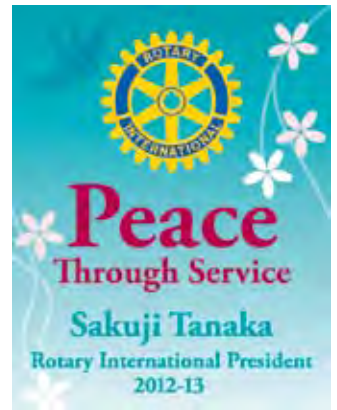


ROTARY SPOKES

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The Interact Bake Sale



Ventura High School Interactors invaded club member Melody Namikas' kitchen to bake and assemble the toothsome cakes and goodies for our bidding and consumption. Proceeds benefit the many Interact projects.

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 comprises some 20 members who meet regularly. Among their projects is a dance they organize for their physically and mentally challenged classmates, a canned food drive, a beach clean up and a speaker series in which they invite inspirational persons to talk about their lives.

VHS teachers Samantha Hazan and Justin Weber are the faculty advisors. Mario de la Piedra and Courtney Lindberg are the Ventura Rotarians who assist 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!

Interact is Rotary International's service club for young people ages 12 to 18. 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

As one of the most significant and fastest-growing programs of Rotary service, with more than 10,700 clubs in 109 countries and geographical areas, Interact has become a worldwide phenomenon. Almost 200,000 young people are involved in Interact.



Recap of May 15, 2013 Meeting

Dan Holmes provided the invocation and introductions, while RoseAnn Hill was solo no more as Clyde Reynolds joined her in a rousing “It’s A Grand Old Flag.”

Ellyn Dembowski spoke to the club about a scholarship program our club has donated funds to at Ventura College. Called “Phoenix” scholarships, they help re-entry students. A recipient of this award, Andrea Dunphy, was on hand to recount her compelling story. A single mother of two and a domestic violence survivor, she thanked the club for her scholarship which has given her hope for the future.

Christina Rust awarded Dave Wellik his blue badge for his completion of his red badge tasks. Christina stayed on to fine members on May holidays. She noted that the day was Police Officer’s Memorial Day.

Danny Balitski was formally inducted as a new member, sponsored by Gary Wolfe. Danny is the owner of T.R.E.E. Real Estate and is active in AYSO soccer, Little League and the Ventura Botanical Garden.

Dick Hatcher awarded Ellyn Dembowski with another Paul Harris Fellowship for her continued involvement on the board and our many events.

Program

Sherry Scott introduced the program, a group of veterans she has worked with in the past. The 1st Military Honor Division is a local group with members from each branch of service. The 1MHD Ventura has provided military honors for 337 veterans since January 2004. They step forward when the active military is unable to complete the request. The members receive official training in the traditional Veteran Service and they practice once a month.

Military funeral honors usually includes folding and presenting the United States burial flag, the playing of “Taps” and, at the cemetery, the firing of three rifle volleys of blank ammunition.

Each member present briefly spoke of their service, They included John Walker (Marines), Joe Knapp (Coast Guard), Bruce Taylor (navy), Jerry Watkins (Army) and Joe Saenz (Air Force). They also represent a variety of

Today’s Agenda

The Interact Bake Sale

Introductions
Larry Emrich

Rotary Moment
Larry Emrich

Fining
Cessy Figueroa

conflicts, from the Korean War to the first Gulf War. Their participation in the 1MHD allows them to cope with their own experiences, as well as honoring veterans who sacrificed so much.

The group ended their program with a reenactment of their ceremony.



Members of the 1st Military Honor Division each spoke of their service in the five branches of the Armed Forces.



Danny Balitski was inducted as the newest member. Be sure to welcome him!

Upcoming Events

Newcomers Meeting

C Street Restaurant, Crowne Plaza Hotel
May 24, 2013 07:30 AM - 8:30 AM

Club Social

Ventura Yacht Club
Jun 13, 2013 Times TBD

President Indy's Demotion

Crowne Plaza Hotel
Jun 18, 2013 05:00 PM - 09:00 PM



Dan Holmes provided the Invocation and Introductions.



A surprised Ellyn Dembowski accepts her latest Paul Harris felloeship as President Indy looks on.



Andrea Dunphy, a recipient of a Ventura College Phoenix Award scholarship, shares her life story.



Dave Wellik became the Club's newest blue badger after surviving Christina Rust's introduction!

Senior Pancake Breakfast, May 18, 2013



Hema Taranchandani wields strips of bacon before going into the oven.



Indy Batra's brother joined Sheila Fatarelli, Andy Soter, Lynda Girtsman, Neal Andrews, Indy and Curtis Cormane.



Tom Naylor tests the griddle with a test batch of pancakes.



Steve Girtsman prepares for the seniors while Greg Kincaid, Jeff Lambert and Frank Cormane prep bacon.

Rotary Club of Ventura 2012-2013

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 *Non-Voting Position

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