

# The Kiwanis Chronicles

**News of the Club and the Community it Serves**

December 30, 2009

Volume 9-10, Issue 13

**Preserving Yesterday,  
Reporting Today**

**Kiwanis  
La Mirada**

**Serving the Children of  
the World  
La Mirada Kiwanis Club,  
La Mirada, CA**

## A Christmas Story

Most Christmas stories center around the last two weeks of December, when we celebrate the birth of the Christ Child. Not this Christmas story, it starts on last May 27, when DAVE TAYLOR left La Mirada to go back to Oklahoma where he needed to try and rebuild the financial part of his life.

(To the few who may not know, Dave came to La Mirada from Oklahoma for a number of reasons, the foremost to be with his wife Dana who was taking care of our now deceased member DALE ROJAS. In Oklahoma he was an attorney, but he felt a call to the ministry and wanted to pursue it at Biola University. This he did for the past couple of years, but found that the financial drain on his resources was extensive. Finally he decided to return to Oklahoma and continue his studies via the online facilities offered by Biola)

To let him continue:

He arrived in Oklahoma with a tidy sum of \$60 left in his pockets. Not a whole lot upon which to exist. Things started to happen upon his arrival. He ran into a lot of friends, went to visit his mom and dad (who to this moment were in seeming good health.) Miracles began to happen. A friend loaned him a car. Another friend came up with a spare room in which to live. Still another said he needed some legal work done; could Dave do it?

Then came a call from another friend. Dave's Father had passed away suddenly. (This too was a miracle; in that what ensued allowed him to be present and take care of his mother though this trying time) This all happened within thirty days after his arrival. Dave acknowledged the part of God, even in this, as there were sufficient funds with which to bury his father.

During one of his first days on his new job he received a call from a friend he had not heard from for a while before he had left Oklahoma the first time. The friend said, "You may not remember, but I owe you \$2500. How do I get it to you?" And he did. Work started to come in and he found himself busy. He decided to stay and he was glad he did. Turns out his mother needed back surgery. Somehow an old friend called in an "I.O.U." from a doctor at O.U. (Oklahoma University) and they could afford the surgery.

Everything went well. Just as he was beginning to think life was going pretty well, he ended up in the emergency room from a fall that came from rushing across the street on a rainy day. The diagnosis was a broken left arm at the elbow. Not only was this a serious place for a break, but he is left-handed. They couldn't cast the break for fear of long term problems. They did what they could do and said come back for the specialists to decide how to handle this potentially long term disability.

He went back to work facing the inability to write with his left hand. Somehow he managed to get the job done as he neared the time when he face the next hurdle, of how to repair the break. The doctor re-x-rayed the break and then asked Dave why was he wasting his time. There was no break in his arm. The Miracle of Christ's healing power continued.

Dave waved his arm around to prove his point and took the time to give us a sermon of his own. He talked of the Sermon on the Mount and said that nobody could live like that; or could they? Either you sit back and do nothing or you step forward and tell what you believe.

Dave will be returning to Oklahoma to continue to help his mother. We are looking forward to the day when Dave returns to California.

## Dec. 16 Speaker

Our Speaker at the December 16th meeting was Lt. Pat Valdez of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. Pat talked to about crime in the La Mirada Area and specifically when they put on a sting operation to try and pick up those in the area with outstanding warrants.

The sting involved advising those on the warrant list that they had won a prize and they had to come in and claim it. They set up an area that looked for real like one where contests winners would be. It was also set up so that all requirements of making an arrest could be met. Out of some 70 plus outstanding warrants, fourteen persons showed up and were arrested.

## Grins and Grimaces-Dec. 23

The morning started with the Pledge led by DAVE TAYLOR. Dr. ED NORMAN gave the Invocation. PAT RUIZ led us in "God Bless America. As we waited for breakfast to be announced, Laura Tovar broke out her guitar and led us in a series of Christmas songs. When it was time to pick the ornaments off the tree, GENE GLEASON was there with his stepladder to aid in our reaching for our thoughts and memories. STEVE FORSTER gave for the Bowl season (We think it was about football, or maybe the finger licking good cake mix bowl-We will never know. Although he did mention the lack of a Notre Dame flavor, so that leans it toward football.) He was counting the days left to shop and he added one for running into Gary Sloan..

JOHN TOVAR gave for God's special gifts. Specifically, he was talking about grandkids. He added 50 cents for one grandkid on the way. DEBBIE SCHEIBEL gave for all the guests and for her Dad being here. She added one for the new member, OSCAR DIAZ. AMY SCHEIBEL echoed Debbie and wished everyone a Merry Christmas. Pastor JACK MIRANDA gave for a membership renewal and for Ron. VANESSA RAMIREZ gave for friends. REED TAYLOR gave for a call from his daughter in Holland. LOU PILTZ gave to wish everyone a Happy Chanukah. LA DONNA MUNIER gave for friends and the opportunity to hug Lou. Rita Leslie picked a few Grins from a long list saying how pleased she is with the support that Kiwanis gives Maddi's Closet. Friends are special. Dr. ED NORMAN gave for old friends and to wish everyone the best Christmas season ever. DAVE TAYLOR gave for solicitor, GENE GLEASON, who helped out when a Oklahoma brother-in-law ran afoul of the California Gendarmes. He added one for his daughter getting married in Honolulu. He tossed in another for his visit back to California.

TOM THORNTON gave for a great year and for his wife, Leslie, joining us today. RICH TRUJILLO gave to give thumbs up to our fighting men everywhere and to wish all of us a Merry Christmas. TONY ARMAS was called on to display his Christmas socks and Christmas tie. (One wonders if maybe a candy cane was still lodged in one of the socks.) Mary Camen Armas gave for just being here. GERALD PEEBLER gave because none of us became his customer this past year. He added one for being a rooster (Well he did say hen-pecked, but how can you be hen-pecked if you are not a rooster.) Then there was one for having one to spend. (Sounds like a stimulus package from here.) And of course, the rain, even if the amount didn't dent the rain gauge.)

PAT ROJAS gave for all kids working and for a daughter getting married. RUFFO ESPINOSA gave to wish everyone a Happy New Year and for his daughter-in-law expecting. Gaby Espinosa gave for being invited and for the trees that came from Rich. MARK ROYSTON explained the small font that was used in the Season's Greetings section of the Chronicles, blaming it on the elves who did the typing who thought it was extra large print.

PAT RUIZ gave to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and to recall that she was the first woman in the Club when it went co-ed. She will be having her kids home for Christmas. Inter-clubber ELIZABETH PUTRINO gave for having bells to ring for our Christmas songs (They came as a part of Laura's musical wares) She added one for our very active Club. GENE GLEASON gave to thank everyone for our Community activities. Dr. JERRY ROODZANT gave for everyone being here and for the servility civility of the Club.

## Grins and Grimaces-Dec. 16

STEVE JONES led us in the Pledge as the morning got under way. PAT RUIZ and Dr. MIKE WINTER led us in "America, the Beautiful" and Dr. ED NORMAN gave the Invocation. When it came time to collect the dollars, RICH TRUJILLO did the honors. PETER CHOW gave for UCLA going to a Bowl (Thanks to Navy beating Army) STEVE FORSTER gave a late dollar and one for the Cardinal and Gold. (There was something about a holding cell, but that may have had something to do with Alcatraz.)

GERALD PEEBLER gave for a half-inch of rain. He added for seeing a lot of members speaking at certain functions without a mention of Kiwanis. He noted the presence of two more bags of persimmons. REED TAYLOR gave the last of his puppets to Vanessa to distribute at one of her endeavors. LOU PILTZ wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy Chanukah.. He has a couple of passes to Magic Castle if anyone would like them. (In case some of you don't know, Lou was an accomplished magician and is entitled to perform at the Magic Castle.)

VANESSA RAMIREZ gave a late dollar and a Happy dollar. (Don't know if being late had anything to do with being happy.) TED CEASU gave for missing a meeting and for moving into his first new home. STEVE JONES had a happy twenty with most of it directed toward La Mirada High School winning their Division Championship in football. He is now hoping to do the same in baseball and softball.

Inter-Clubber STEPHAINE WALKER gave for a trip to LAX. JOHN TOVAR gave for Steve being here and for turning 38. (He didn't say whether that was in Kilos, Euros or long play records.) Pastor JACK MIRANDA gave for colors, for Oscar Diaz joining us and for football with, UCLA in mind. (See Scribes comment under PETER CHOW.)

PAT RUIZ gave for visitors. Dr. ED NORMAN gave for a good report from MARK ROYSTON, (Whatever that was) GENE GLEASON gave for a tour of Anaheim Stadium, for his son getting back from China and moving to Utah where his daughter will be pursuing a PhD. Degree. Dr. MIKE WINTER gave for the new Key Club at Whittier Christian High School, for persimmons he doesn't want and for daughter Emily graduating.

Dr. JERRY ROODZANT gave for UCLA going to a Bowl (See Scribe's comment under Peter Chow) and for the cardinal and gold colors floating around

## 2009-2010 Officers, Board

### Directors

TED CEAUSU  
 PETER CHOW  
 RUFFO ESPINOSA  
 ART LESLIE  
 RICH POWERS  
 PAT RUIZ  
 DAVE TAYLOR  
**Committee Chairs**  
 Kiwanis Education &  
 Bulletin  
 MARK ROYSTON  
 Greater Years  
 House & Reception.  
 SHERRY BRAKEBILL  
 Interclub's  
 TED CEAUSU  
 Major Emphasis  
 PETER CHOW

DR. JERRY ROODZANT  
 Publicity  
 LOU PILTZ  
 Ways & Means  
 REED TAYLOR  
 Youth Services  
 RICH TRUJILLO  
 Sunshine  
 RUFFO ESPINOSA  
 Scholarship  
 LOU PILTZ  
 Spiritual Aims  
 Dr. MIKE WINTER  
 Sponsored Youth  
 JOHN TOVAR  
 Fire Truck Chief  
 REED TAYLOR  
 Archives Chairman  
 REED TAYLOR

President  
 Dr. JERRY ROODZANT  
 President Elect  
 STEVE FORSTER  
 Treasurer  
 SHERRY BRAKEBILL  
 Secretary  
 AMY SCHEIBEL  
 Immed. Past Pres.  
 DEBBIE SCHEIBEL  
 Lt. Gov. Div. 30  
 GEORGE HALLAK  
 Lt. Governor Elect  
 DEBBIE SCHEIBEL  
 Key Club President  
 Patricia Yoo

## The Objects of Kiwanis International

To give primacy to the human and spiritual, rather than to the material values of life  
 To encourage the daily living of the Golden Rule in all human relationships.  
 To promote the adoption and the application of higher social, business, and professional standards.  
 To develop, by precept and example, a more intelligent, aggressive, and serviceable citizenship.  
 To provide through Kiwanis Clubs, a practical means to form enduring friendships, to render altruistic service, and to build better communities.  
 To co-operate in creating and maintaining that sound public opinion and high idealism which makes possible the increase of righteousness, justice, patriotism, and goodwill.

The La Mirada Kiwanis Club is the home club of the following Past Lt.-Governors : Dr. ED NORMAN, CARY MAYER and HARLAN COMEE and at one time was the home club of: HAL BENVENISTE, IRWIN KAISER, FRANK MCCOY, and GEORGE HARRISON, all Past Lt. Governors of. Div. 30. It is the home club of Lt. Gov. Elect DEBBIE SCHEIBEL

# Kiwanis La Mirada

### Legend:

Board Meeting 

Today's Date 

Evening Meeting 

## December 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

## January 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## Announcements

January 14-Bingo at Imperial

January 21-Bingo at Mirada Hills

January 29- Meals-On-Wheel Dinner

**Birthdays:** December 2-Dr. RUTH PEREZ, December 10-ADRIENNE MEDRANO, December 17-JOHN TOVAR, December 25 -JIM MCGIRR

**Visitors:** (Dec.23) Mary Carmen Armas, Gabriela Espinosa, Rita Leslie, Harriette Peebler, Janice Roodzant, Doris Royston, Fred Scheibel, Leslie Thornton, Laura Tovar and Elizabeth Putrino & Nadine Barragan from Greater Whittier

**50/50 Drawing** was won by JOHN TOVAR and donated to the Scholarship Fund

### Calendar-Regular Meetings

Every Wednesday Morning

7:15 AM Gateway Holiday Inn

Monthly Evening Meeting-First Thursday

Volunteer Center Suite 4 (11900 La Mirada Blvd.)

7:00 PM