



Konnichiwa! Welcome to Fall Leadership Conference. If you're new to having the paper talk in your head, relax, you're only going crazy. Or perhaps you're exercising your ability to read! What a wonderful and mystical gift we all

Michael Lee
Newsletter

take for granted. Everyone should now give themselves a pat on the back. Alright, now that you're done patting, it is my unfortunate duty to inform you all that there are many people who still cannot read. Imagine picking up this newsletter, a product of hours of drudgery, and not being able to hear the sweet voice of Michael Lee inside of your head! It's a tragedy! So yeah, stop by the literacy booth, if only to hear the sweet voice of Michael Lee outside of your head.

Ok, that was my public service announcement; now I am going to explain to you the plan behind this issue. Besides the obvious turning of the pages, this issue, there is a new concept: to attempt to make everyone who reads this newsletter to either laugh or smile *at least once*. The way I see it, people will be cooped in Milpitas, so why not give them something to lift their spirits before they plunge back into the torrent of education? To this end, DC has written stories, poems, and experiences for your reading pleasure.

Now. Seeing as how I was forced to move myself to the last page, offing or dislocating many people in the process (sorry!), this will have to be DC's last-ditch effort to make you kids laugh or smile.

Here goes. This was adapted from my English teacher (one who doesn't use the word irregardless irregardless; irregardless is actually a portmanteau of the words "irrespective" and "regardless"). There is a contest at FLC. The first prize winner gets the fabulous prize of one week's stay in Milpitas! Yyyyy! But wait, there's more! The second prize winner gets the almost, but-not-so-quite, fabulous prize of staying in Milpitas for two weeks!

Interact District 5170 Newsletter

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Dates to Remember:

- Today:
Fall Leadership Conference
- Feb. 10-11:
Presidents' Retreat

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WELCOME TO FLC, EVERYBODY!



Janet Chau
Governor

Interactors, behold! Take a look around you. See the complete strangers and the familiar faces, but wonder: why are we all here? Is it because we need community service hours? Maybe it's because we want to learn something and better ourselves. Or, perhaps, we're here because our friends told us to be here. Heck, maybe it's because we all have nothing better to do on a Sunday morning. But whatever the reason is, we're here, and for this, I thank each and every last one of you, from the lowliest freshman member to the club President, because we're all here to experience what is Interact..

The real question we should be asking is: "What am I getting out of this conference?" In order to be successful this year, our district needs passionate and enthusiastic members. The Fall Leadership Conference will allow people to see various projects, especially our Action Against Hunger project, and to meet new people.

I encourage everyone, including you, to step out of their comfort zones. Make this year the best Interact year yet. Seize the initiative and organize a fundraiser or community service event. Be an active volunteer. Experience that ecstatic feeling when you help others and know that you made a difference in someone's life. When you step out of your comfort zone, and let me admit, it is scary, the experiences that come will change your life forever.

One last thing, District Council is the best group that I can ever ask to work with. They have dedicated much hard work and time into planning this conference. If you see one of these kids with the navy DC polo shirts on, go say hi and thanks to them. FLC would not even get off the floor without the work these people put in.

Alright, there are 5,000 of us in over 60 schools; let's show them what "service above self" really means!



Rhian Morgan

Simply put, Area One has "fun in the sun and nice buns". Go Magenta Monkeys!

"Do what you want because a pirate is free! You are a pirate! Yar har fiddle dee dee, being a pirate is alright to be. Do what you want because a pirate is free! You are a pirate!"

Nothin' beats ter' world of those swashbuckling pirates. Thar' be always a' swinging from mast ta' mast, a' sailing the seven seas, a' plundering ships, and a' drinking lots o' grog! But why are pirates so widely imitated? I came ta' school one day only ta' find that a large handful of people were dressed up as pirates and a' brandishin' Jolly Rogers. "Yarr, it be Pirate Day," somebody said. Maybe 'tis because of Johnny Depp and Ter' Pirates of ter' Caribbean. Or maybe 'tis just ter' notion of being a pirate that a' fascinates so many people. It sure beats those Naruto ninj-wannabes. Anyways, me point bein' that pirates go ta' FLC. So thar', now ye have incentive ta' be a' comin down ta' FLC. Yarr! You be a' comin down to FLC bein' a pirate like me now!



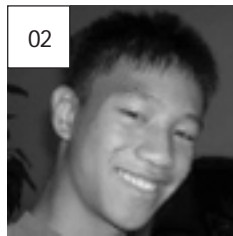
Terri Wang

GO AREA 3 FLAMINGOS! Did you know that a flamingo can only eat when its head is upside down? Haha, I wouldn't recommend Area 3 Interactors doing that today though.

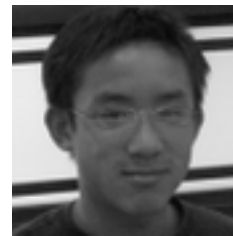
If a dog were your teacher...

/When loved ones come home, always run to greet them
Never pass up the opportunity to go for a joyride
Allow the experience of fresh air and the wind in your face to be pure ecstasy
/When it's in your best interest
practice obedience
Let others know when they've invaded your territory
Take naps and stretch before rising
Run romp and play daily
/Thrive on attention and let people touch you
Avoid biting, when a simple growl will do
On warm days stop to lie on your back on the grass
On hot days drink lots of water and lay under a shady tree
When you're happy dance around and wag your entire body
/No matter how often you're scolded
don't buy into the guilt thing and pout
run right back and make friends
/Delight in the simple joy of a long walk
Eat with gusto and enthusiasm
Stop when you have had enough
Be loyal
Never pretend to be something you're not
/If what you want lies buried
dig until you find it
When someone is having a bad day
be silent
...sit close by.

Awww... just thought that was really cute.



Elliot Hung



Hoi Sing Mok
Variety

or not that candy bar is really worth \$1, ask yourself, how many things could I actually do with the dollar bill that doesn't involve losing possession with it. Such possibilities that lay within the dollar include: folding it into practical objects like bow ties and futons, eating it for a much more nutritious benefit than candy, or just leaving it in a box and passing it down generations until that \$1 is worth billions in some future currency! So next time you consider buying a Snickers, spend money on gas, or purchase some new shoes, consider your options that could provide you with something much more entertaining.



Betty Su
Youthact

So in other words, regardless means to not have regard. "Ir" would mean the opposite. So if regardless means whether or not, absolutely and not caring of any circumstance... doesn't irregardless mean to show concern for circumstances? So technically, we should be using the word like this: I love you irregardlessly (I love you, but if other things come up, we'll have to discuss later); so I'm wondering: have people been mistaking this word all this time, or does the word not exist? It's a really sad thing to be me, a person stuck in a class with an ex-actor that teaches his class the importance of the dictionary with the story of how he couldn't spell the word guardian in a letter to his parents.

Anyways, regardless of everything, enjoy FLC and be glad that you're here instead of some horrible English class that should be renamed Napping 101.



Thanh Nguyen
Rotaract

So I hope all of these facts show you how almost-but-not-quite-so normal Rotaract Coordinator you have this year. Don't forget to say hi to me if you happen to spot me! And if not, feel free to instant message me on AIM anytime. "sweetmelodiesx3" is my screen name. I hope you have a splendid day at FLC!

Thanh's Top 10 Quirks

1. I am afraid to touch all living things EXCEPT humans and plants.
2. I HATE chocolate, but LOVE white chocolate.
3. My favorite quote/book is "Boys are Stupid; Throw Rocks at them."
4. I'm claustrophobic often when I'm next to boys I'd drool over.
5. I like to wear skirts on cold rainy days.
6. I tend to stare at hot/cute people a lot.
7. I unknowingly tailgate cars on the freeway sometimes.
8. I can't taste lemonade anymore, because when I worked at Hot Dog On a Stick I had too much.
9. I sing about sexy salamanders in choir.
10. And this quirk for number 10 isn't really a quirk; I ran out of quirks to fill up my Top 10.



Stephanie Cai



Amanda Meriweather



Jennifer Yee
Lt. Governor

Area 12, (Monta Vista, Lynbrook, Cupertino, Fremont, and Homestead) you guys rock. Keep up the hard work.

International Night is coming along well...

See y'all at FLC!! Go Black and White Pandas! Woot woot.

Yeah.

Hey Interactors! I'm really excited to have everyone here. For some of you, this is a mega RYLA reunion, for others, some boring workshops, and for yet even more people, a total mystery. But let me give you some tidbits of advice. First of all, talk to people. There are so many awesome people here, so reach outside of your club to meet some new people, get contact info, and make connections. Secondly, have fun and learn something new. At the projects fair, find an organization that you've never worked with and ask questions. Finally, show your Interact spirit! Don't be lame and be the only one from your area not cheering. Get excited about your area cheers! Interact spirit is the way to go. Have a great day everyone!

Hello, hello, my loves!

Welcome to the 2006 Fall Leadership Conference! At this year's conference, we have many other districts from all over California attending, so please make them

feel welcome and don't be afraid to socialize with them. I hope that you're having lots of fun and making new friends, because making friends is the reason why Interact is so great.

District Council spent over two months working on this, putting final pieces together to make this not only successful, but enjoyable as well, so don't forget to talk to them if you see one of them walk by; tell them what a great job they've done. This year, we've put together a community fair and an international seminar like last year, but we've also added a fundraising fair so that our district can find more ways to surpass our goal of \$45,000 for Action Against Hunger.

So, enjoy the rest of your day at Milpitas High and don't forget to smile!



Chelsea Xu
Secretary



Brandon Li
International

This morning marked the eve of a new era in my life: the era of chocolate cake. As I cursed school and drowned in my misery, I finally had the interest to walk downstairs and to open the refrigerator door. VOILA! Lying on a gilded platter was my frosted savior: chocolate cake. It was a perfect combination of sugar, cocoa, fat, carbs, and "hyper-pastry" that made your woes disappear, filled your belly, and splotted your t-shirt with frosting. And I loved it. It was the perfect anti-depressant; but don't forget your milk.

Have a lovely, chocolatey day, Interactors...

We all have responsibilities and duties- homework, sports, music, and/or leadership. As human beings, we all have the responsibility to take care of our fellow brothers and sisters around the world. I commend all of you by taking the first step to fulfill this responsibility by joining and continuing your service in Interact. However, we must not lose sight of this duty as the year progresses. Remember to continue the hard work Interactors so that we can save and improve countless lives around the world.

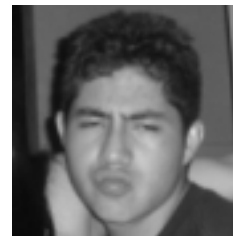
Last week, I attended Piedmont Millennium High School's first all-school assembly. It was a room of about 70 kids, some of whom without listening ears. After introductions were made, the Rotarians showed them an Interact promotional. I heard a few snickers, but many others saw Interact as an opportunity. It was then my turn to speak about my experience with the club, and I explained to them how Interact has changed my perspective of the world. I was hoping that something I said would get them to start an Interact club at their school.

Interactors, you already know about the friendships, the community service hours, and the rewarding feelings that come from this organization...so help me spread it! As a New Clubs Coordinator, it is my goal to get people enthused about joining our district. Promote Interact as much as you can, and if people are out there trying to start an Interact at their school, let me know! We're the biggest district in the world, but we can always use more members.

If you're starting a club, let your local Rotary Club support you. Find a good faculty advisor and start holding regular meetings. You can start small with park cleanups and coin drives, or you can dive right in and bring all your members to events like FLC!

District Council is...

Intent on saving the world
Notorious for its good-looking people
Terrified of bears after Asha's story
Energized by midnight dinners at Denny's
Ready to act in the fight against hunger
Always placing "Service" above "Self"
Cautious when around Janet, the almighty governor.
Thankful for YOUR involvement



Eric Mendez
New Clubs South

WORDOKU!

			R	U		L	I	
		W						
			T	S	E	W	C	
T				I		L		
E		L		R				W
		L		E				U
W	R	E	T	S				
						C		
C	L		R	U				

Letters: CEILRSTUW

Instructions:

In every 3x3 box, row, and column, there is a set of the given 9 letters.

When completed, the gray squares will reveal a common nine-letter word running from the top-left to the bottom-right.

Hint: As you solve the puzzle, try to guess what the word in the gray squares is.



Yuanyu Chen
Webmaster

I have recently discovered Napster; oh, the joy of listening to songs for free...legally! So stop with all that nonsense pirating and listen to Napster songs. Yay! The rest of this blurb is pure nonsense.

I recently looked up Bobby Fischer. I have a friend named Bobby Fischer and THERE HE WAS! Except he's an old psychotic-looking dude with the same exact name. I finally get the "Spirit of Bobby Fischer" monitor sitting in the Robotics office, as well as his screenname: "foundbobby." Too bad my Bobby Fischer doesn't play chess.

But what does this have anything to do with Interact? Well...this guy's in Interact (not here today, unfortunately, due to a traumatic incident involving his SAT score being too low to satisfy his parents), and his grandpa's a Rotarian! Pretty cool, eh? Rotary and Interact is everywhere. We'll save the lovely planet we live on, as well as its inhabitants, while having a blast doing it.

Oh, and just to spite Michael. Hi, I'm Yuanyu, DC Webmaster Coordinator. I love Interact, and I hope to meet every single one of you!



Minh Nguyen
Historian

Smile!...No, don't smile.

Hah, I kid. Better have your pearly whites ready this year for some good ol' picture taking. I'll be around every corner watching you. Again, don't be scared to say hi. It's nice for me to know who I'm taking pictures of. I like you guys. I like you guys so much that I created a new Spanish verb for you all: "Historiar," and it's not irregular because I like to make things simple.

Let's conjugate: historio (yo), historias (tu), historia (el/ella/usted), historiamos (nosotros), and historian (ellos/ellas/ustedes).

So "I history the interact club" would be "historio el club de interact!" ...and "you history me a lot" would be "historiasseme mucho," etc.



Victoria Dzuong
Special Events

Hey this is Minh Nguyen filling in for Viquisha Diquisha. Here's a little feedback on how we met a *long* time ago in a far, far away place named RYLA. There were terrific people there, many events to do, and great drag queen shows. Victoria and I met while we were blindfolded. It was a very awkward moment because it started off with a lot of pulling. This voice just kept telling me to "PULL! PULL!" and to go "LEFT! RIGHT!" But it wasn't easy because some freak of nature was pulling the other end. I had no idea what was going on except the fact that this monster on the other end was going to eat me if I didn't pull hard enough. When we failed our challenge, I took off my blindfold and to saw this little girl across from me. We then sat back down to discuss what went wrong during the challenge. Then I said to myself, "This little girl is freaking crazy! How does she do it?" My first impression of her was that she was a very intimidating little girl (I think all girls are intimidating). But afterwards, we got to know each other very well and found out that we had alot in common. And here I am, writing a blurb that was supposed to be written three days ago; I was lying in bed watching One Tree Hill. Hope everyone has fun at FLC!



Asha Choudhury

our bear friend running away. We pull over and file out; our "what the craps" only intensified with the discovery of four very oddly shaped dents on the car door. The verdict: a bear ran into our car. So yes, today you will have the most glorious day of your lives! Why? Because there are no bears at FLC. Have a splendid time, say hi to me, and mucho Interact love.



Alexandra Daily

HELLO HELLO DISTRICT 5170. Today marks the beginning of a new era! It will be the day your Interact enlightenment commences, the day you will seize and remember forever! Why? Oh dear. For me, the story unfolded late July. Many were enjoying themselves at the Rotary at the A's event; I was dying quite slowing in a family trip to Yellowstone National Park. As we were driving along, my dad spots a bear just chillin' on the side of the road. He nods "sup bear" in that cool middle-aged Indian dad kind of way and keeps on cruising along. Seconds later, we feel a giant KABANG! on the passenger side door, and I scream "FLIPPING POTHOLE." My mother looks out the back window and sees

So I found out the other day that Interact stood for INTERNATIONAL ACTION. That made me feel stupid; up until then, I had always assumed that it stood for the obvious: Interact, verb: to act together or towards others, or with others. You know, a synonym for reach out and collaborate, it made sense. So, I'm thinking it should be our goal to give international action meaning through collaboration for the greater good. This is just so that all of you who didn't know that Interact was a portmanteau won't feel as stupid as I did when I found out. Go Area 7! Rawr.



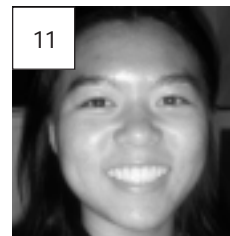
Zuodi Liao

Sometimes I just want to run around in circles until the world stops. There's no more time for night drives or key lime pie, and I'm always confronted by dull surprises. I'd like to drink enough tea to keep me awake for 72 hours and stare at space instead of the wrinkles on my bubble sheet. I thought the end of junior year would mean the end of sleepless nights. From picking a major to a new tie, everything about senior year has been hectic. There's never any complete silence, and only a few laughs. When I shut out the world, I still hear stampeding giraffes. Life's a little crazy. But Interact keeps me sane.



Bianca Franklin

Hi, my name is Bianca and I'm trying to revive the dead Area 10! So, since I'm new, I will give you the low-down on me. I am a senior at Scotts Valley High School and basically, my life revolves around school, swimming, water polo, and violin. I have played violin since forever and I'm on the UCSC swim team. Area 10 is slowly, but surely, coming back alive. The Santa Cruz County Interact clubs have been non-existent for quite some time apparently. Anyway, I am excited for this year, especially our projects with Action Against Hunger!



Danielle Wang

It's finally October: the month of changing colors, sweaters, and warm socks. I was pretty nervous for my first area meeting; I didn't know anybody or what I was going to say. But thankfully, it went very smoothly. Starbucks definitely made some serious dough from Area 11. Next month, we're having our meeting in Saratoga, next to a gelato place; get excited about edibles besides coffee, tea, and coffee cake! So I heard Area 4 had a party. Not to be outdone, Area 11 has decided to hold its own AREA 11 PAR-TAY! Unfortunately, by the time this newsletter gets passed out, it'll probably be over.