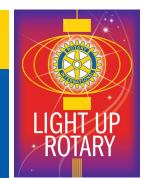
# **ROTARY SPOKES**

The Weekly Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Ventura, est. May 1, 1919



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## **Oxnard Harbor District and the Port of Hueneme**

Today's speaker, MaryAnne Rooney, is a Commissioner with the Board of Harbor Commissioners for the Oxnard Harbor District that operates the Port of Hueneme. Currently, she is the First Vice President in the Association of Pacific Ports. member а of the Economic



Development Committee for the American Association of Port Authorities, a board member of the World Affairs Council, California Central Coast Chapter, and alternate member with LAFCO.

The Port of Hueneme is owned and operated by The Oxnard Harbor District, created in 1937, as an independent special district (business enterprise) and political subdivision of the State of California. Its mission is to operate as a self-supporting Port that enforces the principles of sound public stewardship maximizing the potential of maritime-related commerce and regional economic benefit.

# Liberian Rotary Club's Ebola fight not finished

After the first cases of Ebola reached Liberia's capital, Monrovia, last June, local Rotary members feared that the city's limited health care system wouldn't be able to contain the highly infectious, often-deadly disease. Those fears were realized when infections quickly multiplied, underscoring the speed with which Ebola can spread in an urban center. It was the first time the hemorrhagic fever had threatened a major city since it erupted in West Africa last March.

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The Oxnard Harbor District's policies are set by a fivemember Board of Harbor Commissioners elected at large from the District. Day-to-day business operations of the Harbor District are administered by a CEO, Port Director and professional staff.

The Harbor District, by its charter, can acquire, construct, own, operate, control or develop any and all harbor works or facilities necessary to efficiently accomplish its mission. It prepares and controls its own budget, as well as fiscal activities. It is responsible for all Port construction and operations.

Ms. Rooney is a Certified Global Business Professional and was a delegate on the World Affairs Council Leadership Mission to Taiwan in 2013, and led a trade mission to South America in May, 2014 with the Port of Hueneme. She is a strategic business consultant and works with the Ventura County Civic Alliance on the Career Pathways Trust Grant with the Oxnard Union High School, the Small Business Development Center, and private clients.

Ms. Rooney earned a master's degree from Azusa Pacific University; bachelor's degree from the University of California Santa Barbara, and a Certificate in Mediation and Negotiation.



# **Meeting Recap of March 11**

President started off the meeting and "God Bless America" was performed by Staci Johnson and RoseAnn Hill.

Irene Henry asked everyone to mark their calendars for the President's Step-down dinner Tuesday June 23, 2015.

For his Rotary Moment, Jorge Arman described the complex effort to secure Rotary grants which ultimately provided funds for micro loans totaling \$500,000.00.

Greg Abrams exchanged his blue badge for his red badge.

#### Program

Guest speakers Mike Grossman and Bob Massey of the Ventura County Sheriff's six-member K9 Search and Rescue Unit brought three of their canines to the meeting.

Sergeant Grossman spoke of the three tasks of the canine units, with the dogs being specialized in a certain field: area searches focus on finding living persons- the speed at which the dogs can cover an area is remarkable; dogs specializing in human remains detection can uncover buried bodies and trailing, where dogs can follow DNA samples even weeks after being left.

Sergeant Grossman demonstrated the detection abilities of Dino, a seven-year old Labrador Retriever. Lieutenant Massey showed his partner, Jazz, is a rare Hanovarian Hound who specializes in trailing. A large four-year-old bloodhound, Roscoe was later brought in.

Each handler is a volunteer and puts in some 1,000 hours a year in training. Surprisingly, there is no public budget for the canine unit, so they are reliant on private fundraising for the approximate \$30,000 a year. An event, "Dining with the Dogs" raises about \$13,000. This year it will be held May 2 at CSU Channel Islands.

### Today's Program Oxnard Harbor District and the Port of Hueneme

Introductions: Rotary Moment: Fining:

**Future Programs** 

Mar 25 Member Spotlights

Apr 01 Dave Berg, Author

Apr 08 Ventura Food Co-Op

Ellyn Dembowski Ed Summers Scott Patterson



K9 Sargeant Mike Grossman explained the different tasks of their canines.



K9 Lieutenant Bob Massey speaks while his charge, Jazz, looks on.



*Irene Henry poses with our exchange student, Chrithisan Pazmino.* 



Staci Johnson and RoseAnn Hill lead the club in song.



Hans Hormann thanks Steve Warriner for the donation of a new BBQ for the Ventura Avenue Adult Center. Fireworks funding helped pay for it.



President Rob presents Greg Abrams with his permanent blue badge.



The Rotary Moment was given by Jorge Arman.



President Rob vanNieuwburg is chauffered by Larry Dawes in last Saturday's St. Patrick's Day parade through Downtown Ventura.

## **Battling Ebola**

Continued from first page.

Now, after months of crisis-level response, and with the number of new cases declining, club members are looking to the long term, planning three projects that will have a sustained impact in the Ebola fight in their community. The Monrovia club quickly stepped up efforts to control the spread of the disease in the city. By October, members had donated 220 noncontact infrared thermometers, 10,000 examination gloves, 100 plastic buckets with spouts for handwashing, 120 pairs of rubber boots for health care workers, 80 mattresses, fuel coupons for Ebola response vehicles, and books for students who had to stay at home after the government ordered the closing of all its schools in June.

The 53-member club is also working directly with the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare to enhance local support for Ebola patients, health workers, and support staff.

"When this crisis hit, we weren't going to stand by and wait for help to arrive; we created our own emergency action plan," says Frankfort. "We felt a responsibility, as a Rotary club, to show our community that responding to disasters like this is what we are all about."

The Rotaract Club of Monrovia also pitched in, conducting a door-to-door outreach campaign aimed at raising awareness about Ebola prevention and home management. The effort was co-sponsored by the Liberian Nurses Association.

In addition, Frankfort says that dozens of clubs worldwide have assisted Rotary members in Monrovia, including the Rotary Club of Marlow, in Buckinghamshire, England, which raised more than \$113,000 for the effort.



### **Catherine Wood Passes**

Catherine Lagomarsino Wood, wife of member Jack Wood, passed away peacefully on March 11, 2015, with family present, after a long illness. Born in Oxnard on July 23, 1929, she was raised in Ventura, graduated from Saint Catherine's Academy in 1946, and attended Marymount, USC, and Ventura College. Catherine had a life-long involvement in her family's businesses, She involved herself in a number of charities, including the Assistance League and the Forty Leaguers. She loved to travel the world. She enjoyed water skiing and sailing, and was a member of the Ventura Yacht Club. She shared her kind and loving nature through her wonderful sense of humor with her family and friends.

She is survived by her husband Jack Weldon Wood; sons Thomas J. Wood and John A. Wood; grandsons Taylor Wood and Aubrey Wood, her brother Robert J. Lagomarsino and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

Arosary will be held on Wednesday, March 18 at 7:00 p.m. at the Reardon Funeral Home and a funeral service for Catherine will be held at the Mission San Buenaventura at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 19.

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