

The Kiwanis Chronicles

News of the Club and the Community it Serves

January 13, 2010

Volume 9-10, Issue 15

**Preserving Yesterday,
Reporting Today**

Kiwanis
La Mirada

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

Habitat for Humanity

Our speaker of the morning was Chris Untiet, who came to talk to us about the Southern California activities of the Habitat for Humanity. Chris came from Northwest Iowa and did his graduate work at Iowa State, finishing in 2008. He decided to join a community group and became a part of the Habitat for Humanity.

He told of the beginnings of Habitat by a gentleman in Americus, Georgia in 1976. It now has some 1500 affiliates in the United States. Being world wide one can volunteer to serve anywhere in the world.

In Greater Los Angeles over 500 homes have been built since 1999. World wide, the figure is 300,000 homes. The homes are designed for those hardworking families who are willing to put in 500 hours of their own. They come from low to median income families and from such diverse dwellings as converted garages and in one case, a converted chicken coop. They have to be able to spend no more than 35% of their income on the house.

There is a selection process in order to qualify. Last year 10 homes were built in Lynwood alone. There were 7000 volunteers in the Los Angeles area. Chris said it was fun to watch volunteers come and learn the process. Many who have never driven a nail find themselves carpenters.

Besides new homes there are other activities in which the Habitat for Humanity is involved. These include home improvement, and stores where people can bring in things they don't need. These items are fixed up and sold at reasonable prices. He pointed out this is a helping hand not a "freebie."

Families obtaining homes through Habitat for Humanity have a very low rate of default, under one percent. Homeowners have a higher chance of succeeding than others.

Chris said he had been exposed to the good works of Kiwanis in his youth and he came upon the idea of asking such groups to volunteer as a group rather than as individuals. They work from Tuesdays to Saturdays but you do not have to be there all those days. They are, of course, non-profit, and they set a goal of \$150,000 to build a house. Donations are appreciated. He mentioned that there are a lot of jobs besides building that volunteers can do.

There is no minimum age for helpers or owners. The prospective owner does have to work 500 hours. There are mortgage payments and there are stipulations on selling the house once you are an owner.

If the Club or individuals are interested in contacting Chris, his phone is 310 323 4663 ext. 129. His e-mail is cuntiet@habitatla.org.

Shopping Spree Donors

Many persons donated to the Shopping Spree held last December 8. Kiwanians included PETER CHOW, RUFFO ESPINOSA, STEVE FORSTER, GENE GLEASON, RON KNIGHT, JIM MCGIRR, ADRIENNE MEDRANO (2), Pastor JACK MIRANDA, LORRAINE NEAL, GERALD PEEBLER, Dr. RUTH PEREZ, LOU PILTZ, RICH POWERS, MARK ROYSTON, PAT RUIZ, GINGER SHATTUCK, CHRIS STAPLES (2), REED TAYLOR, JOHN TOVAR, and RICH TRUJILLO. Others donating were the Jenkins Family (2), Peggy Hester, Rose Hamilton (5) and Chotiners (9+) (No number after a name indicates sponsoring one child, other numbers indicates the quantity of children sponsored.)

Grins and Grimaces-Jan. 6

President Jerry started the morning by asking TOM THORNTON to lead us in the Pledge. ART LESLIE gave the Invocation. PAT RUIZ and Dr. MIKE WINTER teamed up (Jerry, note the use of “up”) to lead us in “Auld Lang Syne.”

RICH TRUJILLO was called on to bring out the first Grins and Grimaces of the New Year. Dr. MIKE WINTER responded with some bucks for missing the past couple of weeks. And for the music of the moment. STEVE FORSTER also tossed in a missing buck. Pastor JACK MIRANDA gave for the break-in at El Camino High School. DAVE TAYLOR gave for being late and for returning to Oklahoma after being here for three weeks. Wife Dana Taylor gave for her daughter getting married and for her new book (*Princess Robin*) available on Kindle. (Bet you didn't know that Robin Hood was a girl!)

SHERRY BRAKEBILL gave a Happy New Year Dollar. LOU PILTZ gave for the Club and all the memories. (and those he may have forgotten.) REED TAYLOR gave for Gerald. GERALD PEEBLER gave for Reed's unreadiness. He added one for TONY ARMAS being absent. (Mary Carmen wasn't feeling well and Tony stayed home to help.) He gave one for TED CEASU who had to work. LA DONNA MUNIER gave to wish everyone a Happy New Year. ADRIENNE MEDRANO gave for New York and for our guest speaker. PETER CHOW gave for USC winning the Emerald Bowl. DEBBIE SCHEIBEL gave. (The Scribe missed the occasion.) ART LESLIE gave in response to a jibe from the Scribe. Our Guest Speaker Chris Untiet gave for the fun in being here.

GENE GLEASON gave for someone creating a check that matched his account and that it was cashed in Whittier to the tune of some \$900. He was appalled at the lack of aggressiveness by the Whittier P.D. in pursuing the problem even after it happened three times. PAT RUIZ gave for becoming a medical member of the Bronchitis Society and for her kids being in town for the holidays. JIM MCGIRR gave to wish everyone a Happy New Year. MARK ROYSTON gave to tell of the appreciation felt by one of his kids toward his mother for moving from Minneapolis to L.A. This was prompted by his noting the current weather in Minneapolis was minus 15 degrees and at his home in Chino Hills it was plus 78 degrees.

Dr. ED NORMAN gave for missing last week and for the weather in New York. (Buffalo is the only city the Scribe knows that brags about the total of last year's snow fall by posting it on a sign at the City's entrance.) RICH TRUJILLO gave for a Pay Pal episode that prompted warning from other members not to open such E-Mail notices. Dr. JERRY ROODZANT gave for being back and noted he has a Kindle. He was looking for a way to donate to the USC recruiting program. He added one for being happy with the UCLA program.

Evening Meeting Jan. 7

AMY SCHEIBEL reports that the members of the evening group met on Thursday evening with STEPHEN BLUNT, DIMITRI ELBLING, TONY AIELLO, SKIP RICARTE, CHRIS STAPLES, DEBBIE SCHEIBEL, LAURA WILLIAMS, AMY SCHEIBEL, LORRAINE NEAL, VANESSA RAMIREZ and RICH TRUJILLO in attendance. Amy gave the Invocation and Tony led the Pledge

The calendar was reviewed with the Meals-On-Wheels (Jan. 29), La Mirada Bobby Sox Pancake Breakfast (March 6), Duck Race/Easter Egg Hunt Pancake Breakfast (April 3) and International Convention in Las Vegas (June 24-27) being highlighted.

The Night Group will handle Bingo at Imperial Convalescent Hospital beginning on January 14. Vanessa will head up the first one.

Cell phones are still being collected and can be brought to our meetings.

TONY AIELLO will bring back his weekly radio show, beginning January 18 on advicerradio.com. with the Norwalk La Mirada Education Foundation as the sponsor.

Last Week's Who Am I?

I am a peaceful person who was once a member of the Armed Forces.

I have traveled throughout the World spreading my message.

I have served the Kiwanis Club in many roles, including Club President and Lt. Governor.

(This might be more than one person, so for a perfect score you need both names.) Dr. ED NORMAN & GEORGE HARRISON

Announcements

The 21st **MOW SPAGHETTI DINNER** is scheduled for January 29 at La Mirada High School. The charge for adults is \$5.00 each and for children (6-12)-\$3.00. Under six Free. Set-up is at 4:00 PM. GERALD PEEBLER will be handling sales of Place Mat ads. Dr. ED NORMAN will handle bringing in the food. JOHN TOVAR will take care of the Key Clubbers and Positive Alternative.

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
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 Ways & Means
 REED TAYLOR
 Youth Services
 RICH TRUJILLO
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 Spiritual Aims
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 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 

January 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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						

February 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						

Announcements

January 14-Bingo at Imperial

January 21-Bingo at Mirada Hills

January 29- Meals-On-Wheel Dinner

February 4-Evening Meeting

Birthdays: January 3-OSCAR DIAZ, Jan. 6- LAURA WILLIAMS, Jan. 28-JOHN WILLIAMS, Jan. 29-PAT RUIZ

Anniversary: January 31-REED TAYLOR

50/50 Drawing was won by LA DONNA MUNIER and donated to Fire Truck

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