



# ROTARY SPOKES

*The Rotary Club of Ventura  
Weekly Bulletin*

*"The friendliest club in Rotary"*

*100% Paul Harris Club*



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Photographers: Dan Holmes, John McConica II,  
Jim Deardorff, Steve Doll  
January 26, 2011

## Meeting January 19, 2011

*Reporter: Bob Schilken*

### Introductions:

Chris Brashears began the meeting with our Pledge of Allegiance and offered a thoughtful invocation. RoseAnn and Bob then selected a reasonably singable key and let the group in "My Country 'Tis of Thee". Introductions of our guests included Wayne Jones, Club Guest Connie Young, wife Jacqueline Donaldson and Honorary Member Fred Bysshe.

### Announcements:

President Hutch explained that there was still time to give blood today after the meeting, while displaying his colored band aid to confirm his donation and prove "you can get blood out of a Lawyer". Margo Byrne announced that the Dictionary distribution was going well and confirmed names of the last group coming up on Thursday. Congratulations to Margo for a job very well organized!

Hutch returned to the microphone to remind us to bring canned food next week for the food drive, and encouraged us to get to PRLS in Bakersfield on the 29th. He continued with a plug for Albert's international service Honduras medical assistance trip coming up on the 21st, which still has one opening for a male.

Thanks went out to photographer Dan Holmes and all the members who paid for head shot portraits. All the proceeds, amounting to \$1700, went to purchasing shelter boxes for Haiti.

Ellyn Dembowski then offered to ship Girl Scout Cookies orders directly to our troupes at no cost to us. This offer was well received after the meeting with many signing up for multiple boxes of the goodies.

### Fining:

Todd Binkley continued his excellent fining record with questions this time on the movie Casablanca. Surprisingly many answers from our well versed assembly were incorrect, which was great for our club coffers!

### Rotary Moment:

Gary Young (pictured) chose as his Rotary Moment his



appreciation of being around Rotarians that just get things done. This characteristic is very representative of our club, and our district.

### Happy Dollars:

Jeannette Lombardo expressed her joy in being back at our club

after a year of being displaced out of the area by her job. Welcome back Jeannette! Larry Dawes related a cute story of a 3rd grader who after receiving her dictionary wanted to donate a dollar to the cause. This is how the seeds of service are sewn.

### Craft Talks:

Craft Talks today were fast paced and enlightening. Greg Kincaid (pictured), who is a 7th generation Californian,



recently celebrated the family's 200th birthday in which 13 generations were present. That's called roots! Being an Air Force brat, Greg constantly moved around as a child and ended up serving 5 years in the Army as a medical rescue worker flying in choppers in Vietnam.

You can imagine this job comes with some wild stories, including nonchalant references to him having to land the chopper when the pilots were .... incapable. Greg miraculously survived a dozen downed flights which qualified him to find another less life threatening job. He later attended UC Riverside but grew tired of that so he

*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

January 26, 2011

**Farming Economy**  
(Melissa Sayer)

February 2, 2011

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

February 9, 2011

**Ventura County Sheriff Geoff Dean**

### Greeters

Chair: Melody Namikas

### Introductions

Chair: Chris Brashears

**Jan. 26 – Dave Loe**

### Rotary Moment

Chair: Barbara Asbell

**Jan. 26 – Scott Patterson Feb. 2 – Ed McCombs**  
**Feb. 9 – Roz Warner**

### Fining

Chair: Todd Binkley

**Jan 26 – Betsy Chess Feb. 2 – Bob Berry**  
**Feb. 9 – Dick Hatcher**

## 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

**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 Jaedtko  
Kristin Taylor  
John Williams

### *Craft Talks continued*

went into the appraisal business in the 1970s. He pulled a few entertaining stories from his repertoire and left everyone in awe when he chronicled his appraisal of a 40,000 sq-ft opulent house that was owned by the Vidal Sassoon family. We became aware that behind his happy-go-lucky exterior there is a very experienced, street smart and capable guy.

**Ken Cooper**, a relative new member (pictured), was up next with an equally entertaining life history that started



off as a Military Police officer and body building competitor. Both his sister and father were dentists, but Ken enjoyed the physical sports including football and basketball at Ventura High School at the time our Larry Emrich was principal. Ken then lived a month in Costa Rica in

a Spanish immersion program, and was able to describe the experience of translating English to Spanish, analyzing in his now Spanish thinking brain, and then translating back to English. Sounded way too convoluted to be efficient!

Then it was off to Cal Lutheran for a degree in Economics and a side story of a stage play. Next was Cal State Northridge for an MBA after which he worked for the American Red Cross in what you might call another immersion program since he reported to work six days after the 9/11 terrorist attack on NY. It is obvious Ken does well under pressure.

He finally settled at State Fund working in Workers Compensation, and for a short time co-started and ran a Pet Service business which added even more experience to his dossier. Ken now enjoys coaching and announcing in the Special Olympics and assists at the Salvation Army and YMCA. He is also doing a fantastic job on our preparation for the Ride for literacy.

### **Thought for the Week:**

With two fun and somewhat unconventional life histories presented and the club enjoying every minute, President Hutch brought the meeting to a close quoting from the Mason Company ***“Why not” is a model for an interesting life.*** The meeting was adjourned.

## **COATS FOR KIDS UPDATE**

Project chair Kristin Taylor reports that **over 5,000 coats** were collected, cleaned by Four Seasons Cleaners (Sonny Shah) and distributed to the needy. Terri Adams has designed a **special “Thank You” to all the schools, businesses and other organizations who participated** in the project. It is suitable to be displayed at the location and will be personally delivered with an encouragement to participate again this year!

## 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

**January 26, 2011 (Wednesday)**

### **Monthly Canned Food Drive**

Please bring cans of food or make a cash donation (via fine slip)

**January 29, 2011 (Saturday)**

### **8:30A – 4:30P Basic PRLS**

Bakersfield; for more info please contact Barbara Asbell.

**January 29, 2011 (Saturday)**

### **8 AM – 4 PM Santa Maria Fair Park - District 5240 Poverty Symposium**

Open to Rotarians, Rotaractors, Interactors and their guests.

For more information, please contact Maria Berntson or go to [ROTARYSTEPSONPOVERTY.ORG](http://ROTARYSTEPSONPOVERTY.ORG)

**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.

## Membership Corner

### **New Member Proposal**

Connie Young has been proposed for membership by Larry Rasmussen under the classification Banking. If you have any objection to Connie's membership in our club, please contact Secretary Jim Deardorff within the next ten (10) days.

### **Other Membership Updates**

The board regretfully accepted the resignation of Michele Olsen, due to professional commitments. Michele had joined our club in 2008 and served most recently as Finemaster on our Club Service team. Thank you for your service, Michele, and Good Luck!

Tom Naylor is in the process of finding a new location for the club's very popular **Newcomers' Club meetings**, which were suspended when the Pierpont Inn announced its closure to outside functions.

### **Attendance Stats:**

December attendance: 83.62%, YTD avg. 88.26%  
Goal =/> 80.0%

Current membership: 123  
YTD retention rate: 92.86%; Goal =/> 90.0%