



ROTARY SPOKES

Rotary Club of Ventura

Est. May 1, 1919

"The Friendliest Club in Rotary"

July 17, 2022

Welcome Margi!

Margi Wray took the podium as our club president on July 1. She has worked as a sculptor, goldsmith, and wax carver. She earned a bachelor of fine arts degree at the University of Illinois. She is not new to leadership. She served 21 years on the Murrieta Valley Unified School District Board of Education, including four years as Board President. She says, "That experience will serve me well in goal setting, evaluation of performance and in community interaction."



"We have a strong organization thanks to the work of long-standing club members, coupled with new energy and focus of our newer members," said Margi. Her goals are to serve our community's needs through corroboration within our club and other service organizations in the community, increase transparency through good communication, and key into members' talents, expertise and passions to serve our community.

Margi moved to the Ventura area only three years ago, and attributes her time in Rotary to rapidly making her feel at home in a new environment. "I have been instantly connected to so many people who have 'Service above Self' at the core of who they are," she explains, "and it has made my transition to involvement and work in this community seamless." She lives in Oak View with her husband Greg.

Rob Steps Down



Rob van Nieuwburg was honored at the Step Down Dinner June 21 for completing his *second* presidential year. During his reign, we resumed in-person meetings, we found a new home at the Poinsettia Pavilion, and we continued with many charitable and community events, including resuming our popular Fireworks event. (Apparently July 4 falls on the 3rd on the Dutch calendar!) The dinner at the Crowne Plaza included some good-natured roasting (and a few cheap shots!) Judge John Dobroth swore in our new board. Thanks, Rob, for a great year!





After a two-year hiatus, the **Ventura Rotary Fireworks** show was Back!
The hard work of our club members and community volunteers paid off.
Over 7,500 people attended our best fireworks event ever!



Angela Rosales awarded
Rotarian of the Year and
a Paul Harris Fellow

Luncheon meeting July 13

Doug Halter – Flag salute, introductions, inspirational message

Bev Ward – Fining

Abiel Acosta, Angela Rosales, Bev Ward, Maggie Curley – Received their blue badges

Betsy Chess – Received Paul Harris Fellow pin

Program – Margie Wray discussed her goals for the year: transparency, key into our community's needs, and key into our club's assets. She distributed "E ticket" books on how to GET LOUD!: EXCITE by sharing your excitement about what we do with others, ENGAGE by brainstorming about projects and fundraising and by participating, and ENJOY the meaningful work we do. The directors, committee chairs and coordinators discussed their areas of service and their plans.

Upcoming events

July 20 lunch meeting will include the three Ventura chapters to hear **Jordan Harrison** talk about diversity and inclusion. He is a truly inspirational speaker and a self-described “disrupter” who makes a difference through service. He wowed this year’s President Elect Training Seminar. He has worked with over 5,000 first-generation, low-income students to help achieve their goal of attending college. He earned his BS in marketing from San Diego State and his Master’s in Education from Harvard University. He is Vice President of Community Impact & Partnerships at Reality Changers in San Diego.



July 27 lunch meeting will feature **Judith Hale Norris**. As a young attorney at the U.S. Justice Department, she was present for the “Saturday Night Massacre” in which the special Watergate prosecutor was fired and the Attorney General and Deputy Attorney General resigned. As Chief Staff Counsel for the U.S. Court of Appeals in the District of Columbia, she worked with Judges Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Antonin Scalia, Ken Starr, and Robert Bork, and witnessed first-hand the genuine friendships between judges despite their deep ideological differences.

July 28 Board Meeting at Portside, Ventura Harbor, 12:00 to 1:30

July 28 Book Club 5 p.m., location TBA

August 3 lunch meeting will feature **Amy Jurewicz**, Executive Director of Ventura YMCA

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