

RKC SOAP REPORT – December, 2006

(SOAP = "Supported Organizations and Projects" of the Rosemead Kiwanis Club; for information on K-family groups and partners mentioned here please see links on the right side of the rosemeadkiwanis.org website home page)

NEW AKTION CLUB CHARTERED — IN FIRST PROJECT

The newly formed (and Rosemead Kiwanis sponsored) San Gabriel Valley Aktion Club was officially chartered on Thursday, November 30, 2006, by past District 10 Lt. Governor Bob Lee with current Lt. Governor Dr. Bob Pierre and a number of Kiwanians looking on.

The chartering ceremony was held at the Lincoln Training Center as an Interclub meeting with Rosemead Kiwanis. Special guests were two members of the Rosemead Interfaith Council — Pastor Dennis Alexander of the Rosemead Nazarene Church (a former San Jose Kiwanian) and Miguel de Guzman of the Rosemead United Methodist Church.

Also present was Sylvia Fierro-Schneider of Fierro Living Services (FLS), who will be an ongoing advisor to the new Club. FLS is a Los Angeles County funded agency which facilitates independent living ser-

vices for the disabled and is a referrer of clients to Lincoln Training Center. Both Ms Fierro and Rosemead Kiwanis President Mario Manzano stressed that the club anticipates drawing members from and serving the entire Western San Gabriel Valley area.

To emphasize their point, the Club's first project was completed a mere 48 hours later at Grace Chapel in Rosemead. There 12 Aktion Club members swiftly prepared fifty sack lunches for the homeless at Union Station in Pasadena. The project will continue monthly thru 2007.

Although there are approximately 100 Kiwanis affiliated Aktion clubs in the United States, the San Gabriel Valley Aktion Club is the first in Southern California.

WORLD OF FLIGHT TRAINING TEACHERS

According to Kahneta G. Banforde, Executive Director of the Ian Pappas foundation (see *RKC Reporter*, June, 2006) a Teachers Academy will be held for five Saturdays (April 14 - May 12, 2007) at El Camino Community College.

The class is designed to familiarize middle and high school educators with the World of Flight program.

The course "introduces aviation as a portal to math, science, and language arts" With this training the educators can then better utilize the program to "promote academic achievement and introduce students to life anchoring skills" in the classroom.

RHS KEY CLUB NOVEMBER REPORT

November was a relatively quiet month for the Rosemead High School KEY Club, according to Secretary Tina Ngo. The main focus was on three service activities:

- preparing thanksgiving cards for residents of the California Mission Inn and patients of the Children's Hospital (28 members were involved)
- the Muscular Dystrophy 5K Walkathon (five members were active for 20 hours) and

- serving Thanksgiving dinners to families in Rosemead's Central Park.

In addition to service activities the Club also held a regional joint social activity and scavenger hunt with other area Key Clubs and the Pasadena City College Circle-K Club.

Finally, fourteen Club members participated in special cheer training for the upcoming RHS fall rally.

GIFT WRAP FUNDRAISER

The Toys R Us store at 1445 Montebello Blvd. in Montebello will host a gift wrapping fundraiser December 22-24, sponsored by the M. Janet Chin Youth Foundation (MJCYF).

The MJCYF is an After School Alliance affiliate which advocates for no-cost quality after-school programs.

In January it will "begin a series of workshops and programs to connect youth to free tutoring, arts, and entertainment industry workshops," according to spokesperson Keno Deary.

(From “Summit,” p. 1) After School Programs

various Garvey District schools will be presenting monthly programs for residents. December will feature the Mustang Singers from Garvey Intermediate, according to Kiwanian and Garvey School Board member Bob Bruesch.

Muscatel Builders Clubs, along with the Rosemead High School and Don Bosco KEY Clubs, are expected to continue and possibly expand their 2005-2006 programs.

Rosemead Kiwanis is cooperating in submitting an application to the Mr. Holland’s Opus program for funding of band instruments at Garvey Intermediate school. This is a replay of our similar successful \$17,000 Muscatel effort in 2005, according to Garvey Superintendent and Kiwanian Virginia Peterson.

A major focus of the meeting was the expansion of the Woodcraft Rangers (WR) program to all schools in the Garvey District plus possibly five schools in the Montebello District.

The WR program calls for a balance of homework assistance, exercise and enrichment programs. The latter are being coordinated with the Rosemead Parks and Rec Department and partner groups, possibly including:

- We the Children - BookPALStudent Biography Program
- East Los Angeles Classic Theatre-programs
- Non-traditional Scouting programs
- Junior Achievement economic education

- Ian Pappas Foundation World of Flight program

Woodcraft Rangers Regional Manager Sergio Medrano is in the active process of hiring approximately 44 full and part time employees to implement the above in conjunction with various organizations. Woodcraft Rangers Director of Operations and Kiwanian Pablo Garcia is overseeing this expansion.

Typically the above programs will run for several weeks at a site before giving way to a replacement. Not all of the above programs will be at every site. The Scouting program, for instance, will run for 8 weeks at two school sites. There will also be a weekend version operated in conjunction

with the Rosemead Parks and Recreation Department, according to Boy Scout Associate Executive April Zall-Rini.

The World of Flight program is proposing to conduct classroom sessions 3-5 times a week for 8 weeks with two days of each week utilizing WR class helpers to finish hands-on projects. These will be tied to weekly math/science and/or math only topics. This approach eliminates the need for participation of teachers and school staff in activities.

The Classic Theatre program has been highly successful in recasting classic works in contemporary settings.

Economic education is proposed to be featured in a multi-week program using materials from the Junior Achievement program, a Kiwanis version of the teen oriented book

(To “Summit,” - p. 4)

KIWANIS CLUB AREA MEETINGS

There are regular meetings of other Kiwanis clubs in our area, including those listed below. For current date and time information please visit our rosemeadkiwanis.org website and click on the 'Meetings' link.

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| • Alhambra | • Monterey Park | • San Marino |
| • Altadena/Crown City | • Pasadena | • Sierra Madre |
| • Arcadia | • Pico Rivera | • South El Monte |
| • El Monte | • San Gabriel | • South Pasadena |
| • Montebello | | • Temple City |

(From "Summit, p. 3)

Cool Stuff They Should Teach in School and similar materials.

Tutors and assistants are needed for both academic subjects (reading, math, history) and WR related specialty clubs (Adopt a Grand Parent, Crafts, Reading, Chess, etc). It is possible that KEY Club members will be active in both aspects of these efforts. Their efforts may be supplemented by the YMCA of Alhambra sponsored Tri-Hi-Y Service Club. 550 members strong, this club is reportedly the largest Tri-Hi-Y Club in the United States.

OTHER PROGRAMS

In addition to the effort to build a library for Logsdon School at Maryvale (see related article) several other groups and firms are involved in aiding Rosemead schools, many of them represented at the meeting:

Career Partners – San Gabriel Rotary President and Gabrielino High School CP coordinator Valerie Gomez discussed resources available to children of lower income families with no legacy of participation in higher education (see story in the November, 2006, *RKC Reporter* for details).

Panda Cares – Panda Restaurants, based in

Rosemead, has several programs in place according to spokesperson Gloria Juang. These include an association with the Children's Miracle Network, the Snowball Express (targeting children who have lost parents in the Iraq conflict) and the Toys for Kids program (currently in place in the Garvey District with negotiations in process for the Rosemead District).

Rebuilding Together – represented at the meeting by Optimist and publisher of the West Valley Journal, David Barron. This group fixes houses of handicapped and elderly residents of Alhambra, Montebello, Monterey Park and Rosemead. Volunteer youth working under supervision of volunteer trade professionals acquire practical experience in working with this program.

Rosemead Chamber of Commerce – Will be working with Rosemead Kiwanis in jointly publicizing efforts and activities through the Chamber's *Rosemead Reporter* on behalf of Rosemead youth, according to Chamber representative Ruth Bourne.

Wal-Mart Foundation – is continuing to make

grants (over \$93,000 so far – see the October, 2006, issue of the *RKC Reporter*) to Rosemead area groups. February will be starting a new grant cycle, according to Rosemead Wal-Mart SuperCenter store manager and Kiwanian Jorge Lopez. Rosemead Kiwanis can assist applicants in this process.

We the Children — BookPALS —two programs, student autobiography and literacy programs, both sponsored by the Screen Actors Guild (SAG) Foundation (website: sagfoundation.org). BookPALS (Performing Artists for Literacy in Schools) has a separate website at bookpals.net.

(From Logsdon, p.1)

Another source may be First Books, an organization partnered with publishers to distribute books to lower income families.

There is also a possibility of persuading book distributors to donate unsold books. This is in lieu of tearing off covers and sending them to the shredder. Cooperating book sellers also get contribution credit.

**.KIWANIS
'We Build'**

Over the years Kiwanis themes have included:

- **Business Mutual Aid**
- **Young Children**
- **Education**
- **Spiritual Development**
- **Economic Education**
- **Community Health and Recreation**
- **Developmentally Challenged**
- **Parent Education**

'Helping and changing the world— one person and one community at a time'