Editor: Jordan Eller & Steve Phillips Volume XLVI, Number 8

Rotary Club of Ventura-East • Official Newsletter and Bulletin

Publisher: Jeff Hata September 3, 2009

Meeting September 3, 2009

Reported by Jordan Eller



Sam Marsh introduced guests and visiting Rotarians.

President Jeff rang the bell and invited everybody to lunch. Guests and visiting Rotarians to the front of the line!

Our Inspirational Message today was given by John Masterson and our Flag Salute was led by Jim Emch.

Sam Marsh introduced our guests and visiting Rotarians. Husam Hishmeh had as his guest today A.C. from

the Health Department and Gary Wolf was a visiting Rotarian from the Downtown club.

Deborah Perkins announced that our raffle prize was \$50 and was donated by Dick Gallagher.

Announcements:

District Conference is Oct. 23 - 25 at the Ventura Beach Marriott.

Rotary Westlake Village is hosting a Golf Challenge with a perpetual trophy at stake. Husam Hishmeh is putting together a team.

Thank you to Jordan Eller and Bill Gray for organizing a terrific BBQ for SemTek. We had plenty of help and the food was absolutely awesome. We may be getting another BBQ



John Masterson gave our Inspirational Message.

for over 200 people the food and service was so good. Thank you for your hard work and great organizational skills.

Also, we need to support California Main Course. They saved us over \$500 in food costs and also opened



Deborah Perkins conducted our Rotary Recognition Session.

up their kitchen so we could prep the food.

Our Piggy BBQ is September 19th. Remember our meeting for September 17th is being moved to September 19th.

The Rotary Clubs of Ventura will be hosting the Ventura Chamber Mixer on September 24th. Come on out and let's look for potential members.

John Masterson spoke on behalf of the membership committee and how we must not be afraid to invite potential members. Also, we should look to former members. This is an area where maybe their circumstances have changed and they are able to come back to Rotary. We never know unless we ask them.

Avenues of Service reports:

Husam reported that the Vocational Service committee will be meeting the last Thursday of the month at 5:30 at Husam's office.

Judy Hoag reminded everyone that Judy, Jan Lindsay and Tom Crozier will be in Nicaragua from September 8th to the 15th. They will be looking over some of our Meeting, cont'd on page 3

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Web Addresses

www.rotaryventuraeast.org

R.I.: www.rotary.org • District 5240: www.rotarydistrict5240.org

Presidents Message ...



Jeff HataPresident 2009-2010

September 26th is the United Way's Day of Caring. On this day the United Way tries to get groups and individuals involved with helping non-profits work on various projects that need to be done.

This year the Turning Point Foundation is working on a project called "River Haven." The Ventura-Downtown club has made a sizeable financial donation towards the project and the Ventura-South club has also made a donation.

Due to commitments that our club has already made our board decided that we could not make a financial donation, but I am encouraging our members to come out on September 26th to help construct U-Domes for the River Haven Community.

For those of you who do not know, there is a tent community at Harbor Boulevard and Olivas Park Dr. This community is called River Haven and is an alternative transitional housing program. There are currently 25 homeless adults living there.

The goal of the River Haven project is to remove the tents these people are living in, clean up the site and replace the tents with U-Domes. I will have fliers at our meeting with the details, but there will be two days to volunteer. September 19th and September 26th. Since September 19th is our Piggy BBQ day, I'm not sure it would be practical for us to volunteer on the 19th, but it would be very nice to see a group of us out there on the 26th to help build the U-Domes. They will be building 19 U-Domes all together.

So remember, September 26th is the United Way's Day of Caring and if you assist in the U-Dome project or not, find a favorite non-profit of yours that is doing a Day of Caring project and donate some time.

This Friday is September 11th. It was only 8 short years ago that our nation was changed forever. We should all take some time out of our week to remember the horror and fear that we all felt and never forget the many thousands of people who tragically lost their lives on that day. Also, take some time out to think about and thank our men and women in our armed forces who are working so diligently to make sure we are as safe as we can be and are able to enjoy the liberties and freedom that we have.

YIRS Jeff

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Nicolette Sloan	Director 2007-2010
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Henry Oster	Director 2008-2011
Deborah Perkins	Director 2009-2012
Robert Pazen	Director 2009-2012

Avenues of Service Directors

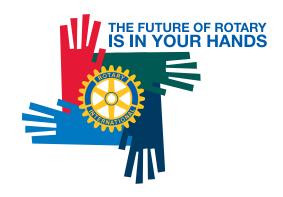
Wendy Pazen	Club Service
Husam Hishmeh	Vocational Service
Tom Swan	Community Service
Gary Moratz	New Generations
Dave Anderson / Judy Hoag	International Service
Mark Smith	Interact

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The Four Way Test

First ... Is it the TRUTH? Second ... Is it FAIR to all concerned? Third ... Will it build GOOD WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS? Fourth ... Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?



Meeting, cont'd from page 1

Programs

Program Chair: Rocky Ludes

September 10, 2009

State of the Auto Industry - John Masterson **September 17, 2009**

Meeting moved to Sept. 19th - Piggy BBQ

September 24, 2009

Avenues of Service

October 1, 2009

D.G.'s Visit - D.G. Luz Maria Ortiz Smith

Greeters

September 10, 2009

Midge Stork & Joe Strohman **September 19, 2009**

Tom Swan & Vance Thompson September 24, 2009

Sandy Waddell & Monte Widders October 1, 2009

Jim Word & Dave Anderson

Rotary Recognition Program Chair: Rich Stewat

September 10, 2009 - TBA

September 19, 2009 - N/A

September 24, 2009 - TBA October 1, 2009 - TBA

Meetings

TBA

New Member Training Session

September 17, 2009

Vocational Service

3rd Thu/Month, 1811 Knoll Dr. 5:30 PM

October 6, 2009

Board of Directors Meeting

1st Tue/Month, DW's, 1985 S. Victoria Ave, 7:00 AM

September 14, 2009

Club Service

2nd Mon/Month, Carrows Telephone Rd. 5:30 PM

September 14, 2009

Community Service

2nd Mon/Month, 290 Maple Ct #118 5:30 PM

September 15, 2009

International Service 3rd Tue/Month, Marie Callendars (Victoria) Dr. Noon

September 17, 2009

New Generations

2nd Thu/Month, 1811 Knoll Dr. 5:30 PM

Every Monday

Buena Interact Club

Buena High School, Room 48 12:30 PM

older projects as well as some new projects we have going on.

Jeff Hata announced that our Casino Night is coming along. So far we have budgeted expenses of \$7,000 and we have sponsorship commitments of \$5,000. With the tickets out we should cover our expenses. Thank you to everyone who has stepped up and bought a sponsorship, is selling tickets or will be donating an auction item. Your efforts are appreciated. We still need more auction and raffle items though!



Scott Swanson spoke to us about Habitat for Humanity.

Deborah Perkins led our Rotary Recognition session with the topic of the Breeze. Based on the answers it appears more people need to read the Breeze.

Deborah Perkins then held our raffle drawing which was won by Steve Phillips

Rocky Ludes then introduced our speakers.

Today's program was from Habitat for Humanity. Board President Scott Swanson and Secretary Nancy Staley - both Rotarians – showed slides and spoke about Habitat. The organization was founded in 1976. The Ventura affiliate, the first in the State, was created in 1983. Habitat is working to eliminate poverty housing in the County.

Habitat works with a variety of volunteers and organizations. The homes built by Habitat are sold without profit to low income families after quite a screening process. However, families are selected according to the Federal Fair Housing Laws. Habitat acts as the "bank" but charges no interest to the families. The monthly payments include an impound amount for property taxes and homeowner's insurance and usually range from \$450 to \$650 per month. Many families pay their monthly payments in person. The family income must be between 30-50% of the median income in the county, which is \$70,000 per year. Therefore, qualifying family income would range between \$21,000 and \$35,000 per year. Each family chosen to receive a home must provide 500 hours of "sweat equity."

In Ventura County, Habitat has built almost 50 homes and rehabilitated or repaired about 500. From their general contributions, they have also helped build 100 homes in Malawi, Africa. Land is often acquired from local cities at no cost, allowing the home to be built and sold far below market. However, permits and fees can add significant costs to the home.

Scott and Nancy showed pictures and commented about Habitat homes built in the county. Because recipients purchase their home, there is a distinct pride of ownership that often is missing among

Meeting, cont'd on page 4

some who rent. Habitat prohibits families from renting any part of their home, and maintains a first right to purchase if the family wishes to sell.

Habitat also operates ReStore, a unique thrift store. Located north of Oxnard on Vineyard, this store has materials and fixtures that could be used in another home, such as cabinets, plumbing fixtures, lighting fixtures, major kitchen appliances, windows, air conditioning units, ceramic tile and much more, all available for sale to anyone wanting to do some remodeling or repairing.

Each home is built with volunteer labor supervised by two full-time employees. Working on a home builds a lot of teamwork, and some companies have used this as a teambuilding exercise. If you are interested to participate, call their office and ask for the volunteer coordinator. More information is available at www.habitatventura.org.

Thanks Scott and Nancy for your presentation.

== Rocky

GSE breaks new ground

By Jennifer Lee Atkin Rotary International News -- 4 September 2009

For 33-year-old Robb Martin, the 2009 Group Study Exchange between Rotary districts 5490 USA) (Arizona. and 9680 (New South Wales, Australia) offered more than the opportunity to compete in a sailboat race, summit a mountain, and meet with other enforcement law officers

It was also a oncein-a-lifetime chance to participate in Rotary's firstever all-wheelchair GSE.

A former patrol officer from Prescott, Arizona, Martin became paralyzed



Rotary's first all-wheelchair GSE teams, from districts 9680 (New South Wales, Australia) and 5490 (Arizona, USA), meet with New South Wales Governor Marie Bashir and her husband, Sir Nicholas Shehadie (standing, center). At far left (standing) is Tony Castley, at far right, Harold Sharp. Photo by Mark Wallace

GSE, cont'd on page 5

Wendy Pazen Office Manager

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Important Dates

Sept. 19	Piggy BBQ
Sept. 24 Ve	entura Chamber Mixer
Weekends in Oct	Pumpkin Patch
Oct. 1D.0	G. Luz Maria Visitation
Oct. 17	Casino Night
Oct. 23 - 25	District Assembly



Jill Gregorchuk

Vice President Banking Services Manager

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from the chest down following a 2005 vehicle accident, but continues to work for the police department in the dispatch center.

"The whole point [of the GSE] was to dissolve the perception of people in wheelchairs," Martin explains. "Just because we're in wheelchairs doesn't mean that we can't do things that able-bodied people can do."

The idea for an all-wheelchair GSE started two years ago when Charlie Tegarden, 2008-09 governor of District 5490, struck up a conversation with Darol Kubacz in an airport. The two were returning from Mexico where they had helped distribute wheelchairs to the needy as part of a Rotary project. Kubacz, a wheelchair user, was curious to learn more about Rotary, and Tegarden was happy to oblige.

Eventually, the conversation turned to Group Study Exchange," Tegarden recalls. "As I was talking about how great GSE was, I was thinking to myself that it was too bad that a person like [Kubacz] could not participate. How could he possibly travel? ... Then the obvious struck me -- he was sitting right there with me in the Mexico City airport! Why couldn't he participate in a GSE?"

Determined to host an all-wheelchair GSE, Tegarden found a partner in Tony Castley, 2008-09 governor of District 9680, whom he met at the 2007 RI Convention in Salt Lake City, Utah. Past district governors Harold Sharp (9680) and Don Schiller (5490) coordinated the exchange, and the idea became reality. Kubacz, now a member of the Rotary Club of Phoenix-West, served as the Arizona team leader.

Some Rotarians were initially a little uneasy about an all-wheelchair GSE because of a perception that disabled people "are either subnormal or unable to live and travel independently and hold down full-time, worthwhile employment," says Sharp, a member of the Rotary Club of Crows Nest, New South Wales, and the GSE's cochair. "As a result of the exchange, the attitude in our district has totally changed."

Sharp, who is retired from a career in nonprofit management, counts himself in that group. "Though I have for many years been involved with people with disabilities, the wheelchair GSE allowed me to become very involved on a day-to-day basis. It was only then that I realized that I was totally underestimating [disabled people's] abilities and desire to be judged on their results and not their appearances."

In Arizona, "we've opened the door now to people with disabilities," says Schiller, a member of the Rotary Club of Prescott-Sunup and the district's GSE chair. "We might not do another all-wheelchair GSE, but I can see disabled people participating in our next GSE, just like anyone else."

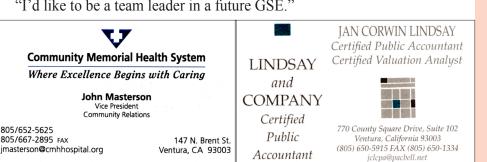
As for Martin, he's considering joining the Prescott-Sunup club.

"As a police officer, I was able to serve the community, and that was very fulfilling to me," Martin says. "Now, I have found a way to fill that void and still get out there and help the community.

"I'd like to be a team leader in a future GSE."

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Weekly Raffle

The weekly raffle prize was donated by Dick Gallagher. The prize was \$50 cash.

We raised \$80 today bringing our total to \$644 for the year.

Steve Phillips was our lucky winner! Congratulations Steve.

Scholarship in Israel pays tribute to prominent Rotarian

By Ryan Hyland Rotary International News -- 3 September 2009

Each year, the Moshe Greidinger District Scholarship Fund invites Rotary clubs and districts worldwide to propose candidates for a year of postgraduate study in Israel.

The fund, administered by District 2490, was established by Rotarian Kenny Greidinger in 1967 as a tribute to his father, whose Rotary connections played a critical role in the family's safety during World War II.

Greidinger was 17 years old when his family embarked on a grueling 17-day boat ride to Durban, South Africa, in 1941. The British government had just issued an emergency evacuation of its citizens from Palestine, and Greidinger's family, who had immigrated there from the United Kingdom in the early 1930s, was among the evacuees.

After arriving in South Africa, however, the family was denied entry because Greidinger's niece and nephew had been born in Palestine and therefore were not British citizens. Facing an exhausting and dangerous return trip through submarine-infested waters, Greidinger's father, Moshe, requested a meeting with the director of immigration.

Moshe, a charter member of the Rotary Club of Jaffa-Tel Aviv, Palestine, was wearing his Rotary pin that day, which was noticed by the immigration director, who sported one on his own jacket. The two men formed an instant bond, Greidinger recalls, and the director allowed the boat to come ashore. He later helped the two children obtain British citizenship.

"I was so impressed by the influence Rotary carries internationally," says Greidinger, a member of the Rotary Club of Haifa, Israel, since 1951. "We were incredibly relieved to find out the immigration director was a Rotarian. Without the Rotary tie, we would have had to go back."

Greidinger says his father, a prominent businessman, consistently devoted his time and energy to public service and charity.

"He was truly a Rotarian by nature, with a deep conviction of Service Above Self," he says.

Greidinger served as district governor in 1966-67, when he set up the scholarship fund, which covers tuition, board, and lodging while recipients study in Israel. Students may choose from a wide selection of universities and institutes, in fields including agriculture, history, medicine, music, industrial engineering, and international relations.

The ultimate goal of the scholarship, says Greidinger, is to give the winners the tools to enrich themselves academically while introducing them to Israeli culture.

For information on how your club can nominate a candidate, contact Greidinger by e-mail or phone: 972-4-9116888.



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