



View by President
 Tony Hill
from the Hill

Some New Paraprodsokians

As I have busy weekend, I am once again reverting to humor for my weekly article. So please sit back and enjoy a new set of “paraprodsokian” jokes, courtesy of Gordon Seyffert who ran across them in the Pomona Valley Genealogical Society Newsletter. As you may recall, a paraprodsokian is a figure of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected in a way that causes the reader to reframe or reinterpret the first part, with the byproduct being humor. Think Rodney Dangerfield. So here we go:

- I asked God for a bike, but I know God doesn't work that way, so I stole a bike and asked God for forgiveness. . . .
- Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car. . . .
- The last thing I want to do is hurt you, but it's still on my list. . . .
- If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong. . . .
- We never really grow up, we only learn how to behave in public.

- War does not determine who is right - only who is left. . . .
- Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit; Wisdom is not putting it in the fruit salad. . . .
- Evening news is where they begin with “Good evening”, and then proceed to tell you why it is not. . . .
- To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism; to steal from many is research. . . .
- A bus station is where a bus stops. A train station is where a train stops. On my desk, I have a work station.

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This Week

**GSE Team from Northern Chile
 The Last GSE Team—A new program starts next year
 Program Host: Julius Johnson**

For our program this week we will be learn about the Rotary GSE(Group Study Exchange). Our presenters will be five exchange *students* from District 4320 located in Northern Chile. They will be here in our District for five weeks while our out-going team will be there.

Come learn more about this exciting program. Let's greet our guest and show them our famous Altadena Rotary Club hospitality. ☺

Greeters

May 24
Wilbert Smith
 May 31
Linda Wilkes
 June 07
Hal Yorke



Program Review

Trying to do More with Less

That's the dilemma of our speaker last week, Renata Cooper, the newly re-elected President of the Board of Education of the Pasadena Unified School District. Although she has achieved many accomplishments, the 21 years she spent at Pacific Oaks College, an institution run by Quakers, has taught her not to get too involved with previous accomplishments. She pointed out that our club has been involved in PUSD since 1995, and she noted that this support was much appreciated.

She commented that Jon Gundry, the current PUSD Superintendent, has stated that the District is really much better than its reputation. This is true, especially when you consider the demographics of the students. Pasadena has more private schools than any other city its size in the United States. That means that over 50 percent of the students in the District have English as a second language. Thus, they are faced with the challenge of learning academic subjects in a language that is not their own. And, the teachers are faced with trying to teach them in that new language. She recounted the story of Ed Honowitz, Vice-President of the Board, whose son was an exchange student in Chile. He really didn't feel he had grasped the language until he had a dream in Spanish.


Although she doesn't put much stock in Academic Performance Index (API) scores, she uses them because she knows people want to hear them. The State of California wants all schools to score over 800 in their APIs. For five years in a row,



PUSD elementary schools have scored over 800. None of the secondary schools have scored over 800 yet, but they're getting closer. Many PUSD schools have received recognition for their performance. Marshall Fundamental School has been named a *US News & World Report* Blue Ribbon School three out of the last four years. Don Benito Elementary and Blair High School have been named California Distinguished Schools. And, Cooper was most proud of the fact that John Muir teacher Manuel Rustin received the Milken Award for teaching. This is like receiving an Oscar for teachers. [Author's note: Manuel Rustin was the recipient of one of our Americanism mini-grants]. The

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Congratulations



Birthdays



05/05 - Ursula Moore
05/15 - Elsa Smith
05/18 - Craig Cox
05/30 - Susan Applegate



Anniversaries



05/18 - Tony Hill & Ann Rider
05/19 - Roger & Kathleen Anne Fennell

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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

May Programs

No Designation

Program Chair, Julius Johnson

May 24 - GSE participants from Chile

May 31 - Business Plan Awards & maybe the PCC awards - May be an early meeting

June Programs

Fellowship Month

Program Chair, Ed Jasnow

Jun 07 - JROTC Awards

Jun 14 - Teacher Mini-Grant Reports

Jun 21 - Jeffrey Piece, Stifel, Niclaus & Co., - The Warren Buffet Investment

Jun 28 - Demotion Party - An evening Event

The Need Grows

by Ed Jasnow, Community Chair



Yesterday [Tuesday, May 15], I sent out invitations to seven principals inviting them and the members of their faculties who had received Rotary mini-grants to join us for lunch on June 14. This is for our annual luncheon where the mini-grant recipients report to us on what they did with the funds to enhance the classroom experience of their students. It is always one of the best programs of the year, because it is truly inspiring to see how these dedicated teachers stretch \$300 to help their students.

This year, I was a little more anxious than usual about this luncheon because of a quirk in the calendar. Normally, this luncheon is held on the first Thursday in June. That day, however, was June 7, and it just happened to be the last day of the school year. All the teachers had to be

present, and the secondary schools were conducting the end of finals on that day. It so happened that Tom McCurry needed a date in June for the JROTC awards, so I agreed to let him have June 7, and I would schedule the mini-grant program for June 14. I was concerned that nobody would come because they'd all be on summer vacation.

My worry was for naught. Just about all of the principals and teachers are coming on the 14th. The reason is that they want to make sure that they express their appreciation to our club for supporting them in a time of dire need. Greg White, the principal of Altadena Elementary, sent me an e-mail that said that they always appreciate our support, but especially this year. You can read the reasons in the newspapers that are full of even more Draconian budget cuts. When I read this, I always wonder how we are going to educate our future citizens to thrive in a world

that will be far more competitive than now.

I was not able to attend the Future Vision meeting last Saturday [May 12], but, if I had been there, I would have urged our club members to somehow come up with funds for more mini-grants. It's a drop in the bucket relative to the whole problem, but at least we're trying to help.

Speaking of appreciation, this is my last article for this Rotary year as Community Service Chair. I begin my umpteenth term as Community Service Chair next Rotary year under Julius. (Frankly, I thought that the position of *Chairman for Life* had disappeared with the fall of Communism, but I apparently was mistaken.) I'd like to thank the members of the club that helped me evaluate mini-grant proposals, and the club as a whole that supports the Summer Concert Series, particularly Dave Smith and Mike Zoeller. Thanks to all of you. ○

Program

Continued from p.2

irony was that Manuel had been *pink-slipped* three out of the last four years due to the requirement to notify teachers that may have to be laid off due to the budget crisis.

Cooper spoke of the Pathways program, which helps students focus on college and careers. With smaller classes, the teachers get to know their students and can help them in many areas. This is also true of the various academies that exist within the District. She also spoke of expansion of the Spanish and Mandarin immersion experience to other elementary schools.

She mentioned the closing of San Rafael Elementary School due to the discovery of four faults under the school. As

the technology for discovering faults improves, more schools may be discovered to be at risk.

Cooper then discussed the terrible budget crisis the District is experiencing. They have lost a whopping \$23 million from their budget, a staggering figure for any district, but nearly fatal to one the size of the PUSD. She said she understands what the Governor is doing, but that she has to focus on the schools. They are negotiating with the Teacher's Union to try to get some relief there. They have cut administrative divisions down to where one person is doing the work of three. The task is difficult, but the stakes are very high. No less than the future of our community and our country is at stake. Ed Jasnow ○

View

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- Dolphins are so smart that within a few weeks of captivity, they can train people to stand on the very edge of the pool and throw them fish. ○ ○ ○
- I thought I wanted a career, turns out I just wanted pay checks. ○ ○ ○
- A bank is a place that will lend you money, if you can prove that you don't need it. ○ ○ ○
- I didn't say it was your fault, I said I was blaming you. ○ ○ ○
- Whenever I fill out an application, in the part that says "In an emergency, notify..." I put "DOCTOR". ○ ○ ○



MONEY by Linda Wilkes MATTERS

Economic Update

Last Week in the News

The Reuters/University of Michigan consumer sentiment index for May's preliminary reading rose to 77.8 from 76.4 at the end of April. It was the highest reading since January 2008.

The Mortgage Bankers Association said its seasonally adjusted composite index of mortgage applications for the week ending May 4 rose 1.7 percent. Refinancing applications increased 1.3 percent. Purchase volume rose 3.4 percent.

The producer price index, which tracks wholesale price inflation, fell 0.2 percent in April after a flat reading in March. On a year-over-year basis, wholesale prices

are up 1.9 percent, the seventh straight month of slowing year-over-year increases. Core prices — excluding food and fuel — rose 0.2 percent in April.

Wholesalers increased their inventories 0.3 percent to \$480.4 billion in March, the slowest pace in four months. Sales at the wholesale level rose 0.5 percent to \$411.1 billion in March. On a year-over-year basis, sales were 6.5 percent higher since March 2011.

The trade deficit increased to \$51.8 billion in March from a revised \$45.4 billion in February. Exports rose 2.9 percent to \$186.8 billion in March. Imports rose 5.2 percent to \$238.6 billion in March.

Import prices fell 0.5 percent in April,

following a 1.5 percent increase in March. On a year-over-year basis, import prices are up 0.5 percent. Export prices rose 0.4 percent in April after a 0.8 percent increase in March. On a year-over-year basis, import prices are up 0.7 percent.

Initial claims for unemployment benefits for the week ending May 5 fell by 1,000 to 367,000 from a revised 368,000 the prior week. Continuing claims for the week ending April 28 fell by 61,000 to 3.229 million. Upcoming on the economic calendar are reports on the consumer price index and the housing market index on May 15 and housing starts on May 16. ●

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

Gordon's by Gordon Seyffert Corner

Famous Canadians Named HILL

The following is taken from *The Volume Library*, as compiled by Educators' Association of Ann Arbor, Michigan, assuming publication in 1917 from the WE Richardson Company & RE Trosper, Jr.:

Hill, Albert Ross - educator, president University of Missouri since 1908, was born in Nova Scotia, 1869; graduated at Dalhousie University, 1892; PhD, Cornell, 1895; LLD, University of South Carolina, 1905, and director of psychological laboratories, University of Nebraska; professor educational psychology and dean of teachers' college, University of Missouri, 1903-07; professor philosophy of education, director of school of education and dean of college of arts and sciences,

Cornell University, 1907-08. He was president of the Western philosophical association, 1904-05.

Hill, James J. - railway official, capitalist, was born near Guelph, Ont., 1838. He was educated at Rockwood Academy; left his father's farm for business life in Minnesota. He established in 1870 the Red River transportation company, which was the first to open communication between St. Paul and Winnipeg; organized, 1875, the Northwestern fuel company, and three years later sold out his interest, in the meantime having organized a syndicate which secured control of the St. Paul and Pacific railroad, from the Dutch owners of the securities. He reorganized the

system as the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba railway company, and was its general manager, 1879-82; vice-president, 1882-83, and president after 1883. This railway became part of the Great Northern system, 1890. He became president of the entire Great Northern system, 1893; retired in 1907 and became chairman of the board of directors of same. He gave \$500,000 toward establishing the Roman Catholic theological seminary at St. Paul, Minn., and has dispensed numerous other philanthropies. Died, 1916.

There being no other such listings in this work, I must conclude that there have been no other notable Canadians named HILL. ●