

The Rotarygram



Rotary Club of Van Nuys

Volume 4, Issue 21

Club 724 — District 5260

November 24, 2004

Meeting Highlights

JOINT SERVICE CLUB MEETING



Reverend Angeline Pike

Meeting at the Airtel Plaza Hotel this week, we had members from the Mid-Valley Chamber of Commerce, Rotary and Kiwanis clubs in attendance. Leading off, Nancy Vanyek, CEO of the Chamber and member of Van Nuys Rotary, introduced the presidents of each organization and followed with her observations of the Valley and aspirations for new directions.

On this day before Thanksgiving, our presenter, Reverend Angeline Pike, spoke on "12 Options for a Thanksgiving Experience." Her list was comprehensive and inspirational, giving each of us present ample thoughts for reflection on our joys and abundance — and our opportunities to reach out to others.



Nancy Hoffman Vanyek

Take the time to appreciate each moment

Help someone without being asked

Ask for inner guidance in all you do

Nurture your Spirit by being in Nature

Know that we are all concerned

Send out thoughts of love and peace

Give without any thought of receiving

Invest time in prayer and meditation

View the world with eyes of gratitude

Invoke and appreciate change

Newly experience each person each day

Grow closer to the indwelling Spirit in man

Conference & Convention



District Governor Kermit Floyd (shown left with his wife, Marsha) has initiated exciting promotional programs to encourage attendance at our District Conference and the Rotary Centennial International Convention to be held in Chicago, Illinois, the birthplace of Rotary.

Every Rotarian has a chance to win a **free** trip for two to the District Conference being held next May in Palm Springs.

In addition, every Rotarian has a chance to win a **free** trip to Chicago for the International Convention — value equals \$1000.00.

The great thing about these promotions is that you only need to do things that you may do anyway! Like: register for the Conference, attend the Tarnished Brass Dinner (and hear Rick King, Past RI President), bring in a new member, get a new Paul Harris Fellowship, find your name on the District website or bring 10 visitors to our club meetings.

You'll be hearing more details on these incentives at our next meeting...

Announcements

- See **HOT DATES** on page 4 for upcoming club and community events.
- Remember December 14 is the Annual Holiday Party — to be held at the home of Paul Davis, 7:00 p.m. Get signed up with Barbara Baerg.
- The painting project for the Van Nuys facility of Tierra del Sol needs your help...talk to Jim Sullivan to get on board...we expect to have a date soon.
- Leo O'Biecnas still needs to fill his pool...the USC/UCLA pool, that is. Last chance: Wednesday, 12/1.

The Spotlight's On...

Rotary Centennial Project



More than 150 soldiers in Iraq will be receiving care packages from the Rotary Club of Van Nuys in the next few weeks – thanks to the efforts of project chairman Joe DiFatta and his willing crew of helpers. Marsha DiFatta, Mike Quiroga and friend Teri, Gonzalo Tejada, Van Nuys President Carlos Rivera, Jamie Cordaro, Victoria Castillo and friend Jessica, Charles Bergrin and Andrea Reinken gathered Nov. 20 at Mike Quiroga's home in Northridge to fill bags for our troops in Iraq.

What started out to be a little bag of "goodies" ended up as two large bags stapled together and filled with necessities and treats. Each two-bag package contained shampoo, conditioner, body lotion, vitamin E oil, Baby Wipes, a memo pad, a paperback novel, pens, a deck of cards, a yo-yo, a Rotary pen, candy (lots) and packages of beef jerky. A Rotary T-shirt and a heart-felt, handwritten letter from a student from Cohasset Street or Bassett Street elementary schools were also inserted into each package.



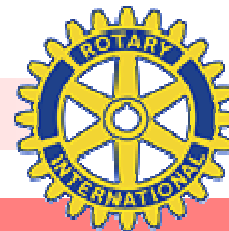
After the bags were packed, they were stapled shut, wrapped in clear tape and then boxed for transport. This past Monday, Joe DiFatta and Charles Bergrin took the 14 boxes to Camp Pendleton for shipment to Tony Quiroga (Mike's son) and his unit in Iraq.

Many thanks to Joe and Marsha DiFatta for leading this project, to Mike and Teri for hosting the assembly process and for providing a delicious lunch of homemade Brazilian fare, and to all of the volunteers who worked for many hours to gather all of the materials and make certain these packages will be in the hands of our military men and women by Christmas.

Photos by Jamie Cordaro

"Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life."

– Confucius



"Service Above Self"

Rotary Club of Van Nuys

Upcoming Programs

- Dec. 1 **UCLA vs. USC** — wear your school colors...today's meeting will center on the big game (12/4). Decorations, raffles, celebrity guests, rivalry and fun. Chair: Jim Tenner.
- Dec. 8 **Robert Garcia** — principal of Fulton Middle School speaking on the new changes in this level of schooling. Program chair: Ken Benson.
- Dec. 15 Mark your calendar and **plan to bring a guest**...this will be our **Annual Holiday Luncheon** — with choral entertainment by the choir from LA Valley College under the direction of Jennifer Kelly. Always an excellent program!
- Dec. 22 Ho, Ho, Ho! Santa Claus will visit our meeting today — you're invited to bring guests, especially children and/or grandchildren. **Please let Barb Baerg know how many guests you are bringing.**

BIRTHDAYS

- Nov. 26 Irv Ryder
- Dec. 2 Andrea Reinken
- Dec. 26 Gonzalo Tejada
- Jan. 25 Robin O'Biecnas
- Jan. 26 Helen Worthen
- Jan. 29 Vickie Smith

HOT DATES

- Nov. 28 Riveras' Wedding Anniversary
- Dec. 12 District Holiday Brunch — 10 a.m. to noon at the Castaways Restaurant.
- Jan. 15 District Leadership Meeting — 11 a.m. at Sam's Café, New Horizons.
- May 19-23 District Conference, Doral Resort Hotel in Palm Springs.
- March 4-6 RYLA <http://www.rotary5260.org/ryla/>
- June 18-22 RI Centennial Convention, Chicago, IL Celebrating 100 years of Rotary!

We're on the web! VanNuysRotary.org

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