

This Week

High Class Operatic Program
Dabney Ross-Jones & Barry Johnson
sing for their Lunch
Program Host:
Theo Clarke

Dramatic Soprano Dabney Ross-Jones and tenor Barry Johnson will perform with Music Director Marya Basaraba for the Altadena Rotary Club on Thursday, April 12 in a tour de force program of arias and songs from popular operatic, musical theater, and inspirational repertoire.

Both Ross-Jones and Johnson are professional operatic vocal artists of the highest caliber. Ross-Jones is on her way to the Salzburg Voice Festival this summer. Ross-Jones and Johnson have sung with the California Philharmonic and other operatic and symphonic organizations in Southern California.

Marya Basaraba is the Resident Chorus Maestra of the California Philharmonic, as well as the Redlands Bowl Festival Opera. Ross-Jones and Johnson are coaching their competition and performance repertoire with Basaraba.

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View from the Hill

by President
 Tony Hill

Planning for Our Future: May 12 ... Bring Ideas!

As mentioned in my article last week, and to the members at our meeting this week, through the hard work of Linda Wilkes, a meeting has finally been scheduled for all of us to work on a three-year *vision plan* for our Club. This has been an exercise that the District has been encouraging the clubs to do. It is an exercise that I know Brian had intended to do in his Rotary year, and it has been an exercise that I had told the District Governor in August that I intended to undertake in my Rotary year, and then I proceeded to forget all about it.

The District not only encourages such a process but they provide facilitators to guide us through the project. The District will be sending four such facilitators to our vision program on May 12. The goal is to develop a road map that our Club can follow for the coming years, rather than a more scatter shot approach that leads to an inefficient use of our resources, including our human resources. The goal of the vision plan exercise is to arrive at a plan that is more focused and, therefore, more efficient.

Past District Governor Steve Garrett has begun writing essays about Rotary. I

am not sure if these are just being emailed to Presidents or to all members. Anyway, in his message this week Garrett said some things that I think relate to our upcoming vision program. He says, "Many who talk about leadership demonstrate the essential need for having a constancy of purpose for both leaders and followers."

Garrett quotes author Edward Deming who came up with 14 points to move an organization from chaos to success, stating that "Deming believed it was essential that an organization identify and understand its purpose and constantly strive to fulfill that purpose." He also quotes Rotarian Stephen Covey, who, in his book, *Seven Habits of Highly Effective People* stated: 'Begin with the end in mind.' In other words Garrett says "know where

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Creeters

April 12

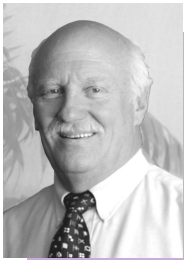
Tom McCurry

April 19

Dennis Mehringer

April 26

Kevin Moore



Program Review

Sammy Kayali & Jetting to Far Away Places

Hans von Ohain and Sir Frank Whittle, modern co-inventors of the jet engine and perhaps liberal borrowers of Chinese and Indian rocketry (*the rocket's red glare we sing about in the Star Spangled Banner*) ... followed by Von Karmen, Van Allen and Von Braun who assisted in making Pasadena's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) into the great institution we know today were essential contributors to Sammy Kayali's rise to his current job as Senior Mission Assurance Manger for JPL's Juno mission to Jupiter ...

which is a very long way away ... comparatively speaking.

Jupiter, the true big apple in our own solar system of planets, is of course a destination of imagination, hiding mystical spirits, anomalies and secrets as worthy of the trip as Marco Polo's to the courts of Kubla Khan. And, more important, Jupiter has always held a special fascination for Kayali.

What secrets are Ganymede, Io, Callisto and Europa — the moons of Jupiter — keeping from us? Will mankind follow where Juno has gone? Can anyone survive in the hostile atmosphere of the giant gas planets ...? *"to boldly go where no man has gone before"* (Capt. James T. Kirk, *USS Enterprise*).

The gas planets; Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus & Neptune are mostly made up of hydrogen and helium. They are light for their sizes (just like a big air balloon) and move quickly. They have rings and lots of moons ... but none with palm trees ... at least as far as we know.

Maybe Kayali knows for sure. We are



grateful for his lead in exploring these and much more serious questions on our behalf ... and going the distance for us ... *"into space, the final frontier, exploring strange new worlds ..."*

It takes a great deal of patience and persistence and vision to see that *"in this galaxy there's a mathematical probability of three million Earth-type planets. And in the universe, three million million galaxies like this. And in all that, and perhaps more...only one of each of us!"* (Dr. Leonard McCoy, *USS Enterprise*)

Catching Kayali's vision is a noble quest for any of us. His background in physics and engineering have aided our space

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Congratulations



Birthdays



04/13 - Alice Hudson
04/18 - John Frykenberg
04/29 - Mike Noll



Anniversaries



04/27 - Olga & Sterling Louviere

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Rotary Club of Altadena - #7183

Chartered: February 14, 1949
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Craig Cox Foundation
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Jacque Foreman Acting Publicity
Jacque Foreman Sparks/Website
Mike Zoeller Club Projects
Ed Jasnow Community
John Frykenberg International
Gordon Seyffert ... Youth Contests/Awards
Hal Yorke Vocational/Youth Projects
Craig Cox Membership

Editor, Design & Typesetting Foreman Graphics
Photography Jacque Foreman

April Programs

Magazine Month

Program Chair, Theo Clarke

- Apr 05 - Craft Talk, Sammy Kayali
- Apr 12 - Singer/Students of Maraya Basaraba
- Apr 19 - Young and Healthy
- Apr 26 - Altadena Historical Society

May Programs

No Designation

Program Chair, Julius Johnson

- May 03 - PCC Vocational Awards
- May 10 - Discover Rotary - Visitor Day
- May 17 - Business Plan Competition
- May 24 - GSE participants from Chile
- May 31 - To be Announced

Chairmen's Youth Awards

Corner by Gordon Seyffert, one of our Youth Services Chair



Here is what I know about the progress in finalizing our various 2012 Youth Awards:

Dan Stover: The regional competition will be held on Wednesday, April 25, beginning at 7p at the Ramona Convent, 1701 West Ramona Road, in Alhambra. I would normally be attending this to see how our nominee does, but unfortunately I must attend a board meeting of my genealogical society that same night. Therefore I encourage Club members who can do so to attend and *show the flag* for Altadena. Theo Clarke, of course, will be there to support our young guitarist entry, Edgar Flores of Pasadena High School.

Program

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exploration in innumerable ways, including dealing with spacecraft temperature deltas which can vary by as much as 100°C from one side of a space vehicle to the other side. And, of course, he has had to consider how to deal with such diverse issues as *micro-asteroids* hitting Juno's solar wings which measure 60 feet across or a space crafts tendency to collect *electrical charges* without any easy way to *ground* the charges.

We are grateful for his contributions to the American spirit and American dream and for his contributions to Galileo, Cassini and Grace Follow-On space missions before assuming his current senior management position with Juno.

Sammy Kayali's vision and record of achievement have certainly inspired me. And I for one am focusing on the third star to the right ... and will head straight on 'til morning.

John Frykenberg

PCC Awards: Dennis Mehringer plans to submit his own article for Sparks after he receives the names of the awardees, probably by next week. The awards ceremony is scheduled for May 3. The PCC Veteran Awards are also coming up, I believe, but I haven't gotten the info on this one.

Dewey Merrill: The business plan competition is proceeding well, but Ray Carlson reports that his MacBook's battery died and he's busy installing a new one. Until this main laptop is up and running again, he can't get to all his info. Sounds like he's getting more like the students he instructs — "The dog ate his homework!" But that's okay, as the Club competition isn't until May 17.

JROTC Awards: Tom McCurry graciously offered to take this over while I was hospitalized and in recovery. He has

sent out emails to the four high schools informing their JROTC detachments that he (or we) will be in contact about the names of the award recipients whom they will select. To date, he has heard only from LCDR Francis R. Stubbe at Pasadena High School, who informed us that last week was Spring Break for all Pasadena high schools. Thus, we are still in limbo at this time, although we now expect to move along rapidly once the schools are open again. Our annual Junior ROTC and Americanism awards presentation will be held on June 7.

4-Way Test: I was in the hospital when this one took place at the Club level. Jay Mahabel of Blair High School advanced to the regional level in March, and I haven't heard how that went. The important thing is, we had four contestants and all went well.



Our Dan Stover Winner Edgar Flores (r) (Guitar), with Runner Up Lesly Galeana (Violin), and their Pasadena High School Music Director, David Miller. The plaques were made by Bill Jennings, former member of Altadena Rotary. — Photo by Theo Clarke

District 5300 Peace Conference March 24

Here's the good news: Our Altadena Club was well represented in Victorville, as six of us (including honoree Ray Carlson) made the trip in the van driven by our President-Elect Julius Johnson. But there is sad news to convey as well. The event was not well attended, and by the time all of the conference planners and helpers had been invited onstage at the conclusion, the remaining audience was not even fully double their number in size.

That was unfortunate, as there were some good ideas and some good *briefings* about ongoing efforts. I remember that when I was under consideration for membership last year, Craig Cox shared a CD with me that contained some stories of *the difference* that certain clubs had made through programs they had designed and organized themselves, or of efforts promoted through RI itself (such as Polio eradication). This conference was another of those occasions where one gets to touch base with what it is about Rotary as a service organization that attracted us in the first instance.

I'd particularly like to point out, in brief, some of the thoughts shared by Past District Governor and 2008-10 RI Director Phil Silvers. His topic was "Opportunities for World Peace in Rotary." But he wasn't just talking about how Rotary could play a role in the promotion of world peace through people-to-people outreach. No, he was also talking about how there needed to be a bridging of the divides that exist between Rotarians.

He began by asking us to imagine that we had witnessed some extremely prejudicial public remarks against a particular ethnic group by a younger Rotarian who

was also an armed forces officer. [Think 9/11 here.] What would we, as individuals, do in response? Keep in mind that Rotary is supposed to be limited in its *positions* on political and/or religious issues. And what if, in taking issue with these remarks face-to-face with the speaker, one heard in response that: "Everyone else seems to agree with my views, and so it appears that YOU are the one with the problem!"

That *What-If?* scenario set the stage for Silvers' framing of the dilemma. He said that Rotary frequently must navigate between various forms of partisanship in seeking a common ground, while at the same time realizing that Rotary at the local level must operate within the political environment within which it finds itself. It is not an easy task.

He then reviewed why that might be so, and I (speaking for myself) thought his views were insightful. He said that humankind had from prehistoric times to the present tended to rally around *sacred objects*, and that the practical result of such a focus was that we seem to be hard-wired to find a *moral narrative* within our daily lives. When those narratives clash with the narratives of other groups, we end up with what must be seen as *tribalism*.

Silvers chided the audience a bit for its mild *Who - Us?* reaction. He did this by asking if we couldn't recognize in our major political parties a certain tribalism at work. He suggested that one of those two parties tends to promote a narrative of *heroic liberation*, while the other has as its goal the *heroic defense of moral order*.

From there, he asked if we couldn't recognize a certain *tribalism* operating

within Rotary. And, to the extent that we find ourselves linked by Club membership to others who may not share our own narrative — and in fact those who support an opposing narrative — then by implication we must work at bridging those divides if we are to join together in common purpose. And the good news is that Rotary is itself a kind of tribe, in which a common mantra (*Service Above Self*), a common ethical base (*the 4-Way Test*), and other uniting factors offer us the means to do just that . . .

After hearing Silvers offer these opening observations, it became easier to understand how difficult and yet important it is that Israeli Rotarians and Palestinian Rotarians seek pathways to understanding and respecting their neighbors. And if that seems a tall order, then the film clip of Mother Teresa (explaining how thousands could be helped by her once she made the decision to reach out to the first ones and twos) pointed the way forward. Peace truly can begin with us. It can begin with you and me! ○

This Week

Continued from p. 1

As the Club is happily aware, Basaraba has been the lead judge for the Altadena Rotary Club's Dan Stover Music competition for the past several years. In addition, this year she has been asked by Frances Moore, District Chair of the Dan Stover Competition, to serve as a judge in the finals competition in Lake Arrowhead on June 2.

This program promises to be stellar. Bring a guest. ○



MONEY by Linda Wilkes MATTERS

Economic Update

Last Week in the News

Pending home sales, a forward-looking indicator based on signed contracts, fell 0.5 percent in February after a 2 percent increase in January. On a year-over-year basis, pending home sales are up 9.2 percent. Retail sales fell 0.5 percent for the week ending March 24, according to the ICSC-Goldman Sachs index. On a year-over-year basis, retailers saw sales increase 2.7 percent.

The Standard & Poor's/Case-Shiller 20-city housing price index — on a non-seasonally adjusted basis — fell 0.8 percent in January after a 1.1 percent decrease in December. On a year-over-year basis, prices fell 3.8 percent compared with January 2011.

Orders for durable goods — items expected to last three or more years — rose \$4.5 billion or 2.2 percent to \$211.8 billion in February. This follows a revised 3.6 percent decrease in January. Excluding volatile transportation-related goods, orders posted a monthly increase of 1.6 percent.

The Mortgage Bankers Association said its seasonally adjusted composite index of mortgage applications for the week ending March 23 fell 2.7 percent. Refinancing applications decreased 4.6 percent. Purchase volume rose 3.3 percent.

The Commerce Department announced that gross domestic product — the total output of goods and services produced in the US — increased at an annual rate of 3 percent in the fourth quarter of 2011. This follows a 1.8 percent pace of growth in the third quarter of 2011. On a year-over-year basis, the economy expanded 1.6 percent.

The Reuters/University of Michigan consumer sentiment index for March's final reading rose to 76.2 from 75.3 in Feb-

ruary. On a year-over-year basis, consumer sentiment is up 12.9 percent.

Initial claims for unemployment benefits for the week ending March 24 fell by 5,000 to 359,000. Continuing claims for the week ending March 17 fell by 41,000 to 3.34 million.

Upcoming on the economic calendar are reports on construction spending on April 2 and factory orders on April 3.

Insight NOW

Embrace Change and Win

In this month's edition of *InsightNOW*, Prospect Mortgage's Chief Performance Officer Todd Duncan speaks with Darryl Turner, international motivational speaker, business-growth strategist and founder/CEO of The Darryl Turner Corporation. They discuss his new book, *The Nine Undeniable Principles of Uncommon Sense*, which shows you how changing your thinking can spark personal and professional growth.

Turner believes that doing the same thing over and over and expecting different results is the definition of *insanity*. He also says that accepting and embracing change instead of struggling against it invites success. In more than 20 years of observing real estate professionals, he recognized one key difference between ordinary salespeople and successful salespeople: the way they think.

"The market has never put anyone out of business; lack of adaptation has," Turner says. Simply put, those who keep repeating their old ways and who don't alter their views are destined for inevitable extinction.

To advance in business (and our lives), Turner says we must eliminate resistance to new ideas and figure out what we can do differently. Written as a compelling fiction story, *The Nine Undeniable Principles*

of *Uncommon Sense* opens with a salesman on the brink of disaster who eventually attains success by accepting the mentoring of a younger co-worker.

"When the past dies, the future lives," Turner says. "None of us can change the market, but we can change our own 'personal market.' By changing early and quickly, we don't merely survive — we can thrive." ☉

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

View

Continued from p.1

you are going before you start the journey or process. It is all too obvious that you can't hit a target if you aren't taking aim! And, even if you did accidentally hit the target, how would you know?"

In his article, Garrett sets forth the Object of Rotary as follows:

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

FIRST: The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

SECOND: High ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

THIRD: The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business and community life;

FOURTH: The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

Garrett concludes his essay by saying "the object of Rotary makes it clear that we are all supposed to be part of the task to 'encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise'" Let's keep this in mind when we all meet on May 12 to put together our Vision Plan for the next three years. ☉

Rotary Hands across the Nation

by Ed Jasnow

As I wrote in last week's *Sparks*, the Rotary Club of Cullman is working to replace the trees destroyed by the terrible tornado that devastated their community one year ago this month. Here is a picture of Mona taken last July standing by the root ball of one of the huge trees uprooted by the +100 mph winds that swept into this small, tightly knit community.

I suggested in both my article and at last week's meeting that it would truly be an example of *Service Above Self* if we could each donate a small amount of money to be sent as a single donation from our club to the Rotary Club of Cullman as a demonstration of solidarity with that club in a time of crisis. I'd like to think that if a disaster of that magnitude befell Altadena, other Rotary clubs would come to our assistance.

I gave Sue Applegate a check for \$50 made out to Altadena Rotary Charities, and earmarked for Cullman Rotary Tornado Relief. You can do the same — in any amount. The donation is completely tax deductible, and you will have demonstrated to the Rotary Club of Cullman an example of Rotary solidarity. Thank you in advance for your help.



Mona Jasnow standing in front of the root ball of one of the giant trees that was uprooted by the tornado



Detail of picture to the right

The tornado twisted the steel girders of this bank building under construction



Editor's Note: you can also make a contribution through our website:
<http://www.altadenarotary.com>



Happy Easter 2012

And Memories of

Our 60th Anniversary

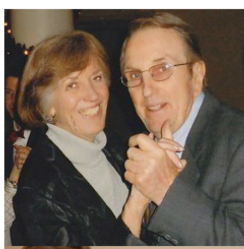
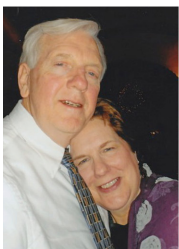


Our 60th Wedding Anniversary was our BIG event of 2011 (and why you didn't hear from us at Christmas time).

Son Glenn & Angelika, Ingrid & Jan Martin, came from Germany, Ray's brothers Sig & Ron and their wives Sylvia and Bobbie came from Chicago, and daughter Laura & Jim, Tim & Lindsay and many friends from California came to celebrate at the 100-year-old Romanesque Room of the Green Hotel in Pasadena. The Esquire Big Band played music from "our era", vocalists sang the old familiar songs and many danced. Glenn was the MC and introduced the family members that spoke eloquently about our lives together from the first day we met at age 14J/15R after an Easter Sunrise church service. All crammed into a car with Joy on Ray's lap. So that's why we connect our Anniversary with Easter. But it wasn't until 7 years later in Ray's last year at Northwestern University that we 'tied the knot' on a cold and snowy evening in Chicago on December 29th, 1951.

We've moved around (25 times in our first 25 years), lived in Europe for 11 years, and traveled quite a bit since our wedding. Joy is still trying to recover from her fall 14 years ago, and spends most of her days in bed while Ray is her caregiver. She suffers from back pain plus several other serious health problems in recent months

including a lot of dental work. Ray continues to distribute family DVDs but spends a lot of time pursuing a program of teaching school kids and college students (currently Nigerians) about Job Creation & Entrepreneurship, through his Rotary Club. Without jobs or a business to support themselves, their opportunities in this grim economy are limited.



At this Easter time we wish you a blessed Easter as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the grave after dying on the Cross to redeem us from our sins.

With Love and Gratitude to all who made our event special,

JOY & RAY