



THE OLD MISSION BELL



Issue #7

A Publication of Old Mission Rotary www.oldmissionrotary.org

August 28, 2010

Weekly "Hosts"

August 31: Omar Calleros

September 7: Bob Callicott

September 14: Bernadette Castro:

September 21: Judi Copeland

September 28: John Corrado

NOTE: If you cannot meet this commitment, please contact Bernadette Castro (Home 619-216-11902, Cell 619-395-1605) as far in advance as possible.

To Vaccinate Or Not To Vaccinate

A growing number of parents are seeking waivers from school districts to permit their children to attend school without having required immunizations. In the past parents were making the request because of religious restrictions, but now almost 20% of children are not vaccinated because their parents fear that their child could develop autism.

Dr. Kevin Glynn sees this as a troubling trend because it could lead to the spread of some very serious diseases. Not only does he believe that it is critical that every child be vaccinated, but he urged everyone who is around children to get re-vaccinated as well.

The fear of autism sprang from a supposed connection between a preservative in vaccines to autism in young children. This preservative is no longer used, yet the rise of autism continues at the same rate. Researchers have found zero correlation between vaccinations and autism.

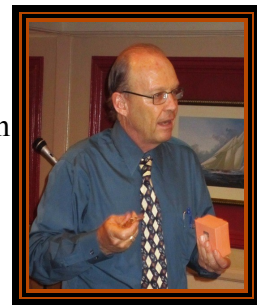
Again, it is absolutely essential that all children are vaccinated as soon at the earliest time possible and that they receive all vaccines in a series...otherwise there could be an epidemic waiting to happen.

Funds Bequeathed To Club

Warren Haviland announced that Yvonne Maurice, widow of former OMRC member Frank Maurice (president 1961-62), had bequeathed over \$27,000 to the club. Warren reminded members that their love for Rotary can be expressed even after they have passed on. If you would like to do this, talk to an estate planner...you will be helping others for a long time to come.

Advocate for Foster Children Speaks Out

Cyril Reinicke, volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) for Voices for Children, began his presentation with the familiar story of the little boy who rescues stranded starfish. Although he knows he cannot save



them all he knows he makes a difference to every starfish he does save. So it is with advocacy for foster children. In San Diego County over 200 children enter foster care every month, and, although Voices for Children cannot help all of them, they make a big difference to those they do help.

Before being placed in a foster home each child goes through 2 to 3 weeks of processing, often being interviewed and/or observed by up to 12 unfamiliar adults...sometimes it seems to drag on forever. This where Voices for Children comes in.

To quote from their website: "Voices for Children, a nonprofit organization, endeavors to ensure that abused, neglected and abandoned children who have become dependents of the

San Diego County Court will have a safe and permanent home. Through (their) network of trained and educated volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs), Voices for Children works with key agencies, legal counsel and community resources to identify and protect the best interests of each child inside and outside of court."



As an advocate, Reinicke works diligently to support children going through the long placement process. A child may remain in foster care for a few weeks or for years before the find a good permanent home. For 12—18 months efforts are made to create a safe, loving environment in the child's own home. If that does not work the advocate will help find a permanent foster home. If parents decide to give up their parental rights, the child, in essence, becomes a total orphan...no relatives exist for him/her any more. When the child is adopted, he/she is given a new "birth" certificate, and a new identity. The adoption process can take several years and the CASA plays an important role in providing support for the child through this time and speeding up the process. Having been carefully trained for their duties advocates must be able to develop a plan for each child they serve. Often the children have experienced so much pain they don't feel worthy of love...an issue advocates must also address. One of the cases Reinicke highlighted was that of a boy of 15 who had had 8 placements and been in 15 schools since kindergarten. His self-worth was so low he could not open a savings account...he could not see any future for himself to save for. In contrast was another child who refused to go into a foster home, choosing instead to live in a group home until he finally convinced his mother to quit her drug habit and provide a good home for him. His strength and determination were instrumental in his being able to go back to his family again.

How can we help Voices for Children? We can recommend Reinicke as a speaker to other groups



we belong to; we can purchase gifts from their website (www.voices4children.com); or we can become volunteer CASAs.

Notes:

- ★ The VIDAII Project will be running a benefit soccer tournament in San Quitin, Mexico, October 22-24. Bill James, our club's point of contact, announced that quite a large group will be going, including 100 doctors and other medical professionals who will be running a clinic that same weekend. If you would like to be part of this important service contact Bob.
- ★ The Challenge Center will celebrate the opening of a new media center with a ribbon-cutting by the mayor of La Mesa. The center is also having a Comedy Night fundraiser September 11. Contact Bill Bodry for details.
- ★ Reminder: When you bring a special guest to a meeting the club buys their lunch.

Programs and Events:

August 31: Elie Shneour: From Trinity to Three Mile Island

September 7: Ken Munson: Wounded Warrior Farms

September 12: Rotarian of the Year dinner at Bob Callicott's home. Sign up at club meeting or contact Katherine Willey.

September 14: Barbara Brody: Visual Help for Needy Children

September 21: Bill McDade: Rotary Medical Team in Malawi

September 26: Doug McElfresh Annual Picnic at Presidio Park. Bring family for fun, food and fellowship. \$8 per person, children under 12 are free. Signups at club meetings.

September 28: Sheri Snively: Heaven in Hell

District News

Governor Nominee 2013-2014

It's time again to select a District Governor for the year 2013-2014. Your Club has the opportunity to submit a name for consideration by the Nominating Committee. On the District WebSite Home page, under "General Resources," you'll find a letter of instruction, and the Form that needs to be submitted. Contact Marge Cole if you need more information or have further questions. (margecole2003@yahoo.com)
More information:
www.rotary5340.org/resources/general.html

District Conference Oct 21-24

THREE for the price of one! District Conference, The Foundation Seminar AND The Annual Foundation Gala. This

year you can attend ALL three events in one weekend for just the price of the Conference. Incredible venues! Pala Mesa Resort AND the Grand Tradition Arbor Terrace -- a mini Butchart Gardens! But there's more. A Western BBQ amongst famous Hollywood western props and full-scale railroad, wine tasting, hiking, art gallery and exhibits, Zoofari safaris and unique boutique shopping. For more information and to REGISTER NOW to Rotary 5340

More information:

rotary5340.org/conference1010/index.html

Check the District Website for more news.

President: Lee Kaminetz: lkaminetz@san.org

Editor: Pat Paschall: bappip@sbcglobal.net