



ROTARY SPOKES

*The Rotary Club of Ventura
Weekly Bulletin*

"The friendliest club in Rotary"

100% Paul Harris Club



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Photographers: Dan Holmes, John McConica II,
Jim Deardorff, Steve Doll
August 25, 2008

Meeting August 18, 2010

Reporter: Jerry Beckerman

We were warmly welcomed back to our "meeting home", the Derby Club, by RoseAnn Hill. Melody Namikas led us in the flag salute, invocation and introduction of visiting Rotarians and guests, and our "songsters trio" led us in our patriotic song.

Announcements included a warm Thank You by Ellyn Dembowski to all who helped supply, fill and deliver 510 school backpacks, including former member Everett Millais who provided notebooks. Chris Brashears reminded us of the monthly canned food drive next week and PP Larry Emrich noted that the End Polio shirt sale is coming to an end. Don Leach presented Sheila Fatterelli with her 2-year perfect attendance pin, and Prez Hutch reminded us that there are many opportunities for make-ups, such as attending board and committee meetings as well as other clubs' meetings (see page 3 of bulletin). David-Michael Kenney gave a heart-felt announcement about the passing of Sherri Scott's mother and invited club members to sign a card which was being circulated.



President Hutch was honored to induct yet another new member into our club – Gary Young. He was

introduced by his sponsor, RoseAnn Hill; Gary attended college at UCSB, is a mortgage broker, and he and wife Sherry have three sons.

Fining was presented by our Cuban princess, Brenda Allison who, with her special sense of humor, made the



fining session especially exciting. She taught us many things about Cuba, including that Fidel Castro attended a Jesuit High School and,

separately, that the local Afro-Caribbean religion was the second largest on the island.

Bruce Reeve's **Rotary Moment** was about the Children's Shopping and Christmas Party event. He remembered an incident where a certain Rotarian had lost "his child" in the store and was panic-stricken. The child was finally found, which put a huge smile on the worried Rotarian Indy Batra's face. Indy remembered and all of us could relate.

Don Leach was very proud to part with some **VERY happy dollars** as he announced how his wife's garden entry at the recent Ventura County Fair received several top honors and awards. Albert McCartney added to the pot with his announcement that RC Fillmore Sunrisers had contributed \$500 to the Medicine for Roatan project, thanks to Mario de la Piedra, one of our newer members.

This was a perfect segue into this week's **Craft Talks**, which were presented by Mario de la Piedra and Betsy Chess.

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Web addresses: Club www.venturarotary.org – Photos: www.rotarycov.smugmug.com
District 5240 www.rotarydistrict5240.org – R.I. www.rotary.org

Club Meeting Assignments

Programs

Program Chair: Hank Chandler

August 25, 2010

Life Event Networks (David Lantrip)

September 1, 2010

Health Care Reform Legislation (Ed McClements)

September 8, 2010

Youth at Risk (Mike Sandler)

September 15, 2010

3-D Medical Technologies (Robert Reali)

Greeters

Chair: Melody Namikas

August 25 – Sheila Fatterelli & Barbara Asbell

September 1 – Ed Campbell & Brenda Allison

Introductions

Chair: Indy Batra

Aug. 25 – Todd Binkley

Sep. 01 – Sally Crain

Sep. 08 – Cary Savich

Sep. 15 – Ken Cooper

Rotary Moment

Chair: Barbara Asbell

Aug. 25 – Sylvia Cheatham

Sep. 01 – Curtis Cormane

Sep. 08 – Ken Cooper

Sep. 15 – Jim Deardorff

Fining

Chair: Michele Olsen

Aug. 25 – Neal Andrews

Sep. 01 – Jorge Arman

Sep. 08 – Barbara Asdbell

Sep. 15 – Saurabh Bajaj

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

2nd Year 2009-11:

Ellyn Dembowski

Erik Feingold

Sonny Shah

Juan Soto

1st Year 2010-12:

Barbara Asbell

Dale Jaedtko

Kristin Taylor

John Williams

Craft Talks Continued:

Mario de la Piedra is a 1987 graduate of Fillmore High School; he attended Ventura College and San Diego State University. A black belt in karate, he was also a star football player at both institutions, until a leg injury ended his sports career. He graduated from San Diego State with a BS in Political Science.



Mario grew up with Rotary's commitment to Service Above Self (his father is a past president of RC Fillmore Sunrisers). As a youngster, he started the "pennies for pencils" project to raise money for school supplies; he attended RYLA and after college traveled to many poverty-stricken countries to explore solutions, including South Africa, India, Ghana and Vietnam. As a member of our club's International Service committee he will have an opportunity to draw on these experiences to help end poverty in some of these countries.

Having grown up in Fillmore, Mario has a strong connection with agriculture. That's why he decided to make a career with Barkley Insurance, who's niche market is agriculture.

Betsy Chess was also born into and raised in local agriculture. She recalls a wonderful childhood in Santa Paula in the 40s and 50s, living on a citrus farm, learning to ride horses, and being active in 4H.



Drawing on her own family roots, including her great-grandfather who came to the area from Maine as a "late goldrusher", she provided a colorful history of the various stages of agriculture in Ventura County, from the sugar beet crops early on to oranges, lemons and strawberries.

While strawberries have been the leading crop for the past few years, there is no "demise of citrus" on the horizon, even as invasive pests threaten the citrus crops. Many of us did not know that Ventura County is the largest producer of vegetable seed in the country and that nursery stock is the county's third largest crop (the second largest being vegetables). She informed us that Ventura County ranks as 9th highest agricultural production county in California.

Reflecting on her professional career, first as editor of the Farm Bureau's publication "The Broadcaster" and then the Central Coast "Farm and Ranch" magazine, Betsy has found the nexus between art (writing) and agriculture!

MAKE-UP OPPORTUNITIES

Day/Time	Club	Location
<u>Monday</u>		
Noon	Santa Paula	Logsdon Restaurant
Noon	Ventura South	Wedgewood Banquet Ctr.
<u>Tuesday</u>		
6:45 AM	Fillmore Sunrise	El Pescador Restaurant
7:00 AM	Camarillo Brkfst.	Spanish Hills Country Club
7:00 AM	Ojai West	SoulePark Golf Course
Noon	Simi Valley	Simi Valley Cultural Arts Ctr
12:10 PM	Montecito	Montecito Country Club
12:10 PM	Oxnard	Courtyard by Marriott
6:00 PM	Simi Sunset	Grand Vista Hotel
<u>Wednesday</u>		
7:00 AM	Carpinteria Morning	Carpinteria Women's Club
Noon	Camarillo	Camarillo Center for Spiritual Living
<u>Thursday</u>		
7:00 AM	Simi Sunrise	Grand Vista Hotel
7:30 AM	Oxnard Sunrise	Tomas Café
11:45 AM	Carpinteria	Carpinteria Community Bldg
Noon	Fillmore	Fillmore Western Dining Car (adjacent to Museum)
Noon	Ventura East	Poinsettia Pavilion
<u>Friday</u>		
Noon	Ojai	Soule Park Golf Course

- For additional District 5240 Make-Up locations and directions to the above, go to rotarydistrict5240.org and click on link "When and where clubs meet"
- To make up on-line via the world wide web, go to rotaryclubone.org
- To make up anywhere around the world, go to rotary.org and use the Club Locator

The Four Way Test – of the things we think, say and do:

Is it the TRUTH?
Is it FAIR to all concerned?
Will it build GOODWILL and better
FRIENDSHIPS?
Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Membership Corner

As part of Rotary Membership Month, PE Lynda Girtsman will have a big announcement **Wednesday**. It is about new opportunities for members to socialize outside of our regular meetings and club events. As you can see from the picture, the past presidents of our club are in on this plan (and working hard) to retain and increase membership.



In other member news, the board approved a Leave of Absence from 8/20 through 11/15/2010 for **Harald Wulff**.

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 25 (Wednesday)

Noon **Bring a can of food for our monthly collection**

6:30PM **Ventura Rotaract Club Mtg. at the Bell Art Factory.**

"The Cove," a film about the Japanese annual slaughter of 23,000 dolphins will be shown.

Newcomers, Board and Rotaract meetings are MAKE-UPs (if attended within make-up period)!

District 5240 Events

PRLS/MASTER PRLS Calendar:

- Basic PRLS – October 9th, Ventura County, exact location TBA
- Master PRLS
 - 9/25 MPRLS 4 - Santa Maria Inn
 - 10/09 MPRLS 1 – Santa Maria Inn
 - 11/06 MPRLS 2 – Santa Maria Inn
 - 12/11 MPRLS 3 – Ventura County
 - 12/04 MPRLS 5 – Santa Maria Inn

Another MPRLS series will start in Ventura County on 2/5/11. For more information on the PRLS/MPRLS program and schedule, please see Barbara Asbell or go to www.prls.org

DISTRICT CONFERENCE Oct. 23

The entire "Progressive Conference" will take place Oct. 22-24, and the Ventura County event will be Oct. 23 right here in our backyard, so **put the date on your calendar now – you don't want to miss it!** More information to come.