



ROTARY SPOKES

Rotary Club of Ventura

Est. May 1, 1919

“The Friendliest Club in Rotary”

August 27, 2023

JULIUS GIUS MEMORIAL ROTARY FOUNDATION



We learned about the Julius Gius Memorial Rotary Foundation (JGMRF) at our meeting August 23, 2023, from this year’s JGMRF President, Saurabh Bajaj. The JGMRF is the Rotary Club of Ventura’s own 501(c)(3) foundation, dedicated to support non-profit and service organizations through grants and give scholarships to benefit members of our Ventura community.

The Foundation was created in 1998 in honor of Julius Gius, who was a member of the Rotary Club of Ventura, Editor of the Star-Free Press, and a philanthropist. Since its creation, it has given almost \$900,000 in grants and scholarships to many recipients, including the Brain Injury Center, Boys and Girls Club, Food Share, Project Understanding, educational initiatives, *(continued...)*



JULIUS GIUS MEMORIAL ROTARY FOUNDATION, *continued*

persons with disabilities, veterans, and many more.

Because Saurabh is “a sign guy,” he decided the JGMRF needed a logo. He unveiled the new logo at the meeting, which signifies a helping hand, a hand of friendship, and moving forward.

The JGMRF is funded by automatic donations of \$45 per quarter per member (you can elect to give more), additional member donations, and outside donations. The JGMRF supports local organizations and students. In contrast, The Rotary Foundation, which we also support, supports causes throughout the country and the world. Within the JGMRF are scholarships funded by the Joe Taylor Endowment and the Everett Millais Endowment.

You may choose to give a monthly, quarterly, one-time donation to the JGMRF, which will be distributed in grants that year. Or you can give a monthly, quarterly, or one-time donation to the JGMRF endowment, where your money continues to work in perpetuity. (Only the earnings on endowment funds are spent while the principal remains intact.) Those who give at least \$1,000 to the endowment are JGMRF Fellows, who will receive a special pin now under production.

Saurabh distributed a donation slip to support the important work of the JGMRF. (See end of newsletter.)

VUSD BACKPACK PROJECT



On August 19, 2023, members of Rotary Club of Ventura, Ventura East, Ventura South, and Downtown Lions met at the Ventura Unified School District headquarters and filled 730 backpacks with school supplies to give to Ventura students in need.

(Photos by Kellye Patterson)

MEETING AUGUST 23, 2023

Attendance: I counted 38 members and guests. Honorary member Rosa Lee Majors (President, 2003-2004) was present, visiting from her current home in the desert. (Brenda Allison-Hutchinson shared that she and Rosa have an informal competition to recruit the most members.) David Morris from Chase Bank was a guest at the meeting.

Lunch: Food Affairs by Stacey served ham, scalloped potatoes, asparagus, fruit, green salad, and chocolate pudding for dessert. Stacey is back home and recovering from her injuries.

Introductions: **Brenda Allison-Hutchinson** offered an invocation: “God grant us the wisdom, the will, and the way to emulate service above self so that we may, in our thoughts and in our deeds, live Rotary.”

Song: **Jessica and Clyde** led singing of “This Land Is Your Land” (Woody Guthrie, 1940).

Announcements:

President Neal Lassila announced that **Rotary Ventura South** will hold a fundraiser for the District 5000 **Maui Relief** Fund on Tuesday, Sept. 12. More information to follow.

Jessica Brandon: Sponsorships for the Beachside Bash at the \$1,000 level are available to Rotarians for \$750.

Madhu Bajaj: (1) We will not have a lunchtime meeting August 30 because it is the 5th Wednesday of the month. Instead, we will meet **5:30 to 7:00 p.m. at Stembassadors**, 1238 N. Ventura Ave. Please sign up so they know how many to expect.

(2) Thanks to Andy and Monica who are helping to plan this year’s **Holiday Social. More volunteers needed!**

Sandy Lassila: If you haven’t already signed up to volunteer for the **Beachside Bash**, please do so. **Volunteers needed!**

Abiel Acosta: The Membership Committee will be placing red bands on chairs for **new members** to sit in our meeting in two weeks. It’s a way to get to know them!



Hutch presented **Harald Wulff** with his **Paul Harris + 2 pin** (sapphires). Harald has been a member since 2005. And Neal presented Harald with the original JGMRF award.



Happy Dollars. All money given to this fund go the JGMRF, including a generous donation by Harald Wulff at the meeting of \$200.

Fining: Inspired by the first day of school, **Ken Leandro** quizzed about schools around the world. The president decides each year where the fine money goes...this year, it’s the JGMRF.

UPCOMING EVENTS

(For more complete and up-to-date information, check the ClubRunner app on your phone, or our website)

August 30: NO LUNCH MEETING—EVENING MEETING at Stembassador's IDEA Center, 1238 N. Ventura Ave., Ventura, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Brief program at 6 p.m. This is a JGMRP-funded project led by Alex Wulff and students. Tour the center, meet student makers, and learn about the entrepreneurial opportunities. Refreshments will be served. Space is limited, please sign up if you will attend so we can plan accordingly. There is a small parking lot, lots of street parking. Carpooling is encouraged. You may have to walk. Wear comfy shoes/clothes. Questions: contact Madhu.

September 6 lunch meeting: Conversations in Rotary with Aaron Campbell and Keith Moschetto.

September 13 lunch meeting: J. Ryan Stradal, author of the bestselling novels *Great Kitchens of the Midwest* and *The Lager Queen of Minnesota*. His most recent novel, *Saturday at the Lakeside Supper Club*, was released in April this year.

Sept. 20 lunch meeting: Comedy Hour. Member joke contest hosted by Saurabh Bajaj.

Sept. 23: End of Summer Beachside Bash, national ribeye steak cookoff, live bands, brew fest, car show, food trucks, grilling demonstrations, and more. San Buenaventura State Beach, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. More information at venturabeachsidebash.com.

!!! HAPPY BIRTHDAY !!!

Judy Moore
August 21

Erik Feingold
August 23

Dan Holmes
August 24

Andy Soter
August 31



CELEBRATING CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

Harald Wulff
August 24
18 years

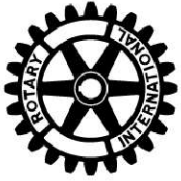


Joslynn Skelton
August 24
1 year



ROTARY CLUB OF VENTURA

JGMRF Voluntary Donation



- Become a JGMRF Fellow, give \$1000 to the endowment.
- Add a quarterly donation of \$ _____ to the endowment. Become a JGMRF Fellow when your donation totals \$1,000.
- One time donation of \$ _____ to the General fund for your donations to be used for 2024 Grants
- Add a quarterly donation of \$ _____ to the General fund for your donations to be used for 2024 Grants

Name _____

Signature _____ Date _____