



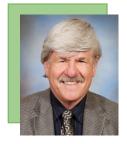
July 21, 2011

### **This Week** Colleen is back! A NewGen Entrepreneur Program Host: Julius Johnson

Colleen Yorke [MA, Theatre Studies, MA Film], the entrepreneurial daughter of Hal and Barbara Yorke, is back from Germany again and is launching her business here. *Chasing Visions* is the business name of her enterprise for producing digital videos which will enhance marketing and PR for any organization (like our club) or *your* business. Her introductory package prices for short YouTube-type additions to your website or Facebook are very affordable.

She is a stellar representative of New Generation young adults — the new service area of Rotary. And it started at Pasadena H.S. 10 years ago where she launched the Interact Club, then at UCLA where she started a Rotaract Club, and most recently as active member of Berlin's prestigious Rotaract Club.

With TWO masters degrees in theatre and film from a prominent German university, followed by experience in Berlin theatres and a directo-*Please turn to This Week p. 3* 





ell, I survived my 1<sup>st</sup> two meet ings. Ran a little over last week, so I will have to work on my timing. As mentioned at last Thursday's meeting, I would like to add two new features to the weekly program. One I am calling the Member's Moment. This will be a time when one of you will step up to the microphone and have the opportunity to say a few words of something personal that you think would be of interest to the assembled group. It could your recollections of early days in Altadena, Pasadena, elsewhere in California or where ever. For instance I remember being fascinated when Bud Railsback once told me that he could remember when the hills of Altadena were covered with grape vines.

Other possible topics in the member's moment could be something at least most of the members do not know about you. For example, you could talk about a special hobby, a sports activity you used to or still excel in, a personal achievement such as having once climbed Mt. Everest. You could talk about your heritage — fond memories of your homeland or a trip back to connect with your roots. You could tell us about your funniest moment, your most embarrassing moment or just a joke. You

# A Good Beginning

get the idea. I will be happy to share the mic with anyone who has something entertaining to say for two or three minutes. Let me know ahead of time so I can be sure to add you to the agenda. There will be a limit of no more than one *Member Moment* per meeting.

The second innovation was suggested by Jacque. It would allow mic time for another 2 or 3 minutes for a member to get up and say a few words about what he or she does for a living. You could also tell us about a special talent you have that you would be willing to make available to others, at a price of course. For example, setting up web sites or cake decorating. The intent here is to give members an opportunity to increase their business by receiving referrals from members, or

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## **Program Review**

### The Power of Love and Forgiveness

That is the lesson that last week's speaker, Wilbert Smith, PhD, was talking about as he described the incredible life of Vertus Hardiman, an Altadena resident who used that power to overcome a horrible event early in his life. Smith described his relationship with Hardiman as a friend, an insurance client, and as a fellow member of their church choir. He told about how Hardiman always wore a terrible-looking wig, which was then replaced by a knit cap, or beanie.

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One day, Hardiman came into Smith's office and began crying. He told about how, at the age of five, he was subjected to irradiation experiments under the guise of looking for a cure for scalp ringworm. Smith thought he was crazy, but then Hardiman took off his cap, removed a sponge, and blood began coming out of a hole in his head.

What moved Smith the most was the fact that Hardiman was not bitter or angry about any of this. He had chosen to use the power of love and forgiveness to triumph over hate. After hearing his story, Smith felt that it had to be told to everyone. He set out to make a documentary film called *Hole in the Head*, which traces Hardiman's life from the time of the experiments to his final years. Smith showed the three-minute trailer for the documentary, which truly whetted our appetite to see the whole film.

Smith is also working on a curriculum which he hopes will be used by 11th grade

#### July Programs No Designation - New Rotary Year

Program Chair, Julius Johnson July 14 - Colleen Yorke, NewGen Entrepreneur

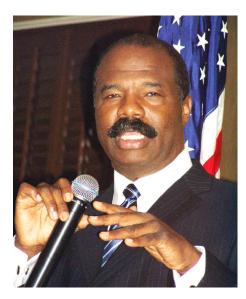
Jul 28 - To be Announced

#### August Programs Membership & Extension Month

Program Chair, To be Announced Aug 04 - To be Announced Aug 11 - To be Announced Aug 18 - To be Announced Aug 25 - To be Announced

#### SeptemberPrograms New GenerationMonth

Program Chair, To be Announced



students to learn tolerance and forgiveness and many other values that we seem to have lost along the way.

The film is being narrated by Dennis Haysbert, the actor who is the national voice of Allstate insurance. Haysbert came into Smith's office to get documents notarized, and, after Morgan Freeman turned down the narration role, Haysbert snapped it up.

Both the film and the book, *Hole in the Head*, will be released around Thanksgiving. You can bet that the members of our club who were in attendance last week will be lining up for both.

Ed Jasnow 🔿



## Chairmen's F orner by John Fryk

### People without Borders

by John Frykenberg, International Chair



Weaning "*entitled*" citizens off the cash dole for governments running out of money here or

elsewhere is painful, even dangerous to one's health and welfare.

Wisconsin, a world economy in microcosm, is an example of what to expect here if we do not learn the lessons of our European Union neighbors including, Greece, Italy, Ireland, Spain and Portugal ... all now bound to *austerity measures* ... because there is not enough money in

the world to keep everyone happy'! Violence (not dissimilar from that seen

*in the streets of Athens*), government shut downs (*not unlike Minnesota*), graffiti and destruction, strike lines, the general break down of community can all be anticipated and expected if we do not pay attention. Maggy Thatcher put it so well, "Socialism is a great form of government until you run out of other people's money."

Who to blame? Government officials? Corporate heads? Unions? Elected officials and legislators? The folks? All of the above?

When 47 percent of our own citizens pay no taxes but still expect welfare checks, unemployment checks, SSI checks, WIC checks and whatever else they are entitled to unabated despite government revenues to pay for it all currently fall short by \$223 Billion per month, it is fair to say we have a problem.

Keynesian economics does not appear to be working. We have not been able to spend our way out of a recession which has turned into a full blown depression. Stimulus bills to the tune of \$878 billion have failed to solve the problem, and now our Administration wants to "double down." Wouldn't Vegas love the odds?

The malaise may serve as a call for concern. In Kaduna State, Nigeria, 70 percent of those employed are employed by the government. The US appears to be headed in that direction. Where is the tipping point at which a free market economy becomes a government based economy? (From personal observation, I do not think we would be happy with a government based economy similar to that found in Nigeria.)

The assumption that government produces wealth and is responsible for its distribution may work, marginally, in Saudi Arabia where the money essentially comes out of the ground ... at least until they run out of oil and subsequently run out of money. In most countries, however, government does not generate income or wealth except with a printing press. And the more it prints, the less the money is worth.

Government controls and regulation replace initiative and risk in state run economies, and you eventually end up with bureaucracies equivalent to the KGB or Cheka running the state and enforcing the rules. There have already been calls for a *national police force* in our own country. (*Heaven forbid*).

If we have learned anything in our own history, it should be that **big anything** is bad. Trusts, conglomerates, monopolies, central planning, corporate giants, massive bureaucracies ... are all poison to the individual. They discourage individual initiative, accountability, the working of the free market, personal relationships and individual attention, caring and cooperation at the community level.

**Big** organizations institutionalize "social corporate responsibility," inadvertently

relieving individuals of their obligations to their neighbors and to their communities. They "*objectify*" obligations which, of necessity, must be personal to be meaningful.

Simply writing checks or throwing money at community or social problems is no guarantee of success in meeting needs or resolving issues. And money is no substitute for a caring, loving, compassionate individual willing to do his or her share in reaching out to others at home or abroad. We call this '*stewardship*'.

The *missionary mentality* of yesteryear implied a long-term commitment to the health and welfare of others. It engendered a recognition that it's "*not all about me.*" It was a mentality that embodied *love* for those less fortunate or those simply in need who desperately

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### This Week

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rial debut in Cologne, where she directed the Neil Simon play *Rose and Walsh*, Colleen has the entrepreneurial drive to make things happen. She'll show us examples of her many short film productions.

Got NewGen kids or grandkids who can't seem to make up their minds as to their future? Maybe exposure to Colleen will light a spark and make a difference. Bring 'em! And other potential Rotarians, too.

RI President K. Banerjee: Our first emphasis in this Rotary year will be the **family** and the home — the core of all our work. Colleen Yorke is truly a part of our Altadena Rotary family — Like her Mom and Dad.



#### Last Week in the News

Factory orders rose 0.8 percent in May to a seasonally adjusted \$445.29 billion, following an upwardly revised 0.9 percent decrease in April. Excluding the volatile transportation sector, orders rose 0.2 percent in May.

The Mortgage Bankers Association said its seasonally adjusted composite index of mortgage applications for the week ending July 1 fell 5.2 percent. Refinancing applications decreased 9.2 percent. Purchase volume rose 4.8 percent.

The Institute for Supply Management reported that the monthly composite index of non-manufacturing activity fell to 53.3 in June from 54.6 in May. A reading above 50 signals expansion. It was the 18th straight month of expansion in the services sector.

Wholesalers increased their inventories 1.8 percent to \$456.3 billion in May. This followed a 0.8 percent rise in April. Sales at the wholesale level fell 0.2 percent in May to \$393.7 billion. On a yearover-year basis, sales were 14.5 percent higher since May 2010.

Retail sales rose 1.5 percent for the week ending July 2, according to the ICSC-Goldman Sachs index. On a year-over-year basis, retailers saw sales increase 3.5 percent.

According to the Federal Reserve, consumer credit debt rose in May by \$5.1 billion for a total credit level of \$2.43 trillion. Revolving debt, which includes credit cards, rose by \$3.4 billion. Non-revolving debt, including loans for cars, rose by \$1.7 billion.

Initial claims for unemployment benefits fell by 14,000 to 418,000 for the week ending July 2. Continuing claims for the week ending June 25 fell by 43,000 to 3.7 million. The monthly unemployment rate rose to 9.2 percent in June from 9.1 percent in May.

Upcoming on the economic calendar are reports on international trade on July 12, retail sales on July 14 and industrial production on July 15.

#### Knowledge Builder Property Boundaries

Fences should not be considered an indication of property boundaries. Legal property boundaries are demarcated by surveyor pins or stakes. These are typically ½- to ¾-inch round iron pipes flush or buried slightly below land surface. Newer pins might have yellow or orange caps that indicate the surveyor's license number.

Locating property lines can be challenging. Older surveyor pins tend to erode. Older property markers could be metal posts, rebar, pipes or car axles. Those having difficulty locating their surveyor pins, also called corner pins, should contact their city or county government and get a copy of their plat map.

A plat map will identify each specific lot located in a subdivision — as well as the shape and dimension of the lot — and where the surveyor pins are located.

If a plat map is not available, or no pins are found, the next step is to contact a registered land surveyor to locate the property lines and set new surveyor pins. The boundary surveyor will thoroughly research city and county records relating to the land and all adjacent property. After research, the field work begins, reconciling the research with the onsite analysis on the property to determine the final boundary lines.

Boundary surveys might also include property improvements, fences, power lines and any encroachments crossing the property lines. Costs of a boundary survey can vary depending on property size, terrain, vegetation, location and season.

A survey is strongly recommended before subdividing, improving or building on land. Building beyond property lines could result in being forced to alter or remove a structure, fines and lawsuits.

Find Linda Wilkes on line: <u>http://</u> www.myprospectmortgage.com/lwilkes

### Corner

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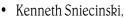
reached out for help of any kind; help with building, sanitation, medicine, education, employment, water, clothing, agriculture ... the list is endless. For the missionary, there was little glory to be gained, less renummeration, little financial gain or recognition. Pain and inconvenience, discomfort and some degree of suffering were assured, with no guarantee of any gratitude.

And, contrary to *celebrities*, missionaries typically did not drop into places like Nigeria or Afghanistan or Pakistan or Columbia for *picture ops* and a headline. They did not arrive to stay for a few days and then depart to be forgotten by those most in need.

What are the lessons for international service and international exchange? *Personalize* the experience. Don't plan on solving all of the problems of the world. Do what you can to bring compassion, dignity and purpose through shared learning and experience, laboring together with those who need you the most. *Enable*, don't do for those who are capable of *doing* for themselves. *Encourage* initiative with the least possible oversight, remembering that, even at the local level, "that government governs best which governs least" (T. Jefferson?).

### Honoring Those Who Served

Last Thursday, July 14, Altadena Rotary members had the privilege of honoring four veterans who currently attend PCC and live in either Pasadena or Altadena:



- Valentin Sanchez,
- Ian Smith, and
- Christopher Wright. David Le Claire, Assistant Director of

Scholarships and Work Study, Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid at PCC, has said that he will have a paragraph about each of these recipients in time for next week's *Sparks*.



Her name is Tarragon - I've been asking for a Siamese kitten since May 2010, knowing that one would show up when the time was right. Finding her is also a testament to networking. I belong to a BNI (Business Network International) chapter that meets for breakfast on Wednesdays in La Canada and was substituting for a member of the chapter that meets in La Canada on Tuesdays for breakfast.

One of the members brought a local veterinarian as a guest. I mentioned to him that I was looking for a Siamese kitten. A little over a week later, he called and asked if I were still interested. I said, "Yes." A couple days later I went to meet

### The Newest Member of our Furry Family

the kitten and Judy, the wife of the person who had rescued her at Hollywood Park, where he works. She interviewed me and decided that she would let me have the kitten. I made arrangements to pick up Tarragon on Thursday, July 07 and take her to our vet — Dr. Woody Walker at La Canada Pet Clinic — for an FIV and leukemia test. She tested negative for both. Judy and I had agreed that leukemia would be an automatic death sentence, but if she had FIV, I would return her to Judy.

We figure that she was born right around June 1, which makes her currently about 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> weeks old. The picture is a bit deceptive because you can't tell how



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small she really is. When I took this photograph last weekend, she weighed a bit over 1 lb and fit easily in one of my hands. One week later, she weighs a bit over 2 lbs and definitely is more than one handful. Judy said that she thought Tarragon would turn out to be a blue pointe Siamese. That remains to be seen. I'm not sure.

### View

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friends and family of members. *Networking* is no longer a dirty word in Rotary. Although the primary focus of Rotary remains service to our community, promoting your profession and getting a little business from fellow Rotarians as a result, is no longer frowned upon.

Speaking of service, a special Thank You to Craig Cox. Realizing the urgency of the need to increase membership in the Club, Craig took the bull by the horns, and re-formed the membership committee. He held the first meeting of this committee less that 2 weeks into the new Rotary year. In doing so he also opened up his home and made everyone very welcome, providing wine, cheese, coffee and bottled water. He skillfully managed the meeting to draw out a wide variety of ideas as a first step in determining how best to proceed. I was also impressed by the large turnout of members who took time from their busy days to travel to La Crescenta to help work on this issue. I am confident the effort will be worth it.

That's it for now, until next week, take care.







All <u>FREE</u> Concerts start at **7:00 PM** in the Amphitheater at Farnsworth Park. 568 East Mt. Curve Ave., Altadena, CA 91001 for information: 626-798-1131 Visit: http://www.altadenasheriffs.blogspot.com

### 15th Annual Summer Concert Series Schedule - 2011

The Irish Volunteers & the Irish Pride Dancers The Downbeat Express (Big Band Sound) The Brian Hughes Quintet (Jazz) Upstream (Caribbean Music & Much More) The Blue Breeze Band (R & B, Soul, Blues & More) Lisa Haley & the Zydekats (High Energy Zydeco Music) The Mixx (Get Ready to Rock 'N Roll!) The Tumbling Tumbleweeds (Country Western) Saturday, July 9th Saturday, July 16th Saturday, July 23rd Saturday, July 30th Saturday, August 6th Saturday, August 13th Saturday, August 20th Saturday, August 27th

And... For Our Grand Finale... Saturday, Sept. 10th THE BEACH TOYS in the Ultimate Tribute to THE BEACH BOYS Presented By: Stage Door Music Productions & SSGA

