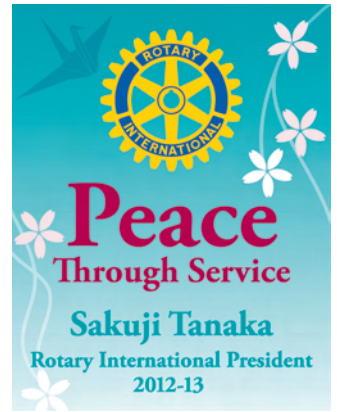


ROTARY SPOKES

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



Volume LXXXII
Number 19
05 DECEMBER 2012



The Society of St. Vincent de Paul



Today's speaker is David Fields, the Executive Director of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Council of Los Angeles. The Society is a volunteer-driven, Catholic organization that serves the needy of any religious denomination with compassion and respect. The Society's volunteers throughout Los Angeles, Ventura and Santa

Barbara Counties visit the needy in their homes to help them become self-sufficient: providing emotional and financial support, food, clothing, furniture, and by connecting them with helpful resources.

For more than 15 years, Mr. Fields has been an active and dedicated Vincentian supporting the good works of the Los Angeles Council. His prior involvement included serving as President of the St. Elizabeth Conference in Altadena, District President of the San Gabriel Council, Chairman of the Los Angeles Council's Conference Concerns Committee and member of the Los Angeles Council's Executive Committee. He is also an active community member and has served as the President of the Central Altadena Little League and President of the Black Catholic Association of Altadena and Pasadena.

Prior to the Society, he served for 25 years in senior management positions at Xerox Corporation. After leaving Xerox, he worked as an Operations Manager for Bovis Lend Lease, a construction management firm based in Southern California. His beginning professional path was to be an elementary school teacher and this passion of mentorship and education has led him to be a very active advocate of social and humanitarian issues in his community and beyond.

Mr. Fields is a graduate of UCLA and holds a teaching

credential from California State University, Los Angeles. He is married to Eleanor Fields and they have two sons, Richard and Jeff.

The Cardinal Manning Center, on Los Angeles' Skid Row, provides shelter for homeless men, women and children, as does the Winter Shelter in Ventura County. Our Circle V Ranch Camp offers low-income children outdoor fun. The downtown thrift store is the largest in Southern California, offering affordable, quality clothes, furniture, appliances and even cars.

Who was Vincent de Paul?

Vincent de Paul (24 April 1581 – 27 September 1660) was a priest of the Catholic Church who dedicated himself to serving the poor. He is venerated as a saint in the Catholic Church and was canonized in 1737.

St. Vincent was born in Pouy, in the Province of Guyenne and Gascony, the Kingdom of France, to a family of peasant farmers. He graduated in theology at Toulouse. He was ordained in 1600, remaining in Toulouse until he went to Marseille for an inheritance. In 1605, on his way back from Marseille, he was taken captive by Turkish pirates, who brought him to Tunis and sold him into slavery. After converting his owner to Christianity, Vincent de Paul escaped in 1607.

In 1625 de Paul founded the Congregation of the Mission, a society of missionary priests commonly known as the Vincentians or Lazarists. In 1633, with the assistance of Louise de Marillac he founded the Daughters of Charity. De Paul was renowned for his compassion, humility and generosity. For this reason he is known as the "Great Apostle of Charity".



Meeting of 28 November 2012

It was a somewhat somber meeting, the first since Past President Don Leach had passed, but it was a celebration of the life of a good Rotarian. Kristin Taylor kicked off the meeting, giving a stirring tribute to Don Leach. RoseAnn Hill led us in 'God Bless America.'

Jim Deardorff spoke to the club about Don. He estimated that they had sat together for over 600 meetings as the tag team of Club Secretary and Attendance Chair. Jim spoke of Don a Man of Action as he was always doing something for the club. On a personal level, Jim recalled the importance of coffee and dessert to Don. Don was almost always the first to arrive and the last to leave.

In announcements, Kristin Taylor asked that members deliver coats directly to the Four Seasons cleaners on East Main Street. Steve Kipp has distributed sign ups for the Salvation Army Bell ringer campaign in three locations for December 15th. Sally Crain will be hosting a Furry Friends preparation on December 8th 10 am at Hliford Moving and Storage.

Program

It was Craft Talks program, a favorite among members. Barbara Fitzgerald returns to the Club after a brief hiatus, after a promise to President Indy. She was born in New Haven CT, but grew up in nearby Madison. She had attended UConn. She had a son, Steven, who is now finishing law school. As the director of the County of Ventura Human Services Agency, she helped create Casa Pacifica. She retired after 34 years of service in 2003. She is a silk artist and likes to travel, her favorite destination being Africa, where she has been 3 times. She loves to garden, particular South African native plants.. She is most proud of being a good facilitator, bringing people together to affect change.



Today's Agenda

David Fields

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Council of Los Angeles

Introductions
Diane Koranda

Rotary Moment
Dick Hatcher

Fining
Eliane de Blauw

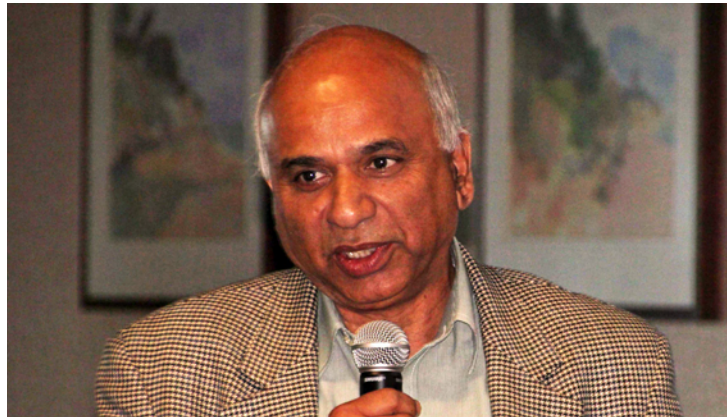
Mahesh Talwar spoke briefly (very briefly!) about himself and his business. He was born in India, he has a son and daughter and four dogs.

Nominations for 2013-2014

The Nominations Committee is proud to nominate for our club's Board of Directors and Officers for the 2013-2014 Rotary year the following candidates:

Directors (2 year term): Roz Warner, Steve Warriner, Albert McCartney, Dale Jaedtke, Jeff King

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Club Service: | Mario de la Piedra |
| International Service: | Christina Rust |
| Community Service: | Ron Calkins |
| Vocational Service: | Doug Halter |
| New Generations: | Courtney Lindberg |
| Secretary: | Jim Deardorff |
| Treasurer: | Connie Young |
| Incoming President: | Irene Henry |
| President Elect Nominee: | Rob van Nieuwburg (President 2014-15) |





Jim Deardorff pays tribute to the late Don Leach. Jim speaks to Don's love of coffee.



Ellyn Dembowski, this year's Community Service chair, makes an announcement.



Rob vanNieuwburg talks about the upcoming Children's Holiday Party.

Upcoming Events

Children's Holiday Shopping Spree and Lunch

JC Penney and VUSD Admin Facility
Dec 12, 2012 08:00 AM - 01:00 PM

Club Holiday Party

Indy Batra Residence
Dec 14, 2012 05:30 PM - 10:30 PM

Bell Ringers for Salvation Army

Dec 15, 2012

Board Meeting

71 Palm Restaurant
Dec 20, 2012 11:45 AM - 01:30 PM

No Meeting

Dec 26, 2012

No Meeting

Jan 02, 2013



Larry Emrich announces the winner of the football pool: Jack Wood receives a Paul Harris Fellow!

The **Fight** to End Polio

COUNTRIES HAVE NEVER STOPPED POLIO

3



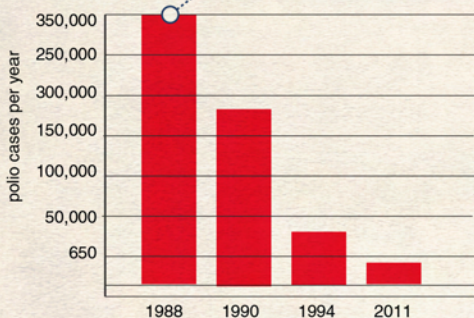
NIGERIA



AFGHANISTAN



PAKISTAN



People that contracted polio in 1988 when the fight to end this disease began.

\$.60

60 cents is the cost of protecting one child from polio.

Reaching the final 1% of children is the most difficult because polio still exists in some of the most challenging parts of Africa and Asia.

99%

Polio is 99% of the way to being **eradicated!**

2.5
Billion

Children immunized globally since 1988. That is an average of 3.3 children a second!

5

The majority of children that contract this crippling disease are under the age of 5.

\$40-\$50
Billion

The estimated amount of money polio eradication will save the world over the next 20 years.

After more than 25 years we are "this close" to making history by eradicating polio. With this historic achievement, polio will be only the second human disease in history-after smallpox- to be eradicated worldwide.

1%

Learn more about ending polio and take action at www.endpolionow.org



Rotary Club of Ventura 2012-2013

Officers

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| President | Indy Batra |
| President Elect | Irene Henry |
| Secretary | Jim Deardoff |
| Recording Secretary * | Larry Emrich |
| Treasurer | Connie Young |
| Assistant Treasurer * | Mark Sauer |
| Immediate Past President | Lynda Girtsman |
| | *Non-Voting Position |

Rotary Spokes

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Editor | Curtis Cormane (curtisvta@gmail.com) |
| Assitant Editor | |
| Photographers | Jim Deardorff, Dan Holmes, John McConica II |

Avenues of Service

Club Service

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Director | Dan Holmes |
| Assistant Director | Mario de la Piedra |

Community Service

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Director | Ellyn Dembowski |
| Assistant Director | Ron Calkins |

International Service

| | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Director | Ed McCombs |
| Assistant Director | Christina Rust |

New Generations

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Director | Gary Young |
| Assistant Director | Courtney Lindberg |

Vocational Service

| | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Director | Doug Halter |
| Assistant Director | |