



# ROTARY SPOKES

## Rotary Club of Ventura

Est. May 1, 1919

"The Friendliest Club in Rotary"

July 31, 2022

**Judith Hale Norris** was the speaker at our July 27 meeting. Her father, Allan Hale, was the first Chief Justice of the Massachusetts Appeals Court. He taught her an important lesson: treat everyone, friend or adversary, with respect. After she earned her law degree from Boston University School of Law, she became an Assistant U.S. Attorney in Massachusetts. She took her father's advice with her, honoring the positions of everyone involved in each case.

Judith's husband, Bill, was in the Coast Guard and was transferred to Washington, D.C. Judith went with him and was hired as Chief Staff Counsel at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. During her job interview, the Notorious RBG (Ruth Bader Ginsburg) was silent for long periods before speaking. Judith learned that RBG always thought carefully before she spoke. Judith ended up taking Jazzercise classes with RBG and was treated to meals cooked by her husband, Marty Ginsburg. RBG gave Judith some advice to a happy marriage: sometimes you've got to be a little bit deaf!

Anntonin Scalia was also a judge on the court, and like RBG, he later became a Supreme Court Justice. He had a great sense of humor and always called her "Judy, Judy, Judy." Ken Starr was called "The Baby Judge" because he was only 37 years old when appointed to the D.C. Circuit. (He later went on to investigate Monica Lewinsky, but that's another story...)

Judith was recently selected as a Rotary Clubs of Ojai Living Treasure. Her presentation gave us a fascinating inside look at the personalities on the highest courts of our land.



### Luncheon meeting July 27

Attendance—32 plus 5 via Zoom

Lunch—“fancy Italian chicken” (the server didn’t remember the real name), roasted potatoes, zucchini, brownies with ice cream

RoseAnn Hill—Flag salute, inspirational message, introductions

Betsy Chess—Finishing on Worldwide Interesting Holidays, including Festival of the Crying Baby [insert your own joke here...]

Moment of silence for Jeremiah Emmanuel Jordan Brown, 22, son of Ventura Councilmember Lorrie Brown. He was killed July 22 in Florida, the victim of a carjacking

Speaker: Judith Hale Norris

How do you make a difference?  
It starts by just starting.  
Help one person at a time.  
Improve a child’s life and you improve a family.  
Improve families and you improve a village.  
Improve a village and you improve a region.  
Improve enough regions and you improve a country.  
Improve countries, and you improve the world.  
That is why Rotarians do the work of Rotary.

—Robyn T. Braley



**Margarida Eidson**, Assistant District Governor and District Conference Chair, gave a preview of the District 5240 Conference, November 18-20 (the weekend before Thanksgiving), at the Santa Barbara Hilton Beach Resort. The theme is GET LOUD! to let everyone know what we do for the community and the world. Friday evening will feature a cocktail party on the rooftop. Saturday morning includes speakers on social media, value impact reporting, vocational service, and District international projects. Saturday afternoon we will do a community project for the Boys and Girls Club, followed by free time options like a Rotoract-guided visit to the SB mission and maps to tour the Funk Zone. Saturday evening is a plated dinner with silent auction to benefit the Foundation...buy a table to honor our leaders! After dinner, an 80s dance party. Sunday morning focuses on youth, with an FBI speaker on human trafficking. For full schedule and more information, go to <https://rotarydistrict5240.org/page/2022-district-conference>

### Luncheon meeting July 20

Joint meeting with Ventura East and South. About 90 attended. Guests included District Governor Scott Phillips, Ventura East President Jeff Burgh, members of Rotary Club of Ojai, Interact, Ventura Downtown Lions including President Patrick Pothier, and School Board President Sabrena Rodriguez.

John Johnson – Flag salute, invocation, introductions

Steve Doll – Fining regarding Ventura Land Trust

Program: Jordan Harrison



**Jordan Harrison** presented at our July 20 meeting. He earned his B.S. in marketing from San Diego State, and his Master’s in education from Harvard University. He is a member of San Diego Rotary Club, a professional speaker, DEI (Diversity Equity Inclusion) consultant, and international youth development specialist. He is Vice President of Community Impact and Partnerships at Reality Changers.

Jordan demonstrated his theme of Hear Here through an exercise: members paired up, asked each other “How are you?”, and really listened to the answers. He shared a video of Beyonce singing I Was Here at the August 19, 2012 World Humanitarian Day: “One day, one message, one goal. To inspire people all over the world to do something good, no matter how big or small, for someone else.” He discussed Equality versus Equity versus Liberation. Diversity is not the destination—belongingness is. He ended with constructing a poem based on the contributions of those in attendance that demonstrated our power to deal with adversity. That evening, **Doug Halter** and **Randy Encinas** hosted reception for Jordan Harrison at their beautiful home in the Ventura hills.

Jordan’s presentation can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rTMnV3vAx7A>. The Beyonce video was removed due to poor audio playback—here’s a link for that video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i41qWJ6QjPI>

## VENTURA ROTARY IN THE NEWS

“Rotary Club of Ventura Welcomes New Leader.” Article about President Margi Wray and the club in the July 27 edition of the *Ventura Breeze*, page 8. Free copies available around town, or view PDF at [venturabreeze.com](http://venturabreeze.com) .

## UPCOMING EVENTS

(For up-to-date and more complete information, go to the Calendar on our ClubRunner web site, then click on the date for details, or bring up the List view)

**August 3 lunch meeting:** Speaker **Amy Bailey Jurewicz, Executive Director of the Ventura Family YMCA**. Amy received a degree in Business and Marketing from Cal State Northridge and began with the Ventura YMCA in 2005. She was awarded the Channel Islands Association Director of the Year award in 2007. She oversees a \$3.8 million budget, over 150 in staff, and 6,000 members. The Y offers a variety of programs for children, teens, adults and older adults including swimming, fitness, camps, sports, and many other projects.

**August 10 lunch meeting: Conversations with Rotary.** Like a “craft talk” or “member spotlight” of a club member, but in question-answer format hosted by Bev Ward.

**August 17 lunch meeting:** Speaker **Joseph Algiers, Restoration Ecologist, National Park Service**

**August 24 lunch meeting:** Speaker **Mara Rodriguez** animal trainer and zoo development coordinator at **America's Teaching Zoo**, located at Moorpark College. Mara was named Ventura County Community College District 2022 Classified Employee of the Year.

**August 25: Book Club**, 5 p.m. RSVP to Karynsue for location. Discussion of *From White to Black: One Life Between Two Worlds*. Iris Duplantier Rideau shares her story of becoming the first Black woman to own a winery in this country. All club members welcome, even if you have not read the book, or only pretend that you read it. If you have a suggestion for a book to read in the future, let Madhu know.

**August 31 NO LUNCH MEETING.** Instead, we'll have a **BARBEQUE** at Karynsue's condo complex at Portside, Ventura Harbor, 6 p.m.

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