



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



REFLECTIONS

by Hal Yorke, President

REFLECTIONS

on . . . Mirrors

Mirrors 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,

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-

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Greeters

February 12

Tom McCurry

February 19

Dennis Mehringer

February 05

Kevin Moore

bottomless pool of stunningly beautiful songs.

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

Program Review



Liliana Garcia is the Community Center Director for the Altadena 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-

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Rotary Club of Altadena - #7183

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Editor, Design & Typesetting Foreman Graphics
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The Altadena Senior Center *A Place for Many Reasons*

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.



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

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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

Congratulations



Birthdays



02/02 - Julie Gustafson
02/07 - Freddy Figueroa
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



Anniversaries



02/03 - Susan & Don Applegate
02/17 - Ed & Mona Jasnow



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

Overcoming 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. ○

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 ○



Attendees to the Membership Committee meeting were (top, l to r) Craig Cox, Gordon Seyffert, and Steve Cunningham. To the right is Mike Zoeller. Behind the camera: Jacque Foreman. Each took an assignment that will be reported on at the next meeting. All members are welcome to attend the Membership Committee meetings. Come and bring your ideas and energy to the meetings and the followthrough. Overcome your own inertia.





MONEY MATTERS

by Linda Wilkes

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

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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. ○

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Laura Synder,
PTSA President

Jennifer
McCreight,
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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

*This thank you was emailed to
Ed Jarnow from Gilbert Barraza-
Marestein, Jr., Principal of
Pasadena High School.*

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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!

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