



ROTARY CLUB OF OJAI

P.O. Box 511, OJAI, CA 93024
Kay Bliss, Club President 2006-2007

April 28, 2007

Mr. Tony Huff
1922 Norma Street
Oxnard, CA 93036

FAX: 805-485-3169

Dear Tony,

Please accept our packet of awards information for 2006-2007. Rotary Club of Ojai has had a great year, and it is reflected in the supporting documentation. We have qualified for Governor's Citation and Super Club Award, as well as all five Avenues of Service Awards.

I think your committee will be impressed with the consistent effort and dedication of the Rotary Club of Ojai. We have had an especially good year in International Service.

Thank you for all that you do to make District 5240 such a great district.

Yours in Rotary Service,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kay Bliss".

Kay Bliss
President
Rotary Club of Ojai

805-640-8331
kblissojai@sbcglobal.net

ROTARY FOUR-WAY TEST "Of the things we Think, Say or Do"

1. Is it the TRUTH? 2. Is it FAIR to all concerned? 3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS? 4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?



2006-2007 GOVERNOR'S CITATION AND SUPER CLUB AWARDS CERTIFICATION FORM

Rotary Club of Ojai

I, Club President Katherine Bliss, certify that the above named Rotary Club has completed the necessary activities below to qualify for the indicated 2006-2007 District Awards.

GOVERNOR'S CITATION

Requirements Needed: Nine

Requirements Completed: Eleven

#4 Requirement: Retain 90% of those who were members as of July 1, 2006.

Compliance: Yes

95% retained.

#5 Requirement: 80% average attendance.

Compliance: Yes

Year to Date attendance is 85.8%.

#6 Requirement: Five percent of club new PRLS and/or Master PRLS graduates.

Compliance: Yes

Eight percent qualify.

#7 Requirement: The Rotary Foundation average giving per member of \$100.

Compliance: Yes

Rotary Club of Ojai donated \$15,800 to the Annual Program Fund, which averaged \$200 per member. We also donated \$3,835 designated for various matching grants, and an additional \$5,605 to Polio Plus Partners. This averaged over \$132/member in addition to our contribution to the Annual Program Fund, making out total contribution to TRF \$320/member.

#10 Requirement: New Community Service Project.

Compliance: Yes

Childhood Obesity Task Force

RC of Ojai has convened a community-wide task force to plan and implement a comprehensive multi-organization approach to counteract Childhood Obesity in the Ojai valley. The RC of Ojai is working in conjunction with the Ojai Valley Community Hospital, Ojai Unified School District, and Ojai Valley Youth Foundation to identify and fund programs that will begin in July. A major fund raising "Duck Derby," combined with a children's health and fitness fair, is planned for Sunday, November 4. All money raised at this event will fund the programs currently being planned by the Childhood Obesity Task Force.

#11 Requirement: New Vocational Service project.

Compliance: Yes

A program of financial education for seniors at Nordhoff High School and Chaparral Continuation School - provided Rotary speakers to inform student on such basic matters such as banking, credit, and budgeting, etc.



#13 Requirement: New International Service Project.

Compliance: Yes

Sponsored a \$58,000 Matching Grant for Cereal Banks in Niger, West Africa. This matching grant will provide grain for 12 nomadic communities in remote nomadic settlements in Niger. Seven clubs from D5240, two clubs from D5960, and RC of Agadez, Niger, contributed to this project, and we received DDF from D5240, D5960, and D9100.

Six Club members and two spouses traveled to Niger to tour sites of humanitarian projects (including cereal banks) operated by The Nomad Foundation, which is the NGO that will administer the matching grant. They also attended the charter celebration of the Rotary Club in Agadez and delivered medical supplies valued at \$6,000.

#14 Requirement: New Youth services Project.

Compliance: Yes

Rotary Club of Ojai started two new Youth Services Projects:

(1) High School Seminar: Financial Know-How for the Real World
Members Janet Mahon, Craig Edwards and Ron Wilson put together a presentation on financial basics including banking, applying for credit, and avoiding the pitfalls of credit cards. The program was originally presented on April 22 to the senior economics class at Nordhoff High School. It will be offered again at the end of May to all graduating seniors. We plan to expand this to series of seminars to be offered at all local high schools.

(2) Monthly presentations about careers to junior high AVID class
Our members gave monthly presentations October through April about various careers to the AVID class at Matilija Junior High School (AVID stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination, and is a special class designed to encourage promising students currently not on the college track to set higher educational standards and goals.) Rotarians tell the students about their business or profession, what led them to choose that career, what it took to get there and the reward and satisfaction they found.

#15 Requirement: Documented Retention Program.

Compliance: Yes

Our retention program was revised this year. Available on request.

#16 Requirement: A "Family of Rotary" project or activity.

Compliance: Yes.

Initiated monthly TGIF gatherings for Rotarians and their families at a member's residence.

#17 Requirement: Publish a weekly bulletin.

Compliance: Yes

The Reminder, our newsletter, is distributed weekly on our Club's website.



GOVERNOR'S SUPER CLUB

Requirements needed: 10

Requirements completed: 10

#4 Requirement: Retain 95% of those who were members as of July 1, 2006.

Compliance: Yes

95% retained.

#5 Requirement: 85% average attendance.

Compliance: Yes

85.8% attendance year to date.

#7 Requirement: The Rotary Foundation average giving per member of \$200.

Compliance: Yes

Rotary Club of Ojai donated \$15,800 to the Annual Program Fund, which averaged \$200 per member. We also donated \$3,835 designated for various matching grants, and an additional \$5,605 to Polio Plus Partners. This averaged over \$132/member in addition to our contribution to the Annual Program Fund, making out total contribution to TRF \$320/member.

#11 Requirement: New International Service project.

Compliance: Yes

\$58,000 Matching Grant for Cereal Banks in Niger, West Africa,

This matching grant will provide grain for 12 remote nomadic settlements in Niger. Ten clubs from three districts contributed to this project, and we received DDF from D5240, D5960, and D9100.

Six Club members and two spouses traveled to Niger to tour sites of humanitarian projects (including cereal banks) operated by The Nomad Foundation, which is the NGO that will administer the matching grant. They also attended the charter celebration of the Rotary Club of Agadez and delivered medical supplies valued at \$6,000.

#12 Requirement: Complete four Community Service projects.

Compliance: Yes

We completed 5 service projects (See community service award section for a description of these projects.)

- (1) Nordhoff Cemetery clean-up, together with Rotary Club of Ojai-West
- (2) Dia de los Ninos y de los Libros children's literacy day
- (3) Community Health Forums
- (4) Memory Seminars
- (5) Living Treasures program (in cooperation with Rotary Club of Ojai-West
- (6) Donate money for trees for Arbor Day to Meiners Oaks Elem. School

#13 Requirement: Complete four International Service Projects.

Compliance: Yes

Our club had six projects of our own and contributed to four projects sponsored by other clubs. (See international service award section for a description of these projects.)

- (1) Sponsored \$58,000 Matching Grant for Cereal Banks for nomads in Niger (see Requirement #11 above for details).
- (2) Medical supplies valued at \$6,000 were taken to Niger by six club members and spouses and presented at the Charter Celebration of the Rotary Club of Agadez.
- (3) \$1,500 in educational sponsorships for street children in Ghana (in cooperation with



- "Club MAD," the Youthact club sponsored by our club).
- (4) Trip to orphanages in Tecate, Mexico, May 18-21, 2007, with members of Club MAD (Youthact Club), Nordhoff High School Interact Club, and Rotary Club of Ojai West. Work project will be building a fence at one of the orphanages.
 - (5) Co-sponsored a fundraising concert featuring Tuareg nomad musicians from Niger to benefit The Nomad Foundation, which is the NGO that will administer the matching grant for cereal banks for nomads in Niger, West Africa.
 - (6) Phase II of Construction of Teshie Orphanage Infirmary/Community Health Clinic – Accra, Ghana (Phase II is \$5,880; total cost: \$14,330)

In addition, our club contributed to four matching grants sponsored by other clubs.

#14 Requirement: Complete four Vocational Service projects.

Compliance: Yes

We had 10 vocational service projects. (See vocational service award section for a description of these projects.)

- (1) Matilija Junior High School Portfolio Program (job interview experience for students entering high school)
- (2) Financial Education for seniors at Nordhoff High School
- (3) Student Recognition Programs
 - Student of the Month Award
 - PE Student of Month, Award
 - Athlete of the Month. Award
- (4) Employee Recognition at April 20 meeting
- (5) Career Exploration Presentations by Rotarians to Matilija Junior High School AVID class
- (6) Four-Way Test Essay Contest.
- (7) Fred Clapp Business Ethics Award
- (8) Educational supplies packets for 300 Ojai Unified School District kindergarten students

#15 Requirement: Documented Retention program.

Compliance: Yes

Our retention program was reviewed and revised this year. It is available on request.

#16 Requirement: A new "Family of Rotary" project or activity.

Compliance: Yes

We have started having TGIF gatherings several times a year at a member's residence in the months we don't have more structured social events.

#17 Requirement: Two members attend International Convention in Copenhagen or Salt Lake City.

Compliance: Yes

Six members plus their spouses attended the 2006 Copenhagen conference, and our president-elect and his spouse will attend the 2007 Salt Lake City convention.



2006-2007 AVENUES OF SERVICE AWARDS CERTIFICATION FORM

Rotary Club of Ojai

I, Club President Katherine Bliss, certify that the above named Rotary Club has completed the necessary activities below to qualify for the indicated 2006-2007 District Awards.

CLUB SERVICE AWARD

Requirements Needed: Six

Requirements Completed: Nine

#1 Requirement: Form a Committee for District and Club Awards.

Compliance: Yes

This committee is headed by Berkley Baker, and consists of the Avenues of Service and Membership Directors.

#2 Requirement: At least 80% Club meeting attendance.

Compliance: Yes

Year to date attendance is 85.8%

#3 Requirement: Committee to promote attendance at RI Convention, District Assembly and District Conference.

Compliance: Yes

We had representation at all of these events. Six members went to Copenhagen for the RI Convention.

#4 Requirement: Hold three non-regular meeting fellowship events for members and family.

Compliance: Yes

We had a "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?" dinner event at 5 Rotarians' homes, each hosting 8 people; a joint beach party with RC of Ojai-West, a theater party in November, a holiday party in December, wine tasting and barbecue in spring, and several TGIF parties.

#5 Requirement: Publish weekly bulletin.

Compliance: Yes

The Reminder, our newsletter, is distributed weekly on the club website. Also, a quarterly newsletter is published and mailed to members with more detailed information about the Club's projects and programs. The President issued a Mid-term report based on a survey of members that addressed many topics including club meetings, communications, social events, projects and fund raisers.



#6 Requirement: Maintain a Club website.

Compliance: Yes

Our club website at www.ojairotary.org is being updated this year. We also have a link to our new clubrunner website at: www.clubrunner.ca/CPrg/home/homeA.asp?cid=2843.

#7 Requirement: President, President-Elect and President-Elect nominee attend Mid-term Seminar and District Assembly

Compliance: Yes

All three are attending the District Assembly. President-Elect and President-Elect nominee attended the Midterm Seminar. President Kay Bliss requests an excused absence from the midterm seminar because at that time she was leading a group of eight club members and spouses to Niger, West Africa, to attend the charter celebration of the Rotary Club of Agadez and tour matching grant project sites.

#8 Requirement: Establish and maintain a Club Personnel Committee.

Compliance: Yes

Meets four times a year consisting of Avenue of Service Directors, membership Director, president-elect and president.

#9 Requirement: New Club Event to include spouses/family.

Compliance: Yes

Informal TGIF gatherings several times a year at a member's home. We schedule them during months that there isn't another, more structured social event planned. They have been very successful with good turn out.

In addition to the activities above:

We had a successful fundraiser at the Ojai Valley Inn, "Taste of Ojai," which showcased local restaurants and was a good public relations event for the club.

Eight members attended the District 5240 Foundation Gala, honoring Sam Greene.

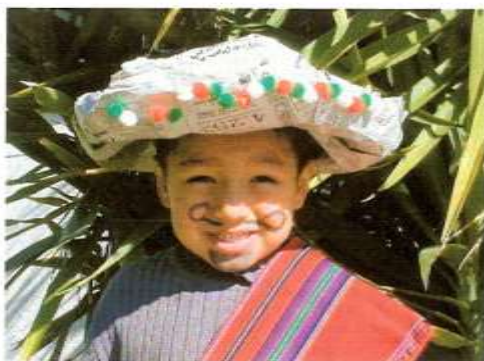
We had a joint meeting with RC of Ojai-West at the Ojai Valley Inn, with Gary Zimmerman, Senior Economist for Region 12 of the Federal Reserve Bank, as speaker.

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

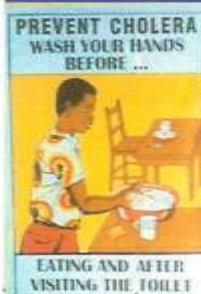
TASTE OF OJAI—The Rotary Club of Ojai provides a spectacular opportunity for more than two dozen local restaurants to showcase their culinary expertise for 500+ participants on the impeccably manicured grounds of the Ojai Valley Inn & Spa.

YOUNG AMERICANS—Students ages 8 to 17 spend an action-packed weekend learning music, dance, and drama from a touring group of young adult performers. The intense “master-class style training” culminates in a professional show performed by the participants for the local community. The event exposes students to music and performing, while raising over \$7,000 for local causes.

OJAI ROTARY DUCK DERBY—The Rotary Club of Ojai will present its 1st Annual Duck Derby on May 20, 2007. Proceeds from this major fundraising event will support programs that promote healthy children.



ABOUT OUR CLUB



Ojai's tight-knit and committed social infrastructure is the key to its unrivaled quality of life. The Rotary Club of Ojai, founded in 1948, plays an integral part of that. The club is highly visible, with an active, engaged membership representing the leaders of Ojai's rich civic life.

During the 2005-2006 Rotary year, the Rotary Club of Ojai raised and distributed over \$77,000.00. We are proud of Rotary's commitment to education.

The **Ojai Rotary Education Foundation** awarded a total of \$32,000.00 in scholarships to 16 seniors graduating from high schools in the Ojai Valley!



WELCOME TO THE
ROTARY CLUB
of OJAI



Meets at 12 noon Fridays
Soule Park Clubhouse

ROTARY 4-WAY TEST

1. Is it the truth?
2. Is it fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

DISTRICT 5240 ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
FOUNDED 1948

visit us at ojairotary.org
P. O. Box 511, Ojai CA 93024

CURRENT PROJECTS

Rotary Clubs are organized into Four Avenues of Service. The Rotary Club of Ojai is active in all four areas. Here's a glimpse of what the club has been up to lately.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- presented free Community Health Forums, featuring experts on various health topics;
- completed the amphitheatre at San Antonio Elementary School — our Rotary Centennial Project;
- annual clean-up—Nordhoff Cemetery
- annual cleaning—condor statue at the Ojai Valley Museum;
- celebrated "Dia de los Libros / Dia de los Niños, honoring children and promoting literacy;
- Donated \$36,000.00 to the following recipients:
 Boy Scout Troop 504
 Club MAD (Make a Difference—Jr. High YouthAct Club)
 C.R.E.W.—Concerned Resource Environmental Workers
 Ojai Music Festival
 Ojai Performing Arts Foundation
 Ojai Valley Community Hospital
 Ojai Valley Museum & Historical Society
 Ojai Valley Youth Foundation
 Ojai Unified School District
 Matilija Junior High School
 Nordhoff High School
 San Antonio Elementary School
 Topa Topa Elementary School
 Smart Start Child Development Center
 Hurricane Katrina victims
 Nomad Foundation
 Street Girls Aid—Ghana, West Africa



INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

- Ghana, West Africa: Furnished a house of refuge and equipped vocational training centers for homeless girls living on the streets of Accra
- Ghana, West Africa: Funding continued construction for an orphanage infirmary and a community wellness clinic in the low-income community of Teshie, in Accra
- Tecate, Mexico: In cooperation with the Matilija Junior High service club (Club MADD—Making a Difference) built a sports court and renovated a citrus orchard for two orphanages in Tecate
- India: Donated \$500 to a girls school for promising low-income students
- Niger: Donated \$2,000 to famine relief and to build wells for nomads in the Sahara
- Hosted a Rotary Youth Exchange student from Denmark, and sponsored outbound Rotary Youth Exchange students to Turkey and Belgium.

VOCATIONAL SERVICE

- Sponsored Club MAD—A YouthAct Club at Matilija Junior High School
- Interviewed more than 300 8th-grade students during Rotary's Annual Portfolio Day at Matilija Junior High School
- Provided packets of educational supplies to all kindergarten students in the Ojai Unified School District
- Presented the Fred Clapp Business Ethics Award to a local businesses
- Honored Ojai "Students of the Month" for leadership, athletics, and citizenship
- Awarded two scholarships for students to attend Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) leadership camp.

CLUB SERVICE

Club Service coordinates the smooth functioning of our weekly meetings, including scheduling interesting speakers every week.

It oversees the club's social events: informal get-togethers, the holiday party, the demotion party, off-site meetings, and field trips.

Our Family of Rotary offers encouragement to members and their families who are experiencing personal challenges and need the support of our membership.

In addition, the Family of Rotary provides outreach to the extended family of club members and the community in order to involve them in club meetings, community service projects, fundraising activities and social events.



About Rotary International

Rotary International, the world's oldest service club organization, is made up of over 32,000 clubs in 168 countries. Its members form a global network of business and professional leaders who volunteer their time and talents to serve their communities and the world. Rotary's motto, "Service Above Self", exemplifies the humanitarian spirit of the organizations more than 1.2 million members. Strong fellowship among Rotarians and meaningful community and international service projects characterize Rotary worldwide. Rotary spearheaded an initiative to eradicate polio worldwide, and contributed more than \$600 million to this effort.

Rotary Club of Ojai



Wine-tasting and Dinner

Date: Saturday, May 12, 2007

Time: 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Cost: \$32.00/person - RSVP by Friday, May 4

Location: Old Creek Ranch Winery

Old Creek Ranch Winery is in all its spring glory!
Directions: Turn on Old Creek Road by Rancho
Arroz burn. See the map on the label on back.

Dress is casual—bring a sweater or jacket.

Highlights

- Wine tasting and socializing at 5:00 PM
- Barbecue by Marty's Catering
- 20% discount on wine purchases

Contact person: Lerie Bjornstadt

Phone: 805-646-3054

E-mail: lerie@west.net



Rotary Club of Ojai

THE OLD CREEK RANCH WINERY

tradition continues...

1981 was the first vintage for the Old Creek Ranch Winery, but the tradition of winemaking goes back to the turn of the century. Old Creek Ranch lies along the banks of the San Antonio Creek, at the south end of the Ojai Valley, and has been in operation since the mid 1800's.

The site of today's Old Creek Ranch Winery is adjacent to the old winery established around 1900. This winery supplied local communities with wine until about 1940. We are currently preserving the old winery, replanting the vineyards, while continuing the tradition of making a limited selection of fine quality wines.



Open Fri. Sat. Sun 11:00 to 5:00

Old Creek Ranch



Winery

1997
Santa Maria Valley
FUMÉ BLANC

PRODUCED AND BOTTLED BY THE OLD CREEK RANCH WINERY
P.O. BOX 173 OAK VIEW, CALIFORNIA 93022 B.W. 5056 • ALCOHOL
13.3% BY VOLUME • CONTAINS SULFITES
Phone (805) 649-4132 Fax (805) 649-9293

Warm days, cool nights and a little luck was all these Santa Maria Valley Sauvignon Blanc and Semillon grapes needed to achieve the perfect balance for an excellent wine. This dry table wine is a blend of those two varietals and will be an excellent complement to any meal; especially one featuring fish, fowl or vegetables.

Serve Chilled

GOVERNMENT WARNING:

(1) ACCORDING TO THE SURGEON GENERAL, WOMEN SHOULD NOT DRINK ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DURING PREGNANCY BECAUSE OF THE RISK OF BIRTH DEFECTS. (2) CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IMPAIRS YOUR ABILITY TO DRIVE A CAR OR OPERATE MACHINERY, AND MAY CAUSE HEALTH PROBLEMS.

Come Join Us for Holiday Cheer

At our 2006

Rotary Christmas Party

Hors d'oeuvres; wine, beer, wassail, juice

Music and Fun!

Friday, December 8, 2006

6:00 p.m.

At the home of
Don and Sheila Cluff
222 Running Ridge Dr., Ojai
646-8322

RSVP on sign-up sheet at Rotary, or
Call Julie at 646-5573 (ext. 151)

Cost: \$30.00 per person

DIRECTIONS:

Take Foothill Road, up into the Arbolada until the yellow line in the middle of the road ends at Fairview Rd., turn left and go to very next corner, Fairview Ct., turn right and then bear left up the private steep hill - Running Ridge Drive to the top. Cluff home is at the top of the hill

NOTE: PLEASE CARPOOL AS PARKING IS LIMITED



Ventura Rotary honors Bennett

At the regular noontime meeting on Sept. 13, the Rotary Club of Ventura featured one of its own members, "Hoot" Bennett, who celebrated his 50 years of membership with perfect attendance. Donna Bennett, Hoot's wife of 53 years, attended the celebration. Joining the Bennetts were longtime friends, Jack Morrison, former member and past president (1980-1981), and Norm Blacher, current member and past president (1994-1995).

The celebration was hosted by current member since 1986, Dave Loe.

Ralph R. "Hoot" Bennett joined Rotary in Ojai and was inducted by that club on Sept. 14, 1956. He was an active member in Ojai for 26 years, often making up missed meetings in Santa Paula, Fillmore, and sometimes at Port Hueneme. While living and working in Ojai, Bennett also found time to serve as mayor of Ojai for five years, following Bob Lagomarsino. He also served as the chair of the umpires at the Ojai Tennis Tournament, "The Ojai," and for two years as president of the tournament. In 1967, California governor, Ronald Reagan, appointed Bennett to serve on the Ventura County



Donna and Ralph "Hoot" Bennett

Board of Supervisors, following Ken McDonald. He served on that board for 10 years.

Bennett became a member of the Ventura Club in 1982. When given a chance to speak, Hoot reminded the members of the importance of membership and regular attendance. He noted that Godfrey Jacobs of the Ojai Club had sponsored him, and that Jacobs and his two sons all had perfect attendance. When he first joined, making up was more difficult as there were fewer clubs, but he always attended a weekly meeting. He even had the privilege when traveling to make up in the No. 1 club, the club of origin of Rotary, in Chicago.

Ojai Valley News - Aug 10, 2006

People

Cluffs host Rotary party

Outgoing members Frank, Beckett, Thacher and Huffman honored for performances

The Rotary Club of Ojai celebrated its past Rotary year with a demotion party for outgoing President Nic Frank at the home of Don and Sheila Cluff. As is traditional, several members were honored for their "stand out" performances during the course of the year.

- Past President Terry Beckett was recognized with a special achievement award for the club for his leadership in the construction and completion of the club-sponsored amphitheater at San Antonio School, as well as leading the effort that brought the ever-popular "Young Americans" song and dance troupe to Ojai again last May.

- Tony Thacher was recognized by being chosen for The Four Avenues of Service award. This award is given by the

president of Rotary International and recognizes sustained outstanding performance by a Rotarian over the years in each of Rotary's Four Avenues of Service — International, Club, Vocational and Community. As was noted, every club needs a Tony Thacher as a member.

- Dana Huffman received well-deserved recognition as the Rotarian chosen to receive the Robert Chesley Rotarian of the Year award. Through various quiet initiatives, Huffman has made the Rotary Club better. The award was presented by Alice Chesley.

- The Rotary Club of Ojai itself was recognized by the president of Rotary International with a Service Above Self Presidential Citation and as a District 5240 Super Club.

What the Fed said

Federal Reserve Bank officials present roles, forecasts to Rotarians

Bret Bradigan

bret@ojaivalleynews.com

Three members of the Federal Reserve Bank stood before about 175 members of the Ojai community Friday at a joint Rotary Club meeting at the Ojai Valley Inn & Spa and explained their roles as the "bankers' bankers." But they also sought input and advice about the local economy to help the forecasts by which they manage interest rates and lending.

Paul Morley introduced Robin Rockwell, a 30-year fed vet, now with the Los Angeles Federal Reserve Bank, who gave an outline of the federal reserve's role. Created in 1913 to "promote the safety, soundness and stability of the nation's financial system," the reserve is an unusual public-private hybrid. "We are not federal employees" said Rockwell. "We are self-financed," though profits from the sale of treasury bills, and they returned about \$23 billion to the treasury last year.

The federal reserve is organized through 12 regional banks, with the western regional headquarters in San Francisco, and has three primary roles. The first role is to set the country's

monetary policy through the 'federal funds target rate, the ending within banks, and the discount rate, our lending to banks," she said. The second role is to supervise banks and enforce banking laws. The third role is to "act as the bankers' bank and fiscal agent for the U.S. Treasury." That role includes detecting counterfeit currency and promoting the use of new coins, such as the new dollar coin which was introduced last week.

Rockwell said that one

Please see Reserve, Page A-7

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Reserve:

(Continued from Page A-1)

measure of the Federal Reserve Bank's success "is that the U.S. has never had to devalue its currency." Another measure of success was managing the potential banking crisis during the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001. "We kept the markets open, kept sufficient liquidity and maintained public confidence," she said.

Gary Zimmerman, a senior economist with the federal reserve bank in San Francisco, opened his talk to the audience of both Rotary Club of Ojai-West, which typically meets Tuesday mornings, and the Rotary Club of Ojai, which meets Fridays at noon, with, "This is my first visit to Ojai, but it won't be my last. That's probably my most accurate forecast."

He talked about leading indicators of the economy, noting that while the labor market in general was quite tight, "... there is no growth in housing employment." While the economy appears quite stable, with low inflation and modest growth, consumers aren't as

"You have a diverse regional economy, relatively stable, which does not follow the rest of the nation very closely."

— Gary Zimmerman

indicators might suggest. Consumer confidence has trended upward over the past several months, though many people have a dismal view of which way the economy is headed, he said.

The outlook for the U.S., though, "is continued growth, with less inflation," Zimmerman said. The gross domestic product should remain in the 2.5 to 2.75 percent range through 2007, lower than the 3 percent growth of 2006, but inflation should fall below 2 percent.

Zimmerman also explored the economy in Ventura County, noting that our labor market was



state, and our housing costs have moved in concert with prices statewide. With rich farmlands and military bases, the percent of agricultural and government jobs were significantly higher than the rest of the country. "You have a diverse regional economy, relatively stable, which does not

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president of Rotary International and recognizes sustained outstanding performance by a Rotarian over the years in each of Rotary's Four Avenues of Service — International, Club, Vocational and Community. As was noted, every club needs a Tony Thacher as a member.

- Dana Huffman received well-deserved recognition as the Rotarian chosen to receive the Robert Chesley Rotarian of the Year award. Through various quiet initiatives, Huffman has made the Rotary Club better. The award was presented by Alice Chesley.

- The Rotary Club of Ojai itself was recognized by the president of Rotary International with a Service Above Self Presidential Citation and as a District 5240 Super Club.

What the Fed said

Federal Reserve Bank officials present roles, forecasts to Rotarians

Bret Bradigan

bret@ojaivalleynews.com

Three members of the Federal Reserve Bank stood before about 175 members of the Ojai community Friday at a joint Rotary Club meeting at the Ojai Valley Inn & Spa and explained their roles as the "bankers' bankers." But they also sought input and advice about the local economy to help the forecasts by which they manage interest rates and lending.

Paul Morley introduced Robin Rockwell, a 30-year fed vet, now with the Los Angeles Federal Reserve Bank, who gave an outline of the federal reserve's role. Created in 1913 to "promote the safety, soundness and stability of the nation's financial system," the reserve is an unusual public-private hybrid. "We are not federal employees" said Rockwell. "We are self-financed," though profits from the sale of treasury bills, and they returned about \$23 billion to the treasury last year.

The federal reserve is organized through 12 regional banks, with the western regional headquarters in San Francisco, and has three primary roles. The first role is to set the country's

monetary policy through the 'federal funds target rate, the ending within banks, and the discount rate, our lending to banks," she said. The second role is to supervise banks and enforce banking laws. The third role is to "act as the bankers' bank and fiscal agent for the U.S. Treasury." That role includes detecting counterfeit currency and promoting the use of new coins, such as the new dollar coin which was introduced last week.

Rockwell said that one

Please see Reserve, Page A-7

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Reserve:

(Continued from Page A-1)

measure of the Federal Reserve Bank's success "is that the U.S. has never had to devalue its currency." Another measure of success was managing the potential banking crisis during the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001. "We kept the markets open, kept sufficient liquidity and maintained public confidence," she said.

Gary Zimmerman, a senior economist with the federal reserve bank in San Francisco, opened his talk to the audience of both Rotary Club of Ojai-West, which typically meets Tuesday mornings, and the Rotary Club of Ojai, which meets Fridays at noon, with, "This is my first visit to Ojai, but it won't be my last. That's probably my most accurate forecast."

He talked about leading indicators of the economy, noting that while the labor market in general was quite tight, "... there is no growth in housing employment." While the economy appears quite stable, with low inflation and modest growth consumers aren't as

"You have a diverse regional economy, relatively stable, which does not follow the rest of the nation very closely."

— Gary Zimmerman

indicators might suggest. Consumer confidence has trended upward over the past several months, though many people have a dismal view of which way the economy is headed, he said.

The outlook for the U.S., though, "is continued growth, with less inflation," Zimmerman said. The gross domestic product should remain in the 2.5 to 2.75 percent range through 2007, lower than the 3 percent growth of 2006, but inflation should fall below 2 percent.

Zimmerman also explored the economy in Ventura County, noting that our labor market was



state, and our housing costs have moved in concert with prices statewide. With rich farmlands and military bases, the percent of agricultural and government jobs were significantly higher than the rest of the country. "You have a diverse regional economy, relatively stable, which does not

LATE SUMMER NEWSLETTER

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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OJAI ROTARY AND
THE OJAI VALLEY
INN
PRESENT
THE SIXTH ANNUAL

TASTE OF OJAI

SATURDAY
SEPT. 30TH
3:00 TO 6:00 PM

ON THE GREENS
AT THE OJAI VALLEY INN AND SPA

ENJOY FOOD, DRINK
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DELICIOUS APPETIZERS, ENTREES, DESSERTS, AND BEVERAGES FROM CELEBRATED RESAURANTS

\$60 PER PERSON



PRESIDENT KAY BLISS 2006-2007

President Kay Conducts Club Assembly

At the RI Convention in Copenhagen, 2005-2006 RI President Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammer stated, "Rotary needs to take a look at its rules, and if they haven't been used, then they need to be eliminated. We must adjust Rotary to the Rotarians and not Rotarians to Rotary." At our Club Assembly, members took to heart my now-infamous directive to list what needs to be "pruned" in our club, and what positive things need to be "promoted." This has become my action plan for the coming year.

Here are the top 10 most frequently-expressed member suggestions, in order of the number of "dots" placed:

1. Eliminate requests for funding for outside organizations and self-promotion by members of their projects; decrease non-Rotary announcements during meetings.
2. Continue emphasizing youth, education, and the schools - continue major youth projects
3. The Education Foundation is greatly valued.
4. We need more socialization/fellowship time - to have fun!
5. Increase membership

diversity, especially younger members - Rotary may be too expensive for some people who would be good members.

6. We need another large fundraiser - make more money from outside the club. Taste of Ojai is appreciated

7. Reconsider billing rather than cash basis for lunch and fines.

8. Re-design website - consider professional services, put more information on the web.

9. Recognize Rotarian achievements outside of Rotary.

10. We need less talking during club meetings.

We are working to make these things happen.

In the category of "if it works, don't fix it:"

- Community service continues to emphasize youth when exploring several exciting new projects in partnership with the schools and hospital.
- Matilija Portfolio Project and Club MAD remain the shining stars in vocational service's crown.



President Kay gives the directive to "prune" and "promote" during the Club Assembly

- Besides awarding even more scholarships this year, the Ed Foundation and club leaders have arranged for club members to be able to make tax-deductible donations to club projects through the Ed Foundation. Relations between the Ed Foundation and the club have never been better!

Some goals are in the planning stages.

- The Fundraising committee is exploring options for a major fundraiser.
- Terry Beckett and Carl Gross are consulting with Justin Mahon (Janet Mahon's son) to update and re-design our website.

(Continued on Page 2)

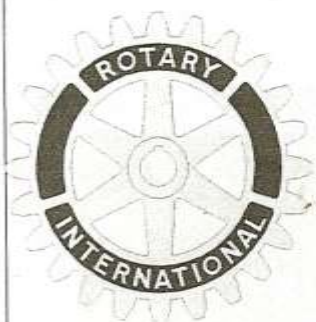
ROTARY FOUR-WAY TEST "Of the things we Think, Say or Do"

1. Is it the TRUTH? 2. Is it FAIR to all concerned? 3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS? 4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Rotary Club of Ojai

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Ojai, CA 93024

E-mail: www.ojairotary.org



"Service Above Self"

We're on the Web:
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THE ROTARY CLUB OF OJAI NEWSLETTER

DON'T FORGET: A Family of Rotary event with Ojai West at Larry Wilde's Beach House on Sunday, Sept. 17 at 1:00 PM. Contact Alice Gardner at the Attitude Adjustment Shop—646-1109. \$15 per person and RSVP required. **ALSO:** Be sure to sign up for the Club's "GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER"—Sept. 15 & 16. Host a dinner for 8 or sign up to go—GREAT FUN and FELLOWSHIP! See Catherine Lee for info.

ROTARY ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRES. KAY BLISS RE-DEFINES ANNOUNCEMENTS

At Kay's first Rotary meeting, she made it clear that there was a new way to make announcements.

"One of my goals is for the members not to drown in announcements or requests for money, but to make it as easy as possible for people to know what is going on in our club and our community."

"My first announcement is about announcements. A new Bulletin Board is outside. You can put club or community announcements on the board. If you give me a copy of what you want announced, I would be glad to announce all the announcements at once. This is a way to cut down on confessions that are really announcements and hopefully to speed up the meeting."

"There will be a Notice of upcoming meetings on the sign-in table. You are all welcome to come to any of the meetings."

CLUB HONORED

FOR 2005-2006 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

BY NIC FRANK

The Rotary Club of Ojai was recognized for outstanding achievement for exceeding stated District goals for the Rotary Year 2005-2006 by being named a Governor's Super Club. The Club also received individual Awards for each of the Four Avenues of Service International, Vocational, Community, and Club Service. The Club also received a Youth Service award for our Club MAD activities at Matilija Jr. High School, as well as the scholarships awarded to graduating area high school students through the Rotary Club of Ojai Foundation.

The Club also received the 2005-2006 Presidential Citation for demonstrating excellence and exemplary achievement in all areas of service.

THE REMINDER

IS DISTRIBUTED WEEKLY TO OUR MEMBERS

ON THE WEBSITE OF

THE ROTARY CLUB OF OJAI

BY CARL GROSS, PUBLISHER AND EDITOR.

Committee members alternate in reporting each issue.



The Reminder

**Bret Bradigan,
Editor**

April 20th, 2007

April is Rotarian Magazine Month

Upcoming Programs and Events

Presented by Bruce Brockman and his Program Committee Marty Pops, Al Jacobs, Sheila Cluff, Catherine Lee, Bret Bradigan, Jane McCarthy, Shari Skinner, Scott Smith.

4/27/07 Arbor Day Meeting-Al West-Miners Oaks School 400 S. Lomita

5/4 Tony Thacher

5/11 Get Acquainted and Duck Derby Talks

In the Beginning....



With raindrops falling on our heads, members of the Rotary Club of Ojai filed into Soule Park Clubhouse with spirits as sunny as the skies were dark. Big crowds packed the house for the Employee Recognition Day luncheon, as well as guests and prospective new members who were not deterred by a little weather.

Set-up: Randy Roth
Pledge: Suzanne
Collingsworth-Smith

Invocation: **Maggie**

Cerminaro, who read from an inspiring speech by Robert Kennedy.

President Kay Bliss opened the meeting with acknowledgment of our many guests who were special employees and who have made special contributions to both the Rotarian's business and life.

Visiting Rotarians and Guests

Visiting Rotarians: None

Guests: A lot, to include, but probably not inclusive —

Shannon Allen, Cindy Jones, Betsy Smith, Nancy Brooks, Shirle Fauvre, Erica Mendez, Karen Ghormley, Barbara Addington, Luba Rabchuk, Kari Rochems, Carla

Tetrault, from Al Jacobs' office, Seline Sandoval, Pam Plummer, Jim Combs, Ren and Victoria Adam, Connie Buehl, Bruce Novotny, Pam Plummer, Patty Bronk, David Fuchs, Debbie Roper, Nick Hishmeh, and a few others.



Announcements

Attendance makeups have never been easier. There are now "e-Clubs" that you can access online for makeups. Please click [here](#) for further information.

Dr. Fred Favre would like us to save the date of **May 12th** for the **Annual Heart and Sole Run**. It consists of a 10, a 5K, and a walk around the block (about this Editor's speed). Proceeds benefit the American Heart Association.

Boy Scout Troop 504, the one supported by our club, is having a pancake breakfast on **Sunday April 29 th** from **6:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.** It will be held at **414 E. Ojai Ave. at the Chaparral Auditorium**. \$5 in advance or \$6 at the door. This is to support their outdoor program and summer camp.

Bruce Brockman announced that the Matilija interviews will be May 31 st , just one day this time from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Please see **Bruce** to sign up.

Next week's meeting is at Meiners Oaks Elementary School, where the Rotary Club will join the Boy Scouts in planting a tree for Arbor Day. **Principal Marty Babayco** has some entertainment planned for our pleasure, and **Al West** will in charge of the Arbor Day program. **THE APRIL 20 MEETING IS AT MEINERS OAK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL! REPEAT: MEINERS OAKS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL! Not at Soule Park!**

Wine Tasting Party: Saturday, May 12, 5 to 8 p.m. At the **Old Creek Ranch Winery**. The \$32 per person tickets includes wine-tasting, a 20 percent discount on wines you purchase, and a Marty's Catering barbecue. **Lerie Bjornstedt** was handing out invitations at the close of the meeting.

Matilija Day Portfolio Project: **Bruce Brockman** announced that the project has been condensed this year to one day, **Thursday, May 31**, and that he needed at least **30 volunteers** to work a full day, or at least of that day. **Jim Berube**, one of the originators of the project, said it was in its 11th year, and is a great way to interact with local youth and help them learn real-life skills like interviewing and preparing resumes.

RYLA Conference: **Prez Kay** said she needed volunteers, too. The club sent two kids to **Camp Ramah** for the RYLA conference this weekend, and she needed a couple of drivers to take the kids home on **Sunday afternoon**. Please see **Suzanne Collingsworth-Smith** for more information.

Club MAD and Interact trip to the Tecate Orphanage, May 18-21. This is a rare hands-on international service opportunity. See **Nic Frank** or **Tony Thacher** if you are interested.

District Conference - San Miguel de Allende, May 2-6: San Miguel is somewhat equivalent to Ojai - lots of free spirits and artists. **Jim Crary**, who

splits his time between San Miguel (where he is a member of their Rotary Club) and Ojai, has made available lodging in his guest house for anyone who is interested in attending. See **Tony Thacher** for more information.

Demotion Party: Frank Finck gave an update about **Kay's** official stripping of the badge ceremony coming **June 30**.

Clapp Ethics in Business Award Winner: Pam Plummer

Scott Eicher presented this year's **Fred Clapp Business Award** to **Pam Plummer**, owner of the **Curves Fitness Center** in Ojai and in Oak View. **Pam** spoke eloquently about her business practices matched the Rotary 4-Way Test in practice and particulars. She introduced several of her employees, noting that ***"employees aren't the most important part of your business, they are your business."***



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**"Employee Wellness Program, Phase One:
Choose the doughnut with the largest hole.
Drink enough coffee to raise your pulse to 160
beats per minute for 20 minutes 3 times a week.
Increase your activity, use Google and Yahoo."**



Fining:

Time was short, people eager to get to the program, so **Marty Babayco** extracted lucrative confessions from the following gadabouts: **Jack Huyler, Jim Berube, Marty Pops** (giving thanks that his daughter and son-in-law, who work at Virginia Tech, were unharmed), **Suzanne Collingsworth-Smith** and **Judy Gabriel**.

The Program

Andy Radford, distinguished musician and co-founder and music director of the **Ojai Youth Symphony**, who, incidentally, are performing at a benefit concert that evening, talked about his background, his love of music and youth, and the many ways in which Ojai's youth are well served by music educators. **Radford** is also music director for the **Santa Barbara Youth Symphony**, serves as education coordinator for the **Ojai Music Festival**, and professor of the bassoon at UC Santa Barbara and principal bassoonist with the Santa Barbara Symphony. He also works steadily in the entertainment industry, having played with **Three Dog Night**, **Michael Crawford**, **The Who**, **The Three Tenors**, and has recorded with popular acts including the **Dixie Chicks**, **Neil Diamond**, **Bright Eyes** (one this humble scribes favorites - **Conor Oberst** makes **Bob Dylan** sound like a piker), and jazz legend **Chick Corea**. **Radford's** musicianship can be heard on many movies, including **Jim Jarmusch** classic *"Dead Again."*



Radford grew up in the Bay Area, was schooled at Cal Arts, moved to Santa Barbara in the mid-90s, where he met future wife **Amy Hagen**. The two started up the **Ojai Youth Symphony** six years ago - it now has 110 musicians, playing a wide repertoire of sophisticated music. He is also the originator of the **Got Strings! program**, which provides free violins to local 6th graders. At first, **he and Amy** paid for the violins out of their pocket, but have now been able to attract funding from various sources. The program is expanding around the Ojai Valley, and the kids get to keep their violins if they continue with the instrument into junior high. Nordhoff High School will matriculate its first-ever strings class next year.

As education coordinator for the legendary **Ojai Music Festival**, **Radford** coordinates a variety of functions, including the **Music Van**, which introduces elementary school children to musical instruments, including the bassoon. He also coordinates the **Artist in Residence program**. **Radford** gave an enthusiastic and

informative talk about his experiences in show business, and his love of music."

Final Thoughts

"After silence, that which comes nearest to expressing the inexpressible is music."

Aldous Huxley



HOME



Photo courtesy of Kay Bliss

Rotary Club of Ojai President Kay Bliss fastens a Rotary pin on a Nigerian villager. Eight members of the local service club spent 17 days distributing aid to the least developed country on Earth.

Out of Ojai, into Africa

Eight Ojai Rotarians travel to Niger to witness impact of aid on region stricken by poverty

Daryl Kelly
daryl@ojaivalleynews.com

Eight Ojai Rotarians trekked into the desert in one of the poorest nations on Earth to see if the money they'd sent to sub-Saharan Africa had helped stave off famine and death.

A farmer, a psychologist, an accountant and a social worker joined an officer worker, a theater publicist, a former seed bank executive and his wife, a retired teacher.

Together, they spent 17 days among the nomadic animal-raising people of Niger, a hot, dry former French colony three times the size of California.

They moved from one water well to another, seeing what a little money can do for those who live on millet grain and sweet camel's milk — and whose children often die young for lack of food and medical care.

income is \$280 a year. It's listed by the United Nations as the least developed country in the world, and the second poorest. And the poorest of its residents are the nomads, who live on the edge of an expanding desert in the north, far from the tropical waters of the Niger River in the south.

"I couldn't believe how much was done with the amount of money that was given," said Kay Bliss, president of the Rotary Club of Ojai, who has worked on two other grants in West Africa. "As far as bang for your buck, I can't think of anything that rivals it. And that doesn't always happen in Africa."

After flying from France to the dusty regional capital of Agadez, the Ojai caravan looped about 600 miles through an arid plateau and low mountains to majestic sand dunes.

They saw deep water wells dug by hand and grain banks constructed of mud, all built with Rotarian money. They saw primitive schools built

... life span is 45. The typical

Please see Niger, Page A-7

Niger:

(Continued from Page A-1)

by the Nomad Foundation of Ojai artist Leslie Clark and partly supplied by the Rotary, a worldwide group of professionals that raises money for local and international causes.

The Ojai contingent visited eight of the 16 nomadic "communities" to which they'd sent \$58,000 in financial support last year. In only a handful were there permanent structures. Word was simply spread that they were coming, and hundreds of people would then set up camp near a water well to shake their hands. And, sometimes, the nomads would perform traditional dances and, surprisingly, sing songs of blessing to Ojai.

"It brings tears to your eyes to hear (children singing songs of) Ojai in the middle of Niger," rancher Bob Davis told a group of Rotarians last Friday, shortly after his return.

"They taught us the moves to their music, and we taught them the hokey-pokey," laughed Judie Beckett, who like most others who made the trip, gave presentations dressed in traditional Tuareg and Wodaabe head wraps and flowing gowns and pants.

But Beckett choked up as she described the people she'd met. "They touched my life; they changed my life ... They treated us with utmost respect and kindness and a lot of fun ... (But) I hugged one of the ladies and she was really bony and thin. So we were concerned about their health."

Indeed, it was the 2005 death of a friend of Clark's due to famine that prompted newspaper stories which brought the fate of Niger nomads to the attention of Ojai Rotarians and their counterparts in Westlake Village.

Within a few months, the Westlake group had partnered with district and international Rotarians to fund a \$65,500 grant. Then the Ojai group did the same thing for \$58,000. The Westlake group is working on a new \$53,000 grant. And the Ojai members are discussing funding for a mobile medical unit and a demonstration garden.

Money from the first grant has been used to repair 10 water wells that serve 3,000 nomads, to buy school supplies and a four-wheel drive vehicle to carry grain to desert storage buildings, and to replace herds of cattle, sheep, goats, donkeys and camels depleted by

drought.

The Ojai funds are being used to buy 80,000 tons of grain and a truck to transport it from Agadez to distant communities to feed 12,000 nomads.

The truck will mean that the nomads will be able to haul in a year's supply of grain at a time, instead of a week's supply on the back of a donkey. The truck will also mean that women who harvest salt on their hands and knees will now be able to sell it for 10 to 20 times as much in the city market, instead of a middleman raking off the profit.

The third grant is expected to build two large wells in an area where the Nomad Foundation intends to construct a health clinic and a learning center — and facilities to vaccinate and sell animals.

The Rotary clubs have embraced Clark's concept of providing water, food, work, education and health care in the arid Sahel region just south of the Sahara, so nomads don't have to move to town simply to survive.

"It's all to make it possible for them to survive in their natural lifestyle, so they can stay in the environment they're in," Bliss said. "To me, it's simple and brilliant."

And the results were there for everyone to see, she said. "You could see that people were happier out there," Bliss said. "In the city, they were in your face, selling things to you. Out there, they were respectful."

The model for how to preserve the nomadic lifestyle and culture comes from Clark, who first traveled to Niger in 1993 to inspire

her art, but who now lives half the year in Agadez. She's set up a foundation, arranged for the sale of nomad handicraft and provided jobs through adventure tours. She opened her Nomad Gallery in Ojai 11 years ago, where she displays her artwork and that of African artisans.

On this trip, Clark and her top aide accompanied the Ojai group, spreading the word of their arrival and arranging for them to see some of the fruits of their finances.

They saw herders perform in a male beauty contest, women harvest salt from atop underground water canals long covered by sand and children settle onto dusty floors to scrawl math and French lessons on slate tablets.

One by one, on Friday, the Ojai travelers recounted their adventures.

Bliss described how "this little rat pack of people ... became partners in misery and loved it." But, she said later, "It was quite a luxury to be able to leave."

Catherine Lee described the geography and demographics of Niger. "It looks a lot like Baja Mexico," she said. And it has the highest fertility rate in the world, nearly eight children per mother, to offset one of the highest childhood death rates.

Davis described Agadez, a 70,000-resident city, where the mud buildings "melt every time it rains." He noted to chuckles that the Ojai trekkers' toilet facilities were "pick any bush. And don't follow anyone's footprints all the way to the end." Davis, who has traveled widely, said Niger's sand dunes were "some of the most beautiful and desolate areas I've ever seen."

Judie Beckett spoke of meeting a nomad chief's four wives and the importance of "everybody shaking hands" and showing respect.

Her husband, Larry, showed photos of "grain banks," which were mud huts where sacks of millet were stacked on wooden pallets and mice poison was spread. "Millet is the staple," he said. "You see young women pounding millet."

Alice Chesley spoke of choosing a good project to fund in a nation "that has basically no infrastructure." The group looked for community leadership and the ability to account for withdrawals and payments to the grain banks. Her most moving experience, she said, occurred in a "simple straw hut" that served as a school: "There were no desks, no chairs. The children were sitting in the dust." Clark then arranged for the purchase of mats for the students.

Dietrich Schmidt, who traveled with wife Valerie, described the nation's agriculture from the perspective of a former owner of a seed company. "They need better seeds," he said. "I'll be collecting seeds to send down there." Schmidt also met a German doctor while in Niger, and they are discussing how to put together a medical unit to work with a newly formed Rotary club in Agadez to serve the nomads.

Bliss said one of the main accomplishments of the trip was to connect with the small Agadez Rotary.

"We did a lot of talking about how to work the (1.3-million member Rotary) system," she said. "It's the only Rotary Club in the Sahara Desert."



COMMUNITY SERVICE

Requirements needed: Five

Requirements completed: Six

#2 *Requirement: Send at least two students to RYLA or Interact Symposium*

Compliance: Yes

We sent two students - a student from Nordhoff High School and our Rotary Youth Exchange student from Belgium.

#3 *Requirement: Have a new community service project which involves service to youth of community.*

Compliance: Yes

Childhood Obesity Task Force

RC of Ojai has convened a community-wide task force to plan and implement a comprehensive multi-organization approach to counteract Childhood Obesity in the Ojai valley. The RC of Ojai is working in conjunction with the Ojai Valley Community Hospital, Ojai Unified School District, and Ojai Valley Youth Foundation to identify and fund programs that will begin in July 2007. A major fund raising "Duck Derby," combined with a children's health and fitness fair, is planned for Sunday, November 4, 2007. All money raised at this event will fund the new programs currently being planned by the Childhood Obesity Task Force.

#4 *Requirement: Publicize your Community Service Projects in local newspapers or at an informational booth at community sponsored events.*

Compliance: Yes

Please see the following attached items:

- (1) News clippings
- (2) Informational brochure on the Rotary Club of Ojai and its contribution to the community.
- (3) Brochure on the sixth annual "Taste of Ojai," a major Club fundraising event on the grounds of the Ojai Valley Inn.
- (4) Poster for "Dia de Los Ninos y de Los Libros" literacy event

#5 *Requirement: Sponsor or participate in a new or on-going senior citizen project.*

Compliance: Yes

We conducted three Community Health and Memory Forums, continuing programs of past years. The Community Health Forum, co-sponsored with the Ojai Valley Community Hospital is an ongoing project which invites members and the general community to a series of health related forums conducted by well known (usually University based) physicians. Attendance is usually 80 to 100 with about half being Rotarians and family. Other attendees are members of the community, and this project is very popular with seniors.

The ongoing Memory Seminars are now in their fourth year. This is jointly sponsored with UCLA's Center on Aging. Six weekly two hour sessions teaching memory retention techniques are held for 14 to 20 people of all ages, but are mainly directed to seniors.



#6 Requirement: Participate in a literacy program.

Compliance: Yes

We had two projects promoting literacy:

(1) "Dia de los Ninos y de Los Libros"

For the second year the Club offered Dia de los Ninos, a day of fun and learning at the Ojai library on March 25. The day included games, a youth mariachi band, tamales and popcorn, free family portraits by a professional photographer, and each participating child received a new book, and was encouraged to obtain, a library card. Both English and Spanish books were available.

(2) "Caring about Education" Kindergarten Packets

Members prepared 300 packets of school supplies, beginning readers and information for parents about reading and education that are distributed by members of the club to each new kindergarten student in the Ojai Unified School District. Packets are prepared in Spanish and English.

#7 Requirement: Participate in a project with another club.

Compliance: Yes

The Rotary Clubs of Ojai and Ojai-West had two joint projects:

- (1) Cemetery Clean-up: a work day at the Ojai cemetery.
- (2) Ojai Living Treasures program that honors outstanding community members

Comment:

In addition to the mentioned Criteria, the Community Service Committee found other ways to contribute to our community. Annually we raise funds, and invite local not for profit organizations to submit requests for monetary grants. In 2007, \$30,000 is being distributed to various groups, including the Ojai Unified School District, Hospital Foundation, the Ojai Youth Foundation, HELP of Ojai (seniors), Boy Scouts, The CREW, etc.

OJAI ROTARY and THE OJAI VALLEY INN
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TASTE OF OJAI



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Bodee's	Rainbow Bridge
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Il Giardino	Sakura Ojai
Jersey Mike's	Sea Fresh
Movino	Soule Park Restaurant
Ojai Coffee Roasting Company	Suzanne's Cuisine
Ojai Ice Cream	The Ranch House
Ojai Valley Community Hospital	Tottenham Court
Ojai Valley Inn and Spa	Zhena's Gypsy Tea

Wine provided by:

Southern Wine and Spirits, Baron Herzog Winery,
Summerland Winery, Old Creek Winery

Saturday, September 30, 2006

3:00 pm to 6:00 pm

On the greens at

The Ojai Valley Inn and Spa

Enjoy Food, Drink and Live Music!

Delicious Appetizers, Entrees, Desserts, and
Beverages from Celebrated Restaurants

\$60 per guest per ticket

Tickets available at:

Tottenham Court - 805 646-2339

Ojai Chamber of Commerce - 805 646-8126

State Farm Insurance - 805 646-0101



For the benefit of the Rotary Community Charities

Removable Feast

Rotary Club lines up dozens of restaurants for 'Taste of Ojai'

Nao Braverman
nao@ojaivalleynews.com

Anyone hankering for elegant appetizers, ranging from Spanish tapas to fresh sushi will find a feast at the "Taste of Ojai."

Visitors and locals who have yet to dine at some of Ojai's renowned restaurants or sample from some of the nearby wineries can do both in one evening followed by tea and dessert.

On Saturday, Sept. 30, from 3 to 6 p.m., the Rotary Club of Ojai will be hosting the tasting, with 17 participating restaurants, and four wineries.

The booths will be set up on

the greens at the Ojai Valley Inn & Spa at 905 Country Club Road.

Participating restaurants include: Auberge at Ojai, Azu, Boccali's, Bodee's, Feast Bistro, Il Giardino, Jersey Mike's, Pangea, Q-Time BBQ, Rainbow Bridge, Ruben's Burritos, Sakura Ojai, Sea Fresh, Soule Park Restaurant, Ojai Valley Inn & Spa, Suzanne's Cuisine, The Ranch House, and Tottenham Court.

Wines will be provided by Southern Wine and Spirits, Baron Herzog Winery, Summerland Winery and Old Creek Winery.

Ojai Valley News

Please see Taste, Page A-3 9-15-06

"Whatever we make goes right back into the community," said Jones. Tickets are \$60 per person and are available at Tottenham Court, 646-2339, Ojai Valley Chamber of Commerce, 646-8126, or State Farm Insurance, 646-0101.

Taste:

(Continued from Page A-1)

Ojai Valley Community Hospital is also participating and Friends Ranch, Ojai Coffee Roasting Co. and Zhen's Gypsy Tea will be offering refreshments. Ojai Ice

Cream will provide dessert.

David Maestro, who has toured with various artists including Stevie Wonder and War, will be playing a mixture of soul, rhythm and blues and hits from the 1940s.

This is the sixth annual event coordinated by the Rotary Club of

Ojai. Proceeds will go toward Rotary community charities.

Last year the event raised about \$17,000, this year they hope to raise around \$20,000 said Rotary Club member Colin Jones, who is chief organizer of the event.

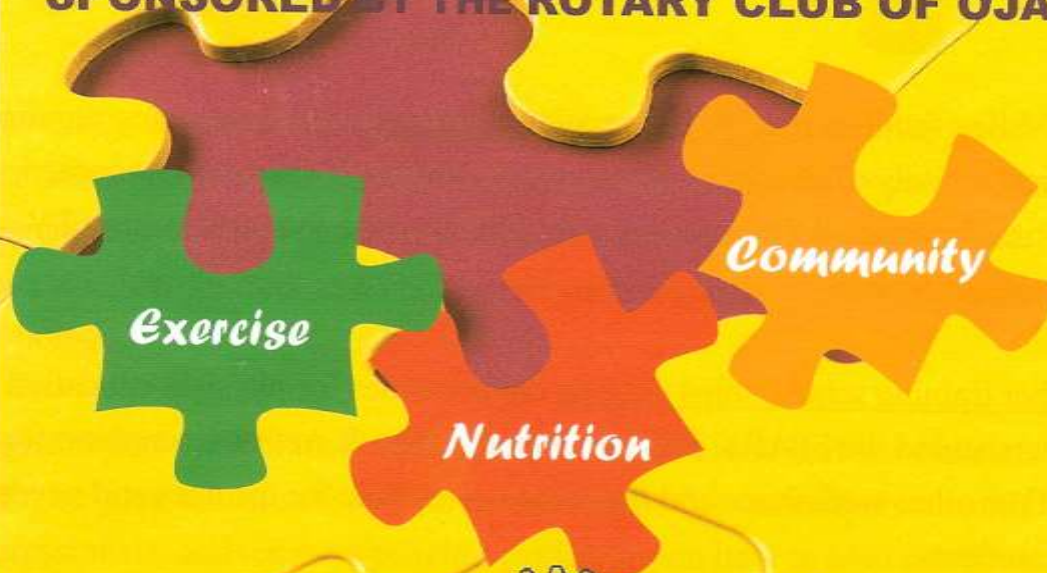
Ojai Valley News • Wednesday, Oct. 4, 2006 A6



Photo by Bob Clement

Fit Ojai!

SPONSORED BY THE ROTARY CLUB OF OJAI



Rubber Duck Derby



**Media Blitz!
Anti Obesity!**

**Professional Training
Opportunities for
PE teachers!**

**Sports Scholarships
for Kids!**

**Partner with Schools to Promote
Healthy School Lunches!**

**Community-Based
Nutrition Education!**

**Expanded Community
Recreation Activities!**

**Health Screening
for Families!**

**Walk or Bike to
School Wednesdays!**



**Community
Activity Days!**

Social Support Networks!

**Teachers as Role Models.
Staff-Wellness Incentives!**

**Increase Availability
of Local, Fresh Produce!**

Treasure Trove

Rotary Club of Ojai Living Treasures for 2007-2008 were honored at a reception at the Ojai Valley Museum on Tuesday evening. This year's honorees are, from left, Mike Caldwell, Alice Gardner, Hailey Johnson, Helen Adams, Leslie Clark and Dr. Raymond Sims. The Living Treasures, a joint project of Rotary Club of Ojai-West and Ojai Rotary Club, received more than 30 nominations for treasures this year. "Living Treasures recognizes individuals in the community and supports them in their commitment to be of service to others," according to the committee's mission statement. Treasures are selected by a communitywide nominating process.



Photo by Rob Clement



INTERNATIONAL SERVICE AWARD

Requirements Needed: Five

Requirements Completed: Nine

#2 Requirement: Display or Showcase any International Project, which the Club has participated in the last two years, at District Conference or any community event.

Compliance: Yes

(1) Poster display at District 5240 Conference about Club sponsored matching grant for Cereal Banks for nomads in Niger.

(2) Poster display on our Cereal Banks for nomads matching grant at the Poverty Conference at CSUCI in November 2006

(3) Exhibit on grain banks and water wells for Niger nomads Sunrise at Rotary International Assembly for Incoming District Governors in San Diego in January, in cooperation with Rotary Club of Westlake Village Sunrise.

(4) Club President Kay Bliss was a presenter on the International Service Panel at the District Assembly on April 27 in Oxnard.

#3-- Requirement: Provide at least one Rotary Foundation Program concerning International Projects to the entire club.

Compliance: Yes

(1) Presentation by 6 Rotarians in Club who went to Niger to view Rotary matching grant projects for nomads in Niger, deliver medical supplies, and attend the charter celebration of Rotary Club of Agadez. This was a most powerful and personal example of how TRF benefits through the matching grant program.

(2) Presentation on TRF by PDG Brenda Cressey: "Rotary Hearts in Action"

#4 Requirement: Club attains annual Rotary Foundation giving of \$100 per member.

Compliance: Yes

Rotary Club of Ojai donated \$15,800 to the Annual Program Fund, which averaged \$200 per member. We also donated \$3,835 designated for various matching grants, and an additional **\$5,605 to Polio Plus Partners**. This averaged over \$132/member in addition to our contribution to the Annual Program Fund, making our total contribution to TRF \$320/member.

#6 Requirement: Club participation in at least one new International project.

Compliance: Yes

(1) Sponsored a \$58,000 Matching Grant for Cereal Banks in Niger, West Africa, This matching grant will provide grain for 12 remote nomadic settlements in Niger. Ten clubs from three districts contributed to this project, and we received DDF from D5240, D5960, and D9100.

(2) Delivered \$6,000 of medical supplies to Niger West Africa, to be distributed by Niger Rotary clubs.

(3) \$1,500 to sponsor five children for the Kumasi Street Children Scholarship Program in Ghana, West Africa. This was done in cooperation with Club MAD, our Youthact club.

#7 Requirement: Participate in an International project with another club.

Compliance: Yes



- (1) Contributed \$1,500 to matching grant for Benin Vocational Training Program for polio victims in Benin, West Africa, sponsored by Rotary Club of Westlake Village Sunrise
- (2) Contributed \$200 to matching grant that funded a water purification project in Patzcuaro, Mexico, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Carpinteria.
- (3) \$360 donation to PACE School for Girls in India, a project sponsored by Deepa Willingham and Rotary Club of Santa Ynez Valley.
- (4) \$100 donation to wheelchair project, sponsored by Fillmore Rotary Club.
- (4) Worked with Rotary Club of Westlake Village Sunrise to develop a coordinated a multi-matching grant plan (involving 4 interlocking matching grants) to provide wells, herd replacement, cereal banks, agricultural training, and education for nomads in Niger.

#8 Requirement: Sponsor a joint International Project/Conference with Youth.

Compliance: Yes

Trip to Tecate, Mexico on May 18-21, 2007, to build a fence and deliver supplies for an orphanage, in cooperation with the Rotary Club of Ojai West, Interact Club at Nordhoff High School and Matilija Junior High School Club MAD (Making a Difference -Youthact Club).

#9 Requirement: One member to RI Convention.

Compliance: Yes

Six members plus their spouses attended the 2006 Copenhagen conference, and our president-elect and his spouse will attend the 2007 Salt Lake City convention.

#10 Requirement: One member attend Poverty Conference Nov. 17-19, 2006 at Cal State Channel Islands.

Compliance: Yes

Six members attended, and Honorary Member Leslie Clark was a featured speaker.

In addition to the above projects:

Phase II of Construction of Teshie Orphanage Infirmary/Community Health Clinic – Accra, Ghana (Total cost: \$14,330). Our Club sent the second installment of \$5,880 to Rotary Club of Accra, Ghana, for Phase II of building the Orphanage Infirmary/Community Health Clinic in the low income community of Teshie, on the outskirts of Accra. RC of Accra and Rotaract Club of University of Ghana-Legon are coordinating the building of the clinic, and our club is funding it.

Six Club members and two spouses traveled to Niger to tour sites of humanitarian projects (including cereal banks) operated by The Nomad Foundation, which is the NGO that will administer the matching grant. They also attended the charter celebration of the Rotary Club of Agadez and delivered medical supplies valued at \$6,000.

We hosted an inbound Rotary Youth Exchange student from Belgium, and sponsored an outbound Rotary Youth Exchange student.

Provided lighting and sound technical expertise, volunteers, and refreshments for a benefit concert featuring Tuareg nomad musicians from Niger. Proceeds went to The Nomad Foundation for teachers' salaries, and costs not covered by matching grants.

Four members attended the District 5240 Clean Water Projects Conference at California Lutheran University on February 10.

Member Randy Roth participated in the India Polio Plus NID in February, 2007.

International Service Director and PP Tony Thacher went with D5240 Rotarians to tour the sites



of a water purification project in Patzcuaro, Mexico, and met with Mexican Rotarians.

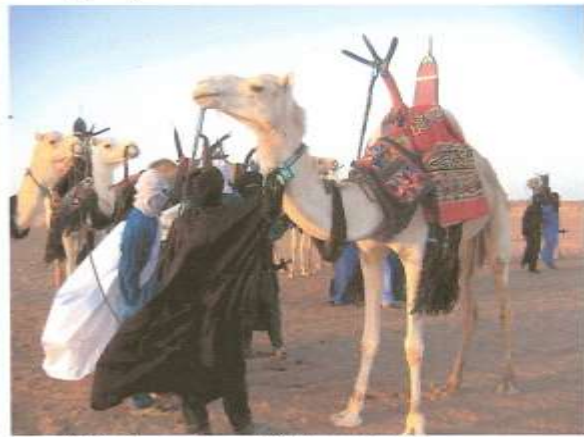
We were honored to have PRIP Bhichai Rattakul attend our club meeting on March 30, 2007, as guest of PRID Sam Greene.

Programs at weekly club meetings included a concert by Tuareg nomad musicians from Niger, and presentations on "Darfur, Sudan: Humanitarian Crisis," and "Teaching in a Tanzanian Refugee Village," and "Tibetan Aid Foundation."

Ojai Rotarians' Expedition to Niger, West Africa
January 26 – February 13, 2007



Presenting medical bags to Niger Rotarians



Waiting for camel races at Charter celebration



Presenting our Ojai club banner to "Ecole Ojai" teacher



Giving Rotary pin to community leader



Recipients of cereal bank grain



Cereal Bank building



Camping in the Dunes



Meeting with Agadez Rotarians

The Rotary Clubs

of Ojai and Westlake Village Sunrise



Making a difference.



The Nomad Foundation works with people in nomadic communities in Niger to decide how to work together to help them survive and thrive. The Nomad Foundation seeks to address the following essentials in every community with which they work:

WATER FOOD WORK
EDUCATION HEALTH



Rotary Club of Ojai

www.ojaifoundation.org

Tony Thacher, International Service Chair

Email: tthacher@aol.com

805-646-2871

Rotary Club of Westlake Village Sunrise

www.westlakesunriserotary.org

Randy Strong, Community Service Chair

Email: rstrong@marketingstrong.com

805-499-3412

*One step closer to
self-sustaining life ...*



... in the world's poorest country.



Grain Banks &
Water Wells for Niger Nomads



Photo by Matt Mallams

Niger-bound

Edward Artis, left, Michael Karlin, Leslie Clark and Bob Davis stand in front of the eight bags filled with medical supplies that will be donated to the Rotary Club of Agadez, Niger. Artis was one of the featured people in the documentary, "Beyond the Call," about his humanitarian efforts. He, and Century City Rotary Club member Karlin, are teaming up

with the Rotary Club of Ojai to deliver aid to drought-stricken communities in northern Niger, as well as attend the charter celebration of the Agadez, Niger Rotary Club. Davis, club president Kay Bliss, Larry and Judie Beckett, Catherine Lee, Dietrich and Valerie Schmidt, and honorary Rotarian Alice Chesley will be make the trip Jan. 26 to Feb. 13.



Photos by Rob Varela / Star staff

The members of Tidawt — Oumara Al-Moctar, Alassane Fougounou and Hasso Akotey — perform Friday morning for the Rotary Club of Westlake Village. The trio's lyrics often deal with the hardships of life in Niger.

Nomadic trio plays 'rock' fundraiser

By Tony Biasotti

tbiasotti@VenturaCountyStar.com

The Tuareg live as nomads in the Sahara Desert. They have few schools, little in the way of modern convenience and often not enough food.

But they do have electric guitars.

On Friday, a Tuareg trio called Tidawt played to a crowd of about 200 at Ojai's Matilija Junior High School. The concert was a fundraiser for Ojai resident Leslie Clark's Nomad Foundation, which takes food, education, healthcare and jobs to the Tuareg and other nomads living in Niger.

Tidawt's music is not far from American rock, dominated by simple, catchy, blues-based guitar riffs. The lyrics are something completely different: They celebrate the armed rebellion that the Tuareg waged against Niger's government in the early 1990s.

"They're asking the Tuareg to rise up against injustice and the marginalization of their culture," Clark said earlier this week as she sipped Tuareg tea with the members of Tidawt at her Ojai gallery, Nomad. They chatted in French,

because the nomads don't speak English and Clark doesn't speak their native Tamasheq.

During the rebellion, the nomads needed a way to communicate between camps scattered across the desert. So they began recording songs and passing the cassettes back and forth. Sometimes the lyrics were generic calls to fight for freedom, and other times they were coded messages about specific rebel plans, Clark said.

The music was taken from traditional African forms, including a rhythm based on a camel's gait, and given new life with Western-style guitars.

"The rhythms are traditional, but the guitar is new," Clark said. "There are even electric guitars now."

The music was banned by Niger's government, which only made it spread faster. The rebellion ended a decade ago, but today, "virtually the whole generation of young men play the guitar," Clark said.

The members of Tidawt — Oumara

See **NOMADS** on B2



Hasso Akotey plays guitar during Friday's Tidawt performance. The guitar is very popular among young Tuareg men.

**Construction of an Infirmary and Well Woman's Center
At the Teshie Orphanage, Teshie, Accra, Ghana
(Estimated Project Cost: US\$14,400)**

Description of the Proposed Rotary Project:

The proposed project will fund the construction of an Infirmary and Well Woman's Center on the premises of the Teshie Orphanage, at an estimated cost of US\$14,400. The facility will serve the medical needs of the orphanage and those of needy women and children in the community.

Objective of the Project:

Public medical facilities, which offer affordable health services in the Teshie area, are non-existent. The services of private medical facilities are costly and outside the means of most of the residents as a result of their generally low income. The center will therefore provide free medical services to other needy persons in the Teshie area particularly women and children.

The Teshie Orphanage is in a particularly distressing situation financially due to the increasing cost of medical and other services for the orphans. A free medical service to be provided by the Center will enable the Orphanage to utilize the amount of money to be saved to finance the provision of other pressing needs such as feeding the orphans.

Construction of a building on the grounds of the orphanage that will house the Infirmary/Well Women's Center, is the first step in providing these services. The model of having one building serve as an infirmary that provides for the orphans' health needs, and also as a health resource for the community, has been implemented successfully by Orphanage Africa at three other orphanages in other under-served communities in Accra.

The center will provide the following medical services:

- (1) Pre- and postnatal medical services (medications/ vitamins)
- (2) Counseling on the health status of women and preventive health measures
- (3) Birthing medications
- (4) Public health education
- (5) Family planning training
- (6) Information on sexually transmitted diseases
- (7) Community health training
- (8) Balanced diet and nutrition awareness

The following category of medical personnel will be recruited to supervise the services to be provided at the Well Woman's Center:

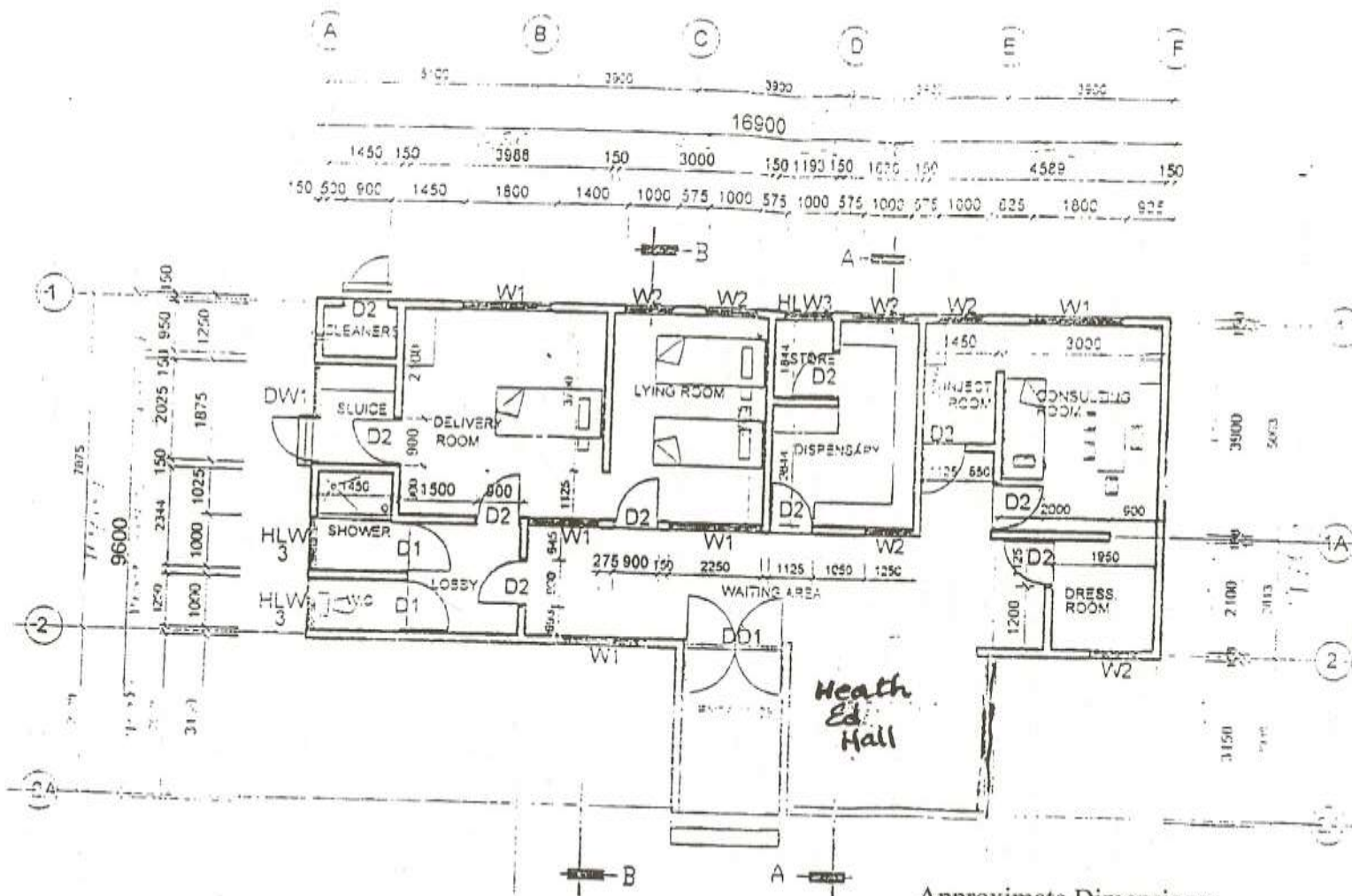
- (1) Nurse (1)
- (2) Midwife/Women's Health Counselor (1)
- (3) Health Attendant (1)

Sustainability:

Rotary Club of Ojai's financial commitment to this project will cease after the building is completed. On completion of the Well Woman's Center, Orphanage Africa will ensure that it support the Center to engage the services of competent medical personnel to administer the Center. It will also ensure that the basic medical supplies are always provided to enable the Center to function effectively. Orphanage Africa will actively supervise the activities at the Center to ensure the sustainability of the project.

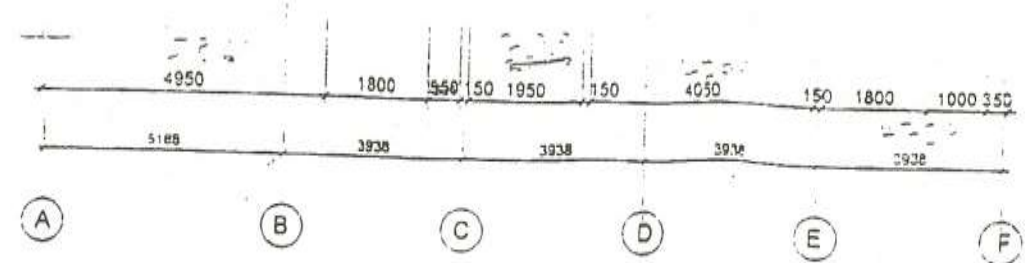
About Orphanage Africa:

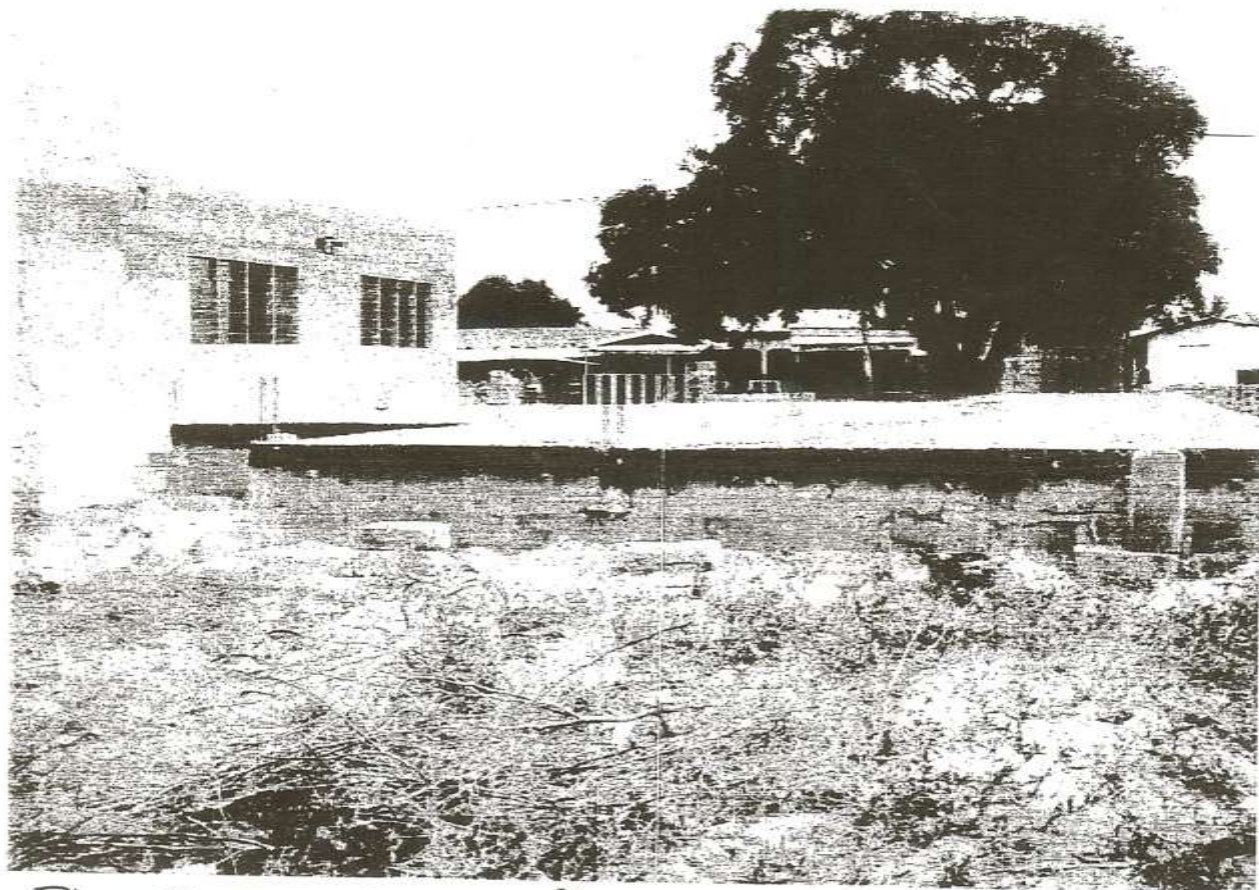
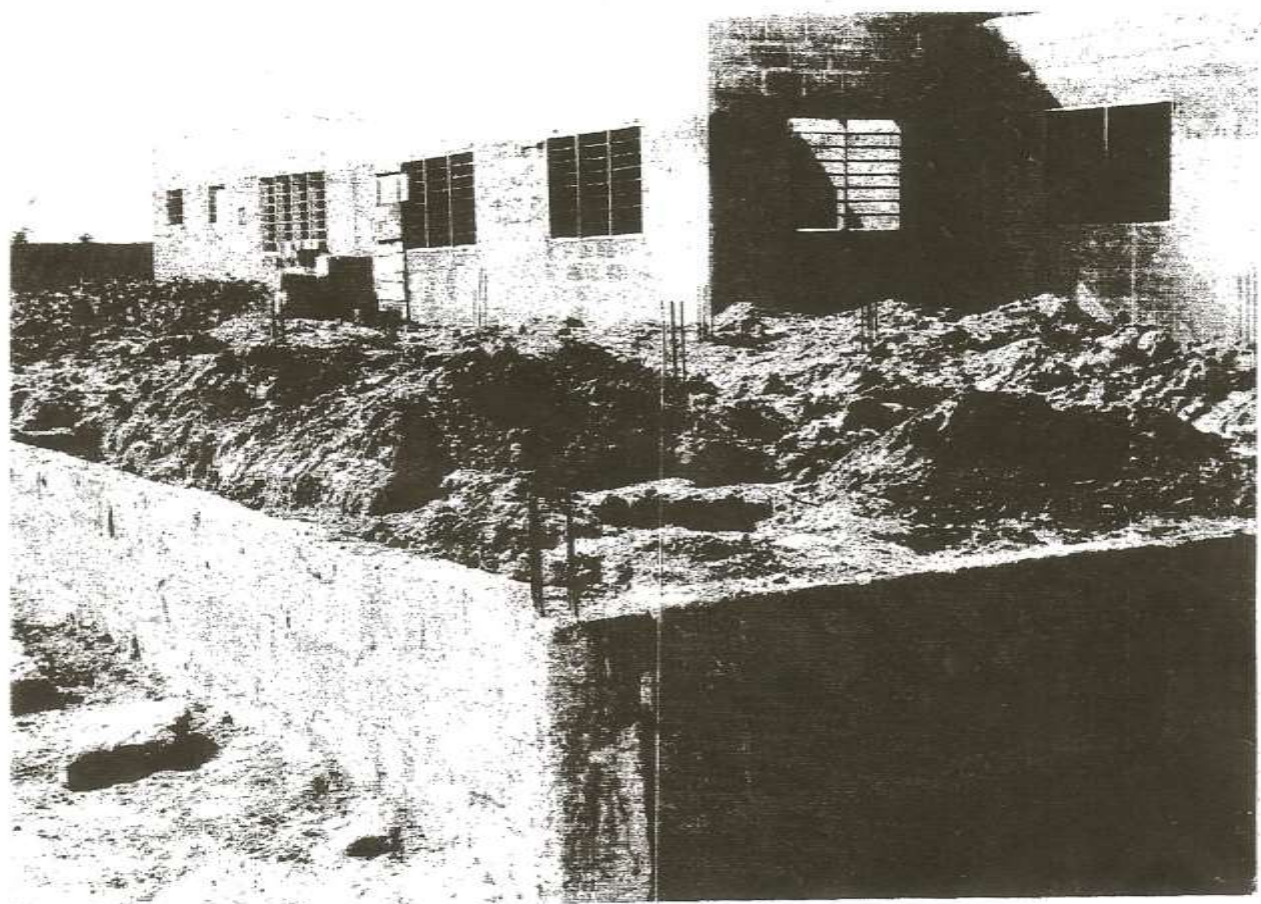
Orphanage Africa, an NGO founded in 2002, strives to assist orphanages throughout Ghana and other parts of Africa to become self-sufficient. It aims to insure education, nutrition, hygiene, and health care in



GROUND FLOOR PLAN

Approximate Dimensions:
Feet: 55' x 31' = 1705 square feet





Phase I - Teshie Orphanage Infirmary / Community Health Clinic - Accra, Ghana
Dec 2006



Phase I - Foundation Teshie Orphanage Infirmary / Community Health Center
12/06



VOCATIONAL SERVICE AWARD

Requirements needed: Five

Requirements completed: Seven (Two for #6)

#1 *Requirement: At least one official visit to a place of business held as regular club meeting.*

Compliance: Yes

Meiners Oaks Elementary School, Arbor Day Tree planting, April 27, 2007.

Member and PP Al West arranged an official visit to Meiners Oaks Elementary School for our regular club meeting on April 28, 2007. The Club was hosted by member, PP, and school principal Marty Babayco. Members enjoyed lunch at the school, students presented a program on Arbor Day and Boy Scouts helped plant new trees at the school.

#2 *Requirement: Employer/Employee Relations Program where Rotarians bring employees.*

Compliance: Yes

Employee Appreciation Day at the April 20 Club meeting.

Members of the club hosted notable employees at a club meeting on April 20, 2007. The employees enjoyed a club meeting and were honored with certificates and small gifts.

#3 *Requirement: Organize or conduct a Four-Way Test essay program.*

Compliance: Yes

Students from local schools submitted 180 essays.

Member Jim Berube organized the annual Four Way Test Essay contest during March 2007. Students from local schools submitted 180 essays which were read and judged by Rotarians. A winner was selected for each level, elementary, junior high and high school. The winners were guests at a club meeting on April 13, 2007, to read their winning essays and receive their \$50 prize. The winning essays were forwarded to the District.

#4 *Requirement: Organize and Conduct a mentor program*

Compliance: Yes

Vocational presentations to junior high AVID class

Our members gave monthly presentations October through April about various careers to the AVID class at Matilija Junior High School (AVID stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination, and is a special class designed to encourage promising students currently not on the college track to set higher educational standards and goals.) Rotarians tell the students about their business or profession, what led them to choose that career, what it took to get there and the reward and satisfaction they found.

#6 *Requirement: Sponsor a high school or vocational scholarship (over \$1,000 counts as two)*

Compliance: Yes

Four vocational scholarships totaling \$8,000 are awarded. The Ojai Rotary Education Foundation is awarding 19 scholarships of \$2,000 to 2007 graduating seniors residing in the Ojai Valley, plus \$4,200 for teacher continuing education, for a total of \$42,200.



- #7 Requirement: Presentation of Vocational Service Award which may include an Ethics in Business, Teacher Recognition or Public Service (completion of each award counts as completing a requirement).**

Compliance: Yes

Fred Clapp Ethics Award

On April 20, 2007 members Scott Eicher and PP Lerie Bjornstedt presented the club's annual Ethics Award to Pamela Plummer, owner of Curves of Ojai and Oak View. Pamela was honored for the high standards and commitment to the community, particularly in the area of promoting health and wellness.

- #9 Requirement: Organize and conduct a High School interview day.**

Compliance: Yes

Matilija Portfolio Project

For the 9th year members of our club were involved in organizing and conducting the annual Interview Day at Matilija Junior High. Member Bruce Brockman organized this program which was supported by the Ojai West Club. Rotarians met individually with each member of the graduating 8th grade class to review highlights of their work in junior high, discuss their future goals and provide an opportunity to meet and interact with adults on a professional level. Rotarians reviewed over 300 student portfolios.



YOUTH SERVICE AWARD

Requirements needed: Six

Requirements completed: Six (#10 counts as two)

#1 Requirement: Conduct a new Youth Service project.

Compliance: Yes

High School Seminar: Financial Know-How for the Real World

Members Janet Mahon, Craig Edwards and Ron Wilson put together a presentation on financial basics including banking, applying for credit, and avoiding the pitfalls of credit cards. The program was originally presented on April 22 to the senior economics class at Nordhoff High School. It will be offered again at the end of May to all graduating seniors. We plan to expand this to series of seminars to be offered at all local high schools.

#4 Requirement: Participate in a Literacy program.

Compliance: Yes

(1) "Dia de los Ninos y de Los Libros"

For the second year the Club offered Dia de los Ninos, a day of fun and learning at the Ojai Library on March 25. The day included games, a youth mariachi band, tamales and popcorn, free family portraits by a professional photographer, and each participating child received a new book, and was encouraged to obtain, a library card. Both English and Spanish books were available.

(2) "Caring about Education" Kindergarten Packets

Members prepared 300 packets of school supplies, beginning readers and information for parents about reading and education that are distributed by members of the club to each new kindergarten student in the Ojai Unified School District. Packets are prepared in Spanish and English. We also sent some packets to an orphanage in Tijuana, Mexico.

#5 Requirement: Send at least two students to RYLA or Interact symposium.

Compliance: Yes

We sent two students - a student from Nordhoff High School and our Youth Exchange Student from Belgium.

#7 Requirement: Organize and conduct a Four-Way Test essay program.

Compliance: Yes

Students from local schools submitted 180 essays.

Member Jim Berube organized the annual Four Way Test Essay contest during March 2007. Students from local schools submitted 180 essays which were read and judged by Rotarians. A winner was selected for each level, elementary, junior high and high school. The winners were guests at a club meeting on April 13, 2007, to read their winning essays and receive their \$50 prize. The winning essays were forwarded to the District.

#8 Requirement: Organize and Conduct a mentor program

Compliance: Yes

Monthly presentations about careers to junior high AVID class

Our members gave monthly presentations October through April about various careers to the AVID class at Matilija Junior High School (AVID stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination, and is a special class designed to encourage promising students currently not on the college track to set higher educational standards and goals.) Rotarians tell the students



about their business or profession, what led them to choose that career, what it took to get there and the reward and satisfaction they found.

#10 Requirement: Sponsor a high school or vocational scholarship.(Over \$1,000 counts as two).

Compliance: Yes (Two points)

Nineteen scholarships awarded by the Club's Educational Foundation

The Ojai Rotary Education Foundation is awarding nineteen \$2000 scholarships to 2007 graduating seniors residing in the Ojai Valley, plus \$4200 for teacher continuing education, for a total of \$42,200. Four scholarships are designated for vocational education totaling \$4,000.

Other Ongoing Youth Service Projects:

1. The club continued its sponsorship of a Youthact club, "Club MAD" at Matilija Junior High School. This project in conjunction with the Ojai Valley Youth Foundations which offers students the opportunity to participate in service projects, including a service trip to Tecate, Mexico scheduled for May. Member and PP Nic Franc served at Rotary liaison with help from Judy Gabriel and Lori Bolton. (Also see International Service.)
2. Physical Education Participation Awards: Sponsored by member and PP Fred Fauvre, this monthly award honors a local student to participation in physical education program at local schools.
3. Student of the Month Awards: Member Dan Swanner worked with local schools to recognize students for academic excellence.
4. Athlete of the Month Awards: Member Scott Eicher worked with the sports editor of the local newspaper to honor local student-athletes.
5. Our club continues to sponsor Boy Scout Troop 504.
6. Fourth of July Freedom Run, a ¼ mile race for children ages 2-12 –a traditional event in the Ojai Independence Day Celebration, sponsored by Rotary Club of Ojai and Ojai Unified School District.
7. We hosted an inbound Rotary Youth Exchange Student from Belgium, and sponsored an outbound Rotary Youth Exchange Student.
8. Donated \$600 to "Haley's Treasure Chest," a fund started by a Youthact "Club MAD member who is a cancer survivor, and has a project to provide activities for cancer patients at Los Angeles Children's Hospital, and bus tokens so that their parents can visit them.



8th Time Through
The Pergola



12th Annual
4th of July, Youth
"Freedom Run"

Ages

2 through 12

Distance

½ mile or 1 mile

Route

Starts on Ojai Ave. next to Post Office
and runs East on Ojai Ave.,
out and back along parade route

Times

Registration: 8:45 am
Warm-up exercises 9:00 am @ Libby Park Fountain
Run: 9:15 am
Parade: 10:00 am

Awards

For all Youth Participants

Transportation back to the parade start will be provided for the participants
in time for the parade

Parents may accompany youth on the run

\$1 donation is optional

Please respect the posted times

Sponsored by Rotary Club of Ojai and Ojai Unified School District

Independence Day Celebration - 4



7/4/06

día de los **niños** **Book Day**
Children's Day **día** de los **libros**

Sunday, March 25 1 pm—3 pm
domingo, 25 de marzo 1 pm—3 pm

Ojai Library
Biblioteca Ojai



A Literacy Project of the Rotary Club of Ojai

Participants:

Friends of the Ojai Library
Neighborhoods for Learning
Smart Start Child Development Center

mariachi music, food, free books!
¡música mariachi, botanas, y libros gratis!

Para más información llame al 646-1711 • Call 646-1711 for more information

Girl, 12, offers help to other cancer victims

'I have a little story,' says Johnson about six-year battle against dreaded disease

Sondra Murphy

sondra@ojaivalleynews.com

Twelve-year-old Hailey Johnson's smile is inspirational. Perhaps that's because she's earned it the hard way, having waged war against cancer since age 6.

She addressed fellow members of Club M.A.D. at Matilja Junior High recently about her illness and how she is working to improve the hospital experience for other children fighting the disease. Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Ojai, MAD stands for Making A Difference.

"I have a little story," Johnson began. "When I was 6 I learned I had neuroblastoma. This is a solid tumor that spread through my body." Johnson said that she probably developed the disease at age 4 and was diagnosed at 6. "I was so young when I got it, I didn't really know what was going on. My bones were aching, my back was always hurting and I cried a lot. My doctor thought maybe I had arthritis. Then a specialist discovered it was cancer."

By the time Johnson was diagnosed, "It was at stage four, which is the worst stage." She talked about her treatment at Children's Hospital Los Angeles, which involved surgeries, blood transfusions, and pinpoint radiation. Johnson described one surgery that lasted nine hours. "The doctor opened me up and had liquid on the tools to help clean my organs. They didn't actually remove them, but had to lift them out to clean them, then put them back."

"I spent one year in the hospital. I missed all of first grade. At the age of 7, I weighed 32 pounds," Johnson commented about how her life was different from other children's while battling cancer. "Because I wasn't healthy, I learned to swim when I was 7. I learned to ride a bike when I was 9. There are probably a lot of things you learned when you were younger that I didn't."

Johnson glowed when recalling the support of her family. "I spent a lot of holidays at the hospital. My family came to visit, we opened presents in the hospital. My mom and dad took turns going back and forth to the hospital. The beds hurt their backs."

She giggled when sharing, "On New Year's my grandma brought cider and cookies ... and I played poker with my grandpa." Besides her parents and grandparents, Johnson has two sisters. "My older sister lived with her mom, so she didn't come over



"Not a lot of people have a chance to go through that and mature and still be here."
— Hailey Johnson

(Continued from Page A-1)

me. I talked to her later and she told me she was really scared when I was in the hospital. My younger sister was just a baby, so she doesn't remember it."

One special activity Johnson recalls at CHLA is that, "I remember the kids liked to walk down the hall to where we could see the Hollywood sign." She added, "When you're in the hospital, there's not a lot of things to do. Just video games and cards."

Though most of the other patients were younger, Johnson made two friends her age while at CHLA. "One passed away while I was still in the hospital and the other passed away recently."

After her original treatments, doctors were 98 percent sure they

Johnson. "A tiny bit of cancer was still there, and it grows," she told the club. "I had a feeling of disappointment and a feeling of being scared." Johnson has now been cancer-free for about a year. "This time, the doctors are 99.999 percent sure that all the cancer is gone."

Now, Johnson hopes to help others. "The idea I had about a (Club M.A.D.) fund-raiser is to raise money for kids at my hospital. I have started something there called Hailey's Treasure Chest that has things for the kids to do while they're in the hospital, like crafts," Johnson said. "It would be nice to be able to send holiday decorations and things to the kids at the hospital. Happiness and belief are probably 50 percent of it. Happier kids would probably make the

"My helper doctor is Roz. She's the one who is now my manager of Hailey's Treasure Chest."

The coordinating teacher for Club M.A.D. is Jennel Dohrn. She is also a cancer survivor from CHLA. As a 12-year-old, Dohrn was diagnosed with a brain tumor and treated at the hospital. She was one of the patients who liked to walk down to see the Hollywood sign. "Listening to Hailey brought back a lot of memories of my own time at Children's Hospital," Dohrn said and thanked the student for sharing her experiences and ideas with the club. "Hailey is a very special girl."

"I'm just grateful to have my family," Johnson joyously summed up. "Not a lot of people have a chance to go through that and mature and still be here."

Neumann earns Rotary award

Nikki Neumann, a fifth-grader at Sunset Elementary School, was presented with a \$50 savings bond in front of her parents, Robin and Norman Neumann, and younger sister Tory, second grade, and with her principal, Cynthia Dillon, standing behind her.

Her teacher, Jennifer Bundy, and school representative, Linda Burns, said that "she is a student who accepts responsibility and takes pride in herself. Nikki mentors her little sister. She is a very social person and is self-motivated. Math is her favorite subject, but she also enjoys reading (she likes to spend time at Barnes & Noble). Sports are important to Nikki. She plays tennis, surfs, and loves to exercise. She is always a positive participant."

She is also the only girl on her Little League team, dad Norman told P.E.P. coordinator Dr. Fred



Photo by Bret Bradigan

Dr. Fred Favre, left, presents Sunset Elementary School fifth-grader Nikki Neumann with a Physical Education Project \$50 savings bond from the Rotary Club of Ojai. At right, Sunset Elementary School principal Cynthia Dillon.

Favre, and she is in the top three hitters competing against the boys.

After the \$50 savings bond and certificate were presented, Neumann said a few words.

"She did a very good job at this and was very positive," said Favre. "I had several comments from club members as to how well-spoken she was."

Ojai Valley News - August 25, 2006



Rotary Cares

Kindergarten teacher Camille Houston and Rotarian Scott Smith distribute Kindergarten Readiness Packets to students at Mira Monte Elementary School. This is the sixth annual "Caring about Education" partnership between the Ojai Unified School District and the Ojai Rotary Club. The purpose of the program is to get school supplies in the hands of kindergarten students as they start their public school education, and put Rotarians in the classroom for an interesting experience. Twenty-two Rotarians were involved in

Rotarians honor LSS' Russ

C.R.E.W. member named Student of the Month

Laurel Springs School is proud to announce that Colin Russ has been chosen as the Ojai Rotary Club Student of the Month.

"Colin came to us in ninth grade after having struggled at a local high school. Initially his adjustment to Laurel Springs was challenging, as he needed to learn the skills of motivation and discipline in order to succeed," says Amber Walker, head of marketing at LSS. "Colin initially found the experience frustrating, but teachers Michelle Muntz and Alison Leete supported him and found curriculum that worked for him." Laurel Springs School's flexibility allowed him to have the option of attending Aspen Academy's Wilderness Program

where he experienced new and challenging adventures that encouraged him to grow as an individual.

"Upon his return to resume his LSS coursework, his outlook was the difference between night and day," says Walker. "He submitted lessons full of intelligent reflection and humor. He created a PowerPoint presentation to share his work in his biology lab. He has been active in the local youth group, C.R.E.W., out on the mountains in the heat cutting trails for the public to use, and has dreams of being a top culinary chef in his own restaurant."

Russ, born and raised in Ojai, has learned a lot about finding himself, the definition of success and being a leader.

As the Rotary March 2007 Student of the Month Russ was



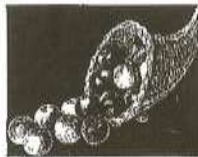
Colin Russ

presented with a savings bond at the Ojai Rotary Club lunch on March 9.

Health and Hunger

Rotarians worldwide have an opportunity and an obligation to help those less fortunate to achieve good health and be free from hunger. By our very involvement and presence, we have put the "face and heart" of Rotary on this mission in our own communities and around the world. Rotarians have made a difference in the lives of many during 2006-2007! Let us continue in our service to others, by giving selflessly when opportunities are put before us. Remember only a world free from "Hunger and Poverty, and in Good Health", will lead us to World Peace and Understanding.

Let's "Lead the Way" . . . Together. Good Luck! EMC/GC



**ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT
WILLIAM "BILL" BOYD
2006-2007**

HEALTH AND HUNGER RESOURCE GROUP

**DR. EILEEN GENTILCORE
GENERAL COORDINATOR**

**DR. CHUCK MASUR
ASSISTANT GENERAL COORDINATOR**

AREA COORDINATORS

ABDURRANMAN FUNSHOAFRICA
RODOLFO ESTRELLADO.....ASIA
SERGE GOUTEYRON . PRID EUROPE
JOSE ALFREDO PRETONI. PRID. . LATIN AMERICA
LYNMAR BROCK JR. . PRID.NORTH AMERICA
TERRY GRANT..... SOUTH PACIFIC



Rotary International

"Lead The Way"

Health and Hunger Awards

**R.I. President Bill Boyd
2006-2007**

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**SUSHIL GUPTA, PRID
ADVISOR**

RI Staff Liaison

**Abby McNear
David Plater**

We're Here to Assist!

Health and Hunger Suggested Activities

1. Invite speakers to present programs about aspects of Health and Hunger at a club meeting.
2. Organize a community project in health, such as a health fair, perhaps in conjunction with your local library or Chamber of Commerce
3. Volunteer to serve at a soup kitchen, individually or as a Rotary Club.
4. Develop a project to improve health in the workplace, a prison, or an organization in your community where a need exists.
5. Conduct a project in which every new mother, at a local hospital, receives a package of information, regarding good health and nutrition.
6. Promote a contest, whereby children write, draw, paint, or use some other type of materials, to present their rendering of Health and Hunger needs.
7. Become involved in an international Health or Hunger project either hands-on, shipping supplies or grant supportive, (i.e. AIDS, World Food Program, Program Polio, Operate Heart Surgery, Hunger Plus.
8. Prepare an exhibit of your club's Health and Hunger projects and display it at the District Conference. Congratulations!
9. Please add your own activities! We're sure that you'll have many of your own outstanding, creative and visionary projects. Please share them! Thank you and Congratulations!

Health and Hunger Award

To qualify for the GOLD HEALTH AND HUNGER AWARD, your club must participate in one Community Project in Health and one in Hunger and one International Project in Health and one in Hunger. To qualify for the SILVER AWARD, your club must participate in one project in Health or Hunger at the Community Level and one project in Health or Hunger at the International level.

I, President of the Rotary Club of

Ojai, CA

certify that our club has completed the activities below to qualify for the Health and Hunger Award/s.

COMMUNITY

- 1) Health - Present Community Health Forums 4x/yr
co-sponsored w/ Ojai Valley Community Hospital
- 2) Hunger - Convened a monthly task force of community leaders
(dietitians, school board member, youth foundation rep, PE teachers, preschool director) to study ways to prevent
childhood obesity and promote fitness and good nutrition,
INTERNATIONAL especially in low income + hispanic population

- 1) Health - Deliver 8 duffle bags with medical supplies
(valued at \$1000 each) to Rotary Clubs in Niger (Jan. 20)
- 2) Hunger - matching grant # 61063 approved to provide
Cereal Banks for Nomads in Niger - \$58K.

President's Signature Katherine Ann Bliss Date 2-27-07

Please forward to your District Governor, who will then forward to the Zone Coordinator and/or Area Coordinator. Certificates will be mailed to your District Governor. It is Important to state date needed.

DEADLINE: APRIL 15TH. Good Luck!