

ROTARY SPOKES

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The “Wind Surfers” of DeAnza Academy of Technology and the Arts

Today’s presentation features five Ventura middle school students who have just won a national competition for wind energy in Washington, D.C. They are joined by their instructor, Alex Wulff.

The students are seventh-graders at DeAnza Academy of Technology and the Arts in west Ventura. After spending hours the day before the event adjusting their turbine’s settings and rigging it to generate more energy than it ever had, the Wind Surfers team went on to win the middle school portion of the national competition April 26. Its turbine performed so well that it set the middle school record for most energy generated with a wind turbine: 128 joules.

The contest was part of the KidWind Project, which aims to teach students about renewable energy and engineering. Middle and high school students on 33 teams from 10 states competed at the national event. The Blade Runners team from Copley, Ohio, won the high school division, generating 153 joules of energy with its turbine.

“The most exciting thing about the whole event is that they came in with a turbine that was a top third and just by prototyping like crazy and working together as a team, they moved from the top third to having a record-breaking turbine in one day,” said Alex Wulff, who attended the competition with the students.

The day before the contest, the students set up their turbine, which they had brought on the plane in a duffel bag. Over about two months, the team had fashioned the wind-harnessing device out of bicycle parts, PVC pipe and plastic components they created on a 3-D printer.

When they first put it together in Washington, the turbine did not perform as well as they had hoped, team member Peyton Erickson said. But they did not give up.



“Our closest competitors registered 2,000 milliwatts, and they left satisfied with that,” she said. “But we just kept working at it, hoping we could adjust it. After about two hours, we produced 2,100 milliwatts.”

The Wind Surfers returned to Ventura with a \$1,000 award that they split five ways



This article and photographs are reprinted from the Ventura County Star.

Recap of May 07 Meeting

For a bit of a flashback, Indy Batra invoked some “not so wise guy” material to start. Staci Johnson and RoseAnn Hill brought the abridged version of the “Battle Hymn of the Republic.”

JGMF chair Hutch Hutchinson presented a check for funds that will provide SAT workshop scholarships to members of Ventura High School’s AVID program which supports students seeking to be the first to attend college. Faculty advisors Linda Bergfeld and Lorelle Dawes presented two young ladies from the program who will be attending Cal Lutheran.

President Irene distributed special pins that acknowledge new members and their sponsors: Rob van Nieuwburg nad Staci Johnson; Curtis Cormane and Greg Abrams; and Steve Doll and Joe Schaaf were so awarded. For his Rotary Moment, Jeff King recalled his time with the Ventura High Interact, particularly with the students’ voracious love of pizza.

President Irene presented Lynda Girtsman with orchids as a ‘thank you’ for her help in her presidency.

Program

Curtis Cormane introduced the program. Rachel Morris, executive director of VCCool, a grassroots organization setting out to ‘respond to the climate crisis’ by improving the quality of life of our area.

The organization has quickly grown encompassing many sub-groups all concerned with promoting ‘active transportation’- non-motored mobility. Rachel described VCCool’s accomplishments, including bike rodeos, where children are taught safe cycling and receive free helmets; helped to create a Master Biking Plan and pushed for implementation, helped move \$700 million into SCAG and active transportaion projects. Future projects include “protected lanes” on roads for cyclists and Ventura Avenue improvements.

VCCool also operates the HUB Community bike shop on the Westside, which not only sells and repairs bicycles, but also teaches people of all ages to fix their own bikes and trains volunteers in bike maintenance.

Rachel said that the funding provided to her through the

Today’s Program *DeAnza Academy of Technology and the Arts*

Introductions: Greg Kincaid
Rotary Moment: Stephen Kipp
Fining: Rob vanNieuwburg

Future Programs

May 21 City of Ventura Police Chief Ken Corney
May 28 Ventura College: Phoenix Scholarship
Winners

JGMF will fund scholarships for students in the Street Smarts 101 class.



President Irene helps present a check to our guest speaker.



Rachel Morris talks about her organization’s activism in promoting ‘active transportation.’



Curtis Cormane receives a pin from Greg Abrams, who was sponsored by Curtis.



Rob vanNieuwburg brought Staci Johnson into the club and receives a pin to acknowledge that.



AVID program students Mariana and Ilyana thank the club for the scholarship funds.



District Governor touts an upcoming Polio Plus event. Check the DIstrict website for more details.



Indy Batra starts off the meeting the way he used to end them-bon mots from a not-so-wise-guy.



Jeff King shares his Rotary Moment about the feeding habits of high school kids.

President Irene's Demotion Party



**Hey Rotarians! Grab
your favorite poison
and toast to the end
of the Henry Regime!**



Discovery | Ventura
**Bowling, Cocktails
& California Cuisine**
1888 E. Thompson Blvd.
June 17, 2014
5:00 PM to 9:30 PM

May Birthdays	May Anniversaries
Jim Deardorff, May 06	Douglas Wood, May 09
Joe Schaaf, May 08	Gary Young, May 11
Connie Young, May 13	Hoot Bennett, May 13
Hutch Hutchinson, May 14	Greg & Sarah Abrams, May 19
Neal Andrews, May 15	Erik Feingold, May 27
Betsy Chess, May 24	Connie Young, May 27
Leo Tauber, May 26	Mel & Sylvia Cheatham, May 30
Mel Cheatham, May 29	Matt LaVere, May 30
	Jeff King, May 31

**VACCINES
HAVE
PREVENTED
10 MILLION
CASES OF
POLIO.**



TAKE ACTION: endpolionow.org

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	SPOKES	Editor Curtis Cormane (curtisvta@gmail.com) Assitant Editor David Wellik Photographers Jim Deardorff, Dan Holmes, Dave Wellik, Sarah Abrams