

The Kiwanis Chronicles

News of the Club and the Community it Serves

January 19, 2011

Volume 10-11, Issue 16

**Preserving Yesterday,
Reporting Today**

**Kiwanis
La Mirada**

**Serving the Children of
the World
La Mirada Kiwanis Club,
La Mirada, CA**

Roy Gleason

PAT ROJAS introduced our program of the morning. It centered around the baseball and military career of Roy Gleason, the only Big League ball player to also serve in the Viet Nan War.

It began with a video program about 20 minutes long narrated by Vin Scully as a part of his program called Dodger Dugout. Roy had been a part of the Dodgers the year they were the World Series Champions and as such had his World Series Ring. It had been lost during his tour of duty in Viet Nam and another was presented to him at a sellout crowd at Dodger Stadium after his return. This presentation was a part of the Vin Scully narrative.

Roy was born in LaGrange, Illinois and moved to Southern California where he went through high school. His grandfather was a great Chicago Cubs fan and he transferred this love to Roy who dreamed of playing for the Cubs as professional ball player.

His athletic abilities attracted the scouts from the Los Angeles Dodgers and they signed him as a "bonus baby" in 1961. In 1962 he had his first taste of Spring Training at Vero Beach, Florida. The thrill of hanging his uniform in the same locker room with such Dodger greats as Don Drysdale, Sandy Koufax, Johnny Podres, Junior Gilliam, and Maury Wills was indescribable.

At the beginning of the season he was assigned to the Minors and was called up to the Majors in August, 1963.

There he didn't get an immediate opportunity to play as the Dodgers were in the thick of a pennant race. His first appearance on the field was that of a third base coach. He was finally put in as a pinch runner and scored from second. When called upon to finally bat he hit a double that gave him a batting average of a thousand. And there it stayed.

There were things going on in the world that were to influence the career of Roy Gleason. In November of 1963 the world was stunned with the assassination of President Kennedy. There was an affair going on in Southeast Asia called a "police action." It was this police action that was to claim the lives of so many Americans and almost cost Roy his.

He was called up in the draft and thought reluctant to become a soldier, reported for training. In the end he was sent to Viet Nam. He was involved in firefight after firefight. Finally he was wounded as a "point" man and his fighting in Viet Nam was over. He was awarded the Bronze Star as well as the Purple Heart and the Army Commendation Medal for Heroism. In all the awards totaled around nineteen.

As he recovered from his wounds he dreamed of returning to the Dodgers, but this never happened. He was recognized for his valor and Dodger contributions in a special ceremony at Dodger Stadium where he was surprised by the award. He had been asked to throw out the first pitch not knowing that this was a prelude to a Roy Gleason night.

Roy was generous with his time as he answered questions from those in attendance at the meeting.

There is a book about Roy's life that is available. It was written as told to Wallace Wasinack and Mark Langill. Wally accompanied Roy to this morning's meeting and told the Scribe of being Roy's friend from high school days'

Anyone who missed getting the book "Lost in the Sun" is encouraged to do so as it is great reading.

We appreciate Roy being with us today. Contact to either Roy or Wally can be made through cooperation-era@yahoo.com

Winter in India

Hello Everyone,

We arrived last night tired after 21 hours flight time but in good spirits. And all the luggage! Actually I had a long discussion about Islam and Christianity with a young Muslim medical doctor working on his Internal Medicine Residency at UCI. This hardly ever happens to me as I just like to chill out on long flights but he started it! Said he was very concerned that he did his morning prayers before sun up and was so grateful when I showed him out the window hatch that a slight sunlight was about to emerge. So since we shared the exit row, I welcomed him to use his prayer rug and do prayers. Then we talked about how Christians "Pray without ceasing" and he was appreciative of the Bible I gave him, especially the red letter edition so he can find the actual words of Christ, a respected prophet in his faith. We talked about the beatitudes and other passages in the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5. Omar was also on his way to Hyderabad via Dubai to meet a perspective wife, accompanied by his parents. So then we read Ephesians 6, a passage about husbands and wives!

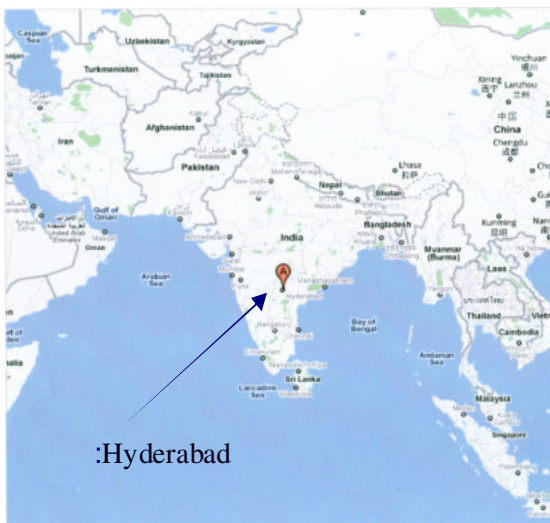
Turns out that they were a day early so OM did not have anyone picking us up at the airport. But typical Indian ingenuity, within an hour or so they had 3 taxies at the ready and had us to our dorm 65 km away and all smiles. Didn't sleep well with traffic and horns all night, followed by hooping hollering birds at the crack of dawn. Breakfasted on garbanzo bean soup, veggie rice, wonderful nan bread--all very spicy!

The team is meeting soon to tour the huge complex here which is shared by dozens of outside conference attendees, staff and school personnel. The largest Christian bookstore in Asia is also here. We will shop tomorrow, participate in church services Sunday and strategize on the camps Monday-Saturday.

Our MD suffers from a cold.

Thanks again for all you folks have done to encourage and send me here--quite a privilege.

Blessings...Mike



:Hyderabad

Monthly Evening Meeting

Ginger Shattuck led the Pledge of Allegiance and then Stephen Blunt got the meeting going with announcements from the floor and highlighted important dates on the calendar. President Forster spoke about collecting canned food all year long and to continue bringing them to each meeting. Chris Staples spoke about the EliMiNaTe project and by depositing coins in the bank each week will help needed shots to eliminate Maternal Neonatal Tetanus.

Important dates for January include the Cal-Nev-Ha Governor's visit on 1/22 at the Clarion hotel, \$35 per person. Meals on Wheels Spaghetti Dinner on 1/28 at the La Mirada Activities Center. Special guest speaker at 1/12 morning meeting will be former Dodger Roy Gleason.

Adrienne Medrano told of her tale with Skip Ricarte as chaperones of the Whittier Christian Key Club at the Rose Float decorating. She also read a Thank You letter from one of the shopping spree students.

Two Inter-clubs have been set. The first will be attending the Cypress club on February 1st. The second will be attending the La Habra club on February 9th.

Steve Forster collected the happy/sad bucks. ADRIENNE MEDRANO was happy for her brother's 7 year sobriety chip. KENNY TAYLOR is happy for an internship with the city of La Mirada. DEBBIE SCHEIBEL is glad for all of our service. AMY SCHEIBEL thanked Adrienne for her work on the holiday shopping spree and chaperoning the Key Clubbers at the Rose Float decorating. STEVE FORSTER wished everyone a Happy New Year. ALAN MORRISON was glad to be able to attend a night meeting. CHRIS STAPLES threw in a couple happy bucks for a good meeting and a good year. PAT RUIZ gave a thankful dollar for our club president and his help with a neighbor's fallen tree. LORRAINE NEAL is happy that she got to spend New Year's with her 95 year old grandmother.

DMITRI ELBLING had a hopeful dollar that Oregon will win the BCS national football championship. GINGER SHATTUCK gave a sad dollar for the passing of La Mirada resident Bruce Butler. STEPHEN BLUNT is happy that it's tax season and that means people need IRAs.

We Remember
DALE ROJAS
Died
January 20, 2007

2010-2011 Officers, Board

Directors

TED CEAUSU
PETER CHOW
EMMANUEL HERNANDEZ
ADRIENNE MEDRANO
GINGER SHATTUCK
TOM THORNTON

Committee Chairs

Kiwanis Education &
Bulletin
MARK ROYSTON &
PAT RUIZ
Greater Years

House & Reception.
SHERRY BRAKEBILL
Interclubs
TED CEAUSU

Major Emphasis
PETER CHOW
Program
PAT ROJAS
Publicity
LOU PILTZ
Ways & Means
REED TAYLOR
Youth Services
RICH
TRUJILLO
Sunshine
Scholarship
LOU PILTZ
Spiritual Aims
Dr. MIKE WINTER
Sponsored Youth
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TOM THORNTON

President
STEVE FORSTER
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VP Evening
STEPHEN BLUNT
Treasurer
BILL DAWSON
Secretary
AMY SCHEIBEL
Immed. Past Pres.
Dr. JERRY ROODZANT
Lt. Gov. Div. 30
DEBBIE SCHEIBEL
Lt. Governor Elect
Key Club President
Emma Ramirez

The Objects of Kiwanis International

To give primacy to the human and spiritual, rather than to the material values of life
To encourage the daily living of the Golden Rule in all human relationships.
To promote the adoption and the application of higher social, business, and professional standards.
To develop, by precept and example, a more intelligent, aggressive, and serviceable citizenship.
To provide through Kiwanis Clubs, a practical means to form enduring friendships, to render altruistic service, and to build better communities.
To co-operate in creating and maintaining that sound public opinion and high idealism which makes possible the increase of righteousness, justice, patriotism, and goodwill.

The La Mirada Kiwanis Club is the home club of the following Past Lt. Governors : Dr. ED NORMAN, CARY MAYER and HARLAN COMEE and at one time was the home club of: HAL BENVENISTE, IRWIN KAISER, FRANK MCCOY, and GEORGE HARRISON, all Past Lt. Governors of Div. 30. It is the home club of Lt. Gov. DEBBIE SCHEIBEL

Kiwanis La Mirada

Legend:

Board Meeting ○
Today's Date —●
Evening Meeting ◇

January 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

February 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

Announcements

January 20-Bingo at Mirada Hills
January 28-MOW Spaghetti Dinner
February 10-Bingo at Imperial

Visitors: Too many to list –all to hear Roy Gleason

Birthdays: Jan. 6– LAURA WILLIAMS, Jan 28-JOHN WILLIAMS, Jan. 29-PAT RUIZ

Anniversaries: Jan 1-Dr. RUTH PEREZ, Jan. 31-REED TAYLOR

The 50/50 Winner: was visitor GEORGE HALLAK from Cyprus

The Process of Elimination: This past Wednesday the Change Jar collected \$13.43 -- 7.5 people saved or 22.4 shots.

Calendar-Regular Meetings

Every Wednesday Morning

7:15 AM Gateway Holiday Inn

Monthly Evening Meeting-First Thursday

Volunteer Center Suite 4 (11900 La Mirada Blvd.)

7:00 PM