



THE SPOKE & WHEEL

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

The Official Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Mission Viejo, California - Chartered September 13, 1974

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: 7:05 a.m. to 8:30 a.m

President: Gary Poertner
 President-Elect: Scott Walker
 Secretary: Dave Williams
 Treasurer: Bill Kersten

Board Members: All club officers plus Nick Alpino, Past President; Brigitte Archer, Director of Club Service; Dagmar Richter, Director of Community Service; Dr. Pushpa Chandwani, Director of International Service; and Jim Hansen, Director of Vocational Service

RI and District Officers: D. K. Lee, RI President; Roger McGonegal, District 5320 Governor

ROTARY CLUB OF M.V. PLANS FUNDRAISING GALA EVENT!

Photos by Bill Kersten and George Cooper

The Rotary Club of Mission Viejo is planning a spectacular fundraising event hoping to raise \$10,000 to be used by the Club to support of its many local, national and international projects. **Rotarians Brigitte Archer, Victoria Avery and Norm Syler** presented detailed plans for the upcoming event scheduled for Sunday, May 31, 2009 from 2 to 5 p.m. The event will include wine tasting, hors d'oeuvres, music, bottling your own custom wine, live auction, silent auction and more. Baskets, paintings, and many specialty items will be available during the auctions. Plan to have a wonderful time while purchasing some fantastic items at marvelous prices. The funds will support: Holiday Meals Program (Thanksgiving and Christmas); high school and college scholarships; support for Teachers of the Year programs within the Capistrano and Saddleback Valley Unified School Districts; Door of Faith Orphanage in Mexico; reforestation in Indonesia; and much, much more.

More details to come...



March is "Rotary Literacy" Month

Upcoming District Events...

www.rotary5320.org

March 14-15 - District Singing Contest

Mar. 26-29 - District Conference

April 4 - District Assembly

April 17 - Rotary Business

Person of the Year Luncheon

April 25 - Rotarians at Work Day

Upcoming Club Events...

www.missionviejorotary.org

March 14-15 - District Singing Contest

Sunday, April 26 - Esperanza Special Education School Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser.

Sunday, May 31 - MV Rotary Wine and Music Gala Fundraiser.

Note: For full details, please visit the respective websites listed above.

CLUB NEWS

Rotary meeting goes to PP Bob Blohm

Report by Jim Hansen & Photos by Bill Kersten and George Cooper



PP Bob Blohm has not been able to attend Rotary meeting lately due to physical issues. Well, the M.V. Club decided that if Bob can not go to the Club, the Club would go to Bob. The meeting of

It was great to see Bob, and his son, and all present enjoyed the change-of-pace venue. Bob's son told us, "My Dad gets up every Tuesday and puts on his Rotary pin." I guess 50+ years in Rotary builds life-time habits. All Club members look forward to seeing Bob as often as possible. Bob has set a great example for all and the Club misses seeing him weekly.



March 3, 2009 was held at Atria del Sol - the facility in which Bob resides. There are four Atria facilities in



Orange County,

with Atria del Sol near Casta del Sol Golf Course where the Mission Viejo Club usually meets.

CLUB NEWS

Perfect Attendance for February!

Report by Secretary Dave Williams, PDG

Nick Alpino, Brigitte Archer, Bob Bridges, Bill Greenfield, Sr., Jim Hansen, Jacki Hanson, Jack Jones, Bill Kersten, Bob McQueen, Verl Nash, Dennis O'Connor, Rudy Paolino, Gary Poertner, Dagmar Richter, Norm Syler, Scott Walker, Jack Wallace, Dave Williams and Robert Williams.

Special Note: Rotarians Jack Jones, Bill Kersten, Gary Poertner and Dave Williams have perfect attendance for the entire Rotary year - since July 1. Rudy Paolino has perfect attendance since joining in January 2009. Congratulations to all!



The following Rotarians achieved perfect attendance for the month of February 2009:



CLUB NEWS

Rotarian extraordinaire

Report by PP George Cooper and Jim Hansen

Photos by Bill Kersten and George Cooper

Have you heard Victoria sing out of tune. Neither have we. We always begin Rotary meetings with an invocation, flag salute and a song. Various Rotarians share invocations, various Rotarians lead the flag salutes, but our song leader, **PP Victoria Avery**, always gets the best out of an often out-of-tune “choir.” In our infamous “Rotary Low,” we attempt to keep up with Victoria’s lead and her enthusiasm always carries us through.



That is not all Victoria does for Rotary. She takes part, often a leading part, in all of the Club’s projects and activities. When Victoria is around, we all know the project will be a success. Of course, the Club’s many projects would not be successful without the many wonderful, dedicated, unselfish Rotarians of the Rotary Club of Mission Viejo. Thank you all for helping Make M.V. Rotary the best!

*Top Photo: Victoria Leading a song
Bottom Photo: Victoria and Debbie Walker at the 2008 Holiday Party.*

Thank you Victoria, and all MV Rotarians, for all you do for our community, nation and world!



Top Right Photo: Victoria and her dad, PP Dave Rukstalis

CLUB NEWS - AROUND THE “TOWN”



Last month Jim and Cathy Hansen spent a weekend in Yosemite Valley. The historic Ahwahnee Hotel, photo to the left, is difficult to see as it blends into the surroundings. The temperatures were in the 40s and there was about 6” of snow on the ground.



The air was crisp and crystal clear. Cathy and Jim recommend a winter weekend in Yosemite as a nice way to rejuvenate your spirit.

[Send your good news, (travels, weddings, births, etc.), to Bulletin Editor Jim Hansen at: jhansen4@cox.net. The bulletin staff would love to share your stories with our Rotary family.]

CLUB NEWS

What do you know about Ronald McDonald House?

Report by Jim Hansen

Photograph by Bill Kersten

The Executive Director of Orange County Ronald McDonald House, Deborah Levy, was the guest speaker at the March 10, 2009 meeting of the Rotary Club of Mission Viejo. Ms. Levy shared details of the Ronald McDonald House operations.

There are three categories of service through Orange County Ronald McDonald House: 1) Orange County Ronald McDonald House; 2) Ronald McDonald Family Room (CHOC Children's); and 3) Ronald McDonald Family Room (CHOC Children's at Mission Hospital). The program provides 20 private guest rooms with private baths; a spacious community kitchen with a place to store groceries; complimentary laundry facilities; help with transportation to and from area hospitals; caring staff on-site 24 hours a day, 7 days a week; TV areas, children's' playroom, library and large cozy living room; non-denominational sanctuary for reflection; family computers with Internet access; and home cooked meals on most days.

The program assisted a record 1,025 families in 2008 and is primarily funded by private

donations. You can make a tax deductible donations online at www.ronaldhouseoc.org. Your donations are safe, secure and private.

NOTE: Rotarian Jim Hansen noted this as a very worthy cause. He remembers 1978 when his youngest son, 13 months old at the time, had heart surgery at Children's Hospital of Orange County (CHOC). Jim's wife spent 14 days and nights on benches and uncomfortable chairs in hospital rooms and halls during the surgery and recovery time. The Family Rooms and Ronald McDonald House are a welcomed addition.



Photo above, by Bill Kersten, shows Deborah Levy, Executive Director of Ronald McDonald House Orange County, during her presentation.

CLUB NEWS

District 5320 Area Speech Contest held at Rotary Club of Laguna Niguel

Report and Photos by Jim Hansen

The Rotary District 5320 Area Speech Contest was held at the Laguna Niguel Rotary meeting on March 10, 2009. Rod S., the Mission Viejo Rotary sponsored student from Aliso Niguel High School, was supported in the audience by his mother, **PP Bob McQueen** and Jim Hansen. Although he was not selected the winner at the contest, his speech was very impressive.



The contestants, (pictured below), included: Rebecca - San Clemente Rotary; Matthew - Coto de Caza Rotary; Eric - San Clemente Sunrise; Emily - Laguna Niguel Rotary; Jacky - Dana Point Rotary; and Rod - Mission Viejo Rotary. All were excellent; but ultimately Emily was give first place honors.

Congratulations to all!



CLUB NEWS

M.V. Rotary sponsored singers prepare for District competition!



Four singers selected by Mission Viejo Rotary, with the assistance of Vocal Music Director John Elg, are busily preparing for their upcoming competition on Saturday, March 21, 2009. All Rotarians, families and friends are invited and it would be great if Mission Viejo Rotary sent supporters to cheer on our singers.

The singers, from Mission Viejo High School are: Michael G. - Male Musical Theater; Rachel P. - Female Classical; Kendra R. - Female Classical; and Holly S. - Female Classical. The competition will be held in the Winifred Smith Hall on the campus of the University of California, Irvine,

(UCI). Preliminary Competitions will be held from 9 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturday, March 21, 2009 and the Finals Competitions will be held on Sunday, March 22, 2009 from 3 to 6 p.m. Again, all Rotarians are welcome and encouraged to attend!

...it would be great if Mission Viejo Rotary sent supporters to cheer on our singers.

CLUB NEWS/BOARD MINUTES**MINUTES TO THE MEETING OF THE BOARD
ROTARY CLUB OF MISSION VIEJO
March 12, 2009**

In attendance:

Gary Poertner, President
Scott Walker, President-Elect
Bill Kersten, Treasurer
Dave Williams, Secretary
Brigitte Archer, Director of Club Service
Dagmar Richter, Director of Community Service
Pushpa Chandwani, Director of International Service
Jim Hansen, Director of Vocational Service
Norm Syler, Past President
George Cooper, Past President

Board Members Absent: None

President Gary called the meeting to order at about 7:00 a.m. The Board met in the Conference Room of In-dymac Bank in Mission Viejo.

1. **Minutes Approved:** The Board approved the Minutes to the February meeting without revision.
2. **President's Report:** President Gary asked the Board to consider whether or not District 5320 should volunteer to become a *Pilot District* of The Rotary Foundation's *Future Vision Plan*. 2/3rds of the clubs in the District must support the concept for the District to be considered. The guidelines call for the membership to vote based upon the Board's recommendation. The District's decision must be submitted to The Rotary Foundation by April 14, 2009. Districts accepted will implement the plan on July 1, 2010. The Board voted to recommend to the membership that the District volunteer to be a *Pilot District*.

President Gary encouraged Rotarians to attend the District Assembly at Chapman University on April 4, 2009. President-Elect Scott will be contacting Rotarians, including new members, to urge their participation

3. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Bill reviewed the most recent *Financial Report*. Our net income to-date is \$12,154.12 vs. a plan of \$7,118.20. However, most of the expenses for the Rotary Year are ahead of us. Bob McQueen will be filling in for Treasurer Bill while he is out-of-town for the next several weeks.
4. **Secretary's Report:** Secretary Dave presented the Board will a new format for the club's *Individual Attendance Report*. It added year-to-date attendance percentages and the membership trend to the report. Active Membership stayed at 41 for March. Attendance for February was 71% and year-to-date was 75.5%. Attendance has dropped since December, partially due to new leaves of absence. The Board voted to exempt Rotarians on approved leaves of absence from payment for meals only. They will be billed for dues and other club functions (including the upcoming May Fundraiser and the Esperanza Breakfast).
5. **May Fundraiser:** Director Brigitte reviewed plans for the May 31, 2009, fundraiser at *The Wine Artist*. We will have a sign-up sheet for Rotarians who wish to order commemorative bottles of wine for \$25 each. They will have special labels for our club's 35th anniversary. Hors d'oeuvres will be served

as well as wines and cheese. She recommended that we approve an incentive for those who bring Silent Auction items to our meetings for the event. The Board approved granting an extra 3 Drawing Tickets at our meeting to a Rotarian who donates a Silent Auction item. Director Brigitte will arrange for a brief presentation to donors at the meetings to help promote the event.

6. **District Awards Applications:** President Past President George presented an International Service Award package that will be submitted to the District for Awards. These submissions are due no later than April 14, 2009. Director Jim indicated that he is working on one for Vocational Service.
7. **Esperanza Pancake Breakfast:** Director Jim announced that the event has raised about \$6,000 to-date out of a goal of \$18,000. Our club has pledged about \$200 in individual donations.
8. **International Service:** Director Pushpa just returned from India where she reviewed some of our current and future Matching Grant projects. She reported that the check dam project with the Rotary Club of Thane-East in District 3140 is about 80% completed. After the monsoons, the project will supply clean drinking water to about 600 villagers. She also met with Rotarians in Pungar where the club is awaiting funding for a preventable blindness Matching Grant to provide cataract surgeries.
9. **Public Relations:** Past President George indicated that he had ordered some disks from RI to support our public relations campaign. Past President Norm recommended that we also take advantage of the District's newsletter to publicize our activities and events (especially the upcoming May fundraiser). President-Elect Scott, just returned from PETS, suggested that we make the cards "*What is Rotary?*" available at our events to promote membership. The Publicity Committee will also consider ordering subscriptions of the *Rotarian* magazine for the library and college, and informational items about Rotary (such as bookmarks) for use in the community.
10. **District Simplified Grant:** President Gary asked Secretary Dave to follow up on a communication that he had received from Mike Brunhofer asking for a Final Report on a District Simplified Grant (DSG). When Dave called Mike, he was told that checks for approved projects had been given out at the Paul Harris Dinner. President Gary noted that our club had not received a check for our book donation project to Mission Viejo Elementary Schools for Rotary Year 2008-09. Dave indicated that the book purchase is "ready to go" once we can find the check. President Gary will see if he can ascertain its location.
11. **Other:** The next Board meeting is scheduled for April 9, 2009, at 7:00 a.m. at Indymac Bank.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, David C. Williams, Secretary

WHITE ELEPHANT

- March 17 - Steve Mugg
- March 24 - Rick Murray
- March 31 - Verl Nash
- April 7 - Dennis O'Connor
- April 14 - Rudy Paolino
- April 21 - Gary Poertner
- April 28 - Dagmar Richter



Make-up Area Clubs

Coto de Caza/RSM - Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m., Coto de Caza Golf and Racket 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 Savannah Chop House, 32441 Golden Lantern

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>

SPECIAL NOTE

Be sure to visit the Rotary Club of Mission Viejo Website at:

www.missionviejorotary.org

For Club information, you may use the following passwords:

User = rotarian

Password = mvr

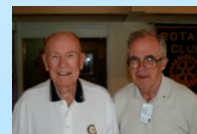


Webmaster: PP George Cooper

Bulletin Staff



Photographer:
Bill Kersten



Reporters:
Verl Nash &
Bob Bridges



Editor:
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MEMBERS

ROTARY SHARES

Nicholas Alpino, PP
 (Charlene) Group Travel

Brigitte Archer, PP
 Mortgage Broker

Victoria Avery, PP (Dan)
 General Insurance

Robert Blohm, PP
 Senior Active Agriculture

Ross Boling, PP (Janet)
 Medical Sales

Robert Bridges (Betty)
 Robotics Engineer

Robert Brown (Joanne)
 Investments

Barry Brownell, PP (Ety)
 Honorary Member

Dr. Pushpa Chandwani
 (Nanik) Medical Doctor

George Cooper, PP (Margaret)
 Adhesive Distributer

William Craycraft, PP
 Sales/Marketing

Robert J. Duffy (Moraima)
 Financial Advisor

Dr. Steven Fish (Sue)
 School Dist. Superintendent

Dr. Richard Frieder, PP
 (Susan) Optometrist

Bill Greenfield Sr. (Sandra)
 International Operations

Len Gribbons
 Honorary Member

Ann Hagerty
 Research Writer

James Hansen (Cathy)
 Educator

Jacquelyn Hanson
 Author

Jack H. Jones, PDG (Joanie)
 Aircraft Manufacturing Consultant

Bill Kersten, PP (Carol)
 Computer Service

Carol Kersten (Bill)
 Honorary Member

Jim Leach, PP (Dot)
 VP Government Affairs

Dave Leckness (Nancy)
 Printing

Don Lewellen
 Certified Public Accountant

Col. (Ret.) Krishna Mathur, PP
 (Pravena) Honorary Member

Dr. Tom MacKinnon, PP
 (Jeannine) Dentist

John McEwan
 Code Enforcement

Bob McQueen, PP (Mary Jo)
 School Administrator

BRING A GUEST

Norm Miller, PP (Pauline)
 Honorary Member

Steve Mugg, PP (Susan)
 Consultant

Richard Murray, PP (Paula)
 Attorney, General Practice

Verl Nash, PP (Suzanne)
 Education

Dennis O'Connor, PP (Bonnie)
 Real Estate

Rudy Paolino (Sharon)
 Manufacturing Sales Representative

Gary Poertner (Adair)
 Community College Administrator

Dagmar Richter
 Banking, Branch Manger

Dave Rukstalis, PP CLU/ChFC
 (Ladona) Insurance Empl. Benefits

Dr. Aaron Sako (Mako)
 Optometrist

Norm Syler, PP (Luella)
 Historian

Scott Walker (Debbie)
 Financial Planner

Jack Wallace (Jeanne)
 Residential Real Estate

David C. Williams, PDG
 (Joann) Postal Service

Robert I. Williams (Brenda)
 Engineer

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?