

## **Everything You Ever Wanted To Know About “Channel Islands Duties”**

### **Why “Channel Islands”?**

“Channel Islands Duties” are the various assignments that make our Club meetings run! They fall under the heading of Club Service; we could call them Weekly Assignments, but let’s face it; that’s boring!

When RC of Ventura South was formed in 1983, it was decided that the Club should be divided into four committees; each committee would handle the weekly assignments for three months out of the year. Rather than call them Committees 1, 2, 3, and 4 (or A, B, C, and D), the Club decided to name the Committees after the four prominent nearby Channel Islands – Anacapa, San Miguel, Santa Cruz, and Santa Rosa.

Ventura South used this committee system (and the committee names) for almost 40 years; rather than speak of “weekly assignments”, it became automatic to refer to these responsibilities as “Channel Islands Duties”. We no longer use the Committee structure, but the name “Channel Islands” has become ingrained in Club lore; it has a “homey” feel, and it reminds us of our connection to our nearby National Park – Channel Islands.

### **What are the Duties? What do I do?**

There are five (5) assignments that need to be filled every meeting: Greeters (2), Flag Salute, Invocation/Inspirational Message, the Rotary Minute (AKA “Rotary Around the World), and the Raffle. (Since there are two Greeters, we need six (6) people to help out each week.)

The following is a description of each of the duties...

#### **Greeters**

- Arrive **by 11:45 A.M.;**
- Welcome all Club members, visiting Rotarians, and non-Rotarian guests at the front table;
- Make a note of visiting Rotarians and non-Rotarian guests; hand note to Club President prior to the start of the meeting;
- Assist in Raffle ticket sales if needed;
- When the Speakers/Program of the day arrives, introduce them to the President;
- Introduce the visiting Rotarians and non-Rotarian guests if asked by the President.

#### **Flag Salute (“Pledge Of Allegiance”)**

- When called on by the President, stand and ask everyone to stand and join you in the Pledge of Allegiance; you can comment about our flag’s significance, etc., but don’t make it political.
- Recite the Pledge of Allegiance; lead with a strong voice.

## Invocation / Inspirational Thought Of The Day

- Prepare a 30-second to 1 minute Invocation or Inspirational Thought of the Day...this should be **NON-SECTARIAN** in keeping with Rotary's practice of excluding religious, political, and gender differences from the discussion;
- When called on by the President, stand and ask everyone to bow their heads;
- Recite the Invocation / message; lead with a strong voice.

## The Rotary Minute (AKA "Rotary Around The World")

- Go to [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org), the monthly Rotary Magazine, or another source to find an interesting story about Rotary (revealing interesting facts about Rotary or a project done by another Club or District); since we've recently come together, it's not a bad idea to give some information and/or background on a project that your former Club (Oxnard or Ventura South) has run;
- Prepare a 30-second to 2 minute presentation/story to enlighten the Club;
- When called on by the President, present your story.

## Raffle

- Purchase a Raffle prize/gift worth \$30 to \$50; bring to the Club meeting; (Note: The Raffle is an important source of Club Funds; if you're unable to fulfill your obligation to provide a Raffle prize, the Club will provide a Gift Card as a Raffle Prize...however, you will be Roto-charged \$40 to defray the Club's expense in having to provide the Raffle prize.)
- Arrive **by 11:45 A.M.** and begin selling Raffle tickets immediately;
- Set a "scale" for how many tickets each purchaser receives. (A typical scale is 1 ticket per dollar spent, with an extra ticket if the purchaser buys 10 or more...also, we give 1 extra ticket to any purchaser wearing a Rotary pin <not the Club badge!>, including a logo on the shirt. <Note: We always give the Speaker a free ticket.> ) Whatever scale you use, be consistent!
- If the ticket buyer prefers, you may Roto-charge the amount of his or her ticket purchase. (The Roto-charged amount will be included on the Member's next bill.)
- Sell Raffle tickets during the meeting if requested by the President;
- Assist the Greeter if needed;
- Give the Raffle prize 1) to the President at the start of the meeting, or 2) to the winner when the winning ticket is drawn (at the discretion of the President);
- Hand all money to the Treasurer prior to leaving the meeting.

## How do I sign up for the Channel Islands Duties?

A sign-up sheet is circulated during Club meetings with a space for every duty for each meeting; you can see which duties for which days are already "spoken for" and which ones still need to be filled. We'll circulate it weekly in the early part of the Rotary year; as more slots are filled in, we'll reduce the frequency of circulation.

A few notes about signing up:

- There are (at present) 57 members of the Club; there are approximately 40 meetings during the year. Since a dozen or so members rarely come, that means that, to do your part, we ask you to provide one (1) Raffle prize a year; we will NOT ask you to do more than that (although volunteers are always appreciated).
- Ideally every member should fill every slot at least once.
- It would be great if you signed up to be a Greeter on a day where the other Greeter is from the other former Club; each of you can introduce members to the other!

There you have it! Everything you ever wanted to know about "Channel Islands Duties"!

---Diane Moss (Family of Rotary and Channel Islands Chairperson)