



ROTARY SPOKES

Rotary Club of Ventura

Est. May 1, 1919

“The Friendliest Club in Rotary”

January 1, 2023

JOINT TRI-CLUB MEETING DECEMBER 28, 2022

Attendance—Over 40 attended including members of the Rotary Clubs of Ventura, Ventura East, and Ventura South, Rotaract, and guests.

Lunch—Tri-tip, cauliflower au gratin, roasted potatoes, green salad, garlic bread, and spice cake.

Flag salute, inspirational message, and introductions—**President Margi Wray**. “Your present circumstances don’t determine where you go, they only determine where you start. The only person you are destined to become is the person you decide to be.”

Songleaders—**Jessica Brandon** and **Clyde Reynolds**—“Jingle Bells”

Announcements:

Margi Wray: (1) Thanks to all who participated in the **West End Holiday Event**, which served 347 children.

(2) Indy Batra thanks all those who contributed platelets to his son, who is in surgery right now.

(3) Although the holidays are a happy time, they are also depressing to many people. Please reach out to people you don’t always think about visiting.

Happy Dollars—Because this is a Tri-Club event, all proceeds went to Polio.

Fining—**Tim Hughes from Ventura East** and **Margi Wray** quizzed us about holiday traditions. All proceeds went to Polio.

Games—We played a “Family Feud” style game in which we guessed the most common answers to holiday questions, with prizes to those scoring the highest. (The answer to most of the questions was “Mrs. Claus.”)

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 4 lunch meeting—**Conversations in Rotary**. Interview of a mystery club member.

January 10—**Pacific High School Interact visit to FoodShare**, 10 a.m.-12:00 p.m., to learn more about food insecurity in our community. A few spaces for Rotarians are available. After the tour, time for a treat and to debrief. Contact Madhu to RSVP.

January 11 lunch meeting—Presentation by **Jacquelyn Gargano** from **Ronald McDonald House Southern California**.

January 14—Tours of Ronald McDonald Family Room at Community Memorial Hospital. See Sandy Lassila to sign up for the morning or afternoon tour.

January 18 lunch meeting—Connie Young will discuss the **Julius Guis Memorial Foundation**.

January 25 lunch meeting—Chrissy Stamegna will discuss the **Brain Injury Center**. She will be accompanied by **Lisa Morris**, who suffered a traumatic brain injury and has benefitted from the services of the Center.

January 26—Board Meeting, Crowne Plaza Hotel, 12:00-1:30 p.m.

The California Highway Patrol provided each child with a toy

venturabreeze.com/2022/12/28/the-california-highway-patrol-provided-each-child-with-a-toy/

There were approximately 70 volunteers throughout the day.

On December 17, over 500 people attended the holiday event for west end families, including 347 children. The event was hosted by the Rotary Club of Ventura, Coats for Kids (which distributed over 347 coats), Boys and Girls Club of Greater Ventura, Chick-fil-A (which gave away breakfast entree gift cards), Arise Ventura, and Food Share (which gave away food boxes).



The California Highway Patrol provided each child with a toy. Kids selected earrings to give to their moms which were made and donated by Rotary member Mary Saputo. Participants enjoyed taking

photos with Santa and his Elf. Some teens will receive Vans shoes in January if the donated sizes fit them.

There were approximately 70 volunteers throughout the day made up of Arise Ventura, Boys & Girls Club of Greater Ventura staff & teens, Rotary Club of Ventura, Interact volunteers from Foothill Technology & Pacific High Schools, and the CHP.



The event was sponsored by a generous donation from SoCalGas. “SoCalGas is proud to support the Rotary Club of Ventura’s “Coats for Kids” program which distributed over 347 coats this weekend to children and their families. The work the Rotary does to serve our neighbors in need is truly inspiring and we are proud to support their efforts. “SoCalGas is committed to supporting local organizations that are working to bring holiday cheer,” said Maria Ventura, SoCalGas Senior Public Affairs Manager.

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