



The Rotary Club
of Ventura-East

The Breeze

Editor: Jordan Eller & Steve Phillips
Volume XLVI, Number 19

Rotary Club of Ventura-East • Official Newsletter and Bulletin

Publisher: Jeff Hata
December 3, 2009

Meeting December 3, 2009

Reported by Jordan Eller



John Borneman gave our inspirational message.

President Jeff rang the bell and invited everyone to lunch, guests and visiting Rotarians first!

Jeff thanked our greeters Dick Gallagher & Bill Gray. Our Inspirational Moment was given by John Borneman and Harriet Clune led us in the salute to the Flag.

Introduction of guests was done by Carol Marquez. Guest of Deborah Roberts

was Craig Miller.

John Borneman led us in a song and was accompanied by Dave Anderson.

President's Announcements:

President Jeff thanked Judy and Will Hoag for all their hard work organizing and arranging the Poinsettia Plant sale. It's a lot of work and we are lucky to have them do this for us each year!

President Jeff had all the December Birthday Rotarians stand and be recognized. Standing were Dick Gallagher, Dick Norman, Nikki Sloan & Sandy Waddell. President Jeff then had all December Anniversary Rotarians stand. Standing was nobody! We actually do not have any people who were married in December in our club!

Rotarians at work day is scheduled for April 24th, we



Carol Marquez-Olson introduced guests and visiting Rotarians.

need to figure out a project.

District Mid-Terms are January 16th, Wendy, Tom & Jeff will be attending.

Jeff read a letter from John Karayan of Spencer MacKenzie's apologizing for some comments John made at the Faulkner Farm Pumpkin Patch about Rotary. Thank you for the letter John.

Terry McBreen spoke about the Coats for Kids project and Vance Thompson

reminded everyone that our club Christmas Party is December 19th at the home of Bill and Pam Hicks.

Nikki Sloan spoke about our Sweet Dreams Project. We still need items donated and the list of needed items is on page 6 of this newsletter.

A gentle reminder that our club Christmas Party will be on December 19th at the home of Bill & Pam Hicks. Address and directions are on page 6 of the Breeze.

We then inducted Esther Egelko into our club. Esther is a Training Coordinator for the American Red Cross. Esther is a Buena High graduate who has her Bachelor's degree from U.C. Santa Cruz and Master's degree from

Meeting, cont'd on page 3



Harriet Clune led us in the Flag Salute.

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Web Addresses

www.rotaryventuraeast.org

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

Presidents Message ...



Jeff Hata
President 2009-2010

Before I go any further, I was negligent last week by not thanking Bob Beckwith for generously allowing us to use both his truck and his guys to help move the poinsettia's. Thank you very much Bob, your generosity is truly appreciated!

Next, to answer a question I am getting asked more and more lately. We will see how many people read this article by how many people continue to ask the question why my hair is getting so long? The short answer is, "because I can." The real answer is while I still have a fairly full head of hair, I have decided that I would take this year to let it grow out and hopefully reach a length of 8". At that time I intend to let a barber put their clippers to my hair and cut it back to the 1/4" that all of you are used to seeing. I will then be donating the resulting, hopefully, 7-1/2" of hair to Locks of Love. Locks of Love takes the hair donated to them and makes wigs for children suffering from the ill effects of chemo therapy or other illnesses that may cause them to lose their hair.

On December 12th we will be doing one of my favorite projects of the year, the Silvercrest Dinner. I like this project because for this day we make a difference in people's lives and we can see it and touch it. The residents of the Silvercrest look forward to this meal and often times are biting at the bit to get their favorite seat hours before we are ready to serve dinner. It's nice to talk to them as we serve them dinner and also to spend a little time with them after we are done serving. It is nice to hear their words of thanks and how grateful they are that we took the time to make this special dinner for them.

Rotary is built upon the credo "Service above self." And I feel these are three very important words to keep on our minds as we enter this Holiday Season. While we are out shopping for our families, keep in mind that it is very cold out and there are many people who will not be able to celebrate Christmas through gift giving. It is important that we keep the words "Service above self" on our minds and remember this season is about giving. Not materialistic things, but giving back to our community.

So, let's give back to the residents of the Silvercrest, let's give back to Coats for Kids, let's give back to Sweet Dreams, let's give back when we bell ring for the Salvation Army. Also, if you can give some time to the Rescue Mission, Project Understanding, Salvation Army or any of the other groups and organizations who will be out trying to help our neighbors in need, please do so. It's the right thing to do.

YIRS
Jeff Hata

2009 - 2010 Club Board of Directors

Jeff Hata	President
Wendy Pazen	President Elect
Deborah Roberts	Past President
Michelle Mercado	Secretary
Robert Lynn	Treasurer
Devere L. (Pete) Gallagher	Sergeant at Arms
Steve Phillips	Director 2007-2010
Nicolette Sloan	Director 2007-2010
Jordan Eller	Director 2009-2011
Henry Oster	Director 2008-2011
Deborah Perkins	Director 2009-2012
Robert Pazen	Director 2009-2012

Avenues of Service Directors

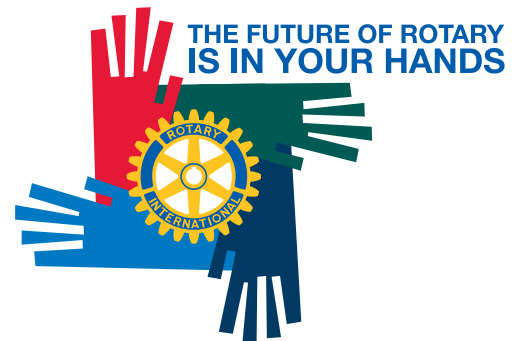
Wendy Pazen	Club Service
Husam Hishmeh	Vocational Service
Tom Swan	Community Service
.....	New Generations
Judy Hoag	International Service
Mark Smith	Interact

Rotary International Officers

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Deepa Willingham	Governor Elect, R.I. District 5240
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Marc Vertin	P.D.G. 2002-2003
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Jan Lindsay	P.D.G. 2004-2005
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Rich Abbott	P.D.G. 2006-2007
Jane McClenahan	P.D.G. 2007-2008
Anil Garg	P.D.G. 2008-2009

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?



Programs

Program Chair: Rocky Ludes

December 10, 2009

Underage & Binge Drinking - Sheriff Geoff Dean

December 17, 2009

Tender Life Maternity - Karen Clemow

December 24, 2009

Dark

December 31, 2009

Dark

Greeters

December 10, 2009

Mohammed Hasan & Tom Hashbarger

December 17, 2009

Ron Hertel & Bill Hicks

December 24, 2009

Dark

December 31, 2009

Dark

Rotary Recognition

Program Chair: Rich Stewart

December 10, 2009 - TBA

December 17, 2009 - TBA

December 24, 2009 - Dark

December 31, 2009 - TBA

Meetings

TBA

New Member Training Session

December 17, 2009

Vocational Service

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

January 5, 2010

Board of Directors Meeting

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

December 14, 2009

Club Service

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

December 14, 2009

Community Service

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

December 15, 2009

International Service

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

December 10, 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

Meeting, cont'd from page 1

CSU Northridge, both in Sociology. Esther has desire to give back to her community and looks at the Red Cross and Rotary as ways to accomplish these goals. Welcome to the club Esther!

Deborah Perkins conducted our raffle for a \$50 gift certificate to J.C. Penny donated by Tom Swan. The lucky winner was Lee Albee. We raised \$52 today.

We than adjourned the meeting to hand out Poinsettia Delivery forms.

Former Youth Exchange student champions Rotary

By Eve Neiger

Rotary International News -- 8 December 2009

When Megan Miller, a former Rotary Youth Exchange student serving as a Peace Corps volunteer in Florești, Moldova, realized her school lacked essential supplies and needed windows that could keep out extreme temperatures, she knew exactly where to turn.

She contacted the Rotary Club of Chisinau and her father's Rotary Club of Van Wert, Ohio, USA. With

help from a Rotary Foundation Matching Grant, the two clubs were able to secure the supplies and windows for the school where she was teaching.

Miller, who spoke at the District 6600 (Ohio) Conference in April, received a Rotary Volunteers Certificate of Recognition from the district for continually championing Rotary's efforts. She said she grew up "with a strong sense of volunteerism," inspired by the dedication that her father, a past president of the Van Wert club, showed toward Rotary.

Miller spent her senior year of high school in Baden, Austria, as a Rotary Youth Exchange student. She says the network of Youth



Megan Miller (right) and Veronica Barsan, her co-teacher for a class in life skills at a school in Florești, Moldova. Miller, a former Youth Exchange student, spent two years in Moldova with the Peace Corps. Photo courtesy Megan Miller

Megan, cont'd on page 4

Exchange students in Europe provided a strong support system and became a second family to her.

"Beyond just volunteerism, Rotary is really an international organization," she says.

Her exchange led her to spend a semester and multiple summers in Africa while she was an undergraduate at Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia. She joined the Peace Corps after graduating in 2004 and spent the next two years in Moldova.

She was assigned to a small village in the Florești district, where she taught a life skills class to 1st through 11th graders. As part of a pilot program, she worked with her fellow teachers to create a fresh public health curriculum for all grades. She drew support from her parents, especially her mother, who is also a teacher.

When she discovered her school's vital needs, Miller turned to Rotary for help because of her past involvement with the organization and its commitment to service. Through persistence, she brought together the two Rotary clubs and orchestrated their cooperation.

"It took awhile to get the ball rolling, but it definitely paid off," says Miller. "I felt so indebted to both clubs for taking this on and getting us what we needed."

Now a student at the Boston College Graduate School of Social Work, she says she's interested in joining a Rotary club in the future and continues to participate in projects back home.

Sister clubs turn scars of war into bonds of peace

by Vanessa N. Glavinskis and Suzelle Tempero
The Rotarian -- December 2009

Akio Nishikiori clasps his prayer beads and bows his head as the Peace Bell tolls, marking the exact moment that Hiroshima, Japan, was devastated by an atomic bomb 64 years ago.

Nishikiori was just eight years old when the bomb shattered the city on 6 August 1945. A week passed before his parents located his eldest sister, who had volunteered to work in a downtown factory. Badly burned, she told them how she had desperately repeated their address to anyone who passed by. She died two days after being reunited with her family.

Now, as Nishikiori observes the crowd gathered in Hiroshima's Peace Memorial Park, he reflects upon how Rotary helped him find friends in former foes. The story starts in 1982, when Nishikiori, a well-known

Sister Clubs, cont'd on page 5

Important Dates

Salvation Army Bell Ringing.....	Dec. 12
Silvercrest Dinner	Dec. 17
Club Christmas Party.....	Dec. 19
Dark	Dec. 24
Dark	Dec. 31
District Mid-Terms	Jan. 16
Rotarians at Work Day	Apr. 24
D.G. Luz Maria Step Down.....	Jun. 12



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architect and member of the Rotary Club of Hiroshima Southeast, learned of an unexpected request. The mayor of Hiroshima hoped to expand the city's sister relationship with Honolulu and thought that Rotary, with its emphasis on world peace, could help.

Hiroji Mukasa of Japan was president of Rotary International at the time, and the idea was a perfect fit with the RI theme: Mankind Is One – Build Bridges of Friendship Throughout the World.

It wasn't a perfect fit with club members, however. "It was most difficult on

our club president, Seiki Hirotani," Nishikiori says. "He worried what his deceased family would think, especially his parents." Hirotani had lost his parents, two sisters, a younger brother, and a grandmother in the attack, and he was so conflicted about establishing the sister club relationship that he had nightmares in which his parents and siblings would appear.

Hawaiian Rotarians didn't immediately embrace the idea, either.

Willpower to forgive

"Anytime you go through an agonizing experience, it always takes tremendous willpower to forgive," says Bob Deibler, a retired U.S. Navy officer who was president of the Rotary Club of Pearl Harbor, Oahu, in 1982. "Seiki Hirotani and I sat down," he remembers. "Through interpreters, we didn't pull any punches. We talked about the bitterness that was felt on both sides."

Deibler was boarding a streetcar in Chicago on 7 December 1941 when he heard that Pearl Harbor had been bombed. "We considered it a sneak attack," he says. Two years later, at 17, he enlisted in the Navy; he was stationed in Japan for 10 months during the occupation and rebuilding that followed World War II.

Although they saw the war from different sides, once the conversation



Semae Hirotani and Akio Nishikiori at Hiroshima's peace tree grove. Photo by Suzelle Tempero

Sister Clubs, cont'd on page 6

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Weekly Raffle

Our raffle prize this week was donated by Tom Swan. It's was a \$50 gift certificate to Tom Swan.

Our lucky winner was our own Lee Albee. We collected \$52 this week which brings our year to date total to \$1,423.

Thank you to everyone who contributed and congratulations again to Lee.

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turned to Rotary, Hirotani and Deibler found themselves seeing eye to eye. "[We said] we're all Rotarians, and we should focus on projects and helping people, and forget about the scars of the war," Deibler remembers.

By September of that year, both clubs were in favor of forming a sister relationship, and Hirotani and Deibler signed the affiliation agreement in Hawaii. But after returning home, Hirotani continued to be haunted by his memories of the war. He decided to hike into the mountains and build a memorial to his parents so they would know he'd never forget them. Finally, the nightmares stopped. Hirotani died in 1996.

Now every year, Hiroshima Rotarians visit Pearl Harbor, or Pearl Harbor Rotarians visit Hiroshima. "From our different cultures, it was very hard to come to an understanding of how we would approach this thing at first," Deibler says. "If it were two clubs in the U.S., you'd have a drink, hang on their shoulders, and sing songs, but this was different." After several trips, however, the formal nature of the relationship gave way to true friendship. In addition to visiting one another's memorial sites, the Rotarians golf,

Sister Clubs, cont'd from page 8

RGVE CHRISTMAS PARTY!

When: December 19, 2009


Time: 5:00 pm - ???

Where: 5484 Rincon Beach Park Drive
(Use Seacliff exit, go under the freeway,
turn left at Seacliff Colony, six houses down)
Carpooling is recommended!

Gift Exchange: One gift wrapped and unmarked for each person who wishes to participate. (Recommended value about \$20)

Sweet Dreams Donation List

- Socks
- Tarps
- Tents (Puptents)
 - Wash Cloths
 - Hand Towels
 - Sleeping Bags




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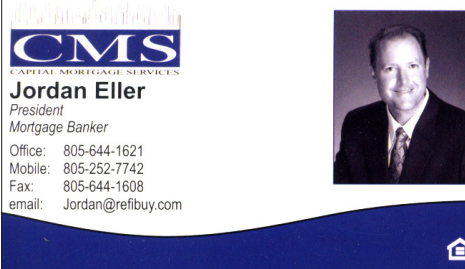
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District 5240

Chartered May 23, 1963

Albee, Lee	Honorary Member	Pazen, Robert L., O.D.	Optometry
Anderson, David	Architecture	Pazen, Wendy	Office Managment
Beckwith, Robert E.	Office Equipment	Perkins, Deborah	Family Law
Borneman, John	Songleading	Phillips, Steve	Department Store, Manager
Canton, Rafael, M.D.	Psychiatry	Polito, Ron	Commercial Real Estate
Carbajal, Arnulfo	Environmental Health	Roberts, Deborah	Communications
Cherry Eugene C., D.V.M.	Veterinary Practice, Small Animals	Shilton, Thomas E.	Pharmacy
Clune, Harriet	Real Estate Management	Sloan, Nicolette	Banking, Business Loans
Corliss, Andrew	Broadcasting	Smith, Mark Corbin	Religion, Protestant
Coyner, Jeff	Attorney, Civil Litigation	Spellman, William J., D.D.S.	Prosthetic Dentistry
Crozier, Thomas H.	Real Estate Development	Stewart, Richard E.	Banking, Real Estate Loans
Doyle, Michael	Real Estate Management	Stork, Midge, CFP, CSPG	Financial Planning, Investments
Egelko, Esther	Non-Profit	Strohman, Joseph, Jr.	Business Law
Eller, Jordan	Banking, Mortgage Lending	Swan, Thomas	Investment Advisor
Emch, James H., C.P.A.	General Accounting	Thompson, Vance, CLU, ChFC	Insurance, Financial Planning
Gallagher, Devere L. (Pete)	Automobile Servicing	Turner, Donna	Honorary Member
Gallagher, Richard	Stock & Bond Sales	Waddell, Sandy	Contractor-Portable Buildings
Gray, Bill	Property Management	Widders, Monte L.	General Law
Hasan, Mohammed A., P.E., R.E.A.	Civil Engineering	Whitman, Diana	Honorary Member
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Hata, Jeff	Printing	Yuncker, Chuck	Honorary Member
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Hicks, William	Domestic Automobiles, Retail		
Hishmeh, Husam	Restaurateur, Franchisee		
Hoag, Judith	Real Estate Sales, Residential		
Hoag, Will	Honorary Member		
Lindsay, Jan Corwin, C.P.A.	Small Business Accounting		
Ludes, Rocky	CPA Tax		
Lynn, Robert	Jewelry		
Marquez-Olson, Carol	Travel Agency		
Marsh, Sam	Secondary Education		
Masterson, John A.	Foreign Automobiles, Retail		
McBreen, Terry	Real Estate, Investments		
Mercado, Michelle	Bank Manager		
Moratz, Gary	Title Insurance		
Norman, Richard M.	Trial Law		
Oster, Henry	Internal Medicine		

shop, and dine together. Deibler traveled to Japan to attend the wedding of Hirotani's son.

Hirotani's widow, Sema, still marvels at the relationships that blossomed among the Rotarians. On the 10th anniversary of her husband's death, more than 50 people gathered at his tomb to honor his memory. Many were members of the Pearl Harbor club. "Going back to the start of this affiliation, we couldn't have imagined these friendships," she says. "It took years for us to forget the war."

50th anniversary

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor, to show remorse, and to honor those who had lost their lives, Seiki Hirotani suggested planting a "peace tree" there. Rotarians from both countries planted two trees, one for each club, in Blaisdell Park, overlooking the USS Arizona Memorial.

On the 50th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima, members of the Pearl Harbor club planted a myrtle tree in a small park adjacent to Hiroshima's Peace Memorial Park. Both clubs have continued planting, and today dozens of peace trees flourish in the two cities.

Other joint club efforts have included a Group Study Exchange to promote better understanding between the cultures, and an art contest for Japanese and U.S. children. In 2002, after learning that the people of Nomwin, Micronesia, were in need of clean water, the sister clubs partnered on a Matching Grant project with the Rotary Club of Truk Lagoon.

Kazuya Nakatani, president of the Hiroshima Southeast club, hopes the bond between the clubs will serve as a powerful symbol of Rotary's work for peace, and will inspire younger generations to avoid the misunderstandings that lead to war.

"Right now is a time to look at peace," adds Donna McLaughlin, of the Pearl Harbor club. "That's the thing that Rotary leads the world in."