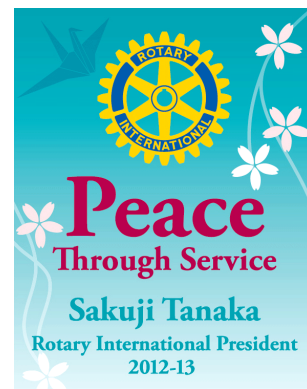


Rotary Club of Greater Van Nuys

www.greatervannuysrotary.org

Service Above Self

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



October 4, 2012

Flag Salute: Pete Satuloff

Invocation: Marie Valencia

Attending Members: Clinton Jones, Don Fetherolf, Don Reinken, Ed Viramontes, Elaine Bern, Guy Mangia, Javier Nunez, James Tenner, Judy Coates, PDG Les Grossman, Marie Valencia, Martha Stulman, Mauricio Aranda, Mike Quiroga, Pete Satuloff, Razi Sheikh, Renée D'Auria, Rich Miller, Robin Kellogg, Ron Wolf, Rosielee Jones, Roz Kogler, Tom Harris, Zoraida Suarez; Beth Ullman

Guests: Maria Flores of New Economics for Women (818-786-4098; mflores@neworg.us), Wayne Slappy (818-949-8829; wtslapp@wradvisors.com), DGN Elsa Gillham, 323-464-8371; Elsa.Gillham@Rotary5280.org), Ashvani (Mario) Sood of D-Zone Insurance Services (818-609-8691; msood@dzoneinsurance.com), Maithili Patil of the North Valley Y, Melody St. John of the Hollywood Rotary club, Anthony Quiroga, Maria Tita, Mindy Kolani, Luann Rollens, Jan Goforth, Birmingham High School Coach Scott King with students Dominique Dowell and Erik Sandoval, and Dr. Barry Leonard, former member of the Van Nuys club and our speaker

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members Update

Patrick is recovering very well, according to Zoraida, and really appreciated our notes on the get well card we signed last week. If you'd like to give him your good wishes "in person", you can reach him at 310-267-7830.

District Events and Opportunities

DGN Elsa Gillham strongly encouraged us to buy raffle tickets for the \$3000 prize at the upcoming October 27 masquerade ball, as well as to attend the event. She also told us about a vocational contest for high school students that will have four winners, one each in speech, dance, art and music. While October is Vocational Services Month, the deadline to apply for these, isn't until February 4, 2013. Interactors are encouraged to apply. For the form and more information, go to the Vocational page on the district website, www.rotary5280.org (under Avenues of Service). On the same page you will find a Vocational Award open to high school graduates ages 18 – 24.

Club Assembly October 25 – bring your ideas!

Calendar

- 10/9, Tues. Valley Community Clinic Roast** of Paul Davis & Alberta Bellisario 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at the Woodland Hills Hilton
- 10/10, Wed., Bingo**, 6:30 p.m., 14800 Devonshire St., (Union Hall), Mission Hills (SW corner of Devonshire and Woodman)
- 10/11 Holly Rasey, New Horizons**
- 10/13 & 14, Sat. & Sun., Annual Arts and Crafts Show**, Studio City/Sherman Oaks Rotary, NE corner of Laurel Canyon and Moorpark 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- 10/18 Assemblymember Bob Blumenfield**
- 10/25 Club Assembly**
- 10/27, Sat. District Foundation Masquerade Ball**, Westin Bonaventure Hotel 404 S. Figueroa St., Los Angeles
- 10/31, Wed. Harvest Festival**, 5:00, Victory Outreach Church in Arleta, 13580 Osborne St.
- 11/1 DG Lew Bertrand, Governor's visit SFV Chapter Association of Fundraising Professionals Awards Luncheon** honoring Mike Quiroga and Rotary Club of GVN
- 11/8 TBA**
- 11/15 Joint Service Club Luncheon**

Bingo October 10

We need a couple more volunteers and lots of players for our next bingo game – Wednesday, October 10. Please let Rich know if you can help out, and get your tickets from him. Checks should be made out to *Rotary Bingo Project* and given to PDG Emilio, who is tracking the tickets and funds. Contact Rich at 818-994-8234 or rtn@richardtmillerlaw.com.

Harvest Festival October 31

PDG Les gave us an update on our Halloween event and again passed around the volunteer sign-up sheet plus maps to the church. Volunteers will be needed to man things such as the corn, dental and Rotary booths; petting zoo; costume judging; slide, etc., starting around 5:00 p.m. to set up. Wear a costume if you have one!

Thanksgiving Baskets

Robin announced that the board had approved our supporting the North Valley Y (formerly YMCA) program to provide Thanksgiving Baskets to the poor. Last year 1500 baskets were delivered; this year Maithili Patil said they hope to make 2000. About 300 of those will go to Casa Esperanza. New Horizons will participate by making up their own baskets and distributing them to families in their programs. The Y needs volunteers November 13 and 14 to assemble and distribute these, in addition to donors so the Y can buy the food. For more information, contact Maithili at 818-489-4762 or maithilipatil@yahoo.com.



North Valley Y Thanksgiving Baskets Chair Maithili Patil

Birmingham Charter High School Awards

Mauricio introduced Birmingham High School Coach Scott King, telling us that the campus is very different than when he was in school there. Today 80% of the students are on the free lunch program and facing major challenges in their home lives which make school work very difficult.



Coach Scott King, Dominique Dowell and Erik Sandoval

Scott agreed, expressing his and the students' appreciation for what our club does, and then telling us about the extraordinary students he selected for us to honor: two runners, Dominique Dowell and Erik Sandoval. Dominique overcame very difficult family circumstances to make it to her senior year, earning a 3.6 g.p.a. while taking honors classes. She is considered one of the top 10 runners in Los Angeles, on her way to doing amazing things with her life. Erik really used to struggled with academics, but last semester he earned a 4.0, bringing his g.p.a. up to 3.1. He volunteers at Valley Presbyterian Hospital, is going to San Francisco to participate in a hospital competition with other volunteers, and is in a cooking club. We are delighted to honor two such outstanding students with certificates and gift certificates.

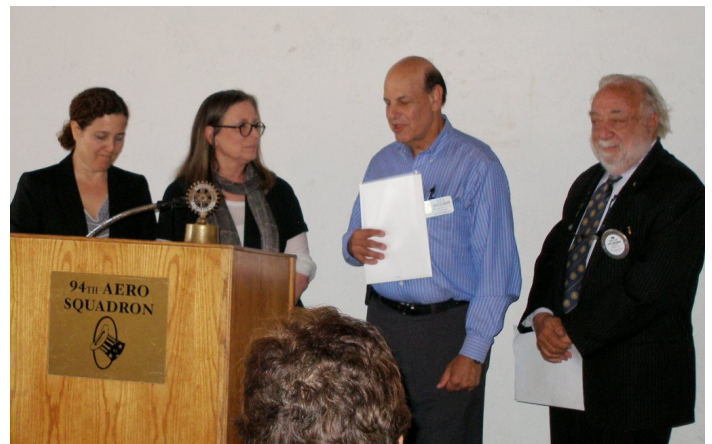
New Member

We were again privileged and delighted to welcome another wonderful new member to our club: Elaine Bern. PDG Les inducted her with help from Robin Kellogg, her sponsor. Les told her a little bit about Rotary projects, including PolioPlus, and some of the many ways Rotary has made a difference in the world. We look forward to having you help us continue those great efforts. Welcome!

Elaine owns EHB Consulting in Canoga Park. She can be reached at 818-704-6804 or elainehbern@aol.com.



Sponsor Robin Kellogg pins Elaine Bern



Robin Kellogg, Elaine Bern, PDG Les Grossman and Co-President James Tenner

Reminders

October 13 & 14 the Studio City/Sherman Oaks club will hold their annual **Arts and Crafts Show** on the NE corner of Laurel Canyon and Moorpark, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Select artisans in a wide variety of fields will be featured – a terrific opportunity to start your holiday shopping! For more information, call Norm at 818-705-1770, or visit www.rotaryartshow.org.

November 1 will be our **official Governor's visit** from District Governor Lew Bertrand. Please make every possible effort to attend! We look forward to hearing what he has to share about 5280, and his vision of where he wants it to go.

Major Honors to be Awarded November 1 Mike Quiroga will be honored as Philanthropist of the Year and our club as the top organization by the San Fernando Valley Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals at a special luncheon on November 1. Unfortunately that conflicts with the Governor's visit, so we cannot all be at both, but we will have one bulletin editor at each to report back.

Donation Collections: Please bring old **eyeglasses**, and unused **greeting cards**, especially holiday cards, to donate to different charities. Beth will be collecting them through December 13.

Hope of the Valley Mission is in need of clean socks, underwear and suitcases for their homeless daily shower guests. Razors and razor blades are also needed. If you can help provide some of these essentials, please contact Jonathan Leeper at 818-392-0020, or by email to jonathan.leeper@hopeofthevalley.org. Items can also be delivered to the First Presbyterian Church in Northridge, 10400 Zelzah Ave. (between Devonshire and Chatsworth). Their phone number is 818-360-1831.

The **October 27 RI Foundation fundraiser** is a masquerade ball, with auctions. Tickets are \$125 each, but the club will contribute \$25/member or \$50/couple to encourage every one to attend. Let Jim know if you are going – we may end up buying a table or two. Jim has the opportunity drawing tickets – you could win \$500, \$1,500 or \$3,000! Those tickets are just \$10.

Joint Service Club Luncheon November 15. Our club will be hosting the annual Thanksgiving Joint Service Club Luncheon this year, so we need volunteers to check people in and be greeters that day. Please be sure to attend this special, once-a-year event!

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: Dr. Barry Leonard, Optometrist

A former member of the Van Nuys Rotary club, Dr. Barry Leonard, has been keeping busy as Board Chair of the Greater SFV Chamber of Commerce, his optometry practice (started by his father, another Rotarian, in 1957), and VOSH: Volunteer Optometry Services to Humanity. According to WHO (World Health Organization), 62% of all vision problems are correctable with the proper eyeglasses. The rest are due to injury, diseases such as diabetes, and congenital conditions.

VOSH was created in 1983 by a group of local doctors

helping under-served populations in Mexico and Central America (Costa Rica and El Salvador). It is now an international organization that has chapters in 45 countries around the world, providing not just glasses but full eye care. On each trip they evaluate and help 1,000 – 2,000 people per week, sometimes with local assistance. In El Salvador they teamed up with a women's group, founded by that country's First Lady, to set up both a permanent clinic and a school of optometry. In a very poor area this provided both medical care and much-needed jobs.

Barry told us about some of his experiences, including in San Quintin, Mexico, which he described as the poorest community he's ever seen anywhere. A farming community, many of our vegetables are grown there. They are very appreciative of the help from American doctors, making a fiesta of their arrival, but so reliant that they waited for the next clinic trip for weeks rather than take a boy with a major splinter in his eye to someone else for emergency treatment.

A trip to Rosarito with the Van Nuys Rotary club, which built the clinic there, were among slides of several trips Barry showed us. The group now has an autorefractor which can quickly analyze a person's vision, allowing the doctors and their assistances to determine who needs help or a more detailed prescription test, and who has no problems. Most people who do need glasses are fine with just "readers", which the group buys in bulk from the 99¢ Store. Seeing people able to read the newspaper after years of frustration, or clear up serious medical vision problems, is very rewarding. Everyone's favorite clinic station is the final glasses fitting, when patients get to see clearly and smiles abound.

Sometimes the work is truly life-changing. Barry described one young boy who showed up with 8 family members at the end of a long, difficult day. He had not spoken in years, if ever, and the family begged the doctors to check him. They found his vision literally off the chart, it was so bad, but were able to fit him with glasses. Barry said they were all astounded by the boy's response – he looked around, smiled, and started to speak!



Martha Stulman, James Tenner and Don Reinken present Dr. Barry Leonard (center) with a book to sign for Tierra del Sol and certificate of thanks for being our speaker

Clinics are set up with the help of in-country groups that put together meals, locations and housing, plus welcoming

parties, for the volunteers. VOSH is moving toward giving patients their choice of frames and making lenses on-site, but still use a lot of donated used glasses. Besides glasses, they have surgeons who can operate to correct some conditions, treat infections (very common), and refer patients to tertiary care for after the clinic. One of the most common problems in sugar cane growing areas is razor-sharp needles getting stuck in eyes, often leading to both physical damage and infections.

After sharing his stories, Barry accepted another large bag of eyeglasses from us. One of our merged clubs has been donating glasses to VOSH through him for several years, a project we hope to continue. To donate, bring you glasses to a meeting to deliver them to 14425 Chase St., Van Nuys. If you have any questions, you can reach Barry at 818-891-6711.

Happy Bucks

Thank you to everyone who contributed to Happy Bucks this week, including Robin for her son being featured as a Toastmasters speaker in the New Horizons newsletter, Rich for our new members, and Elaine for becoming our newest member.

PolioPlus

Thank you to everyone who contributed to Priscilla Pig for PolioPlus this week.

Opportunity Drawing

Congrats to Marie, who won half the \$120 pot.

Notable Quotables

"To blame the poor for subsisting on welfare has no justice unless we are also willing to judge every rich member of society by how productive he or she is. Taken individual by individual, it is likely that there's more idleness and abuse of government favors among the economically privileged than among the ranks of the disadvantaged." Norman Mailer, author (1923-2007)

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
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Secretary: Robin Kellogg

	H 818-993-5378
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Treasurer: Razi Sheikh

	C 818-621-4841
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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
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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
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Vocational Chair: *Open*

Sgt. at Arms: *Open*