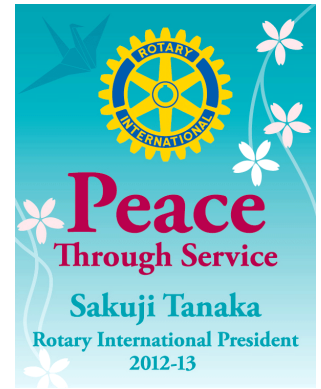


Rotary Club of Greater Van Nuys

www.greatervannuysrotary.org

Service Above Self

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



May 23, 2013

Flag Salute: James Tenner

Invocation: PDG Eli Gauna

Attending Active and Honorary Members: Barbara Pampalona, Don Fetherolf, Judy Coates, Renée D'Auria, James Tenner, Ron Wolf, Mauricio Aranda, Alice Gauna, PDG Les Grossman, Zoraida Suarez, Marc Tapper, Elaine Bern, Wynne Ritch, Rich Miller, Robert Ramirez, Wayne Slappy, Frank Santucci, Dave Friedman, Roz Kogler, Don Reinken, Guy Mangia, Javier Nunez, Renée D'Auria, Mike Quiroga, PDG Emilio Basile, Pete Satuloff, Jean Mabilon, Tom Harris; Beth Ullman

Guests: Paul Korb; Tierra del Sol honorees Jessica Guevara and Akin Ogunleye, with staff Diosy Vargas and Claudia Vargas; Jessica's mom, Teresa Callejas; Virginia and Darryl Clark, Akin's aunt and uncle; Allison Ogunleye, his mom; Amy Mesagaes, his social worker; and Beatriz Ventura, his support mom; Maria Korling, who works with Roz, and Nora MacLellan, our speaker, who is also a member of the Westchester Rotary club

ANNOUNCEMENTS

June 1 Fundraiser

There are just a few days left to sell tickets for our reverse raffle fundraiser – PDG Les Grossman needs the money and buyers' names by May 29th so there is time to compile the list before the event. Les, Pete and Zoraida reminded us of the importance of this fundraiser, and our commitment as members to sell 250 tickets.

Zoraida announced receipt of a \$2500 check from the labor union for 25 tickets, and told us of meeting a student recently who thanked her for his scholarship – because of our past fundraisers he had gone to UC Berkeley on one of our scholarships, something he couldn't have done otherwise. She also said she sold two tickets to one or her won doctors, who was delighted, and said without *his* scholarships he would never have been able to go to medical school. Make this a success! Please get your tickets sold and the information needed to Les ASAP.

Boys and Girls Club Fundraiser

Marc announced a Club Cuba casino type fundraiser to be held by the West Valley Boys and Girls Club Friday, June 29. This is a great opportunity to support one of our regular organizations and children at risk in the Valley while having fun! More information to follow.

Calendar

5/30 **Marc Tapper**, craft talk
6/1, Sat. **Reverse Raffle Fundraiser**, 6-10 p.m., Union Hall, 14800 Devonshire St.
6/6 **Dr. Barry Leonard**, eye clinic update
6/13 **Open**
6/20 **Kelly Mathews**
6/27 **Open**
7/13, Sat. **Demotion Party**

Recognition: Tierra Del Sol

Mauricio introduced our Tierra del Sol staff, Diosy Vargas and Claudia Vargas, who introduced our honorees, Jessica Guevara and Akin Ogunleye. These two young people have made tremendous strides since starting at Tierra del Sol, in their education, ability to work with others and in their skills. They also volunteer many places, giving back some of the care given to them.



L-R Diosy Vargas, Jessica Guevara, Claudia Vargas, Akin Ogunleye and Mauricio Aranda

SPEAKER: Nora MacLellan, Vision to Learn

An active member of the Westchester Rotary club, one of Nora MacLellan's many jobs is being the volunteer director of Vision To Learn, a 501(c) (3) not-for-profit public charity created by the Beutner Family Foundation. They provide free eye exams glasses to elementary

school students in low-income communities throughout California. The glasses help kids do better in school, which provides them with a foundation for a better life. As Nora laid out in her PowerPoint presentation:

- 80% of all learning during the first 12 years of a child's life is dependent on vision.
- 60% of "problem learners" have undetected vision problems.
- 90% of children's vision problems are correctable with eyeglasses.
- 50,000 to 60,000 K-5 students in Los Angeles need glasses to see the chalkboard or read a book.

With now two mobile clinics, staffed by professional optometrists and volunteers, Vision to Learn spends up to an entire day at a school, and visits schools five days a week. Before that visit, students receive basic vision screening from the school nurse or volunteers, the school gets signed consent forms from parents allowing VTL to treat the children, and those who need extra testing are referred to VTL. After their exam by VTL clinicians, the students select and get fitted for frames. Their prescription glasses are then dispensed at the school two weeks later.

The whole program is just over a year old, being launched March 27, 2012 at Langdon Elementary School, a campus of LAUSD. The Archdiocese of Los Angeles school program launched May 15 of last year, at St. Malachy Elementary School. But just because they're focused on schools doesn't mean they get the summer off. Last year's summer calendar included LAUSD's "Beyond the Bell" program and "A Place Called Home". They're also developing programs with Boys and Girls Clubs and the YMCA, with a full calendar of LAUSD and parochial schools scheduled through June 2013.

To date Vision To Learn has examined 8,502 kids and provided 6,471 glasses.



President Jim Tenner and Nora MacLellan

This program has proven so successful and is so important, the District has made it an official project. Among other goals is to provide a new vehicle, which will have our District 5280 logo. There are plans to train more volunteers to help screen children and provide basic help on-site, enter data, offer translation assistance, update the website and sponsor schools. In addition to all that, funds

are needed – it costs just \$20 to provide a pair of glasses, but with eye exams and transportation, the cost per child is actually \$100. (Having just gone to my optometrist today, that's quite a bargain – less than my insurance co-pay for one pair of glasses reusing old frames!)

Other groups besides Rotary are helping. A 5th grade Girl Scout troop is selling lemonade and cookies this Memorial Day to raise funds, and they expect to generate \$4,000. Students at a local high school donated a percentage of every ticket sold to their winter dance to the group, and other charities, like the Y, are giving support. If you or a school you know would like to do an event, VTL will bring their mobile clinic, board members and glasses for a donation at a given level. They also encourage spelling and geography bees or other events to raise both awareness and funds. For more information, visit www.visiontolearn.org or call 424-256-5356.

REMINDERS:

Bulletin Editor Needed

Starting July 1. If you are interested in the job, or helping with it, please let Rich know. You can create your own format, use the existing one, or borrow one from another club. This is your chance to be creative and provide some great club service!

PolioPlus: Thank you to everyone who contributed to our new PolioPlus collection box today.

Opportunity Drawing

Congratulations to Don Fetherolf, who won half the \$95 pot.

Notable Quotables

"The happiest people don't necessarily have the best of everything; they just make the best of everything they have." Anonymous

"Every increased possession loads us with new weariness." John Ruskin, author, art critic, and social reformer (1819-1900)

Remember



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.
Gables 818-347-2437
20920 Ventura Blvd.
Woodland Hills, CA 91367

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

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 C 818-634-4043

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 *Open*

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

*Beth Ullman
17426 Napa St.
Northridge, CA 91325*