



ROTARY SPOKES

*The Rotary Club of Ventura
Weekly Bulletin*

"The friendliest club in Rotary"

100% Paul Harris Club



Editor: Maria Berntson maria@lindsayandcompanycpa.com
Assistant Editor: Betsy Chess newwester@sbcglobal.net
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Photographers: John McConica II, Dan Holmes
Jim Deardorff, Steve Doll
December 7, 2011



Meeting of November 30, 2011

Program –

The Ventura County Harmony Project

Reporter: Diane Koranda

Editor's Note: Due to a camera malfunction, we unfortunately do not have pictures of last week's meeting and the Holiday Party on December 2nd. If you took pictures at the Holiday Party last Friday and are willing to share, please email them to either Jim Deardorff or me. Thank you!

Introductions

President Lynda called the meeting to order at 12:30 and introduced Ron Calkins to lead us in the Salute to the Flag and deliver the inspiration.

Songsters Clyde Reynolds and RoseAnn Hill (thank goodness for those who can sing!) led us through a couple choruses of "This Land is Your Land." This always brings forward nice mental pictures of some of the wonderful sights in our country.

Guests of Rotarians were introduced but there were no visiting Rotarians this week.

Announcements

There were many announcements reminding us of all the great activities going on with our club.

Kristin Taylor once again reminded us about Coats for Kids and the BIG push for 100% participation by all Rotary members. A special collection will be made at the December 7th meeting – so bring coats, jackets, warm sweatshirts of all sizes, and don't forget your Furry Friends!

Larry Emrich announced that the lucky winner of the latest football pool for the USC/UCLA game was RoseAnn Hill; she will be awarded a Paul Harris Fellow.

Rob van Nieuwberg, standing on Lynda's foot stool, reminded us of the children's shopping and Christmas Party scheduled for December 14.

Whenever possible, Rotarians are to meet their child/ren at their school for the shopping spree at Penney's then accompany them to the special

lunch which will be held this year at the offices of Ventura Unified School District on Stanley.

Steve Kipp talked about the Salvation Army Bell Ringers project being held on Dec. 17.

Bill Finley thanked those who participated in the One City One Meal event on behalf of the Salvation Army. He said he wasn't positive exactly how many meals were served but he did know that 900 plates were used.

Dick Hatcher asked anyone participating in transfer of funds to the Foundation to please get a signed copy of the signature form to him.

Happy Dollars

Lots of Happy People today including: Brenda Allison, John Brant, Neal Andrews, Kristin Taylor, SusAnn Chung, Ed Summers and Steve Kipp. Special congratulations to Brenda Allison for her successful adoption of 3 children from Peru – a very happy occasion, indeed!

Program

Sandra Laby introduced The Harmony Project. She and husband Jordan have contributed start-up funding to bring the project from Los Angeles to Ventura. Children enrolled in the program from Sheridan Way School gave a performance of several numbers they have been working on over the past two months. The children begin to learn to read music and begin with the recorder and some percussion instruments. At the finale of their performance the children got a standing ovation!

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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

Chair: Larry Emrich

December 7, 2011

The Tall Ships

Captain Stephen Taylor & Ed. Dir. Nate Gilman

December 14, 2011

No meeting at Derby Club

Kids' Christmas Shopping Spree & Lunch

December 21, 2011

D A R K

December 28, 2011

*Joint Meeting with R C Ventura East and South
Program: John Zeretzki*

Introductions

Chair: Ron Calkins

Dec 7 – Terri Adams Dec 28 – Dave Loe

Rotary Moment

Chair: Terri Adams

Dec. 7 – Ed Campbell

Fining

Chair: Ron Bamieh

Dec 7 – Larry Emrich

No Rotary Moment or Fining Dec. 14, 21 and 28

2011-12 Officers and Directors

Officers

President Lynda Girtsman
President Elect Indy Batra
Secretary Jim Deardoff
Recording Secretary * Larry Emrich
Treasurer Christine Tonello
Assistant Treasurer * Mark Sauer
Immediate Past President Hutch Hutchinson
•Non-Voting Position

Avenues of Service

Club Service

Director Terry Schaeffer
Assistant Director Dan Holmes

Community Service

Director Curtis Cormane
Assistant Director Nanci Cone

International Service

Director Mario de la Piedra
Assistant Director Ed McCombs

New Generations

Director Ellyn Dembowski
Assistant Ken Cooper

Vocational Service

Director Bill Finley
Assistant Todd Binkley

Program continued

Dr. Margaret Martin, founder of the Harmony Project, gave an overview of how the program began and some of its achievements over the past 10 years. The first Harmony Project was funded by a \$9,000 gift from the Rotary Club of Hollywood.

It costs \$1200 - \$1500 per year per child for instruction and instruments. Many of the instruments are donated to the program and then rented or loaned to the children. Ms Martin expanded on the benefits of the program to disadvantaged youth and her goal of growing the current Project throughout schools in Ventura.

Following questions from the audience, Lynda thanked the speaker and adjourned the meeting at 1:30.

2012-13 Proposed Slate of Officers & Directors ***Elections will be held on December 7th.***

Officers:

President, Indy Batra
President-Elect, Irene Henry
Secretary, James Deardorff
Treasurer, Connie Young
Past President, Lynda Girtsman
Ex-officio Officers: Attendance Clerk, Don Leach;
Recording Clerk, Larry Emrich.

Directors 2012-13:

Club Service, Daniel Holmes
Community Service, Nanci Cone
Vocational Service, Todd Binkley
International Service, Ed McCombs
New Generations, Ken Cooper

Directors 2012-14:

Club Service, Tyler Liljekvist
Community Service, Ron Calkins
Vocational Service, Doug Halter
International Service, Christina Rust
New Generations, Mario de la Piedra

Furry Friends & Helpers Needed

Along with coats and jackets, please also remember to bring new or gently used "furry friends"(stuffed animals) of all sizes to the meeting on December 7th!

Also – Sally Crain and Hillford Moving invite us to "tag and sort furry friends" on Sunday at 1 pm. Please come and help get the stuffed animals ready for the children!

Note – this is a change of time from Saturday.

Membership News

New Member Proposal

Sarah VanMiddlesworth was proposed by Courtney Lindberg with the classification "Engineers-Consulting". She will be our second New Generations member.

If a member has an objection to Mark becoming a member of our club, please submit your objection in writing to the Club Secretary within 10 days of this publication.

COATS FOR KIDS CONTEST December 7th 11:45 AM – Noon

Outside front entrance of the Derby Club

Contest Rules:

1. Bring jackets, coats, heavy sweatshirts and sweaters of all sizes (from your closets, your neighbors and friends)
2. If you have more than 4 items, place them in a trash bag with a sticky label with your name and # of items
3. The club member who bring in the most items will win a \$100 gift certificate to the restaurant of his or her choice.
The gift certificate is a donation – it will not be purchased with club funds.
4. Fine slips will be available for anyone who prefers making a monetary contribution.

Make a difference in the lives of others and be a part of this wonderful project!
You are a member of a GREAT Rotary club – let's have 100% CLUB PARTICIPATION!

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 14 (Wednesday) – 9:00AM

Children's Holiday Shopping Spree (JC Penney) and Lunch at Ventura Unified School District (Stanley Ave.)

December 15 (Thursday) – 11:45AM

Board Meeting – 71 Palm

December 17 (Saturday)

Salvation Army Bell Ringers

December 28 (Wednesday)

Joint Club Meeting with Ventura East and South

Award-winning composer, humanitarian, educator and world musician, John Zeretke, will be presenting a unique program for our Rotary group about his travels around the world. Discover the musical inventions of the 21st century!



A big Thank You to Ann Deal for hosting the club Holiday Party at her home! A wonderful time was had by all!