



SANTA ANA NORTH ROTARY 1959

## KidWorks - Lisa Gels

KidWorks have recently celebrated their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and Lisa shared a short video. The program began with summer bible study and after school programs. Their focuses are education, spiritual development, health and fitness, and leadership.

Kidworks partners with the California Endowment for building healthy communities. They train kids and parents to speak up and address issues in their communities, working to restore at-risk neighborhoods, one child at a time. There are community outreach programs, with young adults working on Santa Ana issues such as safety. These youth have begun a composting program, collecting the materials and then offering the composted matter to community gardens where families can maintain a garden box. This composting program received a \$100,000 grant from NBC.

The focus is not only on the kids, there is holistic support for the whole family. The possibility of attending college is brought to light. Classes are offered in parenting, and in fatherhood.

Lisa talked about the population density and low income levels in Santa Ana resulting in a common situation of two families or more sharing a two bedroom, one bath apartment with 10-13 people.

95% of KidWorks participants graduate high school and 71% go on to college or university. Some return to volunteer at the program while home from college on school breaks.

We asked about ways to volunteer. Any / all of us are welcome to take a tour during the after school programs. We can volunteer to help at KidWorks' periodic weekend events, such as a street fair for kids' health and safety, or their back to school event giving school supplies. We could also volunteer as a group doing hands-on cleaning and rehab of facilities.

For ongoing volunteer efforts, there are several shifts between 3 and 7 p.m. helping in the classroom after school programs. With 1 teacher per 20 students volunteers are a great help. Volunteers may do this one time, or commit to a weekly or monthly schedule.

# The Rotations

April 16, 2014

SANTAANANORTHROTARYCLUB.ORG

We meet Wednesdays at noon  
at Antonello Ristorante  
3800 S Plaza Drive, Santa Ana, CA

### UPCOMING SPEAKERS

**Apr 23** Jennifer Miramontes, Legal Aid Society of OC

**NO MEETING April 30**, the 5<sup>th</sup> Weds of the month

Future meeting programs info pending

And remember **NO LUNCH MEETING June 11**, as we're having Mel's Continuation Celebration that evening – see below

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**May 2-4**, District Conference – Temecula Creek Inn, Temecula

**June 11**, evening, Antonello: Not your average demotion party – we're having a **Continuation Celebration** for Mel!



This program runs at three KidWorks centers Mon-Fri during the school year. The after school program is called "University Begins Now" and from the time a child begins at KidWorks they are designated to a "class" with the year they are projected to graduate college (e.g., "class of 2019").

Lisa mentioned another option to support KidWorks is to buy opportunity tickets for a helicopter ball drop as part of their golf tournament fundraiser to be held April 28. Purchase of a single \$20 opportunity ticket pays for two days of the after school program for one child.

We presented Lisa with a contribution from our club to KidWorks.

## CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMITTEE UPDATES

### Guests

We were very happy to have honorary club member Maureen Bricken with us today.

### President's Remarks – Mel El Guindy

Mel reminded us registration has opened for the District Conference to be held in Temecula May 2-4, at DaCDB or [www.rotary5320.org](http://www.rotary5320.org) (District website). There will be children's events and hot air balloon ride opportunities.

Also, the RI Conference will be in Sydney June 1-4.

**Jim and Carol McClure** were honored at the April 14 District Presidents' meeting for their support of the Rotary Foundation Endowment (separate from their generous support of TRF Annual Funds). Mel, Lisa, Ali, and Penny were present to cheer Jim and Carol, and voice our appreciation for their friendship and support of our club, as well.

**Ali Danta** announced upcoming fundraisers by two other Rotary clubs. Tustin Santa Ana will have their annual Lobsterfest, with unlimited lobster and steak for \$75, Saturday May 12. On the same date, Saturday May 12 the Brea club will host their annual wine and food fest, \$100 admission.

**Mel** will attend Santa Ana College scholarship presentation May 16 and on behalf of our club will present the scholarships funded by Maureen Bricken in honor of Gordon's strong support of education. We hope Maureen and Tricia will also be able to attend.