

The Kiwanis Chronicles

News of the Club and the Community it Serves

April 21, 2010

Volume 9-10, Issue 29

**Preserving Yesterday,
Reporting Today**

Kiwanis
La Mirada

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

Live to Serve

“YOU CANNOT DO A KINDNESS TOO SOON BECAUSE YOU NEVER KNOW HOW SOON IT WILL BE TOO LATE.” Ralph Waldo Emerson

Debbie Scheibel introduced Joseph K. Salazar, former homeless man, who came up with determination from the streets to devote his time to the HELPING HANDS MINISTRY in South Central Los Angeles. In high school, Joe got into drugs and alcohol and following that, because he had no family, nowhere to go, chose to live on the streets which he did for almost 4 years. Finally determining that this was not the life he was meant to live, he left the streets and is now devoted to helping those who can't, don't want to, or won't leave that life.

Through the support of two churches in the area, one of which is now closed because of financial depression, Joe joined a group of people who spends many hours ministering to the homeless in the South Central area. One group of helpers travel among the homeless on Friday and more on Tuesday and Wednesdays from early morning to late at night. Their mission is to feed, to clothe, to make warm, to talk, to play and to do any other service that will make life somewhat better for these unfortunate people.

“TOO OFTEN WE UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER OF A TOUCH, A SMILE A KIND WORD, A LISTENING EAR, AN HONEST COMPLIMENT, OR THE SMALLEST ACT OF CARING, ALL OF WHICH HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO TURN A LIFE AROUND.” Leo Buscaglia

These ministers offer help to get the homeless into rehab, to spend time in warmer situations for a time, to leave this life for a better one. Many more than we would like to imagine do not want to leave. Their typical day starts at 5:30 a.m. with the rude awakening by police siren to get up and move from their area so that the day can begin for the shops and the traffic of those who pass through. Cold and hungry, they move on until the next night. Some have been there from 10 to 15 years because that is all they know. They are with their street 'families'. Some who are pressured to leave the area commit crimes so that the police will pick them up and eventually return them to their familiar place on the street. Yet, some, like Joe, finally realize what they were meant to be and go after it.

“WHERE THERE IS A HUMAN BEING, THERE IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR KINDNESS. Seneca

The social ministers, like Joe, do their best to create a somewhat better environment for these souls. In the more recent times, they have been able to partner with Child Protection Services who will come when called to pick up small children who are swept up into this kind of life by the unfortunate 'fortunes' of their parents.

Joe suggested that volunteers from such as this Kiwanis Club might for a time form groups to tend to the needs of the homeless even for a short time to fully understand their plights. Beware, it can tear your heart out, but may be the stimulus to do more.

Joe cited an interesting - and questionable- program in practice today. A bus full of homeless people from Detroit were given bus fare to travel to California to be dropped off in the central area to join the ranks of the homeless here. After all, it is a much warmer state for the season of utter cold in Detroit. The travelers are given an amount of money to 'get them started' and the story continues.

“FROM WHAT WE GET, WE CAN MAKE A LIVING; WHAT WE GIVE, HOWEVER, MAKES A LIFE” Arthur Ashe

Joseph Salazar was here this morning to make a plea for help in the lives of the homeless. He requested donations of clothes (no matter the holes and sox are a blessing!), non perishable food, blankets, water and no many more staple items which we consider everyday necessities. He left a list of items for us to consider and suggested the possibility of our setting aside a day each month or so to bring in some of these items to our morning meetings. He will be delighted to pick them up and distribute them to his 'congregation' on the streets.

President Roodzant will take the matter to the Kiwanis Board for consideration. For more information, call Joseph Salazar © 714-455-2925.

Grins and Grimaces-April 14

President JERRY ROODZANT belled the meeting to order. ANDREW LOMBARDO led the Pledge followed by an Invocation by PASTOR JACK MIRANDA and the singing of an enthusiastic "God Bless America" encouraged by PAT RUIZ.

HAPPY AND SAD BUCKS

Surprise visitor ANDREW LOMBARDO collected bucks assisted by daughter Cambria and her friend Sierra. He was happy to be back for a visit and hoped to be able to rejoin the club in the near future. STEVE FORSTER gave his usual \$\$ for being late. He explained that he paused in the parking lot to reflect on the fact that there were two of our members at City Council last evening - PASTOR JACK MIRANDA and LOU PILTZ - who did NOT mention Kiwanis! LOU objected because the council would not let them speak! GENE GLEASON chipped in because his son and daughter in law would be visiting from Salt Lake City.

BILL SANDERS - with his La Mirada Lions Club shirt in full view - thanked Kiwanis for allowing Lions to be a part of the Duck Race project. JIM McGIRR gave for a good club and PAT RUIZ for 'the good scribe Marcus' return home as soon as possible. EMMANUEL HERNANDEZ contributed for being late and requested that he be assigned to the pancake cooker if we participate on July 22 because he is good at pancakes. (Last week he admitted to dropping pancakes at the last event.) TONY ARMAS bragged again on his grandson Nicolas who was awarded a scholarship of \$30,000 a year and expenses by someone to study at a place outside the U.S. for 3 years for a total of \$150,000. (We must get the full description from Tony next week!!)

RONNIE KNIGHT gave for Sherry's return and for being late. SHERRY BRAKEBILL contributed for being back. DENNIS O'HERN from Brea Club said it was good to be here and gave thanks for their club award from the Duck Race. DEBBIE SCHEIBEL reiterated thanks for the contributing Duck Race groups and for Cambria and Sierra who have lent a youthful presence today. LOU PILTZ gave for guests, for good work, and for not having a clue what Tony said. GERALD PEEBLER contributed for the almost 1 inch of rain. PASTOR JACK MIRANDA welcomed Andy Lombardo back for a visit, and confessed that, yes, he had NOT mentioned Kiwanis at the City Council meeting. AMY SCHEIBEL was happy about the guests and winners' attendance this morning Little CAMBRIA and SIERRA contributed Andrew's money for a good time and being allowed to collect the bucks. ANDREW LOMBARDO was happy to be here and hoped that circumstances would allow him to return to membership in the near future. President JERRY ROODZANT was pleased at the turnout and the opportunity to give back to the community through the Duck Race project. He recalled a remark from a former member, Frank McCoy, who couldn't figure out why Gerald Peebler was so happy when it rained at his place because what he had planted there wasn't going to grow anyway.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Governor's Visit on April 24 - 1:15 p.m.
Carnival on April 23-24-25. SIGN UP!!!
Trap Shoot scheduled for May 29 will be changed to June 19 following confirmation.

Scholarship Applications have been sent to the schools. Bob Jenkins, President of the La Mirada Community Services Foundation has requested Kiwanis to sell TriTip sandwiches at the Concert at Neff Park on Thursday, July 22 as a part of the city's 50th Anniversary

The matter will be taken up at the Board Meeting on Monday April 19 at 5:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn

RELAY FOR LIFE Sunday, May 2 - Breakfast - be there for setup by 6:00 a.m., service at 7:00. Check the website. SIGN UP!

Duck Race Winners

Winners of awards from the Duck Race were introduced by PRESIDENT ROODZANT. DEBBIE SCHEIBEL assisted and added her thanks to all the groups and sponsors who made the event such a terrific event.

Awardees this morning were:

Tracye Brooks - \$2500 grand prize winner - Norwalk High School

Sylvia Woodside (Peter's wife) - \$195

Bill Sanders- La Mirada Lions Club \$297

Donna Holmes - Maddi's Closet \$395

Kristin Cooper - Brea Jr. High Instrumental Music Boosters - \$710 as well as \$1000 first place prize winner.

Dennis O'Hern - Kiwanis club of Brea \$302.50

Christine Albanese (City Atty.)- Claylee Cecchetti Scholarship Program \$960

Lou Piltz - Meals on Wheels \$135

Pat Ruiz - La Mirada Symphony Association \$375

Jack Miranda - 6th place winner \$100

More winners will be announced later. Close to \$11,000 will be distributed!

www.lamiradakiwanis.org

Don't forget to log onto the Cal-Ne-Ha District award winning website of our Club.

Upcoming Program

April 28th -- Zoot Velasco -- Muckenthaler Cultural Center

Subject -- programs going on at The Muck

Some Duck Race Winners



Tracye Brooks,
Grand Prize in-
ner of \$2500



Dennis O'Heam,
Brea Club,
\$302.50



Pastor Jack
Miranda, \$100



Lou Piltz,
Meals on
Wheels



Bill Sanders, Lion's Club, \$297.



Christine Albanese, \$960
Claylee Cecchetti Scholarship
Program



Kristin Cooper, Brea Jr. High Instru-
mental Music Boosters

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 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



Legend:

Board Meeting 

Today's Date 

Evening Meeting 

April 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	

May 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

May 6- Evening Meeting
 April 8-Bingo at Imperial
 April 15-Bingo at Mirada Hills
 April 22-25 4-La Mirada Kids Carnival

Birthdays: April 1-BRIAN ILTEN, April 4-PETE ESQUEDA,
 April 16-DAVE TAYLOR, April 25-TED CEAUSU

Anniversary: April 10-JOHN TOVAR

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