

RKC Satellite Meeting Minutes – 1/14/2015

Overview:

Attendance (15):

Kiwanians (6): Miguel Flores, Pat Foltyn, Art Landing, Don Quick, Van Trac, Sue Yamamoto

Rosemead Key Club Officers: (5): Cindy Gip, Timothy Hu, Janelle Tran, Cindy Vuu, Kaylah Wong

Service committee (3): Jenny Koug, Kelly Lian, Samantha Vuong

Woodcraft Rangers (1) Helen Santos

Opening sequence:

Pat Foltyn, pledge; Don Quick, invocation

Reports:

Rosemead Key Club Highlights –

The RJS Key Club is establishing a Committee system and the Club's service Committee attended looking for opportunities in addition to here already on their list: beach clean-up, making cards for children in the hospital, breast cancer race. Art suggested that working with the RKC's neonatal program (crocheting hats) at Huntington Hospital would be a good corollary to the card program.

It was also noted that Bob Bruesch is looking for volunteers for a booth at the upcoming Youth Summit, which is scheduled for Saturday, March 8, 2015, at Garvey Intermediate School from 9:00 am – 4:30 pm. The Rosemead Asia Pacific Center (part of Pacific Clinics) is the organizer of the Summit and is becoming an RKC member; the RKC will be a full youth summit sponsor this year.

In addition to the Summit there will probably be service needs at Rosemead's Savannah Cemetery plus opportunity to be part of the orientation meeting for the new officers of the Garvey and Temple Builder's Clubs.

RHS Key Club President Cindy Gip noted that the Service Committee plans to have more events, reaching out to LA and other areas. Art and Pat suggested focusing on activities in the greater Rosemead area to the degree feasible. She mentioned that a Financial Committee has also been established

Don Quick, Rosemead Key Club advisor, wanted to thank the dedicated leaders for their participation. He made the recommendation that ideas for better lines of communication be established so people didn't "fall through the cracks." Meantime, Facebook, was working well as the primary line of communication.

RHS Key Club 2015-2016 Installation will be on Thursday, March 5, 2015 at Petrillos – starting time to be announced.

Woodcraft Rangers -

Helen Santos noted that a very favorable article on the Garvey after school program (operated under the Ranger's Nvision brand name) appeared in this past Monday's paper (see copy below). Not mentioned in the article specifically but included in the program is the establishment of a Terrific Kids program for the Garvey District. It will operate according to the same general format used for the existing BUG program for RSD elementary schools. . The new Builders Clubs have 24 members at Garvey and 15 at Temple thus far.

The Nvision Builder's Club projects so far focus on ribbons for the Relay for Life and (in the case of Garvey) an expressed desire to help on the Youth Summit. Members of both clubs will, if they continue living at their preset residences, become part of San Gabriel High School and be potential members of the SGHS Key Club. For that reason Pat Foltyn and our John Tang will be working as liaison with SGHS Key. John is slated to be at the February satellite meeting.

Relay for Life –

Miguel – Relay for Life is scheduled for 4/25 from 7 am – TBD. Emails on the event will be going out to Key Club members soon. More student involvement is needed. RHS and Don Bosco will be putting together teams in addition to our traditional K-family team. . Luminaria ceremony is planned for 8:00 or 9:00 pm.

YCP1 programs -

Committee Chair Van Trac reports that there are presently three schools without a Kiwanis site coordinator. Despite this RIF events are happening and donors choose has been a success. However, parental involvement in PTA groups is weak. Developing more parental support for both PTA and SLP activities is urgently needed.

Key Club Region -

Pat Foltyn noted that San Gabriel and Gabrielino are working on having more advisors at Key Club events. Also, there is a goal to have a Builder's Club at Jefferson intermediate in San Gabriel, but hopefully it will be possible to recruit a younger age Kiwanis member for the San Gabriel Club to fill this role.

In future events, Kenny Yeung of the SGHS Key Club will be installed as the next Key Club Division 10 South Lt Governor.

--- Sue Yamamoto w/ additions by Art Landing

After-school program keeps kids off Rosemead's streets

Pasadena Star News



Carolina Ye, 13, left, and Audrey Molinari, 14, partake in the team-building game of Tusker Tag during the Nvision After School Program at Garvey Intermediate in Rosemead on Jan. 9.

--- Sarah Reingewirtz — Staff photographer

By **Zen Vuong**, Pasadena Star-News

ROSEMEAD >> Bryan La, 12, is a good kid with decent grades, but his uncle fears he could take a bad turn in his teenage years if not for free after-school programs that keep him dribbling a basketball rather than hanging with hoodlums.

The 'tween, a first-generation Vietnamese-American, lives in Rosemead with his grandparents and Uncle, Tan Trang, 32.

Trang, who grew up in El Monte, said he hung out with a tough crowd when he became a teenager. He doesn't want bad influences to sidetrack his seventh-grade nephew from becoming the next Jeremy Lin or rock star journalist.

"I'm glad that there's something that he's very dedicated to because there are a lot of kids his age running around the streets doing bad things," he said. "In my junior high, kids started joining gangs."

Nvision is a free or low-cost after-school program offered in Los Angeles County.

Trang said the program has imbued Bryan with more discipline and dedication.

At Richard Garvey Intermediate School, students stay after school with coaches who help youth improve skills and focus via boys and girls basketball, dance, music and art.

Rosemead is a microcosm of the San Gabriel Valley, which is becoming increasingly Asian. Some 61 percent of residents in Rosemead are Asian, while 34 percent are Hispanic and 21 percent are white according to the 2010 U.S. Census.

As soon as school is over, Bryan gets a free snack with his teammates and then he goes to basketball practice with 21 other boys. At 4:30 p.m., the group goes into study hall, where their coach helps them with homework. The program ends at 6 p.m.

Luis Salas, Nvisions' program coordinator, said many of the kids come from struggling families. Parents are at work and unable to pick up their children from school, so the youngsters have to walk home to an empty house or roam the streets, Salas said.

"At-risk is not having a safe place to go after school," he said. "Most of the kids are low-income. The kids can go to Parks and Recreation, but (their parents) can't afford to take them. They don't have the time to take them there. So (here) they have the option to do what they love and participate in other things."

Rosemead is among the top five cities in Los Angeles County with the highest Asian-American poverty rate, according to a 2013 report from Asian Americans Advancing Justice Los Angeles. Its peers are El Monte, Long Beach, Pomona and Alhambra.

Coach Chris Zendejas, 24, said he regularly checks his players' grades and most of them have a 3.5 GPA or above. Anyone with a 2.0 GPA or below is suspended from games.

"At the end of practice, we always break down what we did," he said. "If there is a bad experience in practice, I say, 'You have to endure it.' Basketball is a great teacher."

It needs to be for Bryan and his teammates, who live in a city where 57 percent of the population is foreign-born persons, and the median household income is \$45,700, according to the U.S. Census.

Some 27 percent of California's population foreign-born. The average Golden State median household income is 25 percent higher than that of Rosemead, according to the U.S. Census.

Bryan said he's very pleased with Nvision and his coach.

"It helps me with homework; it improves my basketball skills," he said. "It helps me finish my homework on time."

If he weren't learning about his muscle groups and how to become a better ball player, Bryan said he would be at home playing video games or playing basketball in the park.