



ROTARY SPOKES

*The Rotary Club of Ventura
Weekly Bulletin*

"The friendliest club in Rotary"

100% Paul Harris Club



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Photographers: John McConica II, Dan Holmes
Jim Deardorff, Steve Doll
September 14, 2011

Meeting of September 7, 2011 **Program – Elderhostel** **Reporter: RoseAnn Hill**

Introductions

The meeting was opened on a beautiful sunny day by President Lynda Girtsman, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Todd Binkley. Todd



then read excerpts from the classic poem "If" by Rudyard Kipling. We had seven visiting Rotarians from other clubs, and Dave Bianco had a member of his fan club at the meeting to hear his presentation.

Announcements:

The Sunrise Rotary Foundation and Rotary Club of Westlake Village Sunrise will present the 25th annual Charitable Golf and Tennis Tournaments to benefit the Prostate Cancer Foundation at 11 a.m. Mon., Sept. 19 at North Ranch Country Club, 4761 Valley Spring Drive, Westlake Village. The tourney will begin with a putting contest for a five day-four night Carnival cruise. New this year is a helicopter golf ball drop; the winner will receive up to \$5,000. For more information and to register, call John Newhouse at (818) 707-2275 or go to www.wlvsunriserotarygolf.com.

Barbara Asbell, who heads the Sunshine Committee, asked members to be sure to let her know when fellow members need cheering up or help. She also reminded us that PRLS is spelled thusly, not PEARLS. PRLS stands for Potential Rotary Leaders Seminars. A full schedule can be found at www.prls.org. Master PRLS I is being held on Sat., Sept. 17 at the Santa Maria Inn, and Basic PRLS will be held Oct. 8 at CLU.

Special Awards:

Jim Deardorff was honored by Lynda Girstman with a Paul Harris fellowship for his many contributions to our club; his pin now has five sapphires.

Congratulations, Jim, you deserve it!

Lynda also presented several members with

attendance awards: Norm Blacher 25 years perfect attendance with 26 years in Rotary; Ed Campbell 13 years and 13 in Rotary, Jim Deardorff 17 and 29 in Rotary, Rosa Lee Measures, 14 and 14 in Rotary, Rob van Nieuwburg 16 and 22 in Rotary and Juan Soto, 6 years with 9 years in Rotary.

Rotary Moment:



Nancy Cone's Rotary Moment came before she joined Rotary, while working with Tom Naylor on the Senior Pancake Breakfasts and BBQs. She loved our club's attitude and camaraderie, so when Tom invited her to consider joining the club, she couldn't say "no". Lynda thanked Nancy for the several articles she has written for *The Breeze*

about our club's activities.

Web addresses: Club www.venturarotary.org – **Photos:** www.rotarycov.smugmug.com
District 5240 www.rotarydistrict5240.org – **R.I.** www.rotary.org

Meeting Programs & Assignments

Programs

Chair: Larry Emrich

September 14, 2011

Learning Ally

Tom Reul, Chair of the Ctr/So CA Board

September 21, 2011

ROTARACT

*Members summarize their 1st year projects
and plans for the future*

September 28, 2011

Ventura County Financial Issues

Introductions

Chair: Ron Calkins

Sep 14 – Doug Halter

Sep 21 – Dennis LaRochelle

Rotary Moment

Chair: Terri Adams

Sep 14 – RoseAnn Hill

Sep 21 – Steve Doll

Fining

Chair: Ron Bamieh

Sep 14 – Cheryl Heitman

Sep 21 – Larry Bird

2011-12 Officers and Directors

Officers

President Lynda Girtsman
President Elect Indy Batra
Secretary Jim Deardoff
Recording Secretary * Larry Emrich
Treasurer Christine Tonello
Assistant Treasurer * Mark Sauer
Immediate Past President Hutch Hutchinson
•Non-Voting Position

Avenues of Service

Club Service

Director Terry Schaeffer
Assistant Director Dan Holmes

Community Service

Director Curtis Cormane
Assistant Director Nanci Cone

International Service

Director Mario de la Piedra
Assistant Director Ed McCombs

New Generations

Director Ellyn Dembowski
Assistant Ken Cooper

Vocational Service

Director Bill Finley
Assistant Todd Binkley

Fining:



Gary Wolff quizzed members on our beautiful Channel Islands, fining a number of people that didn't recognize the landmarks he listed. Curtis Cormane insisted that one of the Channel Islands is Staten Island (wrong coastline, Curtis, sorry).

Larry Bird was commended for completing Basic PRLS. Don Leach donated a round of golf for four people that he had won; it was auctioned off by Todd Binkley and won by Scott Peterson. Thanks, Don and Scott. Several members donated Happy Dollars, including Ed Campbell, who is delighted about his daughter's successful back surgery.

Program:

Dave Loe introduced our own Dave Bianco, who gave the day's program on Elder Hostel. Elder Hostel began in 1975 after Dave got the idea from seeing a friend with a shock of white hair standing in front of a Youth Hostel sign. Elder Hostel has revolutionized education for seniors. From its beginnings with only six women, whom Dave referred to as the "six apostles" that spread the word through articles and word-of-mouth, Elder Hostel now consists of over 10,000 programs throughout the world.



He noted that the program filled a need for people of the Greatest Generation that wanted to keep on learning, and now Baby Boomers are part of the picture. A name change now has the program known as Road Scholar. Its average attendee is 72 years old, but offers

education and adventure to knowledge-seekers of all ages.

Dave taught us a new word – opesmath, which means a person who undertakes study late in life, a person who learns late in life (an old dog that can learn new tricks). He pointed out that age is something that doesn't matter – unless you are a cheese!

After the conclusion of Dave's presentation, Lynda announced the upcoming District Conference to be held Oct. 21-23 and a Peace Conference coming up in Palm Springs on Nov. 13. She then adjourned the meeting.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

SEPTEMBER – NEW GENERATIONS MONTH

Every year, thousands of talented and dedicated young people have an incredible experience in a New Generations program.

As Rotaractors and Interactors, they serve in communities and abroad. Through Rotary Youth Exchange, they explore new cultures. And as Rotary Youth Leadership Awards participants, they learn skills that will help them succeed as future community leaders.

Let us all help to turn these future leaders into the next generation of Rotarians!

September 14: Learning Ally

Imagine a student who has difficulty reading textbooks for classes. Now imagine that student putting on a pair of headphones and learning through listening.

Learning Ally is an organization that uses 6,000 nationwide volunteers to record textbooks for students who have difficulty reading due to blindness, dyslexia or other learning disabilities. Formerly named "Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic", Learning Ally helps more than 300,000 students from kindergarten through college and graduate school, plus veterans and life-long learners, to access the knowledge they need to succeed.

September 21: ROTARACT

Rotaract members summarize their 1st year projects and plans for next year

September 28: County Financial Issues

Matt Carrol, second in command at the County CEO's office discusses the financial picture for the county now and moving forward.

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 15 (Thursday) – 11:45 AM

Board Meeting at 71 Palms

Attendance qualifies as a make-up if within the make-up period.

September 23 (Friday) – 7:30 AM

Newcomers' Breakfast – Crowne Plaza C Street Restaurant

For more information contact Tom Naylor

September 25 (Sunday)

Group Study Exchange arrives from South Korea

For more information go to the District website www.rotarydistrict5240.org

October 20 – 23 (Thursday – Sunday)

District 5240 Conference – Carpinteria

For more information go to the District website www.rotarydistrict5240.org

November 13 (Sunday) - 1:00 PM

Peace Conference – Palm Springs Convention Center

Keynote Speaker: Mr. Arun Gandhi, grandson of Mahatma Gandhi

Other Speakers, Breakout Sessions & Displays

For informational flyer and registration go to our club website under "stories" www.venturarotary.org

PRLS & MPRLS Schedule:

Basic PRLS – Oct 8, TBA (South)

MPRLS 1 – Sep 17, Santa Maria

MPRLS 2 – Sep 24, Santa Maria

MPRLS 3 – Oct 29, TBA

MPRLS 4 – Aug 27, Santa Maria

MPRLS 5 – Oct 08, Santa Maria

For more information contact Barbara Asbell or go to the PRLS website www.prls.org