

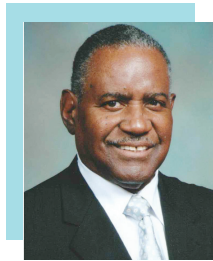
This Week

Dan Stover Music Awards Local/Club-Level Competition Program Host: Theo Clarke

For many years Dan Stover was an active and valued member of the Rotary Club of Alhambra, California. He was always available to play organ or piano at various Rotary functions, both for his own club and for the Rotary 5300 district functions, which encompasses parts of Southern California and Southern Nevada. He was a role model for students who loved playing instruments. In memory of his commitment to the youth of the area, a scholarship fund was established to encourage college bound high school students to continue their love of music and involvement with music while attending college.

There are three levels of the competition: local/club level, regional level, and district level. Many clubs participate at the local level. The Altadena Rotary local level competition will take place this Thursday, February 11, at our regular meeting. We have three

Please turn to This Week p.3



Quietly Quick

by Steve Cunningham, *President*

The First Airplane in the Air

Chapter 4, Failing Forward

Turning Mistakes into Stepping Stones for Success

by **John C. Maxwell**

Just about everyone has heard of the Wright brothers, the bicycle mechanics who pioneered manned motorized flight in the first part of the twentieth century. The circumstances surrounding Orville and Wilbur Wright's first flight on December 17, 1903, make an interesting story. (It's certainly a story that illustrates how to fail forward.) But what you may not know is that prior to that day, the Wrights, unknowns with no university education, were not the leaders in aviation. They were obscure at best, and another man was expected to put the first airplane in the air.

His name was Dr. Samuel P. Langley. He was a respected former professor of mathematics and astronomy who, at that time, was the director of the Smithsonian Institution. Langley was an accomplished thinker, scientist, and inventor. He had published several important works on aerodynamics, and he possessed a vision for achieving manned flight. In fact, in the mid- to late 1890s, he had done extensive

experiments with large unmanned plane models and had achieved a high degree of success.

Commissioned to Succeed

In 1898, Langley approached the US War Department for funding to design and build an airplane to carry a man aloft. And the department gave him a commission of \$50,000 — a huge sum at that time. Langley went right to work. By 1901, he had successfully tested an unmanned gasoline-powered heavier-than-air craft. It was the first in history. And when he enlisted the aid of Charles Manley, an engi-

Please turn to Quietly, p4

February Team

David Alimi • John Casci
 Hal Yorke • Tony Hill
 Ed Jasow

Meeting Responsibilities

- Setup • Greeter •
- Flag Salute • Song •
- Inspirational Presentation •
- Happy Bucks • 4-Way Test •
- Takedown •

Program Review

The Greek Café in Altadena A New Culinary Experience



We all like good food. Many of us enjoy interesting and flavorful international food.

We now have the opportunity to enjoy Greek food — right here in Altadena. Last Thursday, we heard from Shawn Shakhmalian, the owner and head chef at

the Greek Café located on Altadena Drive in the Rite Aid Shopping Center.

Where the restaurant is located was formerly a bakery, and Shakhmalian still offers fresh baked goods. It is also located across the way from the well-known gelato store called Bulgarini. You can go and have Greek food and then have authentic Italian gelato for dessert.

Shakhmalian offers a moderately priced menu with all of the Greek favorites. As in Greece, lamb dominates the offerings. There are roasted lamb salads, marinated lamb sandwiches, roasted lamb sandwiches, marinated lamb kebabs, lamb shank entrees, roasted leg of lamb, and rack of lamb. But there are offerings of beef, pork and chicken as well. A popular sandwich is the *Gyro*, made with a ground beef and lamb blend with spice, tomato, cucumber, onion, parsley and dressing, all wrapped in pita bread.

A favorite dish at the Greek Café is moussaka. Most Greek versions of moussaka are based primarily on sautéed eggplant and tomato, usually served with minced meat. Traditional Greek moussaka has three layers that are separately cooked before being combined for final baking: a bottom layer of sliced eggplant sautéed in olive oil; a middle layer of ground lamb



cooked with chopped tomatoes, onion, garlic, and spices such as allspice and black pepper; and a top layer of white sauce or savoury custard. The composed dish is then layered into a pan and baked until the top layer is browned. Moussaka is served in the Balkans and the Mediterranean in such countries as Bosnia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia, Romania, Slovenia and Serbia.

Please turn to Program, p.3

Congratulations

Birthdays

02/02 - Julie Gustafson
0208 - Mike Zoeller
02/10 - Julius Johnson
02/16 - Joan Frykenberg
02/16 - Sunny Wu Kerekes

Anniversaries

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

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. Ravi Ravindran
Dist 5300 Gov. Randy T. Pote

Officers

Steve Cunningham, Pres. Bus. 626-786-1937
Charles Wilson, Pres. Elec. Bus. 626-351-8815
Hal Yorke, V. Pres. Bus. 626-577-9800
Steve Kerekes, Sec. Bus. 626-796-5000
Mike Noll, Treas. Bus. 626-683-0515

Directors

Tom McCurry • Mike Noll
Steve Cunningham • John Casci
Hal Yorke • Gary Clark • Charles Wilson

Chairmen

Charles Wilson Administration
David Smith Foundation
Craig Cox Membership
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

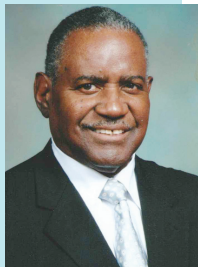
Editor, Design & Typesetting Foreman Graphics
Photography Jacque Foreman

**February
World Understanding**

Program Chair, Theo Clarke

February 11 - Dan Stover Competition
February 18 - 4-Way Speech Contest
February 25 - Mindy Kittay, Craft Talk

The Rotary Foundation Something You May not Know



The Rotary Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation that supports the efforts of Rotary International to achieve world understanding and peace through international humanitarian, educational, and cultural

exchange programs. It is supported solely by voluntary contributions from Rotarians and friends of the Foundation who share its vision of a better world.

The Foundation was created in 1917 by Rotary International's sixth president, Arch C. Klumph, as an endowment fund for Rotary "to do good in the world." It has grown from an initial contribution of US \$26.50 to more than US \$1 billion. It has one of the largest and most prestigious international fellowship programs in the world.

Polio Eradication

Rotarians have mobilized by the hundreds of thousands to ensure that children are immunized against this crippling disease and that surveillance is strong despite the poor infrastructure, extreme poverty and civil strife of many countries. Since the PolioPlus program's inception in 1985, more than two billion children have received oral polio vaccine. To date, 209 countries, territories and

areas around the world are polio-free. As of January 2012, India was declared polio free for the first time in history, leaving just Pakistan, Nigeria and Afghanistan with endemic polio.

As of June 2011, Rotary has committed to more than US \$850 million to global polio eradication. Rotary has received \$355 million challenge grants from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Rotary committed to raising \$200 million by June 30, 2012 and met that goal by January 2012. This represents another \$555 million toward polio eradication.

Grants supported out of the PolioPlus Fund that are primarily geared towards national level and supra-national efforts. For example, National PolioPlus Committee chairs or a major partner agency, such as the World Health Organization or USNICEF may apply for these funds. Support is available for eradication efforts in polio endemic, recently endemic, and

Program

Continued from p.2

The Greek Café also serves another dish called Dolma. Dolma is a vegetable dish wrapped in grape or cabbage leaves. Common vegetables are tomatoes, pepper, onion, zucchini, eggplant and garlic. Dolma can also include meat, rice and grains.

Greek food can be exotic and intriguing. It is great to know that Altadena can offer such fine fare.

high-risk countries, including National Immunization Days, poliovirus transmission monitoring, and other activities.

PolioPlus Partners is a program that allows Rotarians to participate in the polio eradication effort by contributing to specific social mobilization and surveillance in polio-endemic countries. In 2003 -- 2004, grants were approved in Africa and South Asia for a total of \$330,000.

This Week

Continued from p. 1

professional musicians who will serve as judges. The winner of the competition from our club will meet at a regional competition in April. The winners of the regional competitions will meet at the District meeting in May. The winner of that competition will receive a \$5,000 scholarship. The runner ups will receive \$1,000 each.

Come to the Club meeting this Thursday and root for your favorite high school musician.



David Smith presents Steve Kerekes with his first Paul Harris

Quietly

Continued from p. 1

neer who built a powerful new lightweight engine based on the designs of Stephen Balzar, his success seemed inevitable.

On October 8, 1903, Langley expected his years of work to come to fruition. As journalists and curious onlookers watched, Charles Manley, wearing a cork-lined jacket, strode across the deck of a modified houseboat and climbed into the pilot's seat of a craft called the *Great Aerodrome*. The full-sized, motorized device was perched atop a specially built catapult designed to initiate the *Aerodrome's* flight into the air. But, when they attempted the launch, part of the *Aerodrome* got caught, and the biplane was flung into sixteen feet of water a mere fifty yards away from the boat.

Criticism of Langley was brutal. For example, read this report in the *New York Times*:

The ridiculous fiasco which attended the attempt at aerial navigation in the Langley flying machine was not unexpected. The flying machine which will really fly might be evolved by the combined and continuous efforts of mathematicians and mechanics [sic] in from one to ten million years ... No doubt the problem has attractions for those it interests, but to ordinary men, it would seem as if the effort might be employed more profitably.

In the Face of Failure

At first, Langley didn't let that failure or the accompanying criticism deter him. Eight weeks later in early December, he and Marley were ready to attempt flight again. They had made numerous modifications to the *Aerodrome*, and once more Manley climbed into the cockpit from the houseboat's deck, ready to make history. But, as before, disaster struck. This time the cable supports to the wings snapped as

the plane was launched, the craft caught again on the launch rail, and it plunged into the river upside down. Manley nearly died.

Again the criticism was fierce. His *Great Aerodrome* was called "Langley's Folly," and Langley himself was accused of wasting public funds. The *New York Times* commented, "We hope that Prof. Langley will not put his substantial greatness as a scientist in further peril by continuing to waste his time, and the money involved, in further airship experiment." He didn't.

Langley said afterward, "I have brought to a close the portion of the work which seemed to be specially mine. The demonstration of the practicality of mechanical flight. For the next stage, which is the commercial and practical development of the idea, it is probable that the world may look to others." In other words, Langley had given up. Defeated and demoralized, he had abandoned his decades-long pursuit of flight without ever having seen one of his planes piloted to success. Just days later, Orville and Wilbur Wright — uneducated, unknown, and unfunded — flew their plane: *Flyer I* over the sand dunes of Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.

Two Perspectives

Author J.I. Packer states, "A moment of conscious triumph makes one feel that after this nothing will really matter;

a moment of realized disaster makes one feel that this is the end of everything. But neither feeling is realistic, for neither event is really what it is felt to be."

The Wright brothers did not rest on their success. The rush of achievement that day in December of 1903 did not make them think they had arrived. They continued experimenting and working, and eventually the public acknowledged their achievements. In contrast, Langley let his moment of disaster make him think it was the end. He abandoned his experiments. Two years later he suffered a stroke, and a year after that he died. And today, while even young schoolchildren have heard of the Wright brothers, Langley is remembered only by relatively few aviation buffs.

When Failure gets You by the Heart

What happened in the life of Samuel Langley occurs in the lives of too many people today. They allow failure to get the better of them emotionally, and it stops them from achieving their dreams. For many people the pain of failure leads to fear of failure. And they become like the person who says, "I'm too old to cry, but it hurts too much to laugh." That's when many people get stuck in the fear cycle. And if fear overcomes you, it's almost impossible to fail forward. ○

The Wonderful Spirit of Giving

It's that wonderful time of the year for me when I get to go into the schools and give out Mini-Grants to the teachers. Their gratitude is truly overwhelming. This past Wednesday, I went to Jackson Elementary to give out two Mini-Grant checks. Both were to kindergarten teachers. The principal, Rita Exposito, explained to me that both classes were Spanish immersion

classes, and that no English could be spoken. Unfortunately, my two years of college Spanish had long ago deserted me, so she said she would translate for me.

I love going into the classrooms and presenting the checks in front of the kids, because I explain that the teachers projects are all for them. These kindergartners

Please turn to Giving, p. 5

Giving

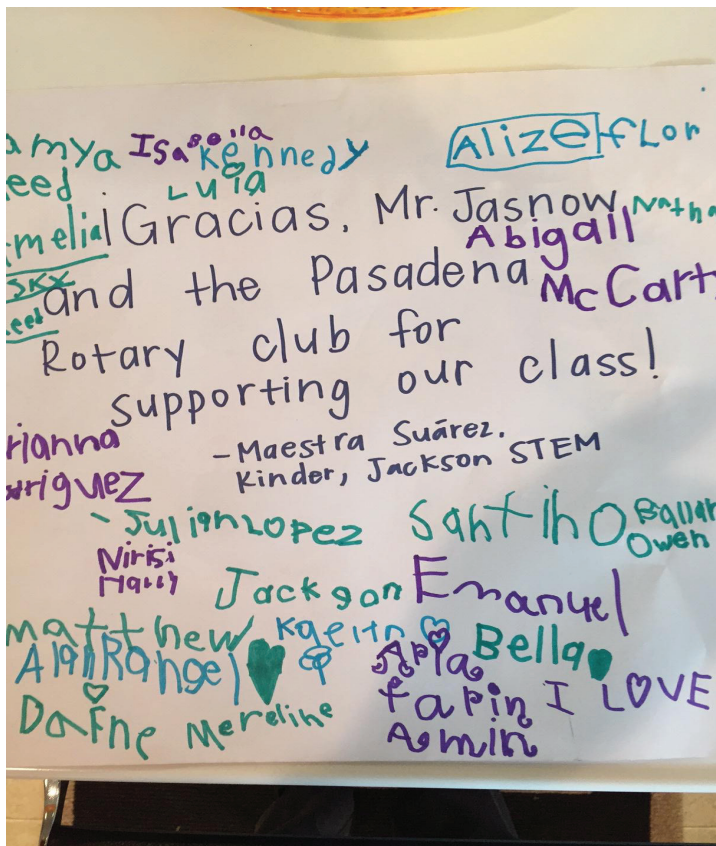
Continued from p. 4

were all so interested in what was happening, their eyes wide with curiosity.

My thanks to Mike Zoeller, Dennis Mehringer, Steve Kerekes, and Kimmet Haggins for doing the evaluations of the proposals. We have 25 Mini-Grants, and we received 49 proposals, so the evaluations were long and difficult. Special thanks to Mehringer for offering to donate the proceeds from the sale of Dodgers tickets to cover the shortfall in funds for the Mini-Grants.

Mark May 5 on your calendars because that's when the teachers come to report to the Club on how their projects went.

And, while I'm thanking people; thank you to the Club membership for continuing to support this program. ☉



Photos: Upper right: Ed Jasnow presenting a Mini-Grant check to kindertarten teacher, Diana Suarez at Jackson Elementary, class is in the foreground. Lower right photo: Ed Jasnow presenting a Mini-Grant check to kindergarten teacher Vivian Alcantar at Jackson Elementary; Class is in the foreground. Lower left: A presentation made to Jasnow by one of the kindergarten classes to thank him and Altadena Rotary for their generosity.