



ROTARY SPOKES

Rotary Club of Ventura

Est. May 1, 1919

“The Friendliest Club in Rotary”

March 17, 2024

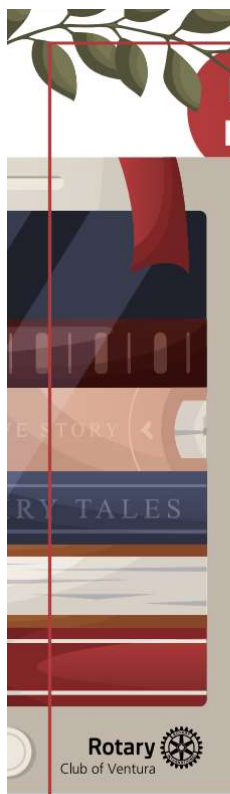
MONARCH BUTTERFLIES



Research Biologist **Charis van der Heide** gave a presentation at our meeting March 13, 2024, on “The Ins and Outs of Overwintering Monarch Butterflies on the Central Coast.” She discussed their mating, basking in the sun, clustering (roosting), and the migration patterns of the two populations of monarchs. Monarchs generally return to roost on the same branches each year, even though they may be four or five generations removed. She also discussed the predators that eat them, how the butterflies defend themselves by eating a foul-tasting diet, how to tell males from females, and the exciting new tracking devices complete with solar panel and antennas. She also presented the results of the Thanksgiving and New Year’s counts by the Xerces Society.

Monarch Butterfly Migration Map





**EVENING SOCIAL
DOUG & RANDY'S**

**WED MARCH 27
(INSTEAD OF LUNCH MTG)
FROM 5-8 PM**

**DINNER WILL BE SERVED
GUESTS \$20 EA. (RSVP IN ADVANCE)**

**EVERY SOCIAL DESERVES
A SOCIAL CAUSE
LET'S KICK OFF OUR CLUB'S
WALK FOR KIDS FUNDRAISING
WITH A BOOK SALE!**


**DONATE YOUR GENTLY USED BOOKS.
BRING TO THE 3/13 MEETING OR MAKE
ARRANGEMENTS WITH LYNDA OR MADHU**

**ON MARCH 27, HARD COVER BOOKS
WILL BE \$5, PAPERBACKS \$3
100% WILL GO TO WALK FOR KIDS. BRING
CASH, SIGN A FINE SLIP, OR VENMO.**

**NONPROFIT MEMBERS CAN "SHOP" FOR
FREE FOR THEIR PROGRAMS FROM
7:30 PM - 8PM.**

**LEFT OVER BOOKS WILL BE DONATED
TO FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY AND
OTHER CAUSES.**

**SCAN TO RSVP
MADHUBAJAJ@GMAIL.COM
(805) 754-9861**



**Rotary
Club of Ventura**



Rotary 
Club of Ventura

 **walk for
Kids**

**April 21st at 8 AM
San Buenaventura State Beach**

**ROTARIANS!
Register Now!**



**We won the 2023 Rotary
Fundraising Trophy!
Let's do it again!**

**Team Captain Lynda Girtsman
805-320-2562**

Our club raised \$28,000 for last year's Ronald McDonald House Charities Walk for Kids, the most of any club in the district!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
Ellyn Dembowski – March 10
Renee Rickard – March 18
Steve Doll – March 27

**HAPPY ROTARY
ANNIVERSARY!**
Kristin Taylor – 18 years
Jeffrey Lambert – 3 years
Keith Moschetto – 2 years
Yash Narang – 1 year

MEETING MARCH 13, 2024

Attendance: 30 members and guests, including visiting Rotary Club of Ventura East member Jacquelyn Gargano

Lunch: A Saint Patrick's Day lunch of Irish Cottage Pie, salad, fruit, and sherbet for dessert.

Flag salute/introductions: **Brenda Allison-Hutchinson.** "As Rotarians, let us all remember we are building a legacy that requires human hands."

Song: **RoseAnn Hill** and **Clyde Reynolds:** "America (My Country 'Tis of Three)"

A big thanks to **Judy Moore**, who staffs the **Welcome Table** and is the first friendly face you see at each meeting.

And big thanks to our **Sergeant-at-Arms, Barbara Asbell**, who gets in her Fitbit steps at each meeting running around the room bringing the microphone and fine slips to members.

Announcements:

Neal Lassila: **Rotary South Mardi Gras Fundraiser** on March 10 was a big success. A picture by Greg Wray sold for \$1,000!

Ken Leandro: All five **Interact clubs** in the city will be packing meals for Rise Against Hunger. The Interact clubs raised \$4,160 to provide 10,000 meals, which they should be able to assemble quickly. Ken is seeking donations to augment that amount—for another \$1,000, they can pack 12,500 meals, or for \$2,000 more, 15,000 meals.

Linda Girtsman: The **Walk for Kids** to support Ronald McDonald House Charities family room at VCMC is April 21 at San Buenaventura State Beach, starting at 8:00 a.m. They will open a new Pediatric Unit in June that will allow them to double the number of people served. Whether you walk or not, you can contribute using the bar code on page 2, or on a fine slip. Sponsorship packages are available.

Kristin Taylor: **Salvation Army Captains Patricia and Juan Torres** have long been members of our club. Patty, Juan, and The Salvation Army received the Community Partner Award as the Nonprofit of the Year by the River Community Church. It recognized their leadership in food distribution, support of the Foul Weather Shelter, and donations of household items for the City Center Transitional Living program. They also received Certificates of Recognition for their work from the City of San Buenaventura and State Senator Monique Limón. And at a meeting of the Ventura County Board of Supervisors, they were honored with the Healthy Communities Award. Our community is a better place to live because of their ambitious projects to improve lives.

Madhu Bajaj: Reminder that the **March 20 meeting will be off-site** at the Salvation Army, and **March 27 will be an evening social and book sale instead of a lunch meeting.** See Upcoming Events below for details.

Happy Dollars.

Finig: Due to time limitations, **Andrea Contarino** gave an abbreviated quiz regarding the month of March.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 17: Rotary Club of Ventura East, Saint Patrick's Day Party, Topa Topa Brewing Co., 4880 Colt St., Ventura, 1:00-6:00 p.m. \$25 ticket includes Irish Stew and beer of choice. Proceeds benefit Walk for Kids. Schedule: Claddagh dance approx. 1-3 p.m. Fireman's Pipe Band 3-3:30 p.m. Touch of Irish band 4-5 p.m. Food 1:30-5:00 or until it runs out.

March 20: OFFSITE LUNCH MEETING: Ribbon Cutting for Central Coast Mobile Free Vision Clinic, 11:30 a.m. at the Salvation Army, 650 S. Petit Ave., Ventura. Lunch will be served. RSVP to juan.torres@usw.salvationarmy.org. (No lunch meeting at Poinsettia Pavilion.) (The previously-scheduled speaker, Dave Armstrong, is rescheduled for April 3.)

March 22: Career Day at Pacific High School, 501 College Dr., Ventura, 9:00-11:00 a.m., followed by lunch with the students. Volunteers needed.
https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0549A5AE28A0F85-48004882-pacific#

March 27: NO LUNCH MEETING.

March 27: Evening Social, 5:00-8:00 p.m., Doug & Randy's house. Dinner will be served. Members free, guests \$20. RSVP to Madhu or using QR code on page 2. Books will be sold for \$5 for hardcover, \$3 for paperbacks, proceeds will benefit Walk for Kids. Contact Madhu or Lynda to donate books.

March 27: Deadline to apply for **Perspectives on Peace** awards. For details, go to PerspectivesonPeace.org.

March 28: Board Meeting, Crowne Plaza Hotel, 12:00-1:30 p.m.

April 3 lunch meeting: Dave Armstrong, Coffee Growing in Ventura. Dave Armstrong is CEO of Hobson Family Farms, a family-owned company based in Ventura for more than 160 years. He is transforming traditional agricultural production into bio-culinary farming and creating new place-based products. Using processes like koji and lacto-fermentation, the company is creating single-estate wines, vinegars, chili pastes and beef. As the largest coffee farm in the mainland U.S., Dave hopes to establish California grown coffee as one of the world's finest.

April 10 lunch meeting: District Attorney Erik Nasarenko and Lead Human Trafficking Prosecutor Rikole Kelly.

April 17 lunch meeting: Stacey Zarazua and Eric Berg: Arroyo Verde Park Playground.

April 18: Perspectives on Peace: View the entries from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Judges meet at 6:00 p.m.

April 21: Walk for Kids at Buenaventura State Beach to support Ronald McDonald House Charities family room at VCMC. Registration opens 8:00 a.m. Program at 9:30 a.m. Walk begins 10:00 a.m. Wrap up at 12:00 p.m.