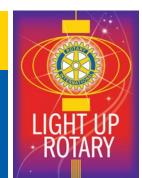
# **ROTARY SPOKES**

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



Volume VC Number 38 13 MAY 2015

## The Annual VHS Interact Bake Sale

Today's program is an annual event for our club which connects us with youngest members of the Rotarian family. The Bake Sale features sweet treats prepared by Interactors to raise funds for their annual projects.

The Ventura High School Interact Club meet regularly. VHS teacher Ena de la Cruz is the faculty advisor. Courtney Lindberg is the Ventura Rotarian who assists the Interactors in organizing their club and projects. Ventura Rotary also send club members to leadership training seminars to prepare them to be our future leaders!

Among their projects was a dance they organize for their physically and mentally challenged classmates.

Interact is a Rotary-sponsored service club for young people ages 14-18. The program gives young people an opportunity to participate in fun, meaningful service projects while developing leadership skills and meeting new friends. They are self-governing and self-supporting. Club membership varies greatly. Clubs can be single gender or mixed, large or small. They can draw from the student body of a single school or from two or more schools in the same community.

Interactors develop a network of friendships with local and overseas clubs and learn the importance of:

• Developing leadership skills and personal integrity





- Demonstrating helpfulness and respect for others
- Understanding the value of individual responsibility and hard work
- Advancing international understanding and goodwill

Interact, the Rotary youth program, was launched by the RI Board of Directors in 1962. The first Interact club was established by the Rotary Club of Melbourne, Florida. Interact clubs provide opportunities for boys and girls of secondary school age to work together in a world fellowship of service and international understanding. The term, Interact, is derived from "inter" for international, and "act" for action. Every Interact club must be sponsored and supervised by a Rotary club and must plan annual projects of service to its school, community and in the world.

Today there are over 11,000 Interact clubs with more than 250,000 members in over 120 countries and geographical regions.Brazil, India, the Philippines, and the United States boast the highest number of Interact clubs.

"Interactors" develop skills in leadership and attain practical experience in conducting service projects, thereby learning the satisfaction that comes from serving others. A major goal of Interact is to provide opportunities for young people to create greater understanding and goodwill with youth throughout the world.

## Meeting Recap of May 06

Sally Crain started the meeting off with a prayer, followed by RoseAnn Hill and Staci Johnson singing the R-O-T-A-R-Y song.

Lynda Girtsman, as chair of the Julius Gius Memorial Fund, presented a \$1,600.00 grant to the My Ocean Foundation. Sandra Laby auctioned some Ventura Music Festival tickets to benefit the club.

President Rob inducted Chad Caldwell to the club. Chad has the classification of "Real Estate Investments" and was sponsored by Gary Young.

Fining was conducted a little differently, with Indy Batra roving among tables asking questions about Rotary. For his Rotary Moment, Steve Bradvica, who annually works our Fourth of July event counting money, encouraged new members to volunteer for the upcoming event.

#### Program

Steve Doll introduced speaker Kevin Seelos, whom he has known since the ninth grade. Kevin's presentation was about life of his father, Robert Seelos, and particularly about his experiences during World War II. He was born into a farming family in Montana and studied at UM Missoula. We learned to fly and before the war, he trained at Ontario, finishing training just as Pearl Harbor happened.

He was assigned 306th Bombardment group, based in England. This group of unescorted B-17s was the first over Germany as a bombing group, bombing usually during the day. Oct 1942 was their first mission, over France. Needed to complete 25 missions.

Seelos' plane was dubbed the 'Montana Power.' Crewmembers needed to complete 25 missions to retire from this duty, which proved to be difficult. On April 5, 1943, his 19th mission, the plane was hit and crashed in Belgium. He was able to jump out at 18000 ft., but was eventually captured by German troops and imprisoned. He was involved in an elaborate planned escape from the POW camp. Involving two foot square tunnels 50 ft deep and 400 ft long. His internment lasted two years and 32 days,

### Today's Program VHS Interact Bake Sale

Introductions: Rotary Moment: Fining: Dan Holmes Mary Saputo Mike Anderson

**Future Programs** May 20 Member Spotlights May 27 Braille Institute Jun 03 Dr. Trudy Arriaga

during which he dropped weight from 179 to 123 lbs.



Steve Doll introduces his longtime friend, Kevin Seelos.



Kevin Seelos recounted the war experiences of his father, a B-17 pilot.



Gary Young affixes the club pin onto newly inducted Chad Caldwell.



Sandra Laby generously auctions off concert tickets.



Steve Bradvica used his Rotary Moment to encourage participation in the Fourth of July.



Marty Armstrong and Clint Crowell accept a grant from Lynda Girtsman and Rob vanNieuwburg..



Indy Batra takes his fining session to the people.



RoseAnn Hill and Staci Johnson lead the club in song as Sally Crain looks on from the dais.



## **New Member Proposal**

The following is proposed for membership:

Clint Crowell, proposed by Marty Armstrong with classification of "Sustainability Consulting."

If you have any objection to membership of this individual in our club, please contact the President or Secretary in writing within 7 days.

**May Birthdays** Jim Deardorff, May 06 Joe Schaaf, May 08 Connie Young, May 13 Hutch Hutchinson, May 14 Neal Andrews, May 15 Betsy Chess, May 24 Leo Tauber, May 26 Mel Cheatham, May 29





**Rotary Club of Ventura** Club #691

Gary C.K. Huang Rotary International President

**Loretta Butts** District 5240 Governor

Rob vanNieuwburg **Club President** 

venturarotary.org



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