# **ROTARY SPOKES**

The Weekly Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Ventura, est. May 1, 1919



ENGAGE ROTARY CHANGE LIVES

# **Women's Economic Ventures**

Marsha Bailey is the Founder and CEO of Women's Economic Ventures and the Small Business Loan Fund of Santa Barbara. WEV has provided entrepreneurial training to nearly 4,000 women and more than \$2 million in loans to local small businesses. Marsha has been developing educational programs and services for women since 1983 and is the primary author of WEV's self-employment training curriculum, From Vision to Venture. She has a Master's Degree in Communication from UCSB and a B.A. from Michigan State University in Fine Art and Sociology. She is a certified Economic Development Finance Professional.

Shauna Kane Mistretta is a WEV success story and the proprietor of Beads of Esiteti which is dedicated to helping create an income for 275 Maasai women in hopes of helping these women become more economically empowered so that they may have a voice in determining the destiny of their lives and the lives of their children.

WEV has made an impact in Shauna's life because "it has given me the confidence and tools to run my own business. Never in a million years did I think I was going to be a business owner, I am a humanitarian and did not



Larry Emrich, with President Irene, Lynda Girtsman and Ellyn Dembowski, proudly shows his Rotary award.



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think these two worlds would intersect, but the more I worked throughout Africa the more I saw the need to bridge these worlds and have now entered the world of being a social entrepreneur."

Years ago she took WEV's Self Employment Training and this training helped her put my vision into form, walking her through the steps of starting her own business while also giving her her first small business loan for her first business.

In 1991, Women's Economic Ventures (WEV) established its micro-loan fund and self-employment training program. Since then, they have worked diligently to create an equitable and just society through the economic empowerment of women. And although they target women because of the unique challenges they face, they help men, too.

Today, we live in a changing society where jobs are less secure, the gap between rich and poor is growing wider every day and the middle class is shrinking rapidly. Business ownership has provided a path out of poverty as well as financial security for generations of Americans.

WEV programs combine classroom training, capital and individual technical assistance to support the small business entrepreneur through start-up, stabilization and growth phases. Most services are provided in Spanish and English.

## **Recap of April 02 Meeting**

President Irene was back at the helm. She thanked President-elect Rob for leading meetings. Jeff Lambert started the meeting with introductions, but had Jim Duran offer a prayer.

It was wonderful to see Larry Emrich join the club for lunch. Larry made it to the dais to thank everyone for their well-wishes over the last few months. He also shared the Rotary award he received for his ongoing commitment to polio eradication. He thanked all those involved in the fundraising sflort on his behalf held last month that netted \$7,500.00.

President Irene inducted Erik Dullenkopf as our newest member. Sarah Abrams sponsored Erik and spoke briefly on his commitment previously as a Rotaract member and now as a Rotarian.

President Irene made us hug others for National Hug Day. Dave Loe entertained us with insights into our incoming Rotary International President as described in the Rotary Magazine. Ellyn Dembowski fined us while Dave Wellik spoke of working on the fireworks program for the Rotary Moment.

#### Program

Dave Loe introduced the guest speaker, Lance Orozco, the news director at local NPR radio station KCLU.

Lance is an award winning broadcast journalist, with more than 120 awards during his decade at KCLU, including national Edward R. Murrow, and Society of Professional Journalists awards. He worked for more than 15 years as a television reporter and weathercaster in Santa Barbara, Sacramento, and Los Angeles before returning to radio. He was also a Rotary Group Study Exchange member years ago.

Lance spoke of the changing ways in which people, particcularly tech-savvy young people, are accessing information, particularly news. While it is an overall positive trend, he is concerned about the reliability of that information as journalistic integrity seems to be less evident these days.

All these new sources of media will certainly change the face of broadcast media, but he is secure that outlets such

## Today's Program *Women's Economic Ventures*

Introductions: Rotary Moment: Fining: Sonny Shah Mary Saputo Jim Duran

#### **Future Programs**

Apr 16VCCF/ Center for Non-profit LearningApr 23Vocational Service Panel

as KCLU will thrive because they provide quality local news and information.



Dave Loe introduced our guest speaker.



*Guest speaker Lance Orozco spoke of the big changes in media and how we get our news.* 



Jeff Lambert stepped up to the podium to start the proceedings.



Welcome new member Erik Dullenkopf, receiving his Rotary pin from President Irene.



Sarah Abrams introduced Erik Dullenkopf as the sponsor for his induction.



Hutch Hutchinson awards longtime member Andy Soter with yet another Paul Harris Fellowship.



Dave Wellik served up his Rotary Moment concerning our annual Fireworks event.



*Clyde Reynolds and RoseAnn Hill take the podium to lead the club in song.* 



It's Here! Our first photo contest!

- 1. Follow @rotaryinternational on Instagram
- 2. Take a picture of Rotary in Action
- 3. Upload to Instagram using #rotaryhero (include info and photo credit in the caption before you post) Get the MOST LIKES by 21 April 2014 and WIN!!!!

#UnitedCharityMiles to DO GOOD IN THE WORLD Grand Prize Winner: 2 United coach class tickets to any-

where in the world. First and Second Place Winner: 1 United coach class ticket to anywhere in the world. Miles must be used toward a Rotary program or project. No purchase necessary. Subject to restrictions. See Official Rules in the link in our profile. GOOD LUCK!



April Birthdays Greg Kincaid, Apr 04 Maria Berntson, Apr 13 Doug Halter, Apr 15 Robert Orth, Apr 16 Hoot Bennett, Apr 18 Linda Roos, Apr 18 Doug Wood, Apr 22 Kevin Clerici, Apr 24

April Anniversaries Indy Batra, Apr 15, Roz Warner, Apr 24 Mark S.Sauer, Apr 26





A New Adventure for Chris

Ventura Rotary Club supporter Chris Figuerida is off again on his next adventure. Over the next two months he will make his way across the South from San Diego, CA to Jacksonville, FL - a total of 2,900 miles in 54 days.

He is making the trek on behalf of nonprofit organization Cycle for Heart, which promotes heart health, and the American Heart Association. He is also using the trip to raise money for Rotary International's PolioPlus program, which is dedicated to eliminating polio across the globe. He hopes to raise about \$4,000 by the end of his journey to donate to polio research. Happy Trails Chris.

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	OF	Assistant Treasurer *	Mark Sauer
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