



# ROTARY SPOKES

*The Rotary Club of Ventura  
Weekly Bulletin*

*"The friendliest club in Rotary"*

*100% Paul Harris Club*



Editor: Maria Berntson [maria@lindsayandcompanycpa.com](mailto:maria@lindsayandcompanycpa.com)  
Assistant Editor: Betsy Chess [newwester@sbcglobal.net](mailto:newwester@sbcglobal.net)  
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Photographers: Dan Holmes, John McConica II,  
Jim Deardorff, Steve Doll  
April 20, 2011

## Meeting of April 13, 2011

**Reporter: Betsy Chess**

### Introductions:

Ron Calkins made the introductions and would have read a fine invocation had his technology not let him down!



We sang It's a Grand Old Flag led by Roseanne Hill and Clyde Reynolds. Steve Warriner shared his Rotary Moment, thanking Larry Emrich for helping him finally to comprehend both the scope of Rotary's Polio Plus efforts as well as its effect on individual lives.

### Announcements:

President Hutch corrected a previous statement that said the proceeds from the Rubicon show on the 14th would go to Rotary. Rather, the benefit is the special discount Rotarians who see the show that night will receive.

Prez-elect Lynda reported that she hopes the 4th of July will have a carnival component and urged members to take out vendor and sponsor sheets. Steve Kipp thanked all members who participated in the placemat fundraiser, with special thanks to Albert McCartney for printing them. The project raised \$5,400.

Scott Patterson reported that Rotary Cleanup Day would be April 30th at Grant Cross.

Larry Emrich reminded us that he needs at least 10 Rotary shirts orders to move forward with embroidering them. (Any shirt can now be embroidered!) Steve Doll made last minute announcements about the Ride for Literacy, thanked gnarlybuys.com for their special offer at Aloha Steak House (starts April 16th and goes for two weeks) and Red Brick Pizza who for the next month is donating 10% of pizza sales to the Ride.

May 28th will be the Spring Social at the La Rochelle's

Norbert Tan thanked Rotarians on the Ventura College Foundation Board – Dave Bianco, Ellyn Dembowski and President Robin Calote. He introduced Sarah who is the winner of a Phoenix Scholarship sponsored by our club (pictured below with Norbert).



Thirty Phoenix Scholarships are given to adults each year who are returning to college work after a hiatus of some sort. Special thanks to the Labys and to Kipp Financial who also have contributed to the program.

### Fining:

Scott Patterson attempted to stump with Seinfeld trivia, but we were largely a pretty savvy group!

*continued*

**Web addresses: Club** [www.venturarotary.org](http://www.venturarotary.org) – **Photos:** [www.rotarycov.smugmug.com](http://www.rotarycov.smugmug.com)  
**District 5240** [www.rotarydistrict5240.org](http://www.rotarydistrict5240.org) – **R.I.** [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

## Meeting Programs & Assignments

### Programs

Program Chair: PP Larry Emrich

April 20, 2011

***Devil Pups – Growth Through Challenge***

**Bob Cheatham**

April 27, 2011

***Riverhaven Update***

**Clyde Reynolds**

### Introductions

Chair: Chris Brashears

**April 20 – Connie Young**

**April 27 – Ken Cooper**

### Rotary Moment

Chair: Barbara Asbell

**April 20 – Bob Schilken**

**April 27 – Dave Loe**

### Fining

Chair: Todd Binkley

**April 20 – Randy Hinton**

**April 27 – Cathy Scroggs**

## 2010-11 Officers and Directors

### Officers

President .....Hutch Hutchinson  
 President Elect .....Lynda Girtsman  
 Secretary ..... Jim Deardoff  
 Recording Secretary \* .....Larry Emrich  
 Treasurer .....Jim Newton  
 Assistant Treasurer \* .....Mark Sauer  
 Immediate Past President .....Larry Emrich  
 •Non-Voting Position

### Avenue of Service Directors

Club Service .....Maria Berntson  
 Community Service .....Dennis LaRochele  
 International Service .....Albert McCartney  
 Vocational Service ..... Scott Patterson

### Elected Directors

**2<sup>nd</sup> Year 2009-11:**

Ellyn Dembowski

Erik Feingold

Sonny Shah

Juan Soto

**1<sup>st</sup> Year 2010-12:**

Barbara Asbell

Dale Jaedtke

Kristin Taylor

John Williams

### **Happy Dollars**

We were a happy group especially Barbara Asbell who announced her engagement to Sonny Hicks. Kristen Taylor said she thought our new, dynamic Rotaract Chapter is the best thing to happen to our club. Dave Bianco was less happy when he noted he had just paid more taxes than GE!

### **Program**

Dale Jaedtke introduced the six Rotaractors who have recently returned from an NID in India. EmC'd by Rotaract club president Greg Abrams, he, Nicole,



Chelsea, Sarah, Lindsay and Chanelle shared their experiences from their fresh and youthful perspective. India, they agreed, is overwhelming in all aspects. It's a country of one billion people and Greg said 8000,000 of them must have cell phones. Although there has been only

one case of wild polio reported in India to date this year and globally only 86 new cases, we must not relax our efforts. A video was shown which offered a glimpse of the enormity of the country, the sanitary conditions and a sense of how remarkable a successful NID is.

The rest of the group followed with their personal stories of travel and sightseeing, shopping and how things that seem familiar turn out to have an exotic Indian twist! The group came away hugely impressed with Rotary's efforts in India and we, the Rotary Club of Ventura came away hugely impressed with this remarkable group of young people.



### **Gold Coast Ride for Literacy**

No, the Ride for Literacy did not "go to the dogs", but John Brant's dog Dillon looks great modeling the new T-shirt. John reports that the ride was a great success and everyone had lots of fun. Way to go, TEAM!

## In Memoriam

*PRID Sam Greene  
PDG Otto Austel  
PDG Jock MKcKenzie*

### Rotary Giants Leave Us...

Two of our district's most respected and honored Rotarians passed away this past Friday and another left us back in October. Sam Greene and Otto Austel passed away on Friday (not unlike two of our Founding Fathers John Adams & Thomas Jefferson both died on the same day - 4th of July 1826). Jock MacKenzie passed in October. Rotary and our district have lost iconic leaders, all Past District Governors and one a Rotary International Director. But it wasn't their Rotary positions that made them stand out. It was rather their leadership, their quiet competence, their ability to motive ordinary people to come together to do extraordinary things.

**Otto Austel** lost a son in the jungles of the Amazon years ago. He almost left Rotary at one point. That is until PDG Anil Garg asked him to get involved on Rotary's Polio eradication effort. Otto became Rotary "point person" for Polio years ago crawling the sewers of Cairo and elsewhere. On a personal note, Otto and I graduated Master PRLS in the same class. What an honor to learn at his side.

**Sam Greene** was, to hear him tell it, a reluctant Rotarian. It was after WWII. He was working for IBM at the time and his boss made him join Rotary. He reluctantly joined the Rotary Club in Manhattan NY. At one of his first meetings he was surprised to have J.C. Penny introduce himself and sit at his table with him. Wow! Both Sam and I were Navy veterans, he WWII, me Vietnam. Over lunch a couple of times we shared "sea stories". His other story took place again after the war. He still had hard feelings toward the Japanese after the vicious island to island fighting of the Pacific Campaign. He was a newly elected Rotary Director and he was in Evanston, Illinois for orientation. He had gone down to the Rotary Mess and was beginning to eat lunch when a Japanese man (another new RI Director) approached and ask to join him. Sam told me, initially he was not pleased. His feelings were still quite raw. To make a long story short, they began to talk both were Navy men and they found that they had fought in some of the same battles and survived. Over time they became close friends and visited with each other's family in the USA and Japan. Rotary brought two enemies together!

**Jock MacKenzie** was a retired US Marine officer. He was a bull of a man. Quite imposing, a hulking man of about 6' 2". Again quite imposing and even initially intimidating to some. I am sure he could successfully wrestle an alligator. This is one of the men that saw a need for our district to better train its presidents and leaders. He helped found PRLS and Master PRLS. Those who took the course on public speaking will not soon forget the experience. He would not

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**April 22, 2011 (4<sup>th</sup> Friday)**

**7:30 AM Monthly Newcomers' Meeting  
at Crowne Plaza C Street Restaurant**

*Attendance counts as a make-up if attended  
within the make-up period.*

**April 28, 2011 (Thursday)**

**PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE**

**11:45 AM Monthly Board Meeting at  
71 Palm**

*This also counts as a make-up if  
attended within the make-up period.*

**May 21-25, 2011**

**R I Convention - New Orleans, LA.**

*For more information, please contact  
Lynda Girtsman*

**May 28, 2011**

**5 PM Club Social – Garden Party at  
Dennis LaRochelle's home**

*Sign-ups and more details at club  
meetings or contact Christina Rust.*

**June 21 (Tuesday)**

**Prez Hutch's Demotion Party at  
Crowne Plaza**

*Don't want to miss this, so put the  
date on your calendar now! More info  
to come*

**June 25, 2011**

**DG Deepa's Demotion & District  
Awards Celebration – Santa Ynez  
Valley Marriott**

*Watch for more information to come!*

hesitate to call you up and provide constructive criticism or for that matter praise. Receiving praise from Jock, Sam, or Otto was like receiving a "Hardy well done!" from your ship's captain; a high honor indeed. Least I leave you with the wrong impression, Jock, was really a puppy dog at heart

Jock, Otto, and Sam, you will be missed by me and many others but fond memories and lessons learned from Rotary Giants will remain. God Bless all of you and yours.

Terry Schaeffer

Rotary Club of Ventura.

P.S. I may have got some of the details of the stories jumbled but their points are valid.