



ROTARY SPOKES

Rotary Club of Ventura

Est. May 1, 1919

"The Friendliest Club in Rotary"

September 24, 2023

BEACHSIDE BASH



The Rotary Clubs of Ventura, Ventura East and Ventura South hosted the End of Summer Beachside Bash on Saturday, September 23, 2023, at San Buenaventura State Beach Park. The event included the SCR National Ribeye Steak Cookoff, Eight-0-Five Car Show, live bands Nautical Thrust and The Bomb, food trucks, and vendors. It was a beautiful day and a great event! Thanks to the committee, and all the sponsors, volunteers, VIPs, and guests!



MEETING SEPTEMBER 20, 2023

Attendance: 35

Lunch: French dip sandwiches (shredded beef, onions and peppers, rolls, au jus), potato wedges, fruit, green salad, cake for dessert. The tables were adorned with joke cards, blowers, and rubber chickens suitable for shooting across the room.

Introductions/Flag salute/Inspirational message:

Margi Wray shared four jokes, including: “If you think you’re too small to be effective, you’ve never been in a small room with a mosquito.”



Song: Jessica, RoseAnn and Bev led singing of “This Land Is Your Land.”

Announcements:

Mark Sauer distributed forms to donate above the minimum for the **Rotary Foundation** and/or **Julius Gius Memorial Rotary Foundation** with your quarterly dues.

Happy Dollars. Several members spent their Happy Dollars to tell a joke. (I may have to start paying people to listen to my jokes!) Bev Ward’s snail joke prompted additional jokes about the lowly gastropods. Among the sad dollars was the news from Sally Crain that former member Randy Hinton died the previous night.

Fining: Jim Deardorff gave a challenging and informative quiz regarding the County of Ventura. The County is celebrating the 150th anniversary of its founding. For information about events commemorating the anniversary, go to venturacounty150.com.



Program: Comedy Hour. Thanks to Saurabh Bajaj for organizing this event! After he told some warm-up jokes, contestants Anil Aggarwal, Madhu Bajaj, Jessica Brandon, Dan Holmes, Ken Leandro, Mike Schwartz, and Joslynn Skelton took the microphone to compete for the funniest joke. We finished in just a few minutes so volunteers from the audience chimed in with their own ha-ha’s including Rob van Nieuwburg, Neal Lassila, Hutch Hutchinson, Brenda Allison-Hutchinson, and Kristin Taylor. (Sorry if I left anyone out.) Members voted by tooting their blowers. The

grand prize of a Simones coffee gift card went to Hutch for his joke about Baby Bear in the Goldilocks story. (She did not want to live with Papa Bear or Mama Bear because they beat her. Instead, she wanted to live with Grandmother Bear in Chicago because “the Chicago Bears never beat anyone.”) Runners up were awarded joke books or funny hats.

UPCOMING EVENTS

(For more complete and up-to-date information, check the ClubRunner app on your phone, or our website)

Sept. 27 Coats for Kids committee, 11:30 a.m., Poinsettia Pavilion.

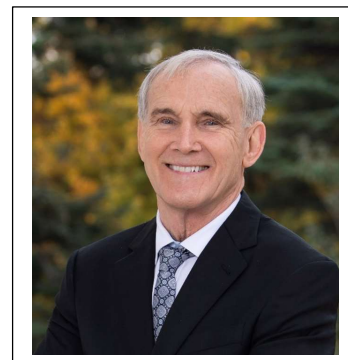


Sept. 27 lunch meeting: Dr. Sevet Johnson, CEO of the County of Ventura. Dr. Johnson oversees 27 county agencies and departments with an operating budget of \$2.7 billion and nearly 10,000 employees. She is a licensed clinical psychologist and previously served as the director of the County’s Behavioral Health Department and then as Chief Deputy Director of the County’s Health Care Agency. She earned her Bachelor’s degree from the University of Boston, a Master’s in Marriage and Family Therapy from Pepperdine, and a Master’s in Psychology and Doctorate in Clinical Psychology from Alliant University. She was appointed as County CEO by the Board of Supervisors in August, 2022. She is committed to diversity and equity and serving underserved populations.

Sept. 28: Board Meeting, Crowne Plaza Hotel, 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

Sept. 28: Meet Assemblymember Steve Bennett, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m., in the Crista McAuliffe Room, Ventura Unified School District Office, 225 W. Stanley Ave., Ventura. Short program at 6:00 followed by question-answer period. Refreshments served. Plenty of parking for the event. Enter through the door closest to the outdoor picnic tables. RSVP to Madhu.

Steve Bennett was elected to the Assembly in November 2020 and represents the 38th district that includes Ventura and Oxnard. A former Ventura County Supervisor, Steve first served his community as a high school Economics and American History teacher for over 20 years. Now as an Assemblymember, he is working towards effectively addressing climate change, improving storage capacity of renewable energy, increasing the stock of truly affordable housing, and serving his constituents with honest and timely access.



Oct. 3: Reception for District Governor Marta Golding Brown, Portside Clubhouse, 1196 Portside, Ventura, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. RSVP to Madhu.

Oct. 4: Board members meet with District Governor, 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Cañada Larga Room, Poinsettia Pavilion.

Oct. 4 lunch meeting: District Governor Marta Golding Brown.

Oct. 10: Pacific High School Interact, 9:45 - 11:00 a.m., at the school. Students will tell us about their school and we will have small group discussions about leadership, service, and life. Contact Madhu with questions or to RSVP.

Oct. 11 lunch meeting: Jumar Grooms: Diversity Equity, and Inclusion.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

Abiel Acosta
September 30

CELEBRATING CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

Linda Hewitt
September 21
One year

Anne King
September 22
Two years