



# ROTARY SPOKES

## Rotary Club of Ventura

Est. May 1, 1919

"The Friendliest Club in Rotary"

December 4, 2022

### CAN TREES

The club and some of our generous members donated \$2,100 to build three Can Trees on December 3 in Figueroa Plaza to benefit Food Share Ventura County.



## MEETING NOVEMBER 30, 2022

**Lunch**— Salad, rice, veggies, cranberry chicken

President Elect **Neal Lassila** called the meeting to order.

**Flag salute, invocation, and introductions**—**Brenda Allison-Hutchinson**. As we leave our season of gratitude from Thanksgiving, let us carry that gratitude into the Advent season, the holidays, and the year’s end, and start the new year in a positive, loving, and kind spirit throughout 2023.

**Songleaders**—**RoseAnn Hill, Bev Ward, Mike Montoya, and Harold Wulff**—“America the Beautiful.”

### Announcements:

**Neal Lassila**—He and several other club members attended the excellent **District Conference**. Networking at the conference resulted in the **Thousand Oaks Rotary** donating 100 coats to our **Coats for Kids** campaign.

**Lynda Girtsman** sent around a volunteer sign-up sheet for the December 17 **Holiday Party for Westside Families**, which we are jointly hosting with the Boys and Girl Club. There are two volunteer shifts: 8:00-11:30 a.m., and 12:30-4:00 p.m.

**Hutch** gave away **money clips** with the Rotary logo (cash not included) for those old-timers who still use cash. (**Ellyn Dembowski** discovered them when cleaning out her desk.)

### Happy Dollars.

**Fining**—**RoseAnn Hill** quizzed our members about **volcanoes**, including in Hawaii.

**Award**—**Hutch** presented **Jeff Lambert** with his **Paul Harris Fellow** pin in honor of his involvement in many club projects. Hutch gave an example of how contributions to the Rotary Foundation are used: six Rotaract clubs constructed a well for a school in Togo, West Africa, which previously had no access to drinking water.

### PROGRAM – DAVID GORE—ROTARY FOUNDATION

David Gore is the Rotary Foundation District Chair. He is a charter member and two-time past president of the Rotary Club of Goleta. He has served Rotary at the district level since 1997. Dave is a financial planner and partner at West Coast Financial.

Rotary began an endowment for doing good in the world in 1917, and named it The Rotary Foundation (TRF) in 1928. Its focus areas are: Peacebuilding & Conflict Prevention; Disease Prevention & Treatment; Water, Sanitation, & *(continued next page)*



### **PROGRAM (*continued*)**

Hygiene; Maternal & Child Health; Basic Education & Literacy; Community Economic Development; and Environment.

Donors can direct their contributions to several “compartments” for particular purposes:

- Annual fund: used for global grants, then returned to the district after 3 years.
- Polio Plus: Rotary’s initiative to eradicate polio began in the Philippines, and is now nearing its goal of eradicating polio worldwide. Polio Plus Society members make a \$100 contribution and pledge to do so each year until polio is eradicated. Some clubs, like Rotary Club of Goleta, has applied this to all their members.
- Disaster response: currently includes two programs sending medical supplies to Ukraine.
- Endowment: These contributions remain in the fund, and the interest is used for grants.
- Other: World Fund, Global Grants

Individual recognition for contributions includes:

- Paul Harris Fellow: \$1,000 contribution by, or on behalf of, a member
- Paul Harris Society: pledge \$1,000 a year. (15 of our club’s members are Paul Harris Society members)
- Sustaining Member: contribute \$100 per year
- Major Donor: has made cumulative contributions of \$10,000. (5 of our club’s members are Major Donors)
- Bequest Society: pledge to leave \$10,000 to the Foundation upon your death. (15 of our club’s members are in the Bequest Society)

In addition, clubs are recognized for the contributions of their members. Our club has been recognized as having 100% Paul Harris Fellows because we reached that goal in 2007-2008.

Dave also discussed donor history forms, including recognition amounts, recognition points, and how to earn them.

Thanks to Joslynn Skelton for  
taking notes of the meeting!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

(For up-to-date and more complete information, see our web site, [VenturaRotary.org](http://VenturaRotary.org), or click the Events tab on the ClubRunner app on your phone)



**December 7 lunch meeting: Ventura County Grand Jury.** The grand jury serves as a watchdog of local government agencies, investigates complaints, and issues an annual report of government operations. Citizens volunteer for one-year terms to act as independent eyes and ears of Ventura County residents. **Grand Juror Michela (Mika) Feli** is a humanitarian project coordinator and trainer. She worked in emergency and development projects in several countries, mainly with Doctors Without Borders. She received her MBA at Johns Hopkins University and in 2019 moved to Ventura County. **Grand Juror Bruce Conger** is a resident of Camarillo. Before retiring, he had a career in banking as a senior relationship manager in the commercial real estate loan group. He originated and monitored construction and permanent financing on residential tract development, commercial, industrial, and special purpose properties. A friend who had been a member of the Grand Jury in recent years suggested Bruce apply.

**December 10: Winter Social**, 6:00-10:00 p.m. at the home of Betsy Chess. Food, games, and fun. BYOB. No children please. RSVP to Sandy Lassila by text or at [lassilas@roadrunner.com](mailto:lassilas@roadrunner.com) by December 1.

**December 14 lunch meeting:** **Mike Schwartz** will discuss the historical roots of **Hanukkah**.

**December 17: Holiday Party for Westside families.** Arise Ventura Church, 831 N. Olive St., Ventura. Volunteer shifts are 8:00-11:30 a.m. and 12:30-4:00 p.m. Families participate 9:30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-3:00 p.m.

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