



# ROTARY SPOKES

*The Rotary Club of Ventura  
Weekly Bulletin*

*"The friendliest club in Rotary"*

*100% Paul Harris Club*



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February 2, 2011

## Meeting January 26, 2011

*Reporter: Bob Schilken*

### Introductions:

With an extra large attendance and the kitchen running out of food, Dave Loe (pictured below) began our meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and invocation. Our patriotic song was led by Clyde Reynolds, RoseAnn Hill and Bob Schilken. Visitors included Greg Abrams from Rotaract, Connie Young - a guest of the club, and Maggie Bird from Phoenix Flight.



### Announcements:

We were reminded by Pres Hutch that this is **Rotary Awareness Month** as he opened the meeting to announcements. RoseAnn Hill was first to the microphone to report that the Gold Coast Ride for Literacy posters are now available for the club members to post around the area and at their businesses. Chris Brashears put in a plug for the Project Understanding canned food drive, and Margo Burns confirmed the team members that volunteered for the final week of Dictionary deliveries to 3rd grade kids in Ventura.

The winner of the Rotaract Vespa Moped drawing was then announced, and as member Dave Wallace

received his prize, we found out that Dave was rather serious about this and purchased three of the 112 tickets sold. This quick project brought in \$4,480 to Rotaract and provided a good example of how to conceive of and implement a novel and successful fundraiser.

Hutch pitched a last reminder for the Poverty Conference in Santa Maria and Basic PRLS the same day in Bakersfield.

Pres Hutch then recalled how surprised he was recently to find a box with a Paul Harris pin that had two rubies on it. Not recognizing this arrangement (yes, it is very rare!) he had to research on online to find out that it represented eight Fellowships. With everyone on the edge of their seat, he asked Larry Emrich to come forward and receive this his eighth Paul Harris Fellowship. The club erupted a boisterous standing ovation as past president and Polio eradication advocate, Larry, received this well deserved honor.



*Hutch obviously pleased with himself (behind Dick Hatcher's back) for pulling off the PHF surprise on Larry Emrich.*

Dick Hatcher then informed the club that we were striving to qualify as a "super club" by achieving, among other goals, four new \$1,000 Benefactors this year, a criterion established based on the size of our club.

*continued*

Web addresses: Club [www.venturarotary.org](http://www.venturarotary.org) – Photos: [www.rotarycov.smugmug.com](http://www.rotarycov.smugmug.com)  
District 5240 [www.rotarydistrict5240.org](http://www.rotarydistrict5240.org) – R.I. [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

## Meeting Programs & Assignments

### Programs

Program Chair: Hank Chandler

February 2, 2011

**World Understanding Month program**  
(Albert McCartney)

February 9, 2011

**Ventura County Sheriff Geoff Dean**

February 16, 2011

**Craft Talks**

**Lucas Johnston & Dale Jaedtke**

### Greeters

Chair: Melody Namikas

### Introductions

Chair: Chris Brashears

**Feb. 2 – Dan Holmes**

### Rotary Moment

Chair: Barbara Asbell

**Feb. 2 – Ed McCombs Feb. 9 – Roz Warner**

**Feb. 16 – Mario de la Piedra**

### Fining

Chair: Todd Binkley

**Feb. 2 – Bob Berry Feb. 9 – Dick Hatcher**

**Feb. 16 – Dennis LaRochelle**

## 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 LaRochelle  
International Service .....Albert McCartney  
Vocational Service ..... Scott Patterson

### Elected Directors

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Year 2009-11:**

Ellyn Dembowski  
Erik Feingold  
Sonny Shah  
Juan Soto

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Year 2010-12:**

Barbara Asbell  
Dale Jaedtke  
Kristin Taylor  
John Williams

### **Fining:**

With Betsy Chess as the fine master, it was no surprise that the questions were all from the Equestrian category. But Betsy added a twist by offering members either a verbal question or an item to identify from her brown bag of goodies. Either way the membership seemed to know little about horses and their maintenance, which was good for the club coffers.

### **Rotary Moment:**

Clyde Reynolds provided a power point presentation of pictures showing the construction of the Homeless Community Dome at River Haven. A quiet, thoughtful and proud reminder of how some Rotarians choose to contribute their time.

Pres Hutch announced that 35 boxes of Girl Scout cookies were purchased by members at our last meeting and sent to our Troups, thanks to Ellyn Dembowski's coordinating efforts.

**Happy Dollars** generated a suitable number of smiles and laughter.

### **Program:**

Melissa Sayer (pictured), our presenter, gave a highly informative account of our local agricultural history. What started as cattle farming in the 1860's, was transformed by drought into grain farming in the 1870's, and then broadened to other crops with the help of the early California Missions, is now a billion dollar plus industry.



It was interesting to hear the sequence of food crops that have come and gone as the economics and politics of the times kept changing. And the "how it started" stories were fun. Some interesting agricultural statistics for 2009 are: 100K acres harvested; 31K jobs; 100 types of food grown, 5% of harvest was "organic".

With her legal and business background, Melissa provided a slightly different perspective than what we are used to hearing. There were many "ah ha" moments as we stitched together past facts with her added historical background. Today California's agriculture still has water and regulation issues, global competition challenges, and new threats from evolving pests, but this reporter came away with a little more confidence that local agriculture businesses will continue to adapt and survive for a long time to come.

## MAKE-UP OPPORTUNITIES

Day/Time	Club	Location
<b><u>Monday</u></b>		
Noon	Santa Paula	Logsdon Restaurant
Noon	Ventura South	Wedgewood Banquet Ctr.
<b><u>Tuesday</u></b>		
6:45 AM	Fillmore Sunrise	El Pescador Restaurant
7:00 AM	Camarillo Brkfst.	Spanish Hills Country Club
7:00 AM	Ojai West	Soule Park Golf Course
Noon	Simi Valley	Simi Valley Cultural Arts Ctr
12:10 PM	Montecito	Montecito Country Club
12:10 PM	Oxnard	Courtyard by Marriott
6:00 PM	Simi Sunset	Grand Vista Hotel
<b><u>Wednesday</u></b>		
7:00 AM	Carpinteria AM	Carpinteria Women's Club
	Ventura Marina	4 Points Sheraton, Ventura Harbor
Noon	Camarillo	Camarillo Center for Spiritual Living
<b><u>Thursday</u></b>		
7:00 AM	Simi Sunrise	Grand Vista Hotel
7:30 AM	Oxnard Sunrise	Tomas Café
11:45 AM	Carpinteria	Carpinteria Community Bldg
Noon	Fillmore	Fillmore Western Dining Car
Noon	Ventura East	Poinsettia Pavilion
<b><u>Friday</u></b>		
Noon	Ojai	Soule Park Golf Course

For other District 5240 Make-Up locations and directions go to [rotarydistrict5240.org](http://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](http://rotaryclubone.org) To make up anywhere around the world, go to [rotary.org](http://rotary.org) and use the Club Locator

### 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

### February 18, 2011 (Thursday)

#### 11:45 AM @ 17 Palm - Board Meeting

Attendance qualifies as a make-up if within the make-up period.

### February 23, 2011 (Wednesday)

#### Monthly Canned Food Drive

Please bring canned food or donate cash (via fine slip ok) to help feed the needy in our community.

### April 16, 2011 (Saturday)

#### 7 AM – 5 PM Gold Coast Ride for Literacy

To sign up for one of the many volunteer positions or for more info, please contact Bob Schilken or Ken Cooper or go to the website [goldcoastrideforliteracy.org](http://goldcoastrideforliteracy.org)

### May 21-25, 2011

#### R I Convention - New Orleans, LA.

For more information on rooms, contact Kristin Taylor.

For more information on the Convention, contact PE Lynda Girtsman or go to [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org) and click on 2011 Rotary Convention.

## February Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Birthdays:

4<sup>th</sup> – Lynda Girtsman & John Hammer  
6<sup>th</sup> – John Johnson  
12<sup>th</sup> – Cessy Figueroa  
13<sup>th</sup> – Norbert Tan  
19<sup>th</sup> – Jim Spencer  
21<sup>st</sup> – Gary Young  
23<sup>rd</sup> – Albert McCartney  
29<sup>th</sup> – Chris Brashears

### Anniversaries:

7<sup>th</sup> – Clyde & Denise Reynolds  
13<sup>th</sup> – Bob & Mary Schilken  
Warren & June Lovell

## Congratulations to ALL!



Perhaps not as scrumptious as a cake, but certainly delicious and much healthier!