

# ROTARY SPOKES

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## European Riverboat Vacations



Today's Presentation features Rudi Schreiner, the President of AmaWaterways. The topic: "How European riverboat vacations came to be."

Touring Europe by riverboat has become an extremely popular option for Americans travelling across the pond; yet 20 years ago this type of a travel didn't exist and Rudi was the man who introduced the concept to America. He is president of one of the top companies in the field, AmaWaterways which has its world headquarters in Calabasas. Rudi is a long-time resident of Ventura County.

AmaWaterways operates the finest fleet and provides all-inclusive river cruise vacations on the great waterways of Europe, Russia, Vietnam and Cambodia. With an innovative product and rapidly-growing fleet of custom-designed ships, the line enjoys a reputation as the leader in river cruising.

AmaWaterways was founded in 2002 by Rudi Schreiner, Kristin Karst and Jimmy Murphy. All three brought tremendous experience, knowledge and dedication to the venture. Rudi was one of river cruising's pioneers, having introduced the modern-day river cruise concept to the market. Kristin brought with her vast sales and customer service experience. And Jimmy Murphy is the founder and former owner of Brendan Vacations. Their combined expertise and passion for the river cruise

business results in a river cruise vacation experience that will exceed expectations. With more than 20 different itineraries to choose from, the river cruise vacation of a lifetime awaits. The company has grown substantially and their commitment to excellence continues to thrive. AmaWaterways leads the way in river cruising thanks to their fleet of customized ships, expansive amenities and personalized service. Their pioneering features include offerings such as French balconies, complimentary in-stateroom Internet, WiFi access, award-winning dining plus guided bicycle tours. Their newest ships extend these innovative concepts even further by offering larger staterooms with twin balconies, multiple dining venues and more.

The fleet of vessels now numbers twelve, including the 164-passenger AmaCerto, their largest and most imaginative ship. Inspired by classic luxury yachts, she features exclusive twin balcony staterooms, multiple indoor and outdoor dining venues, a heated swimming pool, a stunning glass elevator and much more.

They continue to evolve the river cruising experience every year. In Europe, you can discover the cultures of a dozen countries linked together from the North Sea to the Black Sea. You can immerse yourself in a Provencal landscape that inspired painters, poets and writers. Or marvel at the monuments of Imperial Russia, or explore the ancient wonders of the Mekong.

## Recap of October 23 Meeting

Lucas Johnston quoted Ronald Reagan in the aftermath of the government shutdown. Sonny Shah, Staci Johnson and RoseAnn Hill sang 'America the Beautiful.' Kristin Taylor announced that some 30 club members are actively involved in this year's Coats for Kids. She reminded everyone that the boxes will be ready for pickup at the October 30 meeting. Rob van Niuewburg spoke briefly of the Rotary District 5240 conference held the previous weekend in San Luis Obispo. The focus of the conference was about team building.

The Color Run appears to have been a success for the club and it was a lot of fun for both the participants and volunteers. Mario de la Piedra, who organized the effort for the club, thanked the volunteering groups such as Interact (they provided over 100 volunteers!) Rotaract and our own club. He personally thanked Courtney Lindberg, Irene Henry, Mary Saputo, Steve Doll and Mark Kirwin as well. Initial figures include \$1,000 in donations from runners, \$9,500 for volunteers showing up at the event and advertising brought in about \$1,000-1,500.

President Irene had placed candy bars at each table to demonstrate the cost of one dose of vaccine that could save a child's life- 12 cents, or half the cost of that candy.

Roger Case fined on the origins of Halloween and its traditions. Jim Duran's Rotary moment went back to when, as a youth, he played in a Rotary-sponsored baseball league. Despite initial issues with getting hit by balls, he stuck with it.

### Program

Norbert Tan introduced Dr. Greg Gillespie, the new President of Ventura College and David Keebler, VP Financial Services. Dr. Gillespie spoke on "The Impact of Ventura College." VC has had a great legacy for 85 years and is committed to relevant programming. The college provides access to students who would succeed in achieving degrees or transfer. The recently adopted State Student Success Act requires the college to provide critical support services on their front end of the educational experience. VC will continue to seek out Community Connections and Partnerships and maintain communications, all with students as the priority.

David Keebler spoke of a statistic that 67% of future

## Today's Program

### *European Riverboat Vacations with Rudi Schreiner*

Introductions: xxx  
Rotary Moment: Saurabh Bajaj  
Finishing: Brenda Allison

### Future Programs

Nov. 6 Chris Figuerida, Cycle for Heart  
Nov. 13 State of the Post Office

employment will not require a bachelor's degree. So how do we reach out to them? A major project is in the works - an applied technology center to help bridge this issue with meaningful curricula.



*The new Ventura College President, Dr. Greg Gillespie, outlined the goals of the college.*



*VC Vice-President was pleased to announce that the financial situation at the college appears stable.*



*As head of the Ventura College Foundation, Norbert Tan introduced the speakers today.*



*Jim Duran provided the humorous Rotary Moment that ended with a positive reflection on Rotarian values.*



*Roger Case was the finemaster and focused on origins of Halloween lore and tradition.*



*Prez Irene makes announcements from the dais.*



*Lucas Johnston started the meeting with a quote from the 'Gipper.'*



*For his Happy Dollar, Ron Bamieh gushed like a proud papa over his daughter's national mock trial success.*

# WHY DOES POLIO ERADICATION MATTER?

REDUCED BY

**99%**

Polio has been reduced by 99% and we are closer than ever to ending it.



**No child anywhere in the world** will have to suffer from this crippling disease.



**Reaching all children with the polio vaccine leads the way** to reaching them with other life-saving resources.



**Until polio is stopped,** children everywhere are at risk.



**Achieving a polio-free world** will prove what's possible when the global community comes together to improve children's lives.

**JOIN IN.** Share your voice and donate. Let's make history together. [Endpolionow.org](http://Endpolionow.org)



The bulletin is uploaded every week now to our Facebook page, as well as other images and notices of club activities. Please 'like' us!

### October Birthdays

- John Williams, Oct 04
- Sandra Laby, Oct 10
- Scott Patterson, Oct 12
- Jim Duran, Oct 13
- David Wellik, Oct 21
- Brenda Allison, Oct 24
- Bob Cheatham, Oct 28

### October Anniversaries

- Lucas Johnston, Oct 06
- Jim Newton, Oct 11
- Juan Soto, Oct 14
- Ellyn Dembowski, Oct 23

### Upcoming Events

**November 1;**  
start collecting coats!



Rotary Club of Ventura  
Club #691

**Ron Burton**  
Rotary International  
President

**Jack McClenahan**  
District 5240 Governor

**Irene Henry**  
Club President

[venturarotary.org](http://venturarotary.org)



### OFFICERS

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President Elect	Rob vanNieuwburg
Secretary	Jim Deardoff
Recording Secretary *	Christina Rust
Treasurer	Connie Young
Assistant Treasurer *	Mark Sauer
Immediate Past President	Indy Batra
	<i>*Non-Voting Position</i>

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Assistant Director	Roz Warner
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Director	Ron Calkins
Assistant Director	Steve Warriner
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Director	Christina Rust
Assistant Director	Albert McCartney
<b>New Generations</b>	
Director	Courtney Lindberg
Assistant Director	Dale Jaedtke
<b>Vocational Service</b>	
Director	Jeff King
Assistant Director	Mary Saputo

### SPOKES

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