

The Rotarygram



Rotary Club of Van Nuys

Volume 4, Issue 11

Club 1470 — District 5260

September 15, 2004

Meeting Highlights

Craft Talks — The interesting stories of their lives and occupations were given by Victoria Castillo and Fred Rabban.

Vickie, born at Northridge Hospital, lives in the family home in Van Nuys with her husband, Sarafin, and their children. When younger, she couldn't wait to get away from Van Nuys — but later, when she came back, she found it to be a great place and has become very involved in community activities. For Vickie, Rotary has become a natural extension of her service orientation.

A long-time employee of UPS, Vickie has worked her way up from a part-time job loading/unloading trucks to her current full-time position as a regional manager of human relations.

Fred, born in Iran of Jewish parents, arrived in New York in 1989 with virtually empty pockets. He promptly got a job, went on to a university for his engineering degree, and worked in that profession. Later, his interest turned to real estate, and while still working as an engineer, he got his real estate license. Dropping his engineering work, Fred concentrated on buying and selling real estate and finally launching his mortgage broker service.

Fred married in 1980. He and his lovely wife, Zhila, have three children and live in an exceptional home in Tarzana.



Speakers Victoria Castillo, left, and Fred Rabban were introduced by Diane Eaton.



16 de Septiembre: El Grito de Independencia, Mexican Independence Day — a short history of the Mexican fight for freedom from the Aztecs, and later from Spain, was presented by Ed Viramontes. Bravo!

Visitors

Visiting Rotarians: None today.

Guests: Margie Hawkins was introduced by Cherie Spamer. Ken Benson introduced Sean Sawyer, guest of the club. Barbara Baerg again proudly introduced her granddaughter, Ashley Anderson.

Entertainment Books—2005...see Paul Davis or Larry Winnick!

District Leadership Meeting...



District 5260 Governor Kermit Floyd at the podium. Remote site video link on monitor in center. Local video monitor at left shows picture being sent to Bishop/Mammoth Lakes remote.

Monthly District 5260 meetings are typically held in the San Fernando valley at Sam's Café, a part of New Horizons. Presidents, other club and district chairs hail from as far as Santa Clarita valley and Bishop/Mammoth in the Sierras.

To enable participation from those distant clubs, especially those in the Bishop area, a new interactive video link has been implemented. Using this high-tech approach, introduced by Gov. Kermit Floyd, attendees at the remote location can see, hear and talk to those at the local meeting site. Similarly, folks at Sam's Café can communicate with those at the remote location.

For example, one of the Rotarians in Bishop lead the flag salute — and they all introduced themselves.

Another innovation this year has been special training sessions held concurrently with the main meeting. This month the topic was membership development and retention.

Any Rotarian may attend the monthly leadership meetings — maybe you'd like to go to see for yourself. You'll learn more about Rotary and the district.

Announcements

- See HOT DATES on page 4 for upcoming club and community events.
- Mike Quiroga and Joe DiFatta proposed (for Jim Sullivan) that we carry out a project to assemble and ship 'care packages' to our servicemen and women in Iraq.
- Don Fetherolf reported that LAPD Chief William J. Bratton will speak at the upcoming Mid-Valley Police Council Citizen's Recognition Awards luncheon on October 7 at the Airtel.
- Flip Smith reported on the very successful YMCA Swing Dance fund raiser...maybe \$50,000, or more net. Congratulations!
- Mike also talked about the international project to put a new roof on the Red Cross building down in Rosarito Beach, Mexico. Plan on being there...October 8, 9 and 10th. See Mike.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You...



To the GREATEST Rotary Club on Earth:

It has been three months since you elected me to serve during Rotary International's Centennial Celebration year as your President.

We have started off this year with great enthusiasm, participation and dedication. I am very proud to share with you the projects, programs and events that have taken place in the last three months.

We've accomplished the following:

- Participated in the San Fernando Valley Fair, a community event and fund raiser.
- Attended a Dodger game with kids from underprivileged families.
- Helped with the transfer of BMW cars from one dealership to another, with funds going to the Breast Cancer Society.
- Attended Cohasset Elementary School to assist students in the Literacy Program.
- Organized Van Nuys Rotary's biggest (to-date) Eye Glass Clinic in Rosarito, Mexico under the direction of Dr. Leonard and Mike Q.
- Enjoyed outstanding weekly programs.
- Improved our lunch and attendance.
- Entering into a joint project with the YMCA.

Our honorable past-president, Jim Tenner, has gone all out with his new membership drive.

Kudos to Don (and Andrea) Reinken for an extraordinary job on the **Rotarygram!**

Special thanks to the Board of Directors and all the club members for such wonderful collaboration.

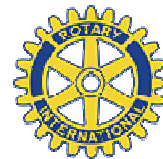
VAN NUYS ROTARY MEMBERS, YOU ARE THE BEST!!!

Sincerely,

Carlos Rivera
President

**Long ago when men
cursed and beat the
ground with sticks, it was
called witchcraft...Today,
it's called golf!**





"Service Above Self"

Rotary Club of Van Nuys

Upcoming Programs

- Sept. 22 Former member, Gordon Mace, will give us his insider's view of what's happening in Commercial Real Estate. Chairperson — Archie Kidwell.
- Sept. 29 Conejo Valley Little League Champs — Vince Bonsignore, sports writer for the Daily News, has reported on this team and will tell all about the competition and more. Bring a youngster...you'll be glad you did! Program chair — Joe DiFatta.
- October 6 Financial Crimes — LAPD Detective II Debra Kane will be exposing the "Do's and Don'ts" in handling your personal affairs...a most timely topic. Maybe we'll learn how not to get caught by Identity Theft! Who do you know that might enjoy this program?

BIRTHDAYS

- Sept. 17 Barbara Baerg
- Sept. 19 Barry Leonard
- Sept. 21 Flip Smith
- Sept. 22 Ken Benson
- Sept. 24 Archie Kidwell
- Sept. 25 Jim Tenner
- October 5 Mary Mangia

HOT DATES

- Sept. 23 RCVN Board Meeting, 4:30 p.m. at Pete Satuloff's office.
- Sept. 24-26 Sierra (Bishop) Safari. Reserve NOW.
- October 7 Mid-Valley Comm. Police Council — Annual Citizen's Recognition Luncheon 11:45 a.m. — Airtel Plaza.
- October 22 Dinner/Theater: "Late Night Catechism II — The Sequel" El Portal Theater, North Hollywood.

We're on the web! vannuysrotary.org

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