

March 14, 2013

This Week

Julieann Martin Attorney to Small Businesses Program Host: John Frykenberg

Julieann Martin is definitely a Westerner. Her family has been inching its way west since the 1830s. They finally made it all the way to California in time for Martin to go to UCLA. For a family from Iowa, Oklahoma and Colorado, this is heaven.

After graduating from UCLA, Martin moved a little east: First to Southwestern Law School, and then to Pasadena. This is where she started her law career and this is where she's stayed.

There are a LOT of legal specialties. They range from writing wills to defending mass murderers. Martin's particular area is what's called Intellectual Property. Intellectual Property primarily means either entertainment or science. Here, in the San Gabriel Valley, it's all science. (What do you expect from the home of JPL and Cal Tech?)

For much of her life, Martin worked for an important engineering software company. Since that company moved away, she's worked

Please turn to This Week p. 3



Johnson's Judgments

by President Julius Johnson

The Walk of a Rotarian

As some of you know I am the assistant pastor at my church: New Dawn Missionary Baptist in Pasadena. My pastor has been traveling or sick and for the past three out of four Sundays, so I have brought the message. That is not a complaint nor a brag; it is just a fact. The preparation and study for the messages and the weekly bible studies have made me super sensitive to the word of God and the movement of the Holy Spirit.

When last week's speaker (Mary Scott) started talking about the call of God on her life that lead her to Vietnam, the spirit inside of me leapt in recognition. As I sat in church this morning, the *Pastor's Page* was read to the congregation which contained a quote from an in-the-field missionary which said:

"I'm a part of the fellowship of the unashamed. The dye has been cast. I have stepped over the line. The decision has been made. I'm a disciple of His and I won't look back, let up, slow down, back away, or be still. My past is redeemed. My present makes sense. My future is secure. I'm done and finished with low living, sight walking, small plan-

ning, smooth knees, colorless dreams, tamed visions, mundane talking, cheap living, and dwarfed goals.

"I no longer need preeminence, prosperity, position, promotions, plaudits, or popularity. I don't have to be right, or first, or tops, or recognized, or praised, or regarded. I live by faith, lean on his presence, walk by patience, lift by prayer, and labor by Holy Spirit power. My face is set. My gait is fast. My goal is heaven. My road may be narrow, my way rough, my companions few, but my guide is reliable and my mission is clear."

As I read on and on about this missionary, I kept thinking that she sounds like a Rotarian. And that is a good thing.

Go and do likewise.

Greeters

March 14

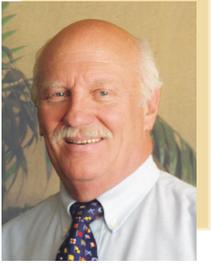
Craig Cox

March 21

Greg Edmonds

March 28

Jacque Foreman



Program Review

Mary the Mennonite mends Montagnards

Time: 1966-69.

Place: Pleiku, Vietnam.

Who: South Vietnamese Loyalists by day, Viet Cong by night. And Mary Scott in the Middle!

Rampant malaria, tuberculosis, scabies, leprosy and atrocious sanitation contributing to every kind of water born and infectious skin disease among the villagers caught in the crucible of war, and Mary Scott volunteers for this?

A young blond nurse from Winnipeg, all of twenty something responds to the

call of God and the Mennonite Central Committee to go in harm's way for the sake of her faith and the children and the infirm; entering where angels feared to tread.

With the smell of cordite in the air and the rockets red glare, she served her patients with dignity and resolve; her box of medications and stethoscope in one hand and syringe in the other.

Thousands line up for inoculations; anything to keep the specter of death from the doorstep. And they are grateful! And the rewards of selfless giving and caring and serving are enormous. The villagers gather one day to show their appreciation to Scott for saving the life of a little girl without a family. They give her the little girl for her own.

Words cannot express the feelings of love in relationship, of belonging, of community. And so Mary Scott our Canadian nurse responds.

She applies pressure bandages to bleeding soldiers being Medivacted to safety by Huey's returning from live-fire zones. She takes Army meds in return for



her villagers; commodities and pharmaceuticals freely exchanged for lives.

Alarms ring in the night for all nursing personnel to hide under their bunks and to evacuate if they can. The voluntary call up to the front for civilian nurses does not dissuade Scott from her duty to God and country; so she goes. A jeep by night traverses into the fray even stopping to pick up a soldier along the way. Upon arrival the hitchhiker turns his weapon upon Scott, and she is facing death at the mercy

Please turn to Program, p. 3

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 - #7185

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. Sakuji Tanaka

Dist 5300 Gov. Sylvia Veronica Whitlock

Officers

Julius Johnson, Pres. Bus. 626-797-1186

Dennis Mehringer, Pres. Elec. Bus. 626-577-9800

Tony Hill, VPres. Bus. 626-795-5363

Jim Gorton, Sec. Bus. 626-793-6215

Mike Noll, Treas. Bus. 626-683-0515

Directors

Jim Gorton • Craig Cox • David Smith

Gordon Seyffert • Sterling Louviere

Dennis Mehringer • Tony Hill

Chairmen

Dennis Mehringer Administration

Craig Cox Foundation

Jacque Foreman Public Awareness

Jacque Foreman Acting Publicity

Jacque Foreman Sparks/Website

Mike Zoeller Club Projects

Ed Jasnow Community

John Frykenberg International

Gordon Seyffert ... Youth Contests/Awards

Hal Yorke Vocational/Youth Projects

Ray Carlson New Generation

Gordon Seyffert Membership

Editor, Design & Typesetting Foreman Graphics

Photography Jacque Foreman

March

Literacy Month

Program Chair, John Frykenberg

Mar 14 - Julieann Martin - Attorney to Small Businesses

Mar 21 - Chad Cooper, Digital Consultant

Mar 28 - Mike Watkins - from JPL -- Learn about Curiosity -- What it's doing on Mars

April

Magazine Month

Program Chair, Dennis Mehringer

Apr 04 - To be Announced

Apr 11 - To be Announced

Apr 18 - To be Announced

Apr 25 - To be Announced

Congratulations



Birthdays

03/14 - Emily Aiken (Linda Wilkes)

03/15 - David P. Smith

03/15 - Trish Robinson

03/24 - Ed Soza



Anniversaries

03/01 - Tom & Etta McCurry

3/30 - Dennis & Noriko Suzuki Mehringer



First, I suppose you need to know that there are more people on the Public

Awareness Committee than you might guess. Many think that I am the only one. Not by a long shot. Yes, I put the stuff together, and, as Editor in Chief of *Sparks*, I'm the one who is responsible for the final say about what does and does not get into the newsletter. And, since I am also the webmaster, I'm the one who is responsible for what is on the website. In addition, some years ago I stepped into the void of *Remembrance*.

Let's see, we have six who review programs and eight who write the committee chair reports. Three of those eight rotate amongst themselves and write about our many Youth Activities or *New Generations*, as it is now called. In addition, there are five regular/irregular columnists. So, let me see, that makes — I believe — nineteen positions on the committee in addition to me. Some of those

Program

Continued from p.2

of a heretofore unidentified Viet Cong. She brushes the weapon aside for she has no time for the machinations of the enemy. God is on her side. And she simply walks away; perhaps too stunned to be afraid. And she lives another day and another day and another day to tell her story to rapt Rotarians in Altadena California.

Thank you Mary Scott for your courage, your fortitude, your love and your willingness to do what you have done. May God guide and protect you.

John Frykenberg

What can be said about the Public Awareness Committee?

on the committee hold down more than one position. But, if we had more members, this committee alone could put twenty of them to work, and maybe more.

Perhaps the best that can be said about Public Awareness is that we tend to be consistent. *Sparks* comes out once a week, 48 weeks a year. We're not quite like *clockwork*, but we strive to be as close to it as we can.

A lot of doing that is my ability to consistently remind our regular reviewers, committee chairs and program chairs when it is their turn to review a program write an article in this section of the newsletter, or to tell us about the upcoming programs. As an aside, my husband Bruce seems happy that what I do entails nagging others. He figures I get my fill of it, so

I have no interest in nagging him.

You will notice that specific articles always start on a particular page. Page 1 has the upcoming program, the President's message and who our greeter is for the current and next two weeks. Page 2 has the inside Masthead, the review of the last program and birthdays and anniversaries. Page 3 starts with the Chairmen's Corner and may include the jump from the *Program Review*, the *This Week* article and/or the *President's message*. Pages 4 and 5 are somewhat fungible, depending if one is long and needs a place to jump. In general, page 4 is Linda Wilkes' article, and page 5 is Gordon's Corner.

The big addition we need is someone who knows and likes doing PR. Let me know if you are interested. ○

This Week

Continued from p. 1

with a lot of smaller companies. Many are in the high-tech fields, but not all. One of the more interesting has been a company that has contracts in the Far East — only.

Since much of Martin's work is with the saving and protection of Intellectual Property, This is what we will be hearing about on Thursday. Intellectual Property is property, but it's something that can't be touched: Ideas, music, words — that sort of thing.

What can you own? What do you own? Why is it important? Who wants to use it? And how do you protect it? are some of the most serious issues today and involve piracy and black market sales.

Bring the creative people you know to hear this very enlightening talk. Each may learn just one thing that could save him/

her a lot of money and aggravation in the future. ○



Gordon's Corner

by Gordon Seyffert



I may have gotten some things backwards, because they don't tell volunteers too much beforehand. That way, all of the high school students and their Facilitators have to start from the same point — not knowing everything & then having to learn it as best one can. But, hey! That's kind of the way Rotary is and, really, that's the way much of life is.

It starts with getting your club's students selected. Hal made sure I was a part of that process, and I think that helps one to see RYLA from the students' perspective. But the first surprise for me was learning that there had been a communications problem, and that **our** students had been given the wrong pickup point.

Now THAT was serious! Were any of them (or us!) to show

up at the wrong spot early that Friday morning Well, it would mean missing the bus and then missing the whole experience. Because the one thing that was made clear to us all was that NO ONE was to be permitted on a bus whose name didn't appear on the roster for that bus.

So, putting my brain in gear, I figured out how to avert the crisis. One could say that I was exercising leadership *on the fly*.

But, yeah, that's the way much of life is.

So what was my job? From the booklet we all received, here is the definition: "A Facilitator is someone who skillfully helps a group of people understand their common objectives and plan to achieve them.

within our assigned group of eight students.

When I returned, I re-read the notes I'd taken beforehand. There were many suggested questions one was to ask whenever students turned to us for advice. Long

The first trick for the RYLA weekend was to get myself and the Altadena Rotary participants on the correct bus. If I had not been able to do this, there would have been no RYLA for any of us.



A Facilitator isn't a judge, a teacher or even a leader, but an instrument to help people discover themselves."

There were some things that I found difficult, and which I didn't do very well. While we (the Facilitators) weren't given a lot of specific information before arriving at the camp, we were given a lot of coaching in the weeks before camp as to how to encourage the discovery process

story short — I don't think I remembered a single one of these. Some of you know me from seeing how I approached the *Rotary Minute* at the Farnsworth Park concerts; my preferred approach is to memorize a short script and to deliver it as flawlessly as I can.

But I wasn't the one in control here. I was merely one flawed individual re-

Please turn to Gordon, p. 5



MONEY by Linda Wilkes MATTERS

Economic Update In the News

New home sales surged 15.6 percent in January to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 437,000 units — the highest level since July 2008 — from a revised rate of 378,000 units in December. On a year-over-year basis, new home sales were up 28.9 percent compared with January 2012. At the current sales pace, there is a 4.1-month supply of new homes on the market.

The Standard & Poor's/Case-Shiller 20-city housing price index — on a non-seasonally adjusted basis — rose 0.2 percent in December after a 0.1 percent decline in November. On a year-over-year basis, prices rose 6.8 percent compared with December 2011, the largest annual gain since 2006.

Pending home sales, a forward-look-

ing indicator based on signed contracts, rose 4.5 percent in January after a revised 2 percent decrease in December. On a year-over-year basis, pending home sales were up 9.5 percent compared with January 2012.

Orders for durable goods — items expected to last three or more years — fell \$11.8 billion or 5.2 percent to \$217 billion in January. This decrease follows a revised 3.7 percent increase in December. Excluding volatile transportation-related goods, January orders posted a monthly increase of 1.9 percent.

The Commerce Department announced that gross domestic product — the total output of goods and services produced in the US — increased at a revised annual rate of 0.1 percent in the fourth quarter of 2012, compared to the initial estimate of a 0.1 percent decrease.

Manufacturing activity rose to 54.2 in February after a reading of 53.1 in January. A reading above 50 signals expansion. Total construction spending fell 2.1 percent to \$883.3 billion in January, following an upwardly revised 1.1 percent increase in December. Compared to January 2012, construction spending has risen 7.1 percent.

Initial claims for unemployment benefits for the week ending February 23 fell by 22,000 to 344,000. Continuing claims for the week ending February 16 fell by 91,000 to 3.074 million. The less volatile four-week average of claims for unemployment benefits was 355,000. Upcoming on the economic calendar are reports on factory orders on March 6 and unemployment on March 8.

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

Gordon

Continued from p. 4

sponding to the things that are thrown one's way — handling it all *on the fly*. Yeah, that's the way much of life is...

But I did, in some respects, get as much out of the camp as the students. Everyone completes a self-scoring Personality Assessment before reaching camp. Facilitators do this in advance, while the students complete it on the bus trip to camp. It's not complex, but I found it amazingly accurate at providing a little self-insight into how we approach challenges. And,



once there, we all spent the weekend figuring out how our style could best handle working with those whose style is different from ours.

And that wasn't even the whole of it.



The leadership labs, the speakers at the *plenary sessions*, all had a message. And, sooner or later, something that was said was bound to touch you because — whatever your style — there were messages



enough to go around.

I saw this self-recognition happen to a student, and I thought: "Wow, that was kind of weird, but still okay." Then I saw another Rotarian respond emotionally to something, and I thought: "Gee, that was kind of heavy, but still okay." And then it was my turn to be affected and I, too, kind of lost it. But it was okay.

And so, if you haven't done RYLA, you really need to do it. It's true what they all say; you won't forget it. Put it on your bucket list now.