

February 12, 2015

#### This Week

# Ralph Muriello A View of Two Worlds Program Host: Theo Clarke

Ralph Mauriello is a Renaissance man. He is an accomplished singer, and has published several CDs. You may have heard him sing the National Anthem before Dodgers games. He sang for them last May.

Mauriello was a star pitcher in high school and pitched for the Los Angeles Dodgers organization for 8 years. He then got a *regular job*. He got his engineering degree from USC and a master's degree from UCLA and for years his *regular* job was senior engineer/manager at Litton Industries. His management skills have come in handy throughout his life.

But his real passion in life has always been singing. From his earliest memories as a child when he sang in his Grandmother's weekly *Amateur Hour* to today when he regularly performs all over the southland, he sings.

Mauriello has an incredible gift of gab. In this week's program, he will regale us with stories from the Dodger club house. He will sing the National Anthem for us, and, if we're lucky, he may belt out something else from his



## REFLE TONS by Hal Yorke, President

#### on ... Mirrors

irrors are reflective devices, so it makes sense to occasionally reflect on them.

Mirrors are an integral part of our daily lives. We use them constantly, often without knowing. Men use them to shave, women to apply makeup. Some drivers even use them before changing lanes, but this seems to be a dying practice. Because mirrors are an important component of lasers, they can be found in common consumer devices such as optical disk drives, laser printers, and barcode scanners. Lasers are used for fiber-optic communication. In fact, the optical fiber itself is simply a long cylindrical mirror. Light entering one end travels along the fiber until it exits the other end, virtually without loss of intensity, because the cylindrical walls reflect, keeping the light within the fiber.

As an astronomer, I think of mirrors as the key components of telescopes,

bottomless pool of stunningly beautiful songs.

This is an extraordinary opportunity. Bring a guest. Enjoy the stories and the blissful sounds.

collecting a large quantity of light and focusing it onto a detector. In order to understand the light-gathering power of a mirror telescope, it is useful to compare it to the eye. Our eye uses a lens to focus light onto our retina. The opening of the pupil regulates how much light falls on the retina. This opening can be 8 mm (0.3 inch), when the eye of a young adult is dark-adapted.

By contrast, today's largest telescopes use concave mirrors of 10 meters to focus light. This corresponds to a factor of more than 15 thousand in collecting area when compared to the eye. Moreover, the telescope is able to focus light onto a smaller spot on its detector, than the eye's lens onto the retina. This increases the intensity of the light from a star at the detector sur-

Please turn to Reflections, p.4

#### Greeters

February 12 **Tom McCurry**February 19 **Dennis Mehringer** 

February 05 **Kevin Moore** 

#### **Program Review**

#### The Altadena Senior Center A Place for Many Reasons



iliana Garcia is the Community Center Director for the Altade-

na Senior Center (ASC) and the Altadena Community Center and was our speaker on Thursday. She explained that the Altadena Senior Center is part of the Los Angeles County Department of Senior Services and offers its programs free of charge to the community. The many programs in-

**Sparks** is published 48 weeks a year and is the official publication of the Rotary Club of Altadena. The deadline for submission of articles is Friday at 6p to current editor email, fax, or delivery.

Rotary Club of Altadena - #7183

Chartered: February 14, 1949 P.O. Box 414, Altadena, CA 91003 www.altadenarotary.com Meets: Thursday, 12:10p Altadena Town & Country Club 2290 Country Club Drive • Altadena, CA 626-794-7163

Rotary Int. Pres	Gary Huang
Dist 5300 Gov	Larry Skaggs

#### Officers

nai voire, pies	Dus. 626-577-9800
Steve Cunningham, Pres. Elec	Bus. 626-786-19 <b>37</b>
Dennis Mehringer, V. Pres	Bus. 626-577-9800
Gordon Seyffert, Sec	Bus. 626-345-0658
Mike Noll, Trea	Bus. 626-683-0515

#### **Directors**

Mike Noll • John Frykenberg Steve Cunningham • Dennis Mehringer Gordon Seyffert • Mike Zoeller • Ed Jasnow

Chairmen		
Steve Cunningham	Administration	
Ed Jasnow	Foundation	
Jacque Foreman	Public Awareness	
	Acting Publicity	
Jacque Foreman	Sparks/Website	
	Club Projects	
Craig Cox		
	International	
Tony Hill	Youth Contests/Awards	
	Youth Projects	
Ray Carlson	Vocational	
	Asst. Vocational	
	Membership	
Editor, Design & TypesettingForeman Graphics		
Photography	Jacque Foreman	

clude yoga classes, line dancing, income tax services, and computer classes are all made possible by volunteers. Recently the fitness center received funding and is going through a renovation to upgrade the equipment and locker rooms.

Two important groups of people support the senior center. The Advisory Board and the Friends of the Altadena Senior Center are essential to the ability of the senior center to serve the needs of the community. Both are looking for members.



#### February World Understanding Month

Program Chair, Theo Clarke

Feb 05 - Liliana Garcia, Director of both the Altadena Senior Center and Altadena Community Center: A Look at both the Centers

Feb 12 - Ralph Mauriello, Former Dodger and Singer Extraordinaire: A Glimpse of Two Worlds

Feb 19 - 4-Way Speech Competition Feb 26 - Dan Stover Club-Level Competition

#### March Literacy Month

Program Chair, Charlie Wilson

Mar 05 - To be Announced

Mar 12 - To be Announced

Mar 19 - To be Announced

Mar 26 - To be Announced



There is no cost to be a member of the ASC. There is a \$20 annual fee to be a member of the Friends of the ASC. Currently 200 to 300 seniors use the facilities every day – Monday through Friday. 1400 seniors are currently on the ASC database.

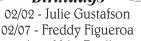
A daily lunch is served by the YMCA

Please turn to Program, p. 3

#### Congratulations



#### Birthdaus



02/08 - Mike Zoeller 02/10 - Julius Johnson 02/14 - Ruth Reeder 02/16 - Joan Frykenberg 02/16 - Sunny Wu Kerekes

02/28 - Wendy Davis Noll





## Chairmen's by E

by Ed Jasnow, Foundation Chair



Inertia – 1) a tendency to do nothing or to remain unchanged. 2) a property of matter

by which it continues in its existing state of rest or uniform motion in a straight line, unless that state is changed by an external force.

When it comes to membership, the Rotary Club of Altadena is currently at rest.

We are 30 members. New member Steve Kerekes takes the place of outgoing member and past president Linda Wilkes.

It is time to change our state by an external force – a commitment to action

#### **Overecoming Inertia**

by our membership to invite people in the community to hear the Rotary story. **First**: Who are our best candidates? — Typically someone over the age of 35 who is established in his/her business

or profession and is civically minded.

**Second:** How do you ask? — I always find people want to be helpful. When you think someone would be a good fit, explain a little about Rotary, describe our best candidates (see above) and ask, "If you were me how would you find these kinds of people?" You will be surprised that you will get names. The person may even say, "That sounds like something I might be interested in."

**Third:** Follow up. We have had a number of good candidates attend meetings this year. Some were speakers. Others were guests. Go back to them and ask if they would like to know more about Rotary. If he/she says, "Yes," give me that person's contact information, and I will follow up. Or give me their contact information, and I will ask.

To keep everyone focused, President Hal is awarding members who bring in a new member recognition with a special pin. We will be taking a *Minute for Membership* at our meetings to discuss ways we can be more effective in our outreach.

Thanks in advance for your efforts. O

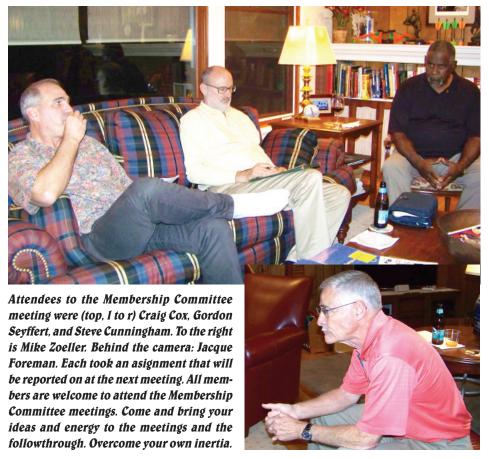
#### Program Continued from p.2



of San Gabriel. The cost is \$2. The center also provides food distribution once a month, taxi vouchers and vouchers for local farmers markets.

Conveniently located next to the public library on Mariposa the Altadena Senior Center is something all Altadena Rotarians should check out.

Craig Cox O





#### Industry Insider New Fannie Mae Automated Appraisal Review

Fannie Mae's newly launched automated appraisal program — Collateral Underwriter (CU) — helps validate appraisal quality. According to Fannie Mae, this computerized appraisal risk assessment program will flag appraisals with potential quality issues.

CU will look at numerous data points in its automated risk assessment to score appraisals. Data include comps, market trends, mapping, aerial photography, public records and additional analytics in its risk calculations. Appraisals with an ap-

parent high-risk concern will be rectified to ensure compliance and acceptability.

While there is speculation about a potential negative impact of CU on the lending process, the company with which I work expects a minimal impact on our customers and agent partners. And, we don't foresee our agent partners changing the way they currently do business working with their buyers and sellers. CU will enable the approval of appraisals receiving a positive score to be expedited, as it will mean a greatly reduced underwriting process. It will serve as an *early warning* system, providing me and other agents with data regarding the quality of

the appraisal report.

As a company, we are aware of and prepared to work with Collateral Underwriter, and we have extensive knowledge and experience with the system. Because of this, we are confident that this process will have negligible impact on our loans.

If you have any questions about loans in process or new loans, please let me know. I am always available to work with you. Contact me anytime!

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

Since Linda Wilkes has resigned from Altadena Rotary, this is her last column in *Sparks*. Thanks to Linda for all her articles.

#### Reflections

Continued from p. 1

face. Furthermore, the telescopes' detectors are more sensitive than retinas, and they can sum up the light they collect for hours, rather than the retina's fractions of seconds. Overall, taking all of these factors into account, current large telescopes are more sensitive to starlight than the eye by a factor of more than 10 billion. The telescope's sensitivity is limited by light from the night sky — the nighttime equivalent of the daytime's blue skies.

One of the technical innovations that large telescopes need to attain this sensitivity is the use of deformable mirrors to compensate for disturbances in the atmosphere that would otherwise make a star's image fuzzy and hard to pick out from the background sky brightness. Modern telescopes send a laser beam into the sky. The laser's light creates a spot of light (an "artificial star") in the upper atmosphere in the direction the telescope is pointing.

The telescope observes this artificial star, which without the deformable mirror would look fuzzy. In a fraction of a second, a powerful computer decides how to deform the mirror to compensate for the fuzziness. The atmosphere is constantly changing, so this compensation process is performed many tens of times per second.

Astronomers are currently building the next generation of ground-based telescopes, which will have primary mirrors that are in the 30-meter class. Compared to today's telescopes, the sensitivity of these new telescopes will increase by several 100 thousand. With this new generation of telescopes, it should be possible to observe the very first stars in the Universe or analyze the atmospheres of planets circling distant suns, searching for traces of life.

Mirrors are great fun when they do such exciting science.



At the February 05 meeting, President Hal Yorke announced a new perk this year if you bring in a new member. Each member who brings in a new member will be awarded a blue field that is designed to go behind the rotary pin. It designates the wearer as someone who has brought in a new member.

Boyd Hudson (left) is the first to be awarded this pin addon. It is not clear if additional addons will be awarded if the member brings in more than one new member.

Gilbert Barraza, Principal

Matt Kodama, Assistant Principal

David Ibarra, Assistant Principal

Andrew King, Assistant Principal

Mike Parisi Athletic Director

MC Flores, Secretary

Dr. Allison Steppes, Head Counselor

Randyl Barrozo, *Counselor* 

Erica Linares, *Counselor* 

Teresa Martinez, Counselors

Minh Tran, Counselors

Teresa Arreola ELAC President

Laura Synder, PTSA President

Jennifer McCreight, SSC Chair



#### PASADENA HIGH SCHOOL

A Learning Community Dedicated to Student Achievement

January 28, 2015

2014-2015 Altadena Rotary Teacher Grant Recipients! Thank You Rotary Club of Altadena Teacher \$400 Grants Project



for granting
each Teacher
Annie Wang,
Mandarin with
a grant for MLIP
World Language
& Mary Hines,
Science Dept.
Chair,
organizing the
competitive PHS
Academic
Decathlon!

We are indebted to the Rotary for these wonderful

financial grants that enrich our student's learning experiences.

Bulldogs For Life...Go Big Red!!

Gilbert Barraza-Marestein

Red!!

This thank you was emailed to

This thank you was emailed to

For Cilbert Barra

For Principal of

For Marestein, School.

Paradena High School.

2925 East Sierra Madre Blvd. • Pasadena, CA 91107 • 626-396-5880 • 626-798-1875 Fax





### FROM 9 AM TO 12 PM

Glendale Sports Complex - Catalina Verdugo Trail
\$20/Person Entry Donation

Lobos Food Truck

Live Music by Major Minus Band

Bring your family

Pets are welcome, too!



ALL PROCEEDS WILL FUND THE NEXT BICYCLE DELIVERIES





Giving the Gift of Education through the Power of Bicycles



(1(818)510-1636



