

February 19, 2015

This Week
4-Way Speech Contest
Club Level
Guest Program Host:
Kevin Moore

Each year District 5300 hosts a Four-Way Test Speech Contest. This year the theme is *Light Up Rotary*. Rotary Clubs throughout the District invite students from local high schools to compete. After an exhaustive preliminary round held last week by our club along with Pasadena Sunrise and Pasadena Rotary, we will have 4 students competing at our local level contest. These students will share their perspectives on the Four-Way Test. Each speech must be based on Herb Taylor's famous statement on business ethics.

"Of the things we think, say or do:

- Is it the TRUTH?
- Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?"

Understanding, appreciating, and expressing the true meaning of the Four-Way Test is the most important aspect of each speech. Many times the students' thoughtful speeches unravel

Please turn to This Week p. 3



REFLECTIONS
 by Hal Yorke, President
BEEFLECTIONS?

on . . . Change

Benjamin Franklin - as the United States ambassador to France - once worked out how many tons of candle wax and how many thousands of Francs the French could save, if they would only change their clocks by one hour. Ambassador Franklin was very popular in France and was well known as a humorous man. So the French politely smiled at this insane suggestion.

Nowadays, changing the clocks by one hour twice a year is a biannual ritual — even in France. However, no one has bothered to calculate the expense of doing so and balance total costs versus benefits for the present day and age. With today's flexible working times in many occupations, there is nothing preventing one from starting work at 7a, eating lunch at 11a, going home at 4pm, and enjoying the extended daylight — even without changing all the clocks. So would Franklin come up with the same suggestion today?

In Europe, trains are kept in the station for one hour or try to catch up an hour to stay on schedule. There are special schedules printed and distributed for planes and

trains twice a year to accommodate the biannual time change. Cows are either milked too soon or bellow loudly for an hour, because they are being milked too late. One member of a big band I play in came to a gig one hour too late last year, because he forgot to change his clock.

Franklin once wrote, "For having lived long, I have experienced many instances of being obliged, by better information or fuller consideration, to change opinions, even on important subjects, which I once thought right but found to be otherwise."

So even Franklin agrees, there is nothing wrong with changing your mind, if better information is available. As a matter of fact, he also said, "When you're finished changing, you're finished." Maybe it's time to change the clock-changing ritual. ○

Creeters

February 19
Dennis Mehringer

February 26
Kevin Moore

March 05
Mike Noll

Program Review



Last Thursday (February 12) Ralph Mauriello came to Altadena Rotary to tell stories of his life as a singer, and life as a former professional baseball player for the Dodgers.

The Rotarians in attendance were treated when Mauriello started the meeting off with a passionate version of the national anthem, which he has actually performed

at Dodger Stadium.

Mauriello then began to tell his many stories of his life's adventures as a baseball player and singer.

The first story began in 1957 when he was playing for the Los Angeles Angels. Mauriello stated that he was very passionate about his singing. He would go to piano bars at night after games and sing. One day he was called in by his manager to the office. He was asked by his manager, "Do you want to play baseball or sing?" Mauriello was surprised. The manager went on to say that everyone thinks you are out drinking after games because "sober people don't sing." The thing was that Mauriello didn't drink, he just loved singing. The manager went on to say that he got calls saying that "Ralph Mauriello was out singing last night." The manager stated that after a game, (Ralph Mauriello who was a pitcher), after getting *bombed* in the game, was out singing. The manager said "let's make a deal, everyone knows you here in Los Angeles, and every time



I get a call. You can sing, but only on the road." Mauriello accepted.

The next story took place in Havana, Cuba in the late 50s. Mauriello stated that, in 1959, while playing a game for the Montreal Royals in Havana, armed guards in Military uniforms came into the hotel. Tommy Lasorda said, "they are taking over the hotel!" Later that night, Lasorda was

Please turn to Program, p. 4

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

Hal Yorke, Pres. Bus. 626-577-9800
 Steve Cunningham, Pres. Elec. Bus. 626-786-1937
 Dennis Mehringer, V. Pres. Bus. 626-577-9800
 Gordon Seyffert, Sec. Bus. 626-345-0658
 Mike Noll, Treas. 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
 Jacque Foreman Acting Publicity
 Jacque Foreman Sparks/Website
 Mike Zoeller Club Projects
 Craig Cox Community
 John Frykenberg International
 Tony Hill Youth Contests/Awards
 Mike Zoeller Youth Projects
 Ray Carlson Vocational
 Tom McCurry Asst. Vocational
 Craig Cox Membership
 Editor, Design & Typesetting Foreman Graphics
 Photography Jacque Foreman

February World Understanding Month

Program Chair, *Theo Clarke*

Feb 19 - 4-Way Speech Competition -- Club Level
 Feb 26 - To be Announced

March Literacy Month

Program Chair, *Charlie Wilson*

Mar 05 - Dan Stover Club-Level Contest,
 Guest Program Hosts: Theo Clarke & Mike Noll
 Mar 12 - To be Announced
 Mar 19 - To be Announced
 Mar 26 - To be Announced

Congratulations



Birthdays



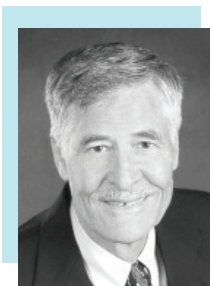
02/02 - Julie Gustafson
 02/07 - Freddy Figueroa
 02/08 - Mike Zoeller
 02/10 - Julius Johnson
 02/14 - Ruth Reeder
 02/16 - Joan Frykenberg
 02/16 - Sunny Wu Kerekes
 02/28 - Wendy Davis Noll



Anniversaries



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



Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is an intensive, two-and-a-half-day leadership training program for high school juniors in District 5300, chosen for their leadership potential. In addition to leadership training and events, RYLA is meant to develop understanding of Rotary among participants and reinforce and provide recognition for their efforts, accomplishments, skills and potential as leaders. Rotarians serve as facilitators to the students' learning and discovery, as

This Week

Continued from p. 1

the complexities of Four-Way Tests in new and innovative ways.

The schedule is as follows:

- February — Club Level Contest
- March — Group Level
- April — Regional Level
- May — District Level

This year, Pasadena Rotary has volunteered to host our Group Level contest, which will be held on March 11 where the winners of club-level contests of Altadena, Sierra Madre, Pasadena Sunrise and Pasadena Rotary Clubs will compete.

The Four-Way Test finals are always a highlight of the District Conference. In the past, the first place prize has been up to \$5000+ (depending on number of clubs participating). The three runners-up will receive prizes of up to \$1500 each. ○

RYLA is Off and Running

well as role models of Rotary ideals of the *4-Way Test* and *Service Above Self*.

Last week, the Altadena Rotary Club began the process of interviewing and selecting our club RYLA participants for this year's Conference.

Led by team-leader Tony Hill and assisted by John Casci and Mike Zoeller, the club team interviewed eleven high school junior candidates at Muir High School and selected two girls and two Boys to represent the Altadena Club. In addition, two girls and one boy were selected as alternates.

The successful Muir candidates who were selected to attend this year's program were:

- **Girls:** Victoria Pulcifer & Michelle Rios-Alquizar
 - **Boys:** Chase Wyndon & Joseph Henry
- The candidates that we selected as

alternates are:

- **Girls:** Paola Nieto & Drae Upshaw
- **Boys:** Matthew Manning

I think our team felt that, as usual, all of the candidates were well qualified, and it was difficult to make the final selections. After our successful students have completed the RYLA Conference —

scheduled for April 17 to 19 at Thousand Pines Camp at Crestline, California, they will visit the club and tell us all about their experience. Based on years of feedback from RYLA participants, our expectation is that these young leaders will find this to be one of the most impactful experiences of their lives.

Please join your RYLA committee members in congratulating our successful candidates and wishing them a great 2015 RYLA experience ○



Form & Line

by Jacque Foreman

The pointed pattern of the Siamese cat is a form of partial albinism, resulting from a mutation in tyrosinase, an enzyme involved in melanin production. The mutated enzyme is heat-sensitive; it fails to work at normal body temperatures, but becomes active in cooler areas of the skin. This results in dark colouration in the

The Siamese Cat has a Form of Albinism

coolest parts of the cat's body, including the extremities and the face, which is cooled by the passage of air through the sinuses. They darken with age. ○

Tarragon with big brother Anise. Anise is three years her senior.



Program

Continued from p. 2

playing the roulette wheel. He was winning, and when he went to cash in, he got payed in pesos. This really made Lasorda mad! When leaving a hotel — the room was payed for, but each player had to pay for his personal incidentals. A mad Tommy Lasorda demanded that Mauriello pay those incidentals in pesos. When Mauriello went to pay in pesos, the hotel said that he had to pay in dollars. Mauriello stated that he did not have dollars — only pesos. They left without paying in dollars, and some time later the team was contacted saying that the players left without paying.

Mauriello tells of another story that took place in Havana. In 1959, there were rainstorms that hit for days. The players were sitting around during the storms. Walter O'Malley, the Dodgers' owner, got together with the Reds owner and decided that they could fly down to Havana and play games. The two teams flew down

to play a series of games. While in the dugout, a Cuban officer pointed down with his machine gun toward a bag of balls. Mauriello handed the officer a ball, and he walked away. One by one officers with machine guns came down, and one by one balls were handed to them. Pee Wee Reese came to Mauriello and said "we are not going to have any balls left for the game." Mauriello replied, "Have you seen those machine guns? I will give them my jock."

Tommy Lasorda was having a party in Coconut Grove, and Ralph Mauriello was contacted to come sing for the party. When Mauriello was introduced, a surprised Lasorda moved his lips and let out an expletive. Later, Lasorda introduced Don Sutton to Mauriello, saying "Don you have a curve ball just like Ralph's." Sutton replied, "No he has one like me." Lasorda replied, "No you have one like Ralph's;

Ralph came first" When asked if Lasorda is really like the way he is perceived, Mauriello said "Yes, Tommy Lasorda is a *great motivator.*"

Mauriello tells of one last story about Tommy Lasorda: Mauriello was at the Reagan Library along with Tommy Lasorda. Mauriello was going to step into an elevator that Lasorda happened to be in. Security for Lasorda stopped Mauriello. When Lasorda saw who it was, he said "let him in, Ralph and I used to sing in a quartet in Montreal". When in the elevator, Lasorda later said, "you are a better singer than a pitcher."

Mauriello stated that he pitched until he was 60 years old while playing semi pro ball. He actually hit 300 at that time, and attributes knowing pitchers, and knowing what the pitcher was throwing, as helping his average. When asked to compare the past to the present, Mauriello stated that the players today are bigger, faster, and stronger. He stated that he learned to *knock down* players — but not hit them — when pitching. He said he became a better player when he learned this. He actually got the reputation of knocking down players their next time at bat after giving up a home run. However, there was one time when, after giving up a home run in a game, the next time the player came up, he didn't knock the player down. Later that night after the game, the same player came up to Mauriello in a bar and asked "are you alright?" Mauriello stated that it's no accident when you see pitchers hitting batters today.

Mauriello said that he had many other stories to tell about his life as a baseball player and singer. He is currently writing a book about his life, and has two CDs to his name. We were happy that Ralph Mauriello came to speak of his adventures and stories. John Casci ○



by Mary Mejia, *President*
Pasadena High School Interact

Formerly active in 2012, the Pasadena High School Interact Club is back! Thanks to Tony Hill of the Altadena Rotary Club, who held a meeting at PHS back in September 2014 for those interested in the Club. Off to a slow start, the PHS Interact Club is still recruiting.

The Club's members are a majority of juniors and are looking for underclassmen to join in order to keep the spirit of *Service Above Self* alive.

In November, we attempted to run a canned food drive, but the Club was unsuccessful. However, we did manage to do Kettle Bell ringing during the holiday season and get sponsored for it, too.

We are currently participating with Pasadena High School's *Teens for Jeans* drive and helping with the take down of the Christmas Tree Lane lights. Twenty members strong, the Club hopes to grow in membership and service. ○



FEBRUARY 28

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



Bikes 4 Orphans

Giving the Gift of Education through the Power of Bicycles

1(818)510-1636

Bikes 4 Orphans

@Bikes4Orphans