



# ROTARY SPOKES

## Rotary Club of Ventura

Est. May 1, 1919

"The Friendliest Club in Rotary"

May 12, 2024

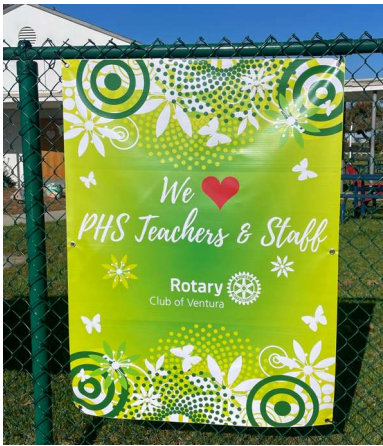
### FIRESIDE CHAT

A Fireside Chat for new members was held the evening of May 9, 2024, at the beautiful home of Neal and Sandy Lassila. After a yummy brisket and great sides, members gathered in circle and 13 more seasoned members shared with 6 newer members what makes our club great. It was an informative, supportive, and delicious evening!

*(Thanks to Andrea Contarino for photos and report)*



## TEACHER APPRECIATION LUNCH



On May 10, 2024, we honored the teachers at Pacific High School, a model continuation school of VUSD. It does not have a PTO or other type of parent group to conduct this type of function, and this is our club's way to show the teachers some love! We served lunch from Chili Basil Thai Cuisine and dessert prepared by club members. *(Photos provided by Madhu, Andrea and Mike)*





**MEETING MAY 8, 2024**  
**LED BY FOOTHILL TECHNOLOGY HIGH SCHOOL INTERACT**

**Lunch:** Ceasar salad, avocado shrimp salad, fruit, refried beans, rice, and Mexican chicken casserole.



The meeting was attended by 10 (of the 12) **Foothill Technology High School (FTHS) Interact** Board members, faculty advisor Ms. Dianne Fergus, and Rotary Advisor Ken Leandro. Interact board members ran the meeting and conducted **fining** on the topic of “flowers.”

About 40 students attend each of their meetings. Interact members shared a recap of their projects and their involvement

with Rotary projects including Coats for Kids (including holiday shopping), Westside Holiday Event, Third Grade Dictionary Project, and RMHC Walk for Kids. They built a Food Share CANTree. They stock and run the “Dragon Resources” student needs pantry. As a club project, they gave holiday cards and candy canes to all FTHS Staffuly. They organized a joint project with the city’s other Interact clubs and packed 12,500 meals for Rise Against Hunger. As a leadership exercise, they discussed *The Four Agreements*. They announced their Mother’s Day Flower Bouquet Delivery FUNdraiser.

The six senior Interact board members shared their very exciting college plans. Interactors expressed gratitude to Rotary for its support, and Rotarians commented that the future is bright with young people like these. *(Thanks to Ken Leandro for summary.)*



## UPCOMING EVENTS



**May 15 lunch meeting: Members' Travels.** Members have the opportunity to share their favorite (only 1) pic from their travels and tell us a story about that pic. Depending on the number of members who participate members will have a few minutes to share. Members interested in participating should email their picture to Madhu by May 12.

**May 17: Pacific High School Prom, 6:30 – 10:00 p.m.,** Poinsettia Pavilion. Contact Madhu.

**May 22 lunch meeting: Perspectives on Peace awards lunch.** Presentation of scholarship awards to high school seniors with winning entries in the Perspectives on Peace arts competition.

**May 23: Board Meeting,** Crowne Plaza Hotel, 12:00-1:30 p.m.

**May 29: NO LUNCH MEETING. EVENING MEETING at Ventura Adult & Continuing Education,** 5200 Valentine Road, Ventura, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. VACE prepares diverse learners with academic, vocational, and technological competencies for the global workforce. They offer incredible training programs under “Careers in Under a Year” with high rates of job placement upon completion. It's inspiring and exciting.... and fits within our Vocational Avenue of Service. Dinner included for Club members. As this is a Club meeting, Guests and Children are welcome to attend, but you will be billed \$20 per guest. Ample parking. Wear comfortable shoes for tour. RSVP to Madhu by May 26.

**June 5 lunch meeting: Meet Julius Gius Memorial Rotary Foundation (JGMRF) grant recipients.**

**June 10: Pacific High Graduation Brunch,** 9:00 – 11:30 a.m., 501 College Dr., Ventura.

**June 12 lunch meeting: County Supervisor Matt LaVere and Dan Parziale,** executive director of Mesa Farm housing non-profit.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

**Connie Young**  
May 13

**Hutch Hutchinson**  
May 14

**Kellye Patterson**  
May 15

**Keith Moschetto**  
May 18