



Van Nuys Rotary Club ROTARYGRAM

Volume 7 · Issue 1

Club 1470 · District 5620

July 2009

Monthly Announcements

Thanks were given from President Charles Bloomquist to Jim Tenner and Tom Harris for their attendance at the PRLS session at Sam's Café on July 11th. Jim commented on the PRLS sessions, saying that they were all well done and that attendance to these sessions has since become a requirement of the district prior to taking the office of Club President. President Charles also reminded everyone that Rotary members are strongly encouraged to bring guests to club meetings. Attendees were asked to assist Bobby Rojas in coordinating speakers for future Rotary Club meetings.

It was also announced this month that the Rotary Club of Mid San Fernando Valley would be hosting a yard sale, and a general consensus among members was in agreement to partner with them. Concerns were voiced, however, and included: central collection location, weather, staffing, and liability for recalled items.

Diana Sanchez reminded members that Tuesday, August 4th is Annual National Night Out takes place at Birmingham High School, from 5:00PM to 9:00PM. The event is geared to foster a sense of community while teaching ways to combat crime in the neighborhood.

Project Knapsack

Ms. Porche Dodson, Founder of Project Knapsack, attended the July 22nd club meeting to talk about the goals and activities of the organization.

Project Knapsack is a 501 (c) 3 Non-Profit organization which seeks to foster cross-cultural communication via a pen-pal network between elementary and secondary school students in the United States and developing nations, especially Africa. It seeks to enhance the current level of primary education, as well as provide a curriculum including writing, language arts, and phonetic awareness. Students on the developing end of the exchange each receive their own backpack filled with educational supplies and an assortment of other learning tools.



Project Knapsack was launched in December 2007 and has since expanded to South Africa, Zambia, and El Salvador. More information can be found online at www.ProjectKnapsack.org.

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On Auto Repairs

Auto repair is infamous for being a tricky endeavor. On July 15th, Robert Ramirez spoke at the club meeting and offered the audience several helpful auto body repair tips:

1. Get full coverage from a reputable insurance company. (Even "fender-benders" can average \$700!)
2. Opt for the "car rental" insurance option.

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On Auto Repairs *(Continued from page 1)*

- 3. Take photos of your vehicle immediately after it is involved in an accident.
- 4. Insist that the auto shop use “Cappa” parts, as they are of higher quality.
- 5. Do not use the auto body shop that the insurance company sends you to.
- 6. When your car is repaired, all parts involved in the accident should be replaced by new ones.

Robert mentioned that if the vehicle exceeds four years of age, the original parts involved will not be used, but will instead be replaced by after-market parts.

Robert has an expressed passion for automobiles, both domestic and imported, and was retired before purchasing an auto body & paint shop. He has two beautiful daughters and has been happily married for thirty years.

Fines

Pete Satuloff was fined \$50.00 for the pleasure of announcing to the club the arrival of his grand – daughter, Shayden. She was born at Santa Monica/UCLA hospital, and weighed in at 7lbs. 8oz.

Don Reinkin was fined \$50.00 for the intro – duction of his recently born grandsons, Joshua and Brian, who are also identical twins. The boys weighed in at 4lbs. 7oz. and 4lbs. 11oz. respectively.

Paul Davis and Guy Mangia were also both fined \$20.00 for having the privilege of being voted as Reader’s Choice Award recipients of Best Insurance agent and Best Dentist, respectively.

Diana Sanchez was fined \$30.00 for having recently earned a Master’s Degree from Cal State University – Long Beach. Congratulations!

Club Officers



- Charles Bloomquist.....President
- Barbara Mack.....Treasurer
- Roberto Rojas.....Club Serv. Director
- Diana Sanchez.....Community Serv. Director
- Don Reinkin.....Vocational Serv. Director
- Webmaster
- James Tenner.....Membership
- Imm. Past President.....Tom Harris
- Brandon Nunn.....Rotarygram Editor

Guests

- Rick Feldman – Guest of Robert Ramirez
- Shoshana – Guest of Jim Tenner
- Brian Wood – Visiting Rotarian, Rotary Club of Studio City

Club Raffles

- 7/15: Diana Sanchez won the 50/50 raffle and is contemplating early retirement.
- 7/22: Bobby Rojas won the 50/50 raffle and is thinking of purchasing a personal aircraft.