



ROTARY SPOKES

Rotary Club of Ventura

Est. May 1, 1919

"The Friendliest Club in Rotary"

August 18, 2022

LUNCHEON MEETING AUGUST 17, 2022



Attendance—42 plus 5 via Zoom. We were pleased to have **Debby Millais** and **Connie Young** in attendance.

Lunch—Chicken fajitas with all the fixin's, flour tortillas, refried beans, rice, green salad, fruit salad, ice cream.

Karynsue Rose-Thomas—Flag salute, inspirational message, introductions. "Our highest endeavor must be to develop free human beings who are able of themselves to impart purpose and direction to their lives. The need for imagination, a sense of truth, and a feeling of responsibility—these three forces are the very nerve of education." – Rudolf Steiner

Bev Ward and Clyde Reynolds—Song leaders. America the Beautiful.

Aaron Campbell received his **Blue Badge**.

Neal Lassila conducted a lively **Fining** session on the subject of Rock 'n' Roll, incorporating audio clips of songs. Okay, Boomer! When **Betsy Chess** was asked a question, she conveniently developed laryngitis.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Angela Rosales—looking for assistance to organize a **literacy project** to introduce Rotary principles to children ages 6-10, including reviewing the materials and developing a plan to roll them out.

Anil Aggarwal—Suggests members create a team, or donate to, the American Cancer Society **Relay for Life**, Sept. 17, 2022, Oxnard High School, from 10 a.m. to midnight.

Mike Schwartz— Communications Committee. Looking for occasional help writing meeting summaries. Request members send him photos of meetings & events.

Margi Wray—Salvation Army, 650 So. Petit Ave., Ventura, needs help 10 a.m. one Friday each month, including August 19, to fill food bags.

MEXICO BUILD



Ventura Rotaract President Olivia Strohman announced that their **Mexico Build** project will be in Tijuana **November 12, 2022**. In **1 day** they build **1 house** for **1 family**. Fifty volunteers build a 400 square foot house at a cost of \$11,900, and include two school scholarships. Dale Jaedtke is the foreman, along with team leaders from Mexico. Even if you aren't willing to climb on the roof, there are a variety of jobs available for volunteers.

PROGRAM –JOEY ALGIERS



Joey Algiers, Restoration Ecologist for the National Park Service, was the speaker at our August 17 meeting. Joey has more than 15 years' experience working in resource management for the Santa Monica National Recreation Area, which is the largest urban national park in the U.S., nestled between residential areas in Los Angeles. California is the most biodiverse state in the country, and includes the coast redwoods, the tallest trees in the world. But we are also the Planet of the Weeds, with many invasive species, like the yellow star thistle, that threaten native species. Weed Warrior projects attack The Evil 25 most damaging species. Climate change has fueled fires, like the Wolsey Fire that damaged much of the NPS land. NPS has reintroduced the threatened red legged frog to the area. Joey leads programs that grow native milkweed that feed monarch butterflies (not the non-native coastal milkweed). Volunteers are needed to remove non-native species and plant native species, to help protect our natural resources for our and future generations.

UPCOMING EVENTS

(For up-to-date and more complete information, see our web site, VenturaRotary.org.)

August 20 Backpack Project: Meet at Neighborhood Car Care, 1838 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura, to fill backpacks with school supplies for VUSD students in need. Set up begins 8 a.m., project begins 10 a.m. We also need drivers to deliver the backpacks to the schools.

August 24 lunch meeting: Speaker **Mara Rodriguez with animal guests.** Mara is an animal trainer and the zoo development coordinator at **America's Teaching Zoo**, located at Moorpark College. She specializes in big cats including tigers, lions, and mountain lions.

August 25: Book Club, 5 p.m. RSVP to Karynsue for location. Discussion of *From White to Black: One Life Between Two Worlds*. Iris Duplantier Rideau shares her story of becoming the first Black woman to own a winery in this country (in nearby Santa Ynez Valley). All club members welcome, even if you have not read the book. If you have a suggestion for a book to read in the future, let Madhu know.

August 31 NO LUNCH MEETING. Instead, we'll have a **BARBEQUE** at Karynsue's condo complex at Portside, Ventura Harbor, 6 p.m.

September 7 lunch meeting: Recipients of Julius Guis Memorial Foundation Grants will discuss what they did or will do with the money to benefit the community.

September 9: Casino Night. 5:30 to 9:30 p.m., Poinsettia Pavilion. The Rotary Clubs of Ventura, Ventura East, and Ventura South host the inaugural Tri Rotary Casino Night. in support of a local non-profit organization that helps local youth. Enjoy an evening of casino play, dinner, opportunity drawing, karaoke, and entertainment. Food provided by Himalaya Restaurant, Stonefire Grill, Domino's Pizza, Stephen's Market & Grill. No Host Bar. Individual Tickets - \$75 each includes \$100 of casino play, dinner, entertainment and more! Couples Tickets - \$125 for 2 includes \$200 of casino play, dinner, entertainment and more! Tickets Link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/395501875757>

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