




ROTARY SPOKES

Rotary Club of Ventura

Est. May 1, 1919

“The Friendliest Club in Rotary”

November 20, 2022

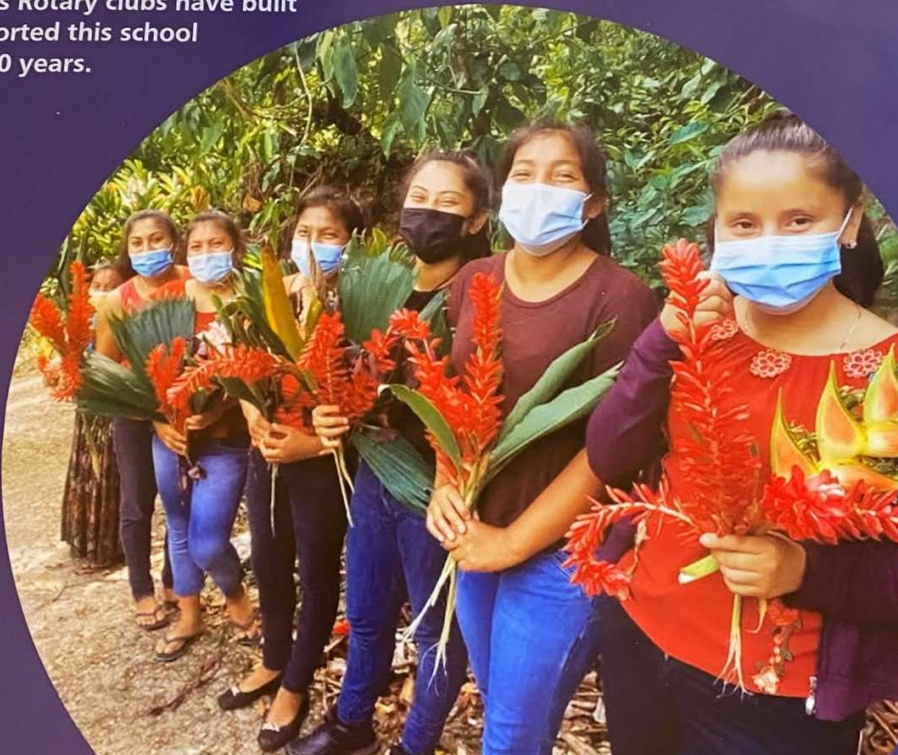
Rotary 
Club of Ventura

GUEST SPEAKER

George Poulakos

Rotary Team Trip to Ak'Tenamit in Guatemala

Ak'Tenamit is a boarding school of over 600 Indigenous Mayan students aged 12-18 in the Rio Dulce area of Eastern Guatemala. Numerous Rotary clubs have built and supported this school for over 20 years.



MEETING NOVEMBER 16, 2022

Lunch: Ham, Potatoes, Salad, Fruit, and a cinnamon cream corn dish

Inspiration: Joslynn Skelton – “Check-Mate” Story

Visiting Guests: Michael MacDonald

Announcements: Coats for Kids- Kristin
Interact Club at Pacific H.S., we raised over \$6300 last meeting- Lynda

SPEAKER: GEORGE POULAKOS; AK' TENAMIT



George said and I quote, “I find projects to take our money”

AK' Tenamint:

- A Mayan term meaning “New Village”
- The school of over 600 students is managed entirely by the Q’eqchi people; Steve is actively involved as the Chief Technical Advisor
- It is viewed as a model globally for its effective grassroots approach to vocational education, income generation, and health care

Goals for Ak' Tenamit

- Provide shelter and education for at-risk youth ages 12-18
- Help youth develop skills and gainful employment
- Establish internships and job opportunities

- Provide initial financial and emotional support for graduates to help ensure success

Education Provides Alternatives to Migration

- Hands-on experiences provide the knowledge and skills for gainful employment in Guatemala
- Students are assisted in finding and keeping employment
- Graduates pledge to give back a percentage of their income to their village

Rotarians have been huge supporters for over 20 years, contributing:

- Medical supplies and equipment
- Funds and labor to build new dorms and classrooms
- A floating dental clinic
- Solar energy equipment and supplies
- New boat engines
- Computer labs
- Restaurant equipment and supplies
- Family water filters

The team trip to Guatemala is March 25 to April 2, 2022. See attached poster.

A big thank you to Joslynn Sketon for reporting on
and photographing the meeting!
There will be no meeting and no Spokes this coming
week.
Happy Thanksgiving to all!

UPCOMING EVENTS

(For up-to-date and more complete information, see our web site, VenturaRotary.org)

November 23: NO MEETING THIS WEEK

November 30 lunch meeting: Hutch Hutchinson and the Rotary Foundation District Chair.

December 7 lunch meeting: Mika Feli and Bruce Conger, Ventura County Grand Jury.

December 10: Winter Social, 6:00-10:00 p.m. at the home of Betsy Chess RSVP to Sandy Lassila by text or at lassilas@roadrunner.com by December 1. (See flier.)

December 14 lunch meeting: Mike Schwartz will discuss the historical roots of **Hanukkah**.

December 17: Holiday Party for Westside families. Arise Ventura Church, 831 N. Olive St., Ventura, 9:30 a.m-4:00 p.m.

Note that the **Million Dollar Dinner** has been postponed until later in the Spring of 2023.



Rotary Team Trip to Ak'Tenamit in Guatemala

Destination: Ak'Tenamit, a boarding school of over 600 Indigenous Mayan students aged 12-18 in the Rio Dulce area of Eastern Guatemala. Numerous Rotary clubs have built and supported this school for over 20 years.

Purpose: To gain an understanding of the needs of children in this region of Guatemala, and to provide assistance at the school, which is viewed as a model globally for its grassroots approach to vocational education.

Potential Tasks: Light construction, computer training, teaching (English and Spanish, agricultural methods, hygiene, healthcare, CPR), aiding in healthcare clinics. All ages (14 and up) and fitness levels can take part.

Dates of the Trip: March 25 to April 2, 2023

Transportation and Meals (total trip costs \$1500 to \$2000)

- **Flights: Arrivals:** 4½ hour, non-stop flight from LAX (Delta 1897 or Volaris 4093) to Guatemala City; 1 hour connecting flight to Puerto Barrios (TAG 5U714). **Departures:** Puerto Barrios (TAG 5U701) to Guatemala City and non-stop back to LAX (Delta 1903 or UA 1138). Flights booked individually.
- **Hotels:** Villa Caribe in Livingston (7 nights); and one night at either the Inter-Continental or Westin in Guatemala City; booked by host and payable at end of stay.
- **Transportation from hotels to school:** Covered motorized boats holding twelve people. \$100.00 deposit at time of registration will cover all transportation.
- **Meals:** Lunch at school restaurant; dinner at Buga Mama restaurant in Livingston. Both school-owned and managed; paid individually at end of trip.

Deadline for registration: January 15, 2023.

Contact: George Poulakos at 954-494-4387, or gjpoulakos@gmail.com

Guatemala Tomorrow Fund (501-C) website for more information: thegtfund.org