



Double-Talk = Double Laughs for March GMM

by Victor Koman

March was hardly the month in which anyone expected an April Fool's joke, but the jester's day came early when Dr. Robert Payne addressed the BALC at the Hilton Hotel in Costa Mesa. President Judi Carlson-Seymore opened the evening by introducing Janani Arangan, the winner of the chapter's 2009 Leadership Speech Contest, who reprised her speech to the audience's enthusiastic reception. After the applause subsided, VP of Programs Dee Thomas introduced Dr. Robert Payne, Special Advisor to the President's Council on Economic Development.

Or so we thought....

Moments after the speech began, foreheads began to wrinkle into puzzled frowns, gazes slowly edged toward table partners, and ears tilted toward Dr. Payne, whose heavy Georgian accent seemed to cause words to fade in and out of audibility. Or was there something else going on?

"Mistakes," Dr. Payne said, "are just stepping-stones to failure." And that was the clearest point he made. Any attempt to write down his speech would contain more [unintelligible] notations than a tape of Richard Nixon transcribed by Rose Mary Woods. Other gems followed:

"Three out of four people make up seventy-five percent of the population."

"Why is it, ladies and gentlemen, that they keep putting an expiration date on sour cream? Are they afraid it's going to go good?"

"I've discovered that reality is the leading cause of stress."

"As Pam Mabry would say, 'Nothing difficult is ever easy.'"

"Light travels faster than sound, which is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak."

"Nowadays, if you have a clear conscience, chances are you have a short memory."

"As I like to say: Sound Mind, Sound Body... take your pick."

"In the words of Dee Thomas, 'Things are more like they are now than they have ever been before.'"

Dr. Payne also pointed out some Universal Truths:

- ❖ If an excuse is good enough, it's called a reason
- ❖ It's not whether you win or lose... it's how you place the blame
- ❖ You are never completely worthless... you can always serve as a bad example

About fifteen minutes into his lecture, Dr. Robert Payne revealed



Durwood Fincher as
Doubletalker Dr. Robert Payne

the by-then-obvious fact that he was a colossal fraud. In fact, that is his job description. His real name is Durwood Fincher (trust him, he would not make that up), and the only true part of his résumé is that he was born in Macon, Georgia. For the past 27 years he has logged 6.2 million miles flying around the country as a professional doubletalker, bringing his own brand of humor and absurdity to people desperately in need of a few minutes of levity.

His career began decades ago when *Candid Camera* creator Allen Funt was interviewing talent for the actors who would ambush unsuspecting people caught in the act of being themselves. Durwood was number 139 and knew that he had to do something to catch Mr. Funt's attention. The setup

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Articles contained herein may be reprinted in whole or in part in NMA chapter publications.

From Your President's Desk . . .

The National Management Association's theme for 2009 is "Stepping Up to the Challenges of Leadership". As I welcome you to the Boeing Aerospace Leadership Chapter this year, I can think of no more appropriate theme. 2009 guarantees to be a year full of challenges, and I look forward to leading this Chapter through them. I want to thank you for this opportunity to lead and share our experiences this year. I am truly honored and humbled indeed!

We are all called to "Step Up" to lead in each facet of our lives. Whether you are leading the BALC, managing a department or work group at Boeing, a scout troop, or even your children and family, your leadership skills will be called to the test. With the economy suffering from the worst recession since the Great Depression, budgets are always front and center. The 'bottom line' can make or break us. Our leadership skills must be up to the challenge!

The BALC offers many opportunities for our members to grow their leadership skills and financial well being. Please visit our website and read emails to take advantage of these leadership skills training courses and seminars.

This year's Program schedule is cultural as well as Leadership oriented. Take advantage of the opportunity that our General Membership Meetings provide to network with other Boeing employees and executives. These contacts may prove invaluable to



Judi Carlson-Seymore

you in the future when you need to possibly find a new position. As budgets tighten, downsizing is a reality in 2009!

Looking to the future generation of leaders, the BALC's Community/Education outreach has once again supported our member's children and grandchildren, by holding our annual Speech Contest and 2009 Scholarship Competition. These students are very talented, and have worked very hard at their studies. We continue to recognize their achievements. They truly are as inspiring as they are aspiring!

Our Special Events calendar is filling up for 2009. We offer great tickets to sporting events, just to name a few teams, the Ducks, the Lakers, the Angels, the Dodgers, the Galaxy and USC football. We also offer tickets to many theater productions, the Pageant of the Masters, and Disney's Club 33! We have strategically placed information boards throughout the campus, plus all of our events are listed on our website. In addition to the support we receive from Financial Partner's Credit Union, a portion of your ticket sales goes

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From Your National Director's Desk...

As your National Director, I continue to serve the three chapters in the Southern California Area Council (SCAC). One of the most important roles I serve is to make sure the local chapters are aware of the plans and mission of the national organization – the NMA. The complete name of the NMA is “NMA – THE Leadership Development Organization”. This name represents the focus on leadership development. Part of being a leader (or an organization devoted to leaders) is to update and change the vision, mission, and guiding documents for your organization. This year, some changes to the NMA by-laws were rolled out, voted on and approved by the directors. Let me start this article with a description of these changes.

One of the primary changes was to change the process of electing National Directors. Previously, directors could assume office in two ways – being elected for a three year term by delegates at the National Conferences or being appointed for a one-year term by the NMA officers. After the change, the delegate elections have been removed. Instead, petitions will be submitted to the NMA Nominating Committee for consideration and all new directors will be appointed for either a 1- or 3-year term. Another related change was allowing chapters to have more than one director if one of their directors is serving as a committee or area chair. This applies to the current situation for SCAC and specifically, the Boeing

Aerospace Leadership Chapter (BALC), since Pete Kurzhals and I are both serving as directors. Pete is the chair of the Professional Development Committee and is driving the NMA's variety of course offerings. Because of this, a second director is allowed – me!

The other major change to the by-laws was to increase the dues per member for chapters incorporating after January 1, 2009. The rate for chapters already incorporated was (and continues to be) a very reasonable \$35 per year. Considering what you get for that and the membership dues of other similar professional organizations, it was felt that an increase to \$48 per year was justified. At the same time, this rate increase didn't penalize long-standing chapters, either. Note that the increase is only a little over \$1 per month. This increase allows the NMA to stay solvent and continue to offer great courses and conferences.

A change was made in the way that NMA handles their speech contests. Many chapters hold a speech contest as the first step toward crowning a national speech contest champion. The winners of the chapter contests then battle for supremacy at the next level – the council level (this is SCAC for us). Those winners go on to the yearly Leadership Development Conferences (LDC) to compete for the area level (Pacific South for us) top prize. In the past, the speech contest at the National Conference would pit the 6 winners of each area against each other for the overall national winner. Starting



Robert Noel

this year, only the winners and runners up from each of the yearly Leadership Development Conferences (LDC) will go on to the National Conference to compete. This reduces the contestants to 4 and decreased the costs to the NMA significantly. Since the competition between areas occurs earlier in the process now, the change is unlikely to affect the first or second place finisher at the National level.

Speaking of the LDCs, let me give you a quick report on that. I am writing this just after the conclusion of the West LDC – held in San Jose this year. The LDC is an event designed to include all the officers of the chapters within the West part of the country. This includes chapters in Washington, Oregon and California but also extends as far east as Texas and Louisiana. Officers learn how to do their job and get tips from others on what works and what to avoid. The event this year included a lot of discussion between folks as a major part of the learning experi-

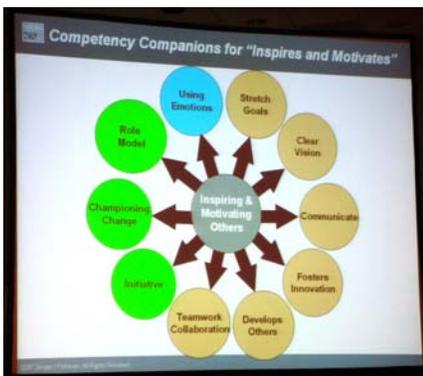
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February GMM, Featuring Joe Folkman, Ph.D

By Joe Morano, VP - Alumni and Retirees

The evening of Thursday, February 19, 2009 welcomed the National Management Association (NMA) Boeing Aerospace Leadership Chapter (BALC) membership to a brand new venue for the monthly General Membership Meeting – the Hilton Hotel in Costa Mesa.

Our featured speaker, Dr. Joe Folkman, gave an interesting talk on becoming an extraordinary leader. Dr Folkman is the President and co-founder of Zenger Folkman, a company that consults major US corporations such as AT&T and General Mills utilizing evidence driven strengths for their improvement. He started out by stating he was a psychologist – but he specializes in metrics. Then he continued by giving out many statistics about job satisfaction. He showed survey results where 50% of workers are thinking about quitting in the 1st through 9th year on the job. And he stated that the ones who



quit are usually the best talent since they have the most options out there. In asking the question to the audience “Do leaders make



Dr. Joe Folkman speaks on how to become an extraordinary leader

a difference”? he proceeded to show statistics that they do indeed make a difference in job satisfaction which retains the best workers, which translates to increased productivity and increased profits. While no one wants to be a bad leader, he showed what a difference it makes going from a “good leader” to a “GREAT LEADER”. His last major metric showed that by increasing productivity by only 5% can lead to a doubling of profits.

After this introduction of the benefits of being a great leader, Dr Folkman spent the rest of his talk on how to go from “good” to “great”. While many leaders focus on improving on their weaknesses, he stated that “Great” leaders have weaknesses – they are not perfect – but they also have pro-

found strengths. He suggests that to become great leaders we need to work on our strengths. “Surveying great leaders, it is apparent they need to have the analytical/technical knowledge, they need to get results, but their highest skill is that they need to inspire others.” Dr. Folkman then spoke of how to be an inspiring leader. The necessary traits, he pointed out were to: be a Role Model, be a Champion of Change, and foster initiative. He ended the presentation with his 7 predictors of a great leader. They are the ability to: use emotion, set stretch goals, have a clear vision, communicate effectively, foster innovation, develop others around you, and use teamwork and collaboration.

Many members ended the evening by talking one-on-one with Dr Folkman and having him autograph one of the several books that he has authored and/or co-authored. And his latest book, *The Inspiring Leader: Unlocking the Secrets of How Extraordinary Leaders Motivate*, is set to be released this summer.



Rick Stephens and BALC Board of Directors Installation

By Dee Thomas

On Monday night, January 26th, the BALC kicked off its new program year at Lakewood's Sycamore Center. The audience witnessed the appreciation for exiting 2008 Board members and the installation of the new officers for 2009. Theresa DeLeon passed the gavel to new President, Judi Carlson-Seymore, of Financial Partners Credit Union, who will preside over the following Board of Director members:

- ❖ Dave Andersen – Communications
- ❖ Deborah Barchichat – Membership
- ❖ Keith Hamling – Professional Development
- ❖ Summer Johnson – Finance
- ❖ Mary Kosalka – Operations
- ❖ Corine Kumano – Special Events
- ❖ Jocelyn Messina – Community/Education Services
- ❖ Joe Morano – Alumni/Retirees
- ❖ Dee Thomas – Programs

Announcements included the promotion of 2 worthwhile charities: Youth Motivation Task Force,



2008 BALC President, Theresa De Leon passing the gavel over to 2009 BALC President, Judi Carlson-Seymore

comprised of Orange County business people visiting area schools to discuss the importance of education and staying in school to get better and higher paying jobs. Team Science – Summer Applied Science Camp encouraged participation in summer science camp to introduce and/or maintain children's interest in math and science, in hopes that in years to come they would choose those subjects as careers. Each organization would welcome more volunteers!

Rick Stephens, Boeing's Senior Vice President of Human Resources and Administration, flew out from corporate headquarters in Chicago to be the guest speaker for the evening.

He shared his experiences after coming out of his military service with the Marine Corps, landing at Boeing many years ago, citing a former manager who made him sit and listen in meetings for many months before he was allowed to ask a question or two. "The question had better be a good one!" he was told. "I don't want to be embarrassed by your question!" This manager made him listen and learn and helped Rick chart his course and leadership style throughout his jobs. Speaking of the Leadership Attributes, Rick mentioned why "Charting the Course" was so important – setting the stage to let people know where they're going, why they're going there, and lead by example. He also shared his \$35 million dollar mistake, where he bought inven-



Rick Stephens, Senior Vice President Human Resources and Administration with newly elected BALC President, Judi Carlson-Seymore

tory to be sold to a customer who ended up not signing the contract and he had to find another buyer for it, at the potential price of losing his job. That experience helped him understand the value of seeing the "big picture" and to anticipate potential pitfalls.

Rick recommended 2 books that he made his 4 children read as family requirements: *The Millionaire Next Door* and *Rich Dad, Poor Dad – What The Rich Teach Their Kids About Money – That The Poor and Middle Class Do Not*. For anyone interested in these books, contact Judi Carlson-Seymore or Dee Thomas for the links.

Rick closed his presentation with interaction on audience questions, stating that in spite of budget cuts, managers should still plan to attend BLC classes for the value

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Professional Development Courses Scheduled Seminars

Month	Date	Course	Location	Times
June	16	Preparing for Retirement	HB	11:30 a.m.
June	23	Home buying 101	HB	11:30 a.m.
June	25	High-Performance Teams	SB	4:30 p.m.
July	14	Retirement Planning	HB	11:30 a.m.
July	28	Estate Planning	LB	11:30 a.m.
Aug	15	Estate Planning	HB	11:30 a.m.
Sept	22	College Funding Planning	HB	11:30 a.m.
Sept	29	College Funding Planning	LB	11:30 a.m.
Oct	28	Long Term Care Planning	LB	11:30 a.m.

From Your President's Desk . . .

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Financial Partner's Credit Union, a portion of your ticket sales goes toward the Scholarship award. Please continue to help support our students, and buy tickets from BALC for upcoming events!

This year we will be holding 2 new Membership drives. If you sign up to join, you will be able to

take the new LEADS assessment for free! That is a \$35 savings! LEADS assesses your leadership skills, and lets you know where your strengths and weaknesses lie. This is an invaluable tool. Please tell your co-workers about this wonderful opportunity and encourage them to become mem-

bers of BALC. Our goal is to retain and possibly grow our 1300 plus member roster.

In these challenging times, BALC offers you many opportunities to grow your leadership skills so that you WILL be able to "Step Up to the Challenges of Leadership"!

From Your National Director's Desk

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ence – well received by all. New ideas flowed out and I think that these ideas will really help chapters execute. I encourage officers of chapters that didn't attend the

LDC to talk to those who did and get some ideas. Also, many of the ideas and lessons learned will be available on the NMA website.

In closing, I want to invite

your comments and ideas. I don't think there can be a better thing for a National Director to be armed with in shaping the NMA. Thanks!

BALC Speech Contest Results

By Avis French

Janani Arangan, a junior at Aliso Niguel High School, was the winner of the 2009 NMA Leadership Speech Contest for high school students sponsored by BALC. She received \$500 for her speech *Leading America Forward*.

In second place was James Zapata, also from Aliso Niguel High School and a 12th grader, who received \$400 for his speech *Leadership in Economic Crisis*. Placing third and receiving \$300 was Erin Fahy, another Aliso Niguel student and a 12th grader for her presentation *Monopoly and the American Enterprise System*.

Other competitors were:

- ❖ Sarahzin Chowdhury, 12th, Corona High School
- ❖ Garrett Saunders, 12th, Corona High School
- ❖ Emily Aarsvold, 10th, Wilson Classical High School
- ❖ Andrew Castro, 11th, Wilson Classical High School
- ❖ Christopher Flores, 12th, Wilson Classical High School



1st place winner, Janani Arangan with BALC Past President, Theresa De Leon

❖ William Hunter Thomas, 12th, Wilson Classical High School

Janani will represent BALC at the NMA speech contest during the NMA Leadership Development Conference in San Jose on April 25. In addition, she will repeat her presentation at the BALC dinner meeting on March 12.

It takes many people to put on a successful speech contest. BALC thanks all of those people who volunteered. Serving as Contest Director was Jocelyn Messina, VP of Community/Education Services for BALC. Theresa DeLeon, BALC Past President, presided over the contest as Mistress of Ceremonies. Our judges were Avis French (Chief Judge), NMA's 1995 national Member of the Year and Chair of the ToastMasters Founders District Community Relations Committee; George Day, Harriette Kohorn, Maira Pineda, and John Schmidt, all from Boeing ToastMasters clubs and/or the ToastMasters Founders District Judges Bureau; from NMA came Bob Esslinger, 1994 NMA Chairman of the Board; Elaine

Fafilek, retired BALC member and NMA's 2003 national Member of the Year; and Gary DuMas, retired BALC member.

Also serving in a variety of roles are the following people from BALC:

Felie Beaty and Don Rising served as timers; Bob Noel was student escort, ably assisted by Jim Gonzalez, and Janet Stoddard. Janet also doubled as ballot counter for the judges; Dave Andersen was photographer.

The contest is open to high school students in the local school districts. The students' speeches are judged on speech content, originality, effectiveness, and value; the physical presentation, voice, and manner in which the speech is delivered; the appropriateness and correctness of the language used.

By researching, writing, and delivering a speech on Leadership, the young men and women – and their audiences (faculty, family, friends, and NMA members) – acquire a greater understanding



2nd place winner, James Zapata with BALC Past President, Theresa De Leon



3rd place winner, Erin Fahy with BALC Past President, Theresa De Leon

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BALC Speech Contest Results

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of the role that Leadership plays in today's world. The contest also provides an incentive for the development of communication skills that will be so vital to them upon entering the workforce or furthering their education. Certainly, the financial rewards help winning students to go on to college or otherwise fulfill their dreams.

BALC congratulates Janani on her winning presentation, and thanks all the competitors for their participation. Thanks go also to all the volunteers who made the event a success.



Speech contestants waiting to present their speeches.

Rick Stephens and BALC Board of Directors Installation

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they offered. He mentioned that Boeing has backlog orders worth \$350,000,000,000, a good position in which to be in a downturned economy.

With Rick's candor and optimism, and all delicious crepe desserts being eaten, the evening was a success. The gavel was laid in its box signifying that the new regime had declared the meeting was over.



(Left to Right) Judi Carlson-Seymore, 2009 BALC President, Theresa De Leon, Past President, Keith Hamling, VP-Professional Development, Mary Kosalka, VP-Operations, Corine Kumano, VP-Special Events, Dave Andersen, VP-Communications, Deborah Barchichat, VP-Member Services, Dee Thomas, VP-Programs, Joe Morano, VP-Alumni/Retirees, Summer Johnson, VP-Finance, Jocelyn Messina, VP-Education/Community Services, and at the podium, Bob Noel, National Director installing the 2009 Board.



Special Events

Mark your
calendars!

BALC Event	Location	Date	Time	Section	Member/Non-Member Price	Reservation Deadline	Contact
Fireworks Spectacular	Hollywood Bowl	07/03/09	7:30pm	TBD	\$30 / \$32	06/17/09	Corine Kumano
LA Galaxy vs. AC Milan-ITALY	Home Depot Center	07/19/09	7:00 PM	TBD	TBD	07/19/09	Corine Kumano
Pagent of the Masters	Laguna Beach	07/24/09	8:30pm	Main Tier Rows B-C	\$70 / \$73	06/26/09	Beverly Cain
Angels vs. Rangers	Angel Stadium	8/9/2009	1:00 PM	V508	\$10/\$12	7/31/2009	Brian Chin
Dodgers vs. Cubs	Dodger Stadium	08/23/09	1:00 PM	TBD	\$16 / \$18	08/10/09	Brian Chin
Fiddler on the Roof	The OC Performing Arts	8/23/2009	6:30 PM	Orchestra	\$72 / \$74	08/01/09	Corine Kumano
Angels Vs. Athletics	Angel Stadium	08/28/09	7:00 PM	V508	\$10 / \$12	08/18/09	Brian Chin
Angels vs. Mariners	Angel Stadium	09/10/09	7:00 PM	V508	\$10 / \$12	09/01/09	Brian Chin
Legally Blonde	The OC Performing Arts	09/19/09	7:30 PM	Orchestra	\$85 / \$87	08/28/09	Steven Stakley
The Gary Bonner Singers	Carpenter Performing Arts Center	09/27/09	2:00 PM	TBD	\$22.50 / \$24	09/07/09	Stan Barauskas
First Annual BALC Golf Tournament	Candlewood Country Club	10/12/09	11:00 AM	Whittier	\$110	09/20/09	Theresa Deleon

Corine Kumano	714-372-6975 – VP, Special Events	Brian Chin	brian.chin2@boeing.com
Beverly Cain	beverly.j.cain@boeing.com	Theresa Deleon	theresa.j.deleon@boeing.com
Steven Stakley	714-372-0820	Stan Barauskas	stan.m.barauskas@boeing.com

NMA Statement of Principles

NMA is dedicated to managerial excellence, personal and professional growth, and leadership development. The following principles identify NMA's core beliefs and provide the basis for the Association's Mission Statement.

We believe in the highest standards of personal and organizational integrity and respect for the individual.

We believe in lifelong learning, continuous improvement, and the development of a workforce capable of sustaining a competitive posture in the global economy.

We believe management is a creative, dynamic, and essential process enabling people to achieve personal and organizational objectives.

We believe that managerial responsibility is shared among all individuals at all levels of the organization and that leadership is critical to management success.

We believe that individuals and organizations have a community and civic responsibility.

Spotlight Member

By Dee Thomas

John Netherwood, this month's BALC spotlight member, has had an interesting life. Born the 2nd child and oldest son, John was raised in Massachusetts, near the tallest mountain in that state, Mount Graylock, very close to where Vermont, New York, and Massachusetts all converge. Yet as a true easterner, he saw the Pacific Ocean before he saw the Atlantic, due to his 4 year service in the Navy. This eastern gentleman married a California girl and drove back east with her in a ½ ton Chevy pick up truck. Two years later in 1970 they relocated back to California and are still married with 2 children, in spite of the truck ride!

John has been a Boeing employee for 10 years, as an Environmental Engineer and Scientist, specializing in water quality, tank sump, and toxic substances control. His influence affects environmental problems such as storm water infiltration into our water system, something which could greatly affect the Huntington Beach plant employee population.

Receiving his degree in geology (hydrogeology, to be exact) from Cal State University, Fullerton, John was an environmental consultant for 11 years prior to his joining Boeing.

He traveled all over the U.S. and the globe, including to Europe, where his most interesting job was for Johnson & Johnson in their manufacturing facilities in Ireland, Scotland,

and the Netherlands. There he performed environmental assessments for 7 plants in 21 days for auditing purposes. His work in Hawaii at a waste energy plant that used its waste to produce energy, eliminating the need to landfill that waste. He, also, enjoyed working at a steel plant in Oregon, a coal mining operation in Utah, and the atomic electric plant in our neighborhood of San Onofre.

John has been a BALC member and booster for about 8 years, getting into it because a former booster left and asked John to replace him. He decided it was a good place to network and meet interesting people. John appreciates the special events, and professional development opportunities that BALC offers, and has extremely consistent attendance at the General Management Meetings offered each month. One of his memorable meetings includes a hypnotist, who made him a believer out of the practice when he saw people following instructions from a "cue" word. Additionally, John enjoyed a former Boeing President's presentation, Dr. Zahi Hawass' presentation on Egypt, and Dr. Arthur Benjamin, the mathemagician. John bought the mathemagician's book and is currently practicing how to multiply large numbers together, using Dr. Benjamin's method.

According to John, BALC offers a chance to interact with other Boeing



John Netherwood

employees that he might not normally meet in the course of his job. He relishes the opportunity to dine with fellow employees working on proprietary programs that he might never see, and believes that through his "boosterism" he has the opportunity to practice his leadership and organization skills. His advice to new BALC members is to attend as often as possible, even if the topic does not hold the greatest interest, because he feels you can always learn something new or gain a different perspective. Feeling that, "You'll get out of BALC what you put in," John has been an active asset to this organization. This author is delighted to have the more public opportunity to say, "Many thanks, John, for your membership, initiative, active participation and enthusiasm for BALC," which is exactly what this organization espouses and "That's why we're here!"

Welcome New Members!

By Deborah A. Barchichat, VP, Member Services

2009			
JANUARY		FEBRUARY	MARCH
<i>Sal Ortiz</i>	<i>Russel Tsuda</i>	<i>Vijay Trehan</i>	<i>Khang Tang</i>
<i>Christopher Cassaday</i>	<i>Maria Lubanski</i>	<i>Stuart Wehofer</i>	<i>James McLellan</i>
<i>Edwin Curry</i>	<i>Mihea Roberts</i>		<i>Kitty Bokoles</i>
<i>Donna Livermore</i>	<i>Juan Carlos Galdamez</i>		<i>David Hyatt</i>

Golden Corner

by Stan Barauskas

Lightning Really Does Strike More Than Once!

NASA-funded scientists have recently learned that cloud-to-ground lightning frequently strikes the ground in two or more places and that the chances of being struck are about 45 % higher than what people commonly assume (ref. Goddard Space Flight Center report, January 14, 2003)



Now I know that it's possible for lightning to strike twice in the *physical world* but just recently I found out it can also strike twice in the *musical world*.

I was introduced to the Gary Bonner Singers by my church choir director Tom Cuccio about 6 years ago and have enjoyed many of their performances ever since. As a choir member in various choirs since my elementary school days I have followed choral musical performances by a large variety of choirs, both professional and voluntary groups, and I found that the Gary Bonner Singers stand head and shoulders above all and

represent the ultimate in choral music. The Gary Bonner Singers are composed of ~55 volunteer performers from all walks of life and ages varying from 19 years to ~65 years. They are primarily a Christian-based group that performs in churches in Southern and Northern California. They also perform a secular concert annually titled "Sing America" that includes classic Americana songs dating back 50 to 100 years.

Quite often during their performances the Director, Dr. Gary Bonner, banter with the audience answering questions about the group and carrying on a conversation with them between songs. A number of times I noticed that Dr. Bonner expressed his life-long desire of possibly singing for the

President in the White House. He was the head of the music department at Azusa Pacific University for ~22 years and is now the Dean of Music at California Baptist University in Riverside where he also conducts the University Choir and orchestra. His entire life was dedicated to music (he has instructed >600 conductors in the art of directing and holds seminars on a variety of musical subjects in addition to his University responsibilities).

One day, in April 2006, while at our church, my wife Elke met Cathy Miller, Congressman Gary Miller's wife, and the thought of asking Congressman Miller to help fulfill Dr. Bonner's dream occurred to her. At my wife's bidding I approached Congressman Miller



*Gary Bonner Singers Return Performance in the White House
On December 17, 2008*

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Lightning Really Does Strike More Than Once!

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and asked if he could help to secure an invitation for the Gary Bonner Singers to perform in the White House. His immediate reaction was “Sure, I could try, but the White House receives >10, 000 requests from performers all over the country to appear at the White House and very few are selected”. Nevertheless, he agreed to let me try. He put me in contact with John Rothrock, the Chief of Staff of his Washington D.C. office and I took it from there. After completing formal request paperwork and submitting a sample CD album of the Gary Bonner Singers work I waited for a response which was to come in October 2006. As the end of the month neared I lost hope that my group would be selected and already started to make plans for another try for the following year. BUT, on November 1, 2006, just past the deadline, I received a phone call from Deanna Ballard, the Director of the White House Visitors Office. She congratulated me for receiving an invitation for the Gary Bonner Singers to perform at the White House during their Christmas Holiday Open House on December 20, 2006. What a pleasant surprise!!

Dr. Bonner invited me and Elke to come along and I was with the group in the White House Grand Foyer of the East Wing while they sang Christmas songs for ~1.5 hours. Afterwards we were invited to view the White House Christmas decorations. What a “once-in-a-lifetime” experience – or that’s what I thought.

Fast forward a couple of years and Dr. Bonner approached me once again to ask if I could obtain another invitation for the Gary Bonner Singers to perform at the White House during Christmas time in 2008. My quick response was “lightning doesn’t strike twice” in the same place – but I’ll try. You can imagine my surprise when I received a phone call from Director Amy Alman’s White House Visitors Office October 24, 2008 with a second invitation for the Gary Bonner Singers to perform for their Holiday Open House on December 17, 2008. Lightning does strike twice – as the NASA scientists proved from their research - I just didn’t know it applied to White House invitations.

(Editor’s Note: Look for a special performance of the Gary Bonner Singers at the Carpenter Center in CSULB on Sept. 27, 2009. You’ll be graced with a Presidential quality concert – see the Special Events calendar on page 9 or refer to the BALC web site for more info.)



The Gary Bonner Singers White House Montage signed by President and Mrs. Bush, December 20, 2006



Author Stan Barauskas with Pat Bonner and Director Gary Bonner at the White House during the Christmas Holiday Open House, December 17, 2008

Double-Talk = Double Laughs for March GMM

Continued from Page 1

was a lot like a primitive version of *American Idol*: Allen Funt and his secretary sat at a table and the talent had a few moments in which to impress them. Allen seemed bored and it was obvious to Durwood that the secretary was doing the listening for him.

Rapidly assessing the situation, Fincher formulated his plan. He said, "Mr. Funt, may I ask you something before I get started?"

Funt replied with an inattentive "Yeah."

"Would it be possible," Durwood asked, "for me to moke an' I say yes ana so dezzit?"

Looking up, Funt simply said, "Sure."

Realizing that the master of practical jokes had just been pranked by a doubletalking Southerner, Funt's secretary let out an amused *snerk*. That got Funt's attention, and when she gave him a look that said "Well, he got you," Durwood Fincher got the job.

His doubletalking skills were used to very good effect on Candid Camera, and earned him the moniker "Mr. Doubletalk." It also got him out of a red-light ticket when he and another driver were pulled over by an Atlanta motorcycle officer.

The first driver, who thought he had cleared the light, walked over to the officer and began to cuss him out. In sign language. It occurred to Durwood that this was not something one encountered on a daily basis. He was certain that the officer had never been sworn at in Ameslan, but then he realized who the third part of this triad would be, and he could actually feel the little cartoon angel sitting on one shoulder saying "Don't go down that road" and the devil sitting on the other saying "It's showtime!"

He said to the officer, "What I think he's trying to say is, that when both of us lee many mile way turned at the light spokes out back 'n that anyway with that don't ya know it sticks." And then he slowly gazed up at the traffic light.

And the officer gazed up at the traffic light, looked over to Durwood, and just said, "Yeah."

A few more sentences of garbled, semi-unintelligible verbal gobbledygook failed to prevent the officer from writing out a ticket. It was at that point, though, that Durwood looked over at the deaf driver and realized from his dumbfounded expression that he had been trying to lip-read the

entire conversation and had no idea if he had heard anything Mr. Doubletalk had never said.

After the policeman departed, Durwood handed the other driver (Carl was his name) a brochure to explain what he did for a living and why the driver could not read his lips with any degree of understanding. Excited, Carl wrote on a piece of paper the wickedest idea possible: Durwood—If you think this was fun, let's go to court!

The evening closed with Mr. Fincher's own tribute to Allen Funt: a series of interviews taped before the dinner in which he asked questions of BALC members and we had the supreme pleasure of watching each member squirm as they strained to listen to questions devoid of any structure, substance, or coherence, then attempted to answer them with some shred of dignity. Those hilarious interviews (Booster John Netherwood, President Judi Carlson-Seymore, and VP of Operations Mary Kosalka were a few of his victims) are available from the top page of the BALC website.

All members in attendance at Mr. Fincher's evening on stage agreed about one thing: Mr. Doubletalk provided us a double-dose of laughs and more.

Please visit our Boeing Aerospace Leadership Chapter Website

Internal: <http://hb.web.boeing.com/empservices/clubs/balc/>

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NMA Code of Ethics

- I will recognize that all individuals inherently desire to practice their occupations to the best of their ability.
- I will assume that all individuals want to do their best.
- I will maintain a broad and balanced outlook and will recognize value in the ideas and opinions of others.
- I will be guided in all my activities by truth, accuracy, fair dealing and good taste.
- I will keep informed on the latest developments in techniques, equipment, and processes.
- I will recommend or initiate methods to increase productivity and efficiency.
- I will support efforts to strengthen the management profession through training and education.
- I will help my associates reach personal and professional fulfillment.
- I will earn and carefully guard my reputation for good moral character and good citizenship.
- I will promote the principles of our American Enterprise System to others, by highlighting its accomplishments and displaying confidence in its future.
- I will recognize that leadership is a call to service.



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