

October 28, 2010

This Week
Dr. Kelly Lawson
Principal, Burbank
Elementary School
Mandarin Immersion
Program
Program Host:
Tom McCurry

Dr. Kelly Lawson, Principal at Burbank Elementary School, will bring one of the teachers and some of the children from the class to explain the Mandarin Immersion program that was started last school year.

The purpose of the program is to have the pupils be fluent in Mandarin by the end of the fifth grade. This program was made possible by the Foreign Language Assistance Program, also known as FLAP. It holds the distinction as the only federally funded program that exclusively targets foreign language instruction in elementary and secondary schools. Funded under Title V of the No Child Left Behind Act (2001),

FLAP provides 3-year grants to states and local school districts to establish, improve, or expand innovative kindergarten through grade twelve modal programs. 



Hayes
by President Brian Hayes
Stack

Rebuilding Democracy ...
One Vote at a Time

Since I set up most of my bills to be paid online, I've greatly reduced the amount of postal mail I receive each day. If it weren't for catalogs from J. Crew, Land's End and Victoria's Secret (that one comes to Gloria, not me!), most days my mailbox would be empty. Come election season, that all changes.

One of the downsides to being an unaffiliated voter is that I get bombarded by both sides trying to win my vote. It isn't working. At this point, only a week before Election Day, I'm afraid that these slick mailers are deposited unread in the recycling bin.

It seems that with all the money that candidates have to spend on their campaigns, they shouldn't resort to hiring junior high school students to develop their messaging. The juvenile name-calling does nothing more than turn me off from engaging in the political process.

Is this what our political discourse has become? Candidate A once changed his mind. Is that the candidate you want representing you? Candidate B once voted to allow sex offenders to buy Viagra. Candidate A has smelly underpants. Candidate

B once smoked marijuana. Candidate A is a secret Muslim, communist, fascist socialist ... who hates kittens!

How will distorted facts and name-calling solve the pressing issues of our day? It seems that this increasing polarization can only make it harder for elected officials to make difficult decisions and to build consensus.

The great fallacy in the political debate is that, while the political parties veer sharply in opposite directions, the American people congregate in the political middle, some leaning a little to the right and others a little to the left but all residing in the meaty part of the bell curve. The fastest growing political force is voters who chose not to declare allegiance

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Greeters

October 28
Dennis Mehringer
November 04
Kevin Moore
November 11
Paul Sirois



Program Review

Get Involved, Do your Best, and Give Something Back

New member David Sparks is a man who doesn't like grass to grow under his feet.

He was born in Indianapolis, Indiana in 1939. The middle of three boys, he graduated High School in 1957. At 6' 5" he played as a guard on the Indiana University basketball team. He also joined the swim team and a fraternity which unfortunately meant that he did not have enough time to study. The F's and D's convinced the University that his time might be better spent elsewhere.

Military service seemed like a good idea so Sparks went to Officer Training School to be a navigator. Of the 120 in his class only 20 were left when his girl friend said she was moving to California. To this day he says he regrets that he left OTS to follow his heart — never completing his studies.

Arriving in California, he discovered that few people were hiring. He found a job working the graveyard shift at a gas station and as a hod carrier for a brick layer.

The prospects in Indianapolis looked better than California, so he returned to his home state and found a job with Western Electric in the data processing department. He ended up in Accounts Payable and became a master of the 80-column tab card.

Sparks caught wind of a new plant opening in Shreveport, Louisiana so he packed up his wife and two daughters and transferred. He was employee number 00057 in the new location and was promoted to 1st Level Management.

30 years later he retired. In 1988 Western Electric was laying off thousands of employees. Sparks was losing his best and brightest employees, and retirement looked like the best option.

Next he started a steam cleaning business cleaning cement/concrete at gas stations, restaurants, Walmarts, and car washes. He was amazed that some years his gross income was three times what

he made at Western Electric. His motto was *to do the best job every time.*

The West beckoned Sparks again. After open heart surgery and two knee replacements, he sold his business and moved to Arizona. His golf game got some work as he would play five days a week. He found, however, that he needed something more to do, so he enrolled in the H&R Block course to learn how to do tax returns.

He and wife Shirley moved to Flagstaff. He discovered the tax return season ended in February, so he decided to see if the local ski lift were hiring. Sure enough, he was hired as a lift ticket cashier. When ski season ended, he became a locker room attendant at Forest Highlands Golf Course.

Coming to Pasadena was Shirley's idea. Her daughter Amy works as an employ-

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Rotary Club of Altadena - #7183

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John Guerrini Membership

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Photography Jacque Foreman

October Programs

Vocational Service Month

Program Chair, Tom McCurry

October 28 - Dr. Kelly Lawson, Burbank
Elementary - Mandarin Immersion Program

Congratulations



Birthdays



10/08 - Susan Cox

10/17 - Noriko Suzuki Mehringer

10/24 - Jim Gorton



Anniversaries



10/01 - Freddy & Margarita Figueroa

10/19 - David & Elsa Smith

Chairmen's Corner

The Mouse that Roared

A Bit of Rotary History

from John Guerrini, Membership Chair



This article is condensed and edited, from the original found at Rotary Global History Fellowship, by Doug Rudman

The year was 1976. Twelve miles east of the Rose Bowl is Duarte, a small town in the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains. It's a quiet bedroom community with a very small Rotary Club. With only eight members, including the Superintendent of Schools Dr. Richard Key, the club votes to invite three women to join the club. Two school principals, Mary Lou Elliott and Donna Bogart joined the same day. Just a few months later, in the spring of 1977, psychologist Rosemary Freitag became the third woman member of Duarte. Notably, the club had nearly increased 50 percent in size with the addition of women.

The late Paul G. Bryan, from Pasadena, was the Governor of District 530 (now 5300) in 1976-1977. On his advice, the club listed the women with only their initials for their first names, and the data was sent to Rotary International.

On June 1, 1977, the Duarte club held its 25th Anniversary Celebration. In front of the backdrop of RI officialdom, who were present for the celebration, the three women were introduced as members. RI representatives expressed alarm at the presence of women in the Duarte club. Word spread rapidly throughout RI. Requests to terminate the women were rejected by the club.

Eight months later, RI revoked the charter of the Duarte club. The club requested a hearing with RI's Board of Directors. The Board told Duarte that it must remove women members. They refused again. Undaunted, the club members raised funds to send a club member, Luke

McJimpson, to Tokyo for the next Council on Legislation. The club began fund raising in earnest, and the entire Duarte community supported the fundraisers.

On March 27, 1978, the RI Board of Directors officially revoked the Charter of the Duarte club after the appeals process was concluded. Duarte member Luke McJimpson flew to Tokyo for the Council on Legislation. His instruction from the club was that they would take no legal action before appealing to Rotary's Council on Legislation. Jack Davis, President of RI wrote the COL, "The unity of RI was jeopardized by a single club's unilateral move to change bylaws." The vote was 1060 to 34 against changing the constitution of RI to admit women to Rotary.

Upon McJimpson's return, the entire club met, and decided to continue to meet as a quasi-Rotary Club. An X was placed over the Rotary insignia, new pins were made, and the club was called: *The Ex-Rotary Club of Duarte*.

A month later, in June of 1978, the Rotary Club of Duarte, California, filed suit in Los Angeles Superior Court, helped by Sanford Smith, an attorney from a neighboring Rotary Club, and Carl Agate, a member of the American Civil Liberties Union.

Immediately upon service, RI's attorney petitioned to transfer the California State Court suit to federal court, using the theory that all RI board members are not Californians. (If jurisdiction had been changed to Federal court, the RI board would have gained the advantage of a 1976 Federal court decision which upheld exclusionary rules for private clubs.) The Federal Court denied the request.

The case finally goes to trial in 1983. California State Judge Max Deutz refused to reinstate the club. The Duarte club immediately appealed the decision. Three

years later, the State Appeals Court reversed Judge Deutz, stating that Rotary Clubs are business establishments subject to regulation under the state's Unruh Act which bans discrimination based on race, gender, religion or ethnic origin. RI's request that the California Supreme Court hear the case was denied.

So RI appealed the decision to the US Supreme Court. The RI attorney argued that the Court of Appeals ruling threatened RI "to force us to take in everyone, like a motel."

On May 4, 1987, the US Supreme Court, in a 7 - 0 opinion, affirmed the Court of Appeals of California. There was widespread media publicity worldwide. However, there was no communication from RI until the 1987-1988 Rotary year, when the Duarte club received an invoice/recap sheet to list existing members as of June 30, 1987, and pay international dues based on the membership as of that date. To this day, that invoice remains the only communication from the RI Board of Directors or the Secretariat regarding the end of the Duarte charter revocation and its reinstatement in RI.

In late fall of 1986, District 530 Governor Tim Keen Siu sent to the Duarte Club and incoming president Sylvia Whitlock an invitation to attend California PETs and a notice of the district dues schedule. California PETs took place in February, 1987, prior to the US Supreme Court decision. However, it was incumbent on all California clubs to obey the ruling of the State Court of Appeals. At PETs, the attendance included 310 men and one woman, Sylvia Whitlock, and all were requested to bring a coat and tie for pictures to be taken. District 530 Governor Siu, in the district session, told of the Duarte Club's actions, the court ruling, and the decision of RI to

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Spicy Soy & Sesame Roasted Green Beans



This dish is a side dish, though we'd be lying if we said that we've never eaten so much of it that it might as well have been a main dish. It's crazy easy to make. Just toss the ingredients in a bowl and roast in the oven for five minutes. First, heat up the oven to 500 degrees F. This is one of those dishes where a convection oven comes in very handy. Then into a large bowl, add:

- 2 pounds raw green beans (we prefer the thin French variety)
- ½ large onion, chopped finely
- 5 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 tbsp soy sauce
- 1 tbsp Chinese chile sauce
- 2 tbsp grapeseed oil (or any neutral oil with a high flash point)
- 2 tbsp roasted sesame oil
- 2 tbsp sesame seeds, toasted



Toss



Layer onto a baking pan and top with two tablespoons of toasted sunflower seeds



Roast in the oven for five minutes, longer if necessary, until the beans begin to brown



Plate up and garnish with more sunflower seeds and some chopped fresh parsley



Program

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ment lawyer in Los Angeles. She and her family bought a large house where everyone can live together. Shirley helps with her grandson, and everyone gets along.

Today Dave works as a service extender at Heritage Clinic in El Monte and as an ambassador at Brookside Golf Course on Saturday and Monday after-

noons. In addition he is greatly enjoying the Pasadena Police Department's Citizens Police Academy.

Sparks joined Rotary in 1988. He became President in 1992. His wife was also a Rotarian, and they are both Paul Harris Fellows. He said his philosophy of life is simple: get involved, do your best and give something back. ☉

Corner

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appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States. His comment was, in direct reference to the club's small number, "This is a case of the mouse that roared." ... Whitlock served as president of Duarte for the 1987-1988 Rotary year, and she was the first woman club president in the world. On July 1, 1989, RI officially changed its constitution to permit women as members. ☉

Stack

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to either political party. Together, if we reject the politics of personal destruction, we can move the country forward in ways that will create opportunities for everyone.

As you step into the election booth, keep the Four Way Test in mind. If a campaign is truthful, fair, friendly and beneficial to all, then that's where you should ink your ballot. ☉



MONEY by Linda Wilkes MATTERS

Last Week in the News

The Mortgage Bankers Association said its seasonally adjusted composite index of mortgage applications for the week ending October 8 rose 14.6 percent. Refinancing applications jumped 21 percent. Purchase volume fell 8.5 percent.

The trade deficit increased 8.8 percent to \$46.3 billion in August. Economists had expected the trade deficit to rise to \$44.3 billion. Exports rose 0.2 percent to \$153.9 billion. Imports increased 2.1 percent to \$200.2 billion.

The producer price index, which tracks wholesale price inflation, rose 0.4 percent in September, matching a 0.4 percent increase in August. Core prices — excluding food and fuel — rose 0.1 percent, also matching a 0.1 percent increase in August. For the year, seasonally adjusted wholesale prices are up 4 percent.

Retail sales rose 0.6 percent in September after an upwardly revised 0.7 percent increase in August. Economists had anticipated retail sales to rise 0.5 percent in September.

Total business inventories rose 0.6 percent in August, following a revised 1.1 percent increase in July. Total business sales rose 0.1 percent in August after a 0.8 percent increase in July.

Consumer prices rose a seasonally adjusted 0.1 percent in September, following a 0.3 percent increase in August. For the year, seasonally adjusted consumer prices are up 1.1 percent.

The Reuters/University of Michigan consumer sentiment index for October's preliminary reading fell to 67.9 from 68.2 in September.

Initial claims for unemployment benefits rose by 13,000 to 462,000 for the week ending October 9. Continuing claims for the week ending October 2 fell by 112,000

to 4.39 million, the lowest level since November 2008.

Upcoming on the economic calendar are reports on the housing market index on October 18, housing starts on October 19 and the index of leading economic indicators on October 21.

How Much Equity do Local Homeowners have?

Homeowner equity for median homes in 154 metro areas varies considerably depending on location, according to a recent NAR report. An analysis of these median homes in 154 metro areas over a five-year period (2004 – 2009) reveals:

- 87 metro areas experienced price appreciation.
- In 13 metro areas, a median buyer with a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage accumulated an average of more than \$50,000 in equity.
- 67 metro areas experienced price depreciation.
- In 11 metro areas — all located in California, Nevada and Florida — a median buyer with a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage was underwater more than \$50,000.

Over the last 10 years, the price and equity picture is much brighter. Median buyers in the top 29 metro areas could have accumulated at least \$100,000 or more in equity. Interestingly, four of the six California cities that have had the biggest equity losses over the last five years are among the biggest gainers over a 10-year horizon. Only 12 of 154 metro areas experienced price depreciation over this 10-year period, and only seven areas — concentrated in Ohio and Michigan — saw a decline substantial enough to leave a median buyer underwater.

Over an even longer term, we see positive equity build-up in all areas. For

example, in 75 of the 154 areas, a buyer who bought at the median price 20 years ago would have over \$100,000 in equity in their home. In an additional 67 areas, the buyer would have more than \$50,000 in equity.

Proper Lawn Care

Proper lawn care involves a number of different efforts, namely: seeding, watering, mowing, aerating and fertilizing. The timing of these efforts are crucial to proper lawn care.

Seeding - You can make a thinning lawn thicker by seeding. The best time to seed is in the fall. Keeping the seed moist during germination is easier because the hot temperatures of summer have passed. The weeds that compete with the young grass have subsided. And the new grass will have ample time to mature and endure the stresses associated with summer, such as increased foot traffic and mowing.

Watering - The best time to water a lawn is very early in the morning. Mid-day watering leads to excessive evaporation, and watering in the evening increases the risk of disease because the lawn remains moist throughout the night. How one mows the lawn varies by season. During the summer when growth is at its peak, the cutting level should be raised. In the fall, as the grass begins to store nutrients and prepare for the coming winter, cutting heights should be lowered. This hardens and strengthens the plant by conserving nutrients in the roots that would otherwise be expended on the longer blades of grass.

Aerating - Soil tends to compact, which reduces the oxygen supply to the roots. In response, lawns should be aerated in the fall. This can best be done using a coring aerator that removes small plugs of soil from the lawn.

Fertilizing - Weed-and-feed type fertilizers are best applied in the fall as well. This enhances plant health and helps assure a robust emergence in the spring.

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