

The Rotarygram



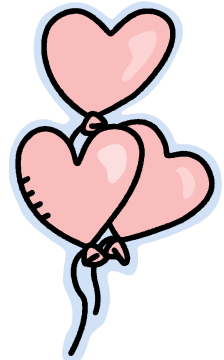
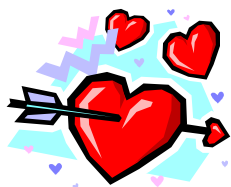
Rotary Club of Van Nuys

Volume 4, Issue 31

Club 724 — District 5260

February 9, 2005

Meeting Highlights



Entertainment for today's Valentine's Party featured "The Al Mooney Quartet" who serenaded us with wonderful songs like "Heart Full of Love," "Little Duce Coupe" and "My 409."

Program Chair Joe DiFatta thanked his wife, Marsha, and Barbara Baerg for all their help with decorations, gifts and preparations for the day's festive occasion.

The room was filled with people, Rotarians, their guests and visitors: Major Julie Beauchamp, wife of Major George; Robin and Carol O'Biegunis, wife and sister of Leo; Marilyn Fetherolf, wife of Don; Magdalena Rivera, wife of President Carlos; Mari Satuloff, wife of Pete; Vicky Smith, wife of Flip; Helen Worthen, wife of Ken; Joan Tenner, wife of Jim; Louanne Rowlands and Tonia Fellert, guests of Ed Viramontes; Norris Dorsey, David Wilson and Larry Boraman, guests of Vicki Castillo; Tom and Lynne Harris and Harley and Lynne Malloy, guests of the club.



Member John McDannell, left, and DG Kermit Floyd.

"When two people love each other, they don't look at each other. They look in the same direction."

- Ginger Rogers

Student Recognition



Our honorees today, chosen for their personal development and service to the community, were from Birmingham High School. Each honoree was awarded a Commendation Certificate from the Rotary Club of Van Nuys and a \$50 US Savings Bond.

Pictured from left, are Choir Director Michael Suffock, honorees Jamie Paddock and Ryan Newton, Club President Carlos Rivera and Recognition Chair Victoria Davidson-Castillo.

Congratulations, Jamie and Ryan!



President Carlos has declared that February (the month Rotary was founded) will be "100 % Attendance Month" for Van Nuys. He urges every Rotarian to be at every meeting in February! (If you can't make it on Wed., do a make-up.)

Visitors

Rotarians:

- DG Kermit Floyd
- Roz Kogler from North San Fernando Club.

Announcements

- Joe DiFatta reminded us of Rotary's 100th Birthday celebration on February 23rd with an outstanding speaker, Past RI Director, Elmer Jordan, to be held at the Airtel Plaza Hotel.
- President Carlos introduced and thanked the head chef of the 94th Aero Squadron.
- Victoria Castillo reminded us of the RYLA camp—see Hot Dates, page 4.

The Spotlight's On...

DISCOVERING BOB RICE... *By Andrea Reinken*



I didn't know Bob Rice well. I had met him and his wife, Marty, at a few Rotary events and concluded that they were long-time members of the Van Nuys Rotary family.

Over time, I learned that Bob was a contractor and had built Joe and Marsha DiFatta's

beautiful house on Farralone Avenue in Chatsworth. Pete and Mari Sataloff spoke warmly of their friendship with the Rices, but I didn't ask the questions that would have told me more about who they really were and what made them such good friends.

Now that Bob has gone off to be with Marty once again, I'm finally asking questions about this man so many people cared about. Who was he? Why was he so well-liked?

"He was a giving man," says Joe DiFatta. "If you were his friend, you were always a friend." He was also a man of great determination who made sure projects got done, Joe adds. "I thought of him as the John Wayne of Rotary."

Ken Benson agrees. "He was the guy who stood up for what was right and never flinched," Ken recalls "Bob could get to the heart of any issue and tell you what was real...and if he made a commitment, you could take it to the bank."

According to Ken, Bob and Marty Rice were an "incredible driving force" behind the many Rosarito Beach projects, including the pre-school that bears their names. It was Bob Rice, Ken recalls, who wanted the club to do more after the first trip to deliver clothing.

In his eulogy at Bob's memorial service, Pete Sataloff described Bob as "a gentle giant who loved people and loved to help people." Pete tells how he showed up at Bob's door the day of the 1994 earthquake because he was not certain his home (Pete's) was safe anymore. "Bob dropped his own cleanup and came

immediately to our home to help," Pete recalls. "That's who Bob was."

His friendship with Bob (and Marty) was very important to Pete, who recalls the many good times shared, including trips to the Rice cabin and numerous Rotary events such as the mystery bus trip or the Dodger games where Rotarians would take children from the YMCA or adults from senior homes. And there were the parties, too, at the Rice home. "They were both such gracious and generous people," Pete adds. "We will forever be enriched for knowing this special man with a huge heart who could also make you chuckle at his mischievous personality."

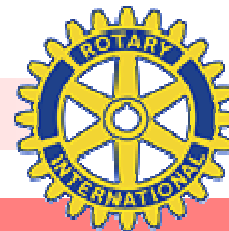
Bob's mischievous side was no secret to Archie Kidwell. He recalls sitting next to Bob at Rotary meetings in the Masonic Hall before the Van Nuys Club moved to the 94th Aero Squadron Restaurant for meetings. "Bob would always put silverware from the caterer in my briefcase or in my suit pocket," Archie says. "I almost had a complete set of silver by the time Rotary left the Masonic Hall."

"a gentle giant who loved people and loved to help people."

Archie has another significant memory of his friendship with Bob Rice. He remembers with pleasure when Bob, who had left the club for a few years, told him that he wanted to return to Rotary during Archie's term as president.

Dan Schlick also recalls Bob as very giving and involved in everything. "Bob was president of the Van Nuys Club for 1978-79 when I joined Rotary. He was a fun guy who had a great sense of humor – sometimes it was a little twisted," Dan says with a chuckle.

I now have a picture in my mind of this mischievous, loving, gentle giant with a big heart who knew how to get things done. Seeing him and his accomplishments through the eyes of his good friends has helped me understand why Bob Rice will be missed. I wish I had gotten to know him better.



"Service Above Self"

Rotary Club of Van Nuys

Upcoming Programs

- Feb. 16 **LAPD Ed Davis Training Center** — Officer Michael Dutton, Facilities Management Unit, will give us his insider’s view.
- Feb. 23 **Elmer Jordan, Past RI Director**, will talk about **100 Years of Rotary**. To be held at the Airtel Plaza Hotel.
- March 2 A Virtual Tour of the **Skirball Museum**. You’ll get to see an important, great museum that is only minutes away from the Valley.
- March 9 Craft talks — Charles Bloomquist of New Horizons and...
- March 16 **Angel’s Flight** — Jim Weaver tells the stories of how plane owners donate their time and plane to provide transportation for people in medical need.

BIRTHDAYS

- Feb. 13 Leslie Cordaro
- Feb. 13 Molly Winnick
- Feb. 15 Guy Mangia
- Feb. 15 Jeff (Ross)
- Feb. 20 Nancy Hoffman
- Feb. 25 Joe DiFatta

HOT DATES

- April 23 **25th Annual Van Nuys Invitational Track Meet** at Birmingham High School. Victory Blvd. at Woodley.
- May 11 **President’s Day** — mark your calendar to hear Dennis McCarthy, *Daily News* reporter.
- May 19-23 District Conference, Doral Resort Hotel in Palm Springs.
- March 4-6 **RYLA** — get all the info on the web at <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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