



ROTARY SPOKES

*The Rotary Club of Ventura
Weekly Bulletin*

"The friendliest club in Rotary"

100% Paul Harris Club



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Volume LXXXII Number 23

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January 4, 2012

Meeting of December 28, 2011
Joint Meeting with
R Cs of Ventura East and Ventura South
Reporter: Betsy Chess
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Introductions

Today's was a special gathering of our club with members from Rotary East and Rotary South.



Dave Loe set the tone in classic Loeian style with the following invocation:

Dear Lord:
We meet today with brethren from our neighboring Rotary Clubs and

we rejoice in their fellowship. Collectively **our goal of Rotarians is a single-minded focus on service above self.**

Yet the distractions from our goal are many.

We meet in a building that tantalizes us with lure of quick riches. Ponies gallop around an oval track and with them...the possibility of hitting a daily double. As Rotarians, we rise above this seduction and keep our focus on service above self.

We gather on the grounds of an enormous sales emporium. A swap meet entices us to wander its stalls and add things to our lives (at very attractive prices). As Rotarians, we rise above the temptation to add mere possessions and instead keep our focus on service above self.

Yet, Dear Lord, our frustrations are many.

Because you have taught us to love our fellow man we do not dwell on the fact that this swap meet you

tempt us with has also consumed almost all of what used to be our unlimited number of free parking spaces. As Rotarians, we do not begrudge the loss of what used to be ours alone.

Thank you for this test, Dear Lord, you have made us all better Rotarians.

President Lynda presided over a few announcements including a special Thank You by Bill Finley for the success of Rotary's Bell Ringer efforts.

Fining

Fine master Jim Spencer stumped everyone with his combination quiz asking members to identify a picture and the Rotarian it represented.



President Tom Braitman shared the highlights of their respective Club's year.



Program

Terry Schaeffer introduced **John Zeretzke**, an Ojai resident, who gave a fabulous presentation of his arts education program, called **Flutes Across the World**,

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Meeting Programs & Assignments

Programs

Chair: Larry Emrich

January 4, 2012

News and Views

John Moore, Editor of the Ventura County Star

January 11, 2012

Prisoner Realignment Program

Geoff Dean

January 18, 2012

Wine Making

Larry Rasmussen

Introductions

Chair: Ron Calkins

Jan 4 – Gary Young

Jan 11 – Mark Sauer

Rotary Moment

Chair: Terri Adams

Jan 4 – Laurie Rozet Jan 11 – Ed Summers

Jan 18 – Dave Wallace

Fining

Chair: Ron Bamieh

Jan 4 – Ron Bamieh

2011-12 Officers and Directors

Officers

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

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

which he and his wife, Cindy began three years ago.



John started the program by playing an amazing presentation of bird-like music on his Hawaiian nose flute. He explained that he decided to use the flute in his program because almost every country has a mythology that includes flutes.

Children in the program learn not only about music, but they also learn to make and decorate their own flute. In fact, the kids make two instruments – one to keep and one to give away – a lesson in being a giving and compassionate person.

The instruments are then given to a “flute friend”. So far John’s program has gone to the Philippines, Honduras and Haiti. He is in the process of getting his 501c3 status and hopes to greatly expand his outreach.



The flute’s mellow, organic tones and long history seems to resonate in unexpected ways, including being a part of Operation Smile and Operation Footprint, whose patients are soothed through the ordeal of their surgeries to correct cleft

pallets and club feet. Flutes for these children came from their “flute friends” at Ronald McDonald camps.

The program was remarkable and inspiring – a fitting send off into the upcoming New Year.

To all members of Ventura Rotary – A happy, healthy and prosperous New Year!

JANUARY MEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

WILL BE PUBLISHED NEXT WEEK. IN THE
 MEANTIME,
 HAPPY BIRTHDAY

to

Bill Kearny – Jan 1

Kitty Lynn – Jan 6

and

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

to

Norbert & Tracy Tan – Jan 3

Sonny & Mita Shah – Jan 8

Chris & Betty Brashears – Jan 10

Steve & Tracey Warriner – Jan 10