Flag Salute: James Tenner

Invocation: James Tenner

Attending Members: Alice Gauna, Don Reinken, Elaine Bern, PDG Eli Gauna, James Tenner, Judy Coates, Marco Padilla, Mauricio Aranda, Pete Satuloff, Richard Miller, Raul Castillo, Robin Kellogg, Tom Harris, Wayne Slappy; Beth Ullman

Guests and Visiting Rotarians: Wynne Ritch, formerly of the Granada Hills club, and Marco's cousin Alex Lopez

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Member Update

PDG Emilio Basile was in the hospital but came home again January 4. Glad you're okay, Emilio!

Thank You

Renée D'Auria sent a lovely thank you note to all of us for our get well card and good wishes. She is dealing with a recurrence of cancer and undergoing both chemotherapy and radiation treatments. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers.

Restaurant Change

As of January 1, the Aero Squadron has raised its prices along with the sales tax increase, resulting in our base price for lunch rising to \$20 before club expenses for guests. Don Reinken noted that so far no acceptable alternative location has been found, but asked that any one with a suggestion bring it to him or PDG Emilio, or attend the upcoming board meeting January 9.

It's Bingo Time!

Rich reminded us that our club will hold its next Bingo game on January 16. Do you have your 10 tickets to sell? If you need tickets, please contact Rich at 818-994-8234. Also, there will be a planning meeting at Rich's office (see calendar) on Monday, January 7. Bring your family, friends and neighbors for a night of Bingo fun!

Junior National League Conference

Marco spoke for his young cousin, who was suffering from a bad sore throat, about his nomination to attend the annual Junior National League Conference in Washington,

Calendar

- 1/10 TBA
- 1/14, Mon., 5:45 p.m. **Bingo Meeting**, 7120 Hayvenhurst Ave., #108, Van Nuys
- 6:15 p.m., **Track Committee Meeting**, 7120 Hayvenhurst Ave., #108, Van Nuys
- 1/17 **Jonas Corona**, Love in the Mirror
- 1/24 **DGE Jim Dyer**, ShelterBox
- 1/31 **Jewel Price and Alan Andriassain**, GSE Team Japan
- 1/16, Wed. **Bingo**, 6:30 p.m. at Union Hall, 14800 Devonshire St. on the SW corner of Woodman
- 2/8, Fri., **MAPS Charities Community Service Awards** luncheon honoring Paul Davis and Alberta Bellasario, Sherman Oaks Marriott doors open 11:00 a.m.



Marco Padilla and Alex Lopez

D.C. Alex is one of just three students nominated from Van Nuys Middle School, which has a magnet program. He has maintained a 3.83 g.p.a., earned a second year black belt, and is interested in studying architecture and engineering. This Conference is designed to teach life and leadership lessons in addition to history. The students will be visiting the sights of D.C. and hearing from political

leaders. The luminaries who have spoken in the past include Gen. Colin Powell and V.P. Al Gore.

What Alex needs is sponsorship. The week-long conference costs \$1195, plus airfare, housing and meals. With two sisters in his family and his dad disabled by a driver high on drugs, the family can't afford this opportunity on their own. A total of \$3,000 is needed, and at least the conference fee must be submitted by April 4.

Thank You!

Wynne Ritch is giving a 32-inch SEIKI flat screen TV to the NSFV youth Foundation. One suggestion was to have this be a Bingo prize; or we could make this one of the prizes in the reverse raffle we are planning.

Happy Holidays!

Making things a bit merrier for the residents and community members of Hope of the Valley Mission at their December 22 toy giveaway and fair were several members of our club: Robin Kellogg, whose synagogue set up a reindeer candy cane making booth; Elaine Bern; Martha Stulman and Beth Ullman.



One of our first "customers" and her mom



One slice of the whole event in full swing

SPEAKER: Wynne Ritch, Norman Rockwell and more

Soon-to-be-member Wynne gave us a wonderful talk on Norman Rockwell (February 3, 1894 – November 8, 1978), with some very interesting comparisons to Grant Wood. The first of several pictures Wynne showed was American Gothic, a painting that is universally recognized and often spoofed because everyone knows the original. But few people (Elaine and a few others in the group being notable exceptions) know the artist: Grant Wood. Wynne showed another of Wood's pieces, a charcoal called Shriners' Quartet, which is much less known. Had Wood lived longer (he died at 44), he might have eventually achieved the fame and public appreciation that Rockwell enjoyed.

Rockwell never graduated from high school – he knew by the time he was 14 that he wanted to be an artist, and began taking classes at The New School of Art. At 16 he was so intent on pursuing his passion that he dropped out of high school and enrolled at the National Academy of Design. He later transferred to the Art Students League of New York. Still a kid, at just 17 Rockwell got his first job, as an illustrator for Boys' Life (Boy Scouts of America) magazine.

Not too many years later Rockwell's talents were hired away by The Saturday Evening Post. They offered him a 50% salary increase over what Boys' Life was paying: \$75 vs. \$50. But he promised and did give a painting every year to the Boy Scouts.

Although he joined the Navy in WWI, Rockwell never saw action – they kept him busy painting and drawing posters and other materials.

In 1916 Rockwell married his first wife and painted his first cover for *The Saturday Evening Post*. It was the beginning of a 47-year relationship with the magazine. He painted a total of 321 covers for the Post. Wynne showed us his signed lithograph of one of those covers, Doctor and the Doll. It was painted while he was in retreat at the artists' colony that used to exist in Alhambra. The "doctor" was a homeless man brought into the retreat and cleaned up for the sitting. The little girl was a local child to whom the original painting was given after the *Post* made their copies. (She recently died, at the age of 94.) If the family decides to sell, the painting would be one of very few that come on the market and could fetch quite a tidy sum – in 2006 Sotheby's sold one for \$15.4 million.

Other Rockwell works Wynne shared with us included an ad for Massachusetts Mutual, a piece done as a side job while he was at the *Post*, and a collotype (a photogelatin process) of scouts in their tents done for the Boy Scouts. Wynne pointed out the "cheat" in the painting – the boys are partially out of their tents though they appear to be sleeping, so that their faces could be shown.

Rockwell's first marriage ended in divorce in 1930, and in 1931 he married Mary Barstow, a schoolteacher, with whom he had three sons. His first child led him to "discover" the camera – babies just won't hold still for a painting! And soon he was using it to capture images he then went on to paint.

In 1943 the government asked Rockwell to create a series of pictures to promote war bonds. The result was the group of four Freedoms: of Worship, from Fear, of Speech and from Want. Wynne just last year finally got a

copy of the last one. They were sold to the *Post*, which folded and inserted them into their magazines. They were very popular at the time and remain so – finding a copy is difficult. A full set is worth at least \$14,000.

Soon after the paintings were sent to the *Post*, Rockwell's studio burned down – with over 100 original paintings, 300 original sketches and charcoals and most of his props. Asked what he would do now, Rockwell replied "Fireproof the next studio." Which he did, at great expense. Later works included pictures for the calendar company Brown & Bigelow, and more of the 4000 total paintings and charcoals Rockwell created in his lifetime.

In 1953 the Rockwells moved to Stockbridge, Massachusetts, where Norman would spend the rest of his life and where the Rockwell Museum is located, started with his donation of 80 works. Following Mary's death in 1959, Rockwell married a third time, to Molly Punderson, a retired teacher. With Molly's encouragement, Rockwell ended his relationship with the *Post* and began doing covers for *Look*. His focus also changed, as he turned more of his attention to the social issues facing the country. Much of his work centered on the themes of poverty, race and the Vietnam War. In 1977 Rockwell was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Jimmy Carter.

Besides owning over 200 Rockwell works – all lithographs or collotypes and 99% signed, Wynne is a Past President (1997-98) of the Half Moon Bay Rotary club, Past Lt. Governor (2009-10) of the Kiwanis, Past President of the Granada Hills Chamber of Commerce, and a former Marine, who spent 4½ years in Vietnam during the war. He's been married to Rosemary for 25 years and has two children and four grandchildren. Turns out he's known PDG Emilio since 1973 – Wynne's boss at the time was in the same Rotary club as Emilio! Wynne can be reached at 818-360-6045, or by email to warhmb@aol.com.



Wynne Ritch showing two Rockwell works (with Robin Kellogg in front)



Don Reinken (L) and Jim Tenner (R) present a book for Casa Esperanza to Wynne Ritch.

REMINDERS

New Badges

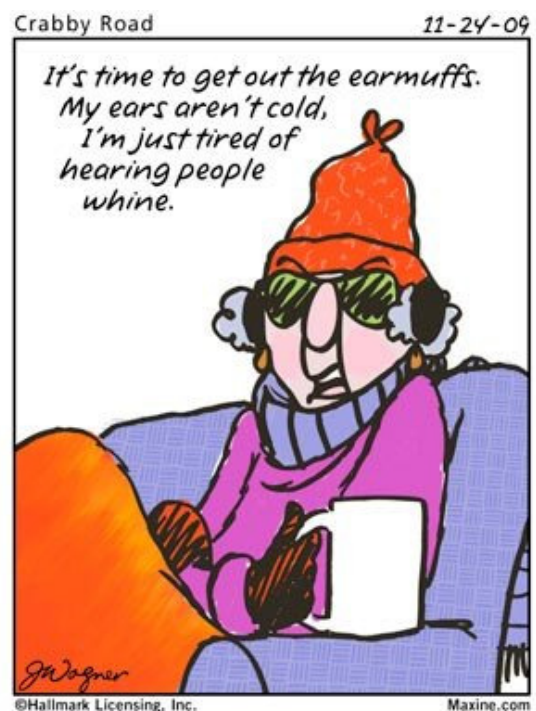
New club badges will be ordered January 15, but PDG Emilio still needs classifications for some of you. Please go to www.greatervannuysrotary.org, our website, and verify that your classification is shown and is correct. If it is not, you can correct it online or email Emilio (emilio@embasile.com) or Robin (robinlk@earthlink.net) and they will make the correction for you.

Committee Positions Need You!

We still have open positions for 2013-14: New Generations Chair; Club Service Chair and Bulletin Editor. Please contact Mauricio or Emilio if you are interested in taking one of these.

Opportunity Drawing

Congratulations to Raul Castillo, who won half the \$55 pot.



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, <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
21844 Victory Blvd.
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

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
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Secretary: Robin Kellogg

H 818-993-5378

Treasurer: Razi Sheikh

C 818-621-4841

Director, Membership:

Rich Miller	W 818-994-8234
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Director, Projects:

Mauricio Aranda	W 818-634-4043
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Director, Foundation:

PDG Les Grossman	H 818-757-0157
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Director, Public Relations

Raul Castillo	C 818-636-9125
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President Van Nuys Rotary Foundation:

Donald Fetherolf	H 818-986-1460
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Bulletin Editor *pro tem*:

Beth Ullman	H 818-701-6889
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Community Co-chair:

Marie Valencia	H 818-929-7118
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Int'l Co-chair: Zoraida Suarez

W 818-788-8838

New Generations Co-chairs:

Rosielee Jones	W 818-782-0022
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Mauricio Aranda	W 818-634-4043
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Programs Chair: Mauricio Aranda

W 818-634-4043

Vocational Chair: *Open*

Sgt. at Arms: *Open*