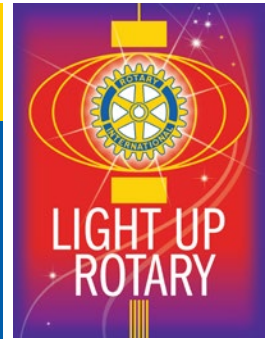


# ROTARY SPOKES

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

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## Michael Turner of Wild Places- Africa

Michael Turner of Wild Places- Africa will speak about customized African journeys.

Michael was born in Santa Barbara, California and spent his early years exploring the California coast with his mother, a marine biologist. He first went to Africa with his father and grandfather in 1988 at age nine. This would prove to be the last time that he spent with his grandfather and it was one of the most memorable trips that he has ever taken. Michael was hooked and knew that, somehow, he needed to lead a life in Africa on safari. As you can imagine, this decision took some time to realize.

After attending senior school in England he studied Zoology at Edinburgh University in Scotland. He was then able to start going on safari once again. He spent a significant amount of time in East Africa exploring, and after graduation moved to South Africa and never looked back. Africa was home.

Michael started his guiding career by volunteering on every possible safari and lodge staffing quotient, gaining more and more experience. This culminated in working for Uncharted Africa Safari Company in Botswana. There he managed their various camps and all of the Botswana Operations, while continuing his guide training. He was fortunate to be able to gain experience in the wonderful arena of the Okavango Delta and the Makgadikgadi Salt Pans.

After five years in the industry, he felt that he could



offer something different, more personal, so he made the decision to start his own business, taking people on private safaris designed specifically for them.

Having learned what it means to take guests on their trip of a lifetime, Michael started by peeling off the layers of this amazing continent one at a time. He takes the time to reveal all the different aspects of the continent's natural history – from geology, anthropology, ethnology, and history to the entire ecosystem and celestial night

sky, a never-ending learning curve!

He is incredibly passionate about what he gets to do on a daily basis and the more that he is able to share it with others, the more he loves it – from the exciting, adrenalin-filled moments to the calm camaraderie that you enjoy with guests.

There is always a point on a safari – it is never at the same time, but it always happens – when you see people lay down their concerns and fears and truly relax into the safari. At this stage you just know that it's going to be an amazing trip.

### **New Member Proposal**

The following is proposed for membership:  
**Chad Caldwell**, proposed by Gary Young with classification of "Real Estate Investments."

If you have any objection to membership of this individual in our club, please contact the President or Secretary in writing within 7 days.

## Meeting Recap of April 15

*As reported by Betsy Chess*

Dale Jaedtke started out the meeting with a special prayer for tax day!

In announcements, Jim Eckley from the Westlake Village Sunrise Club talked about their Jazz and Wine Festival, May 17th. Irene Henry reminded to us sign up of Rob's step down dinner. Ron Calkins announced that the focus of the fireworks committee is finding more sponsors outside of our Club. Ken Leandro received his blue badge.

Steve Warriner talked about the workday at the Veteran's Home on April 25th. Mike Anderson reminded that there will be a Newcomer's breakfast at the Pierpont 7:30 am on the 23rd. Chris Brashears thanked all who attended the dinner at the Schaeffer's to raise money for Cristhian. Irene Henry conducted a fun, very rather random fining session!

Indy Batra reminded us that it was 10 years ago that Larry E. had invited him to join Rotary. Indy then donated \$1,000 to Polio Plus and named Larry to another PH Fellowship. The extra good news was that Larry was there to accept the honor.

### Program

Michael Frawley, Chief Deputy DA for Criminal Prosecution for the Ventura County District Attorney's office spoke about the work of the DA's office and how it interacts with other law enforcement agencies. Michael started out with two sweeping statements about his department and his people: "The job is about doing the right thing," and "The only client we serve is justice."

His department deals with seven police and law enforcement agencies – cities plus the Sherriff and Highway Patrol. They don't always agree with one another i.e. the DA does not agree to file all the cases the police, etc. bring. His department deals with misdemeanors and felonies. Misdemeanors result in no jail time. Felonies go to trial as a result of a grand Jury indictment or preliminary hearing and must be heard within 60 days of filing.

## Today's Program *Michael Turner of Wild Places- Africa*

Introductions: Steve Doll  
Rotary Moment: Neal Andrews  
Fining: Chris Brashears

### Future Programs

Apr 29 Member Spotlights  
May 06 WWII P.O.W.  
May 13 Interact Bake Sale

He said most cases plead guilty or the witnesses don't show up. The County files 28,000 cases a year, but only 200 come to a jury trial. The DA has a 90% conviction rate which includes those cases that plead guilty or the witnesses don't show.

Michael says the pendulum swings between the law being more and less lenient. Currently there is a trend towards being less tough. For instance, many felonies have been reclassified as misdemeanors including some relating to gun theft and heroin.

When asked about the future of the death penalty he said he expects it will no longer be legal in California in the near future



*Speaker Michael Frawley shared the inner workings of the District Attorney's office..*





*Dale Jaedytke started the meeting highlighting Tax Day.*



*Steve Warriner announces our next "Rotarians at Work Day."*



*Mike Anderson announces the next Newcomers meeting.*



*Staci Johnson and Clyde Reynolds leads the club in song.*



*Larry Emrich joined the meeting and accepted a donation on his behalf from Indy Batra.*



*Ron Bamieh takes to the mike.*





The Adult Center on the Westside sponsored a dinner cooked by our club members.



Steve Warriner, Dale Jaedtke, Hutch Hutchinson, Brenda Allison, Linda Roos and Wayne Bruce helped prepare the food.



**April Birthdays** Doug Wood, Apr 22  
 Greg Kincaid, Apr 04 Kevin Clerici, Apr 24  
 Maria Berntson, Apr 13 **April Anniversaries**  
 Doug Halter, Apr 15 Indy Batra, Apr 15,  
 Hoot Bennett, Apr 18 Roz Warner, Apr 24  
 Linda Roos, Apr 18 Mark S.Sauer, Apr 26

## Rotarians at Work Day

Veterans Home of Ventura  
 10900 Telephone Road Ventura, CA 93004  
 April 25, 2015, 9:00 am to Noon

Our Club will be assisting in gardening and landscaping their newest garden. Please come and donate your energy and time to assist those who have given us so much. Please wear sunscreen, a hat, closed toed shoes and bring any gardening tools that you may have at home. We are in need of shovels, rakes, clippers, etc. Light snacks and drinks will be provided. 215-2966.



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**SPOKES**

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