

ROTARY SPOKES

*The Rotary Club of Ventura
Weekly Bulletin*

"The friendliest club in Rotary"

100% Paul Harris Club



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December 22, 2010

Meeting December 15, 2010

Reporter: Maria Berntson

Betsy Chess started the meeting with a thoughtful invocation that asked that we may become what we say we are! You could almost hear Santa's sleigh on the roof top when our songsters lead us in Jingle Bells. It certainly helped put us into the Holiday spirit! Visitors and guests were introduced.

Announcements: Thank You's went to all who helped with the children's shopping and Christmas Party on December 8th. It brought much happiness to the children and warmed everyone's heart. Margo Byrne announced the dictionary distribution dates – January 13, 20 and 27th. You can sign-up at club meetings; any special requests re. schools, please see Margo.

Larry Emrich announced the dates for the next NID (National Immunization Day) in India – February 15 to 26. Deadline to sign up is December 24th. Larry also informed us that our exchange student from Belgium unfortunately had to return home prematurely for health reasons.

Prez Hutch invited members to sign up for the December 30th Joint Meeting with R C Ventura East, which will include a White Elephant gift exchange – a perfect opportunity to recycle those "special gifts". Steve Kipp reminded us of the upcoming Salvation Army Bell Ringing event December 18 and good-naturedly twisted a few more arms to cover some open slots.

Lynda Girtsman reported on sign-ups for the upcoming Rotary Foundation Gala in Buellton January 4th, with R I President Ray Klinginsmith as keynote speaker. Vans will be the mode of transportation to accommodate an extended Happy Hour to and fro. She also reminded us to sign-up for the R I Convention in New Orleans May 21-25, 2011 – a block of rooms has been reserved by the club. Kristin Taylor gave a progress report on the Coats for Kids project --- collections are a bit slow.

Rotary Moment: Dave Bianco (pictured) treated us to a timely and joyful poem that is reprinted on page 3.



Craft talks by PEN Indy Batra and Ed Campbell were today's program.

Before introducing our first presented, Barbara Asbell (craft talks chair) reminded us of upcoming PRLS and MPRSL sessions; for more information, please see Barbara or go to www.prls.org.



Indy formally introduced himself to make sure he wasn't confused with his "secret younger twin brother" Sonny Shah. He even gave away his age and birth date – 58 and 12/15, respectively, or is it really 9/9???

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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

Meeting Programs & Assignments

Programs

Program Chair: Hank Chandler

December 22, 2010
The Rotary Foundation
(rescheduled from November)
 Dick Hatcher

December 29, 2010
DARK

December 30, 2010 (Thursday)
Joint Meeting with R C Ventura East
 Location: Poinsettia Pavilion

Greeters

Chair: Melody Namikas

Introductions

Chair: Indy Batra

Dec. 22 – Ted Wrablik Dec. 30 – Gary Wolfe

Rotary Moment

Chair: Barbara Asbell
 Dec. 22 – Kristin Taylor

Fining

Chair: Michele Olson

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

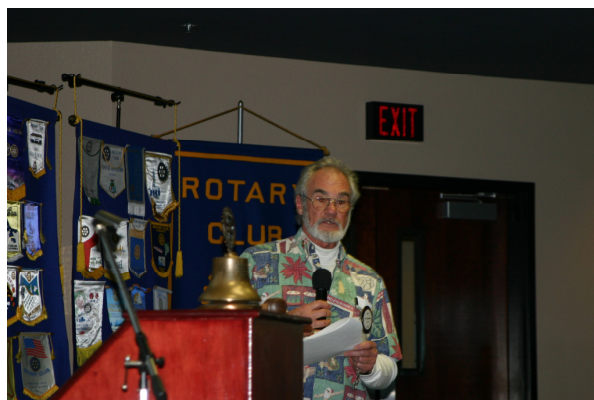
1st Year 2010-12:

Barbara Asbell
 Dale Jaedtko
 Kristin Taylor
 John Williams

Craft Talks continued

Indy grew up in India (near Delhi); his parents never attended school because his father had to take care of his other siblings when he grew up and girls were not sent to school then, so his mother did not have the opportunity. Indy was the first in his family to attend college, and after graduation in 1973 he decided to go into the real estate business. Unfortunately, his timing was off and he lost everything during a recession; it took him two years to recover.

In 1978 he met his future wife, who was a nurse and living in New York; unlike many couples they had a chance to spend time together before they were married and moved to New York City. With \$108 in his pocket and about \$200 in his new wife's bank account, they decided to join one of her sisters in California, where Indy landed a job with a technology company and quickly moved up through the ranks. Eventually he started his own computer company – which has been very successful. Both of his sons are college graduates and work with him in the business.



Ed Campbell (pictured) started off his presentation with a quote by Charles Dickens “An architect is a person who can build a church by squinting at a piece of paper”. We soon came to realize that there had been a lot of “productive squinting” over the past 56 years since Ed started as a draftsman in the business. He didn't heed the saying “Go West young man” (he was already in California!!!!), so in 1968 he went East, to Connecticut. He earned his license in 1973 and eventually became licensed in 17 states; he also worked in Europe and China. In 1974, he hung out his own shingle.

Ed was drawn to historic restoration and later to designing energy efficient homes and commercial structures, which earned him several professional awards. With the able assistance of David-Michael Kenney on powerpoint, Ed showed us pictures of several of his designs, including a 1975 retirement condominium building with a roof garden, a Wendy's restaurant in a busy mall, and the local Crowne Plaza hotel. Ed sees his role as a “composer and conductor – bringing together several elements to create harmony”. Prodded by club members, he admitted that he once dated Martha Stewart.

Final Thought by Prez Hutch was a very timely quote by Marshall Fields “Give the lady what she wants”!!!!

Dave Bianco's Rotary Moment

December 15, 2010

T'was a couple of weeks before Christmas and
all through the club

Rotarians were recovering from a lot of hubbub

The party at Ann's an enormous success

Saw Rotarians drinking – well, to excess

Curtis was there, holing up his end of the bar

And Rob, all red-cheeked & laughing was not
very far

A time to reflect on the work we had done,

And savor our deeds – and also have fun

Gifts to soldiers abroad, coats and money

On Kristin ---, on Sally, ---- on Sonny

Furry friends and bell ringers were assembled
and ready

Rotarians are always generous and steady

Goals were established and goals were beaten,

Blood was given and baked goods eaten

Polio got a beating, homeless structures were
built with much ado

Clean-ups, construction, biking, 4th of July and
dictionaries, too

As the opus flowed, we saluted ourselves for
jobs well done,

And we laughed and we ate together as one

My friends, Colleagues and fellow Rotarians –

We are, indeed, good Communitarians!!!!

(Reprinted with permission)

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?

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 29th (Wednesday)

DARK

December 30th (Thursday)

**Joint Meeting with R C Ventura East at
Poinsettia Pavilion**

*White Elephant gift exchange. More
information to come.*

January 4, 2011 (Tuesday)

**D. 5240 Rotary Foundation Banquet
with R I President Ray Klingensmith;
Santa Ynez Valley Marriott.**

*Please contact PE Lynda Girtsman for
more information.*

January 19, 2011 (Wednesday)

R C Ventura Blood Drive

*For more information, please contact
Bruce Reeve.*

January 29, 2011 (Saturday)

**Save the date for D. 5240 Poverty
Symposium – this won't be the
anything like previous poverty
conferences.**

*For more information go to
ROTARystepsonPOVERTY.ORG*

MAKE-UP OPPORTUNITIES

- For District 5240 Make-Up locations and directions 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