



# THE SPOKE & WHEEL

THE SPOKE AND WHEEL IS PUBLISHED ON THE FIRST AND FIFTEENTH OF EACH MONTH

*The Official Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Mission Viejo, California*

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2234, Mission Viejo, CA. USA 92692  
 Meeting Place: Casta del Sol Golf Club, Mission Viejo, CA  
 Meeting Days: Tuesdays  
 Meeting Times: 7:10 a.m. to 8:30 a.m

President: Nick Alpino  
 Vice President: Gary Poertner  
 Secretary: Linda Blench  
 Treasurer: Bill Kersten

Directors: Past President Jim Leach; Club Service: Bill Greenfield, Jr.; Community Service: Brian Skalsky; International Service: Dr. Pushpa Chandwani; Vocational Service: Gary Poertner; and Club Officers.

## INTERNATIONAL SERVICE - UPDATE

### **CLEAN DRINKING WATER FOR VILLAGERS IN INDIA**

Details Provided by **PP George Cooper**



**Direct from India:** Prafull Karnik, President of The Rotary Club of Thane East, (in India), expressed his gratitude for the support of The Rotary Club of Mission Viejo. He attended the April 1 meeting in Mission Viejo to personally express appreciation. [Photo by Bill Kersten]

As you know from past reports, **Rotarian Dr. Pushpa Chandwani** visited a project site at Village Assose, India in January 2008. As a result of her visit, Dr. Chandwani met with the Rotary Club of Thane East, India, (District 3140), and they agreed on submitting a Rotary Grant proposal for a water [See Water, Page 2]

### April is "Community Service" Month

#### Upcoming District Events

April 18 - Rotarian Business Person of the Year Luncheon

June 15-18 - RI Convention, L.A.

#### Upcoming Club Events/Speakers

April 15 - "The Benefits of Solar Energy" - Brian von Moos, Business Development Manager & Certified Solar Installer, Borrego Solar.

April 22 - "Camp Rotary" - Meeting to be held at Oso Lake. Presenter will be Marty Catrone, Director of Camping, OC Council, Boy Scouts of America.

April 29 - Students share their experiences from RYLA Camp.

**[Water, from Page 1]  
MATCHING GRANT PROPOSAL**

project. The project proposal was detailed in the April 1, 2008 Issue of *The Spoke and Wheel*. (By the way, all past issues can be found on the Club’s award winning Website designed and maintained by **PP George Cooper.**) At the April 1 meeting, the Mission Viejo Club was honored with a visit from Thane East President, Prafull Karnik. Mr. Karnik thanked the Mission Viejo Club for the support rendered the proposed project. You may be interested in visiting the Website of The Rotary Club of Thane East at: [www.rcte.org](http://www.rcte.org).

Stay tuned for updates as this project progresses...

**CLUB NEWS & COMMUNITY SERVICE**

***PRINCIPAL OF ESPERANZA SPECIAL EDUCATION SCHOOL  
SPEAKS TO ROTARY***

Starr Avedesian, the Principal of the Esperanza Special Education School in Mission Viejo, spoke at the April 1 meeting of The Rotary Club of Mission Viejo. She discussed needs for the 53 special students at the school and expressed appreciation for the wonderful support from The Rotary Club of Mission Viejo. Of the 53 special students, 28 will participate in the local Special Olympics.



***Special Needs Students are Special:*** Ms. Avedesian, with a staff member and two students, share some insight into the desires and needs of the school and the programs at Esperanza Special Education School. **[Photos by Bill Kersten]**

Her presentation was timely, just prior to the Annual Rotary of Mission Viejo Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser for the school. **(Please see the Community Service article on page 4 in this Bulletin.)**

## CLUB NEWS

### **HONORARY CLUB MEMBER KRISHNA MATHUR - HEALTH UPDATE**

*Submitted by George Cooper*

This is news about our **honorary member Col, (Ret.) Krishna Mathur** of the Pune, (Poona) India Rotary Club - our sister club. Krishna visits us weeks at a time when he comes to stay with a son in Nellie Gail. Krishna has been hospitalized with pneumonia. **Rotarian Pushpa Chandwani** is keeping in touch with his family and reports that Krishna is feeling a little better; but remains quite weak and is still in the hospital as of March 30.

Please keep Krishna in your thoughts and prayers.

## MEMBERSHIP [REMINDER]

### **DATE SET FOR MEMBERSHIP DRIVE!**

**Members, please share the following information with your friends and neighbors.**

#### Rotary Informational Meeting

Who: People interested in serving their community and finding out more about Rotary. There will be no pressure to join Rotary and follow-up contact will only occur upon request.

When: Thursday, April 24, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

Where: Casta del Sol Golf Club

27601 Casta del Sol Drive, Mission Viejo, CA

Why: Find out how you can be an active member of your community. Members will explain the benefits of being a Rotarian, discuss current projects, and answer questions.

Questions? Please feel free to contact Jack Wallace at: (949) 831-8635 or email Jack at: [cjack4re@cox.net](mailto:cjack4re@cox.net)

### Make-up Area Clubs

**Anaheim** - Mondays, 12 p.m., Edison Field, 2000 Gene Autry Way

**Coto de Caza/RSM** - 7:15 p.m., Dove Canyon Country Club

**Dana Point** - Wednesdays, 7:15 a.m., Ritz Carlton Hotel Monarch Beach

**Laguna Beach** - Fridays, 12 p.m., Hotel Laguna, 425 S. Coast Hwy.

**Laguna Niguel** - Tuesdays, 12 p.m. at the St. Regis Hotel, 1 Monarch Beach Resort, Dana Point

**Lake Forest** - Wednesdays, 12 p.m. at Baker's Square, 23515 El Toro Road

**San Clemente** - Thursdays, 12 p.m. at the San Clem. Inn, 2600 Ave. del Presidente

#### On-line make-ups

<http://www.recswusa.org/info/f/31>

### Bulletin Staff



Photographer:  
Bill Kersten



Reporters:  
Verl Nash &  
Bob Bridges



Editor:  
Jim Hansen  
[jhansen4@cox.net](mailto:jhansen4@cox.net)



Contributor:  
George Cooper

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

### ***ROTARY'S ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER FOR ESPERANZA SPECIAL EDUCATION SCHOOL WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!***

The Annual Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser for Esperanza Special Education School was held April 13, 2008. The Rotary Club of Mission Viejo has been the organizer of this annual event for the past 20 years. This year's event was a huge success. On Sunday afternoon it was estimated that the club members served more than 550 pancake breakfasts. **All of the proceeds** from the event, (the breakfast tickets, silent auction items, opportunity drawing tickets, direct donations and business sponsorships), go to the school. The principal, Ms. Starr Avedisian, shared the school's desire for a new/newer van to transport students to and from community-based instructional venues. Therefore, the primary focus for the fundraiser was funds to purchase a van.

Some of the events, (beyond the tasty pancake breakfasts with sausage and coffee or milk), included face-painting, opportunity drawings, a live band, a silent auction, and more. Also, in one of the classrooms visitors could view a Powerpoint presentation of the school and school programs. The presentation provided an excellent overview of the programs offered at Esperanza.

The total dollar amount from the fundraiser is being finalized as this article is being written; but the amount seems to be the largest in club history and is expected to exceed the \$15,000 goal.

[PLEASE SEE ADDITIONAL PHOTOS on pages 11-14 by **Bill Kersten and Jim Hansen**]



---

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

### ***DON'T MISS CAMP ROTARY***

*A Note From Marla McGee, Senior Exploring Executive*

Marla wrote, "I know that **The Rotary Club of Mission Viejo is meeting at Camp Rotary on Tuesday, April 22.** I will be there, too! The next day, we will have one of our Workability Field Days at the camp. These events are comprised of outdoor team building activities for high school students with special needs. We would LOVE to have members of your club come out and help with this event."

Members, if you can help out at Camp Rotary on April 23, please notify Nick Alpino.

---

## ROTARY INTERNATIONAL **[REMINDER]**

### ***READ-BY-9 PROGRAM***

**Rotarian Jack Wallace** is coordination the Read-by-9 book collection for The Rotary Club of Mission Viejo. **Please help support the project by bringing one or more books, for children, to one of the next meetings.** Jack will ensure that the books are delivered to the Rotary International Convention in L.A. on June 15. Rotary International is hoping to set a Guinness Book World Record for the number of donated children's books at this event. Stay tuned...



## **CLUB NEWS**

### ***ROTARIAN, AND ANGELS FAN, JACK WALLACE TRAVELED TO ARIZONA***

**Jack Wallace** recently spent several days at the Angels' training camp. No, he wasn't training, he was watching the Angels play some of their pre-season games. Jack has been to Tempe, Arizona the past five years to prepare himself for baseball season. Jack, an avid Angels fan, was almost in the dugout when he took the top picture on the right. Thank you for sharing, Jack...and good luck Angels!




---

## **WHITE ELEPHANT** *(Revised April 1st)*

- April 15 - Bill Greenfield, Sr.
- April 22 - *(Meeting at Camp Rotary)*
- April 29 - Bill Greenfield, Jr.
- May 6 - Jim Hansen
- May 13 - Ed Heeren
- May 20 - Bill Kersten
- May 27 - Jim Leach



## CLUB NEWS



### **BOARD NOTES: “WHAT’S UP?”**

The Rotary Club of Mission Viejo  
 April 3, 2008 Board Meeting  
 Minutes

Present: Nick Alpino, Pushpa Chanwani, Jim Leach, Brian Skalsky, Bill Kersten

Visitors: Jack Wallace, Dennis O’Connor, Dave Williams

Meeting was called to order at 7 a.m.

Minutes of March, 2008 meeting were M/S/A

#### President’s Report

- Pres. Nick reminded the Board of the upcoming 4/5/08 District Assembly and invited participation
- There was a brief discussion of plans to recognize long-time Rotarians; particularly those in the club with more than 20 years membership/service
- Pres. Nick indicated that a recommendation on membership classifications would be forthcoming next month

#### International Service – Pushpa Chanwani

- Pushpa reported that the Matching Grant for the India Water Project had been applied for and approval is pending. Total amount is \$11,500.00

- Discussion of DG Brainerd’s request for consideration of our participation in a multi-year drinking water project in Myanmar (fka Burma) which would create drinking water for some 60-75 orphanages. 4 Districts are participating
  - o A pledge of \$1000/year from the club as M/S/A
- A report on the Costa Rica project will be forthcoming from the DG as well

#### Treasurer – Bill Kersten

- Bill reported that we are solvent with \$48K in the membership fund, \$29K and \$30K in charity funds and available for use
  - o Treasurer’s report was M/S/A
- Bill presented a chart he had prepared showing club donations. Recommended that he distribute this to the membership to show the good works we fund.
- Brief discussion of renewed effort to become a 100% PHF club

#### Secretary/Membership – Linda Blench

- NR
- 

#### Club Service – Bill Greenfield Jr.

- Report by Dennis O’Connor that the Esperanza Pancake Breakfast event is coming up on 4/13 and that fund-raising is going very well. A sign-up sheet will be circulated at Tuesday’s meeting

#### Community Service – Brian Skalsky

- Leach reported that plans for the annual Mayor’s Prayer Breakfast are proceeding
- Skalsky reported on recognition of MV Rotary at the Veteran’s Memorial
- Skalsky reported that a sign-up sheet will be circulated for participation in the 4/26/08 Rotarians at Work Food Drive
- Skalsky reported that Poker Night will be rescheduled to an upcoming Friday. Proceeds from this/ these event(s) go to the club membership fund.

#### Vocational Service – Gary Poertner

- NR

#### Old Business

- Pres. Nick reported that he continues to review membership categories for senior members and will report at a future meeting.

#### New Business

- Brief discussion of long-time members and recognition

Meeting was adjourned at 8 a.m.

## **DISTRICT NEWS**

### ***DISTRICT 5320 ASSEMBLY 2008***

The District Assembly was held on April 5, 2008 at Chapman University in Orange. As usual, the presentations were excellent. Not only were they informative, but motivating as well. Some of the topics discussed during the half-day Saturday program were: Foundation Basics, Community Service Opportunities, Rotary Outreach, Club within a Club, RYLA, The Many Faces of Rotary,

Retention Tools, International Projects, Matching and Simplified Grants, and much more.

If you missed this event, it is highly recommended that you attend next year. It is well worth the half-day investment!



*Opening Session: Rotarians find their seats for the Opening Session (Above).*

*Chapman University: Three of Chapman's well known sites on the beautiful campus (Below).*



## **CLUB NEWS**

### ***WATER RUNS DOWN HILL!***

The guest speaker for the April 8, 2008 meeting of The Rotary Club of Mission Viejo was an administrator of the Municipal Water District of Orange County. His discussion informed guests and visitors of some of the complexities of getting water to Orange County. He explained that the local water must go through the State Water District, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MET), Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC), and then through the local water provider; e.g., Santa Margarita Water District, before it reaches homes, schools, businesses, etc.

Questions and answers regarding the consolidation of water agencies, desalinization, “toilet to tap,” and more, added to the information presented and to the interest of the topic.

Rotarian Scott Walker provided The Rotary Club of Mission Viejo with another great topic and speaker. For more information go to: [www.socwa.com](http://www.socwa.com).



*Map of water districts (above) and speaker (below).  
[Photos by Bill Kersten]*

## **CLUB NEWS**

### ***CORAZON HOUSE BUILD***

Mission Viejo High School senior Lauren P. and her mother visited The Rotary Club of Mission Viejo on April 8, 2008. Lauren shared information about a project she is leading - Corazon House Build. She is organizing teams and raising funds to work with the project to visit Mexico in June and complete a house for a preselected family. Lauren has been leading a fundraising effort and is about half way to the financial goal.

The Rotary Board will discuss financial support for this project at the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting. However, if you are interested in donating personally, you may send checks made out to *Corazon*. Mail to: Lauren P., at 21102 Foxtail, Mission Viejo, CA 92692.



***Corazon House Build: Lauren and her mother speak at the April 8 meeting.***

***[Photos by Bill Kersten]***









**SHARE ROTARY**

**Nicholas Alpino** (Charlenne)  
 Group Travel  
**PP Brigitte Archer**  
 Mortgage Broker  
**PP Victoria Avery** (Dan)  
 General Insurance  
**Linda Blench** (Karl)  
 Contract Negotiator  
**PP Robert Blohm**  
 Senior Active Agriculture  
**PP Ross Boling** (Janet)  
 Medical Sales  
**Robert Bridges** (Betty)  
 Robotics Engineer  
**PP Barry Brownell** (Ety)  
 Restaurateur  
**Dr. Pushpa Chandwani**  
 (Nanik) Medical Doctor  
**PP George Cooper** (Margaret)  
 Adhesive Distributer  
**PP William Craycraft**  
 Sales/Marketing  
**Cu V. Ngo** (Thi)  
 Production Management  
**Robert J. Duffy** (Moraima)  
 Financial Advisor  
**Paul Dyke** (Kathleen)  
 Computer Service  
**Dr. Steven Fish** (Sue)  
 School Dist. Superintendent  
**PP Dr. Richard Frieder**  
 (Susan) Optometrist  
**Bill Greenfield Sr.** (Sandra)  
 International Operations

**MEMBERS**

**Bill Greenfield Jr.** (Sherry)  
 Education  
**James Hansen** (Cathy)  
 Education  
**PP Ed Heeren** (Virginia)  
 Aircraft Sales  
**PDG Jack H. Jones** (Joanie)  
 Aircraft Manufacturing Consultant  
**PP Bill Kersten** (Carol)  
 Computer Service  
**Carol Kersten** (Bill)  
 Honorary Member  
**PP Jim Leach** (Dot)  
 VP Government Affairs  
**Dave Leckness** (Nancy)  
 Printing  
**PP Col. (Ret.) Krishna Mathur**  
 (Pravena) Honorary  
**PP Dr. Tom MacKinnon**  
 (Jeannine) Dentist  
**John McEwan**  
 Code Enforcement  
**PP Bob McQueen** (Mary Jo)  
 School Administrator  
**PP Steve Mugg** (Susan)  
 Consultant  
**PP Richard Murray** (Paula)  
 Attorney, General Practice  
**PP Verl Nash** (Suzanne)  
 Education  
**PP Dennis O'Connor** (Bonnie)  
 Real Estate

**BRING A GUEST**

**Gary Poertner** (Adair)  
 Community College Administrator  
**Dagmar Richter**  
 Banking, Branch Manger  
**PP Dave Rukstalis** CLU/ChFC  
 (Ladona) Insurance Empl. Benefits  
**Dr. Aaron Sako** (Mako)  
 Optometrist  
**Brian Skalsky**  
 Industrial Hygienist  
**PP Norm Syler** (Luella)  
 Historian  
**Scott Walker** (Debbie)  
 Financial Planner  
**Jack Wallace** (Jeanne)  
 Residential Real Estate  
**PDG David C. Williams**  
 (Joann) Postal Service

**SERVICE ABOVE  
 SELF**

**THE 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?