



The Rotary Club
of Ventura-East

The Breeze

Editor: Jeff Hata
Volume XLIX, Number 23

Rotary Club of Ventura-East • Official Newsletter and Bulletin

Publisher: Jeff Hata
December 15, 2011

Programs

Program Chair: Rocky Ludes & Deborah Perkins

December 15, 2011

Casitas Rowing - Wendy Gillett

December 22, 2011

Children's Christmas Party

December 28, 2011

Joint Meeting with Downtown and South

Greeter

December 15, 2011 - Jim Word

Fundraisers

Poinsettia Sales

Delivery Date

November 29, 2012

Rotary Bullseye Shooting Contest

July 4, 2012

Latin Music Festival

July 28, 2012

for information on fundraisers go to:
www.RotaryVenturaEast.org

Club Events

Important Dates

Mid Terms	Jan 7
Mid Terms	Jan 14
Master PRLS 2	Jan 21
Mid Terms	Jan 4
Poverty Conference	Feb 4
Foundation Gala	Feb 4
Master PRLS5	Feb 11
Fat Tuesday Party	Feb 21
PETS	Feb 24 - 26
District Assembly	Apr 7
Basic PRLS	Apr 7
RYLA	Apr 19 - 22
Rotarians at Work Day	Apr 28
R.I. Convention	May 6 - 9
D.G. Wade's Demotion	Jun 23
Rotary Bullseye Shooting Contest	Jul 4
Latin Music Festival	Jul 28

Raffle Prize Donors

December 15 - Dick Norman
December 22 - Arnulfo Carbajal
January 5 - Tim Hughes
January 12 - Husam Hishmeh

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Web Addresses

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

Presidents Message ...



Tom Swan
President 2011-2012

The True Santa Claus visit the Rotary Club of Ventura East

Most everyone in the world is familiar with the character known as Santa Claus. Last night Rotarians in Ventura discovered that what they knew has been inaccurate for centuries. As you know, in most Latin based languages, San is the male version of Saint, and Santa is the FEMALE version of saint (Santa Barbara, Santa Rosa as opposed to San Miguel). The only example of Latin Claus figures has always been identified as a Santa, but has always been portrayed as a man. Why? It seems as most Latin based cultures are masculine driven, they disregard the linguistic evidence and cannot abide a woman having so much authority as to cover the entire world in a day giving gifts to children. Only a man could be capable of such a feat.

On December 11, 2011 for those who still believe in Santa Claus, the truth was revealed in the tiny hamlet of Ojai, CA. Rotarians were presented with the evidence first hand as the TRUE Santa Claus arrived at the home of Dr. Bill Spellman to ring in the joyous celebration of the annual Rotary Club of Ventura East's Christmas Party.

Santa magically appeared descending the staircase (earlier in the evening upon our arrival we saw evidence of a small sleigh with what we had mistaken to be a small horse and a large dog, but were obviously two of her disguised reindeer so Santa may have been hiding among us for a time). She revealed herself and presented all the boys and girls with gifts and good cheer. Contrary to popular belief, the naughty received gifts as did the nice. Pete Gallagher received the most popular gift that was swiftly stolen by past president Wendy Pazen, who then secured a bodyguard to keep anyone from stealing her prized possession.

Again differing with popular opinion, Santa did not arrive alone, but with an elf in tow. The elf was there to join in the ribaldry and revel as well as to assist in the presentation of gifts. Personally, I think a miscalculation was made; how could anyone so sweet and nice end up with such a naughty gift? Apparently both Santa and her elf were consuming more than cookies and milk. At one time we had grown concerned for the immediate health of our more senior members.

Some of us will undoubtedly be visiting with Dr. Rafael Canton in the near future to determine whether we truly did see what we thought, while others will want to visit Dr. Bob Pazen to determine if their eyesight is failing. I for one will always believe in Santa Claus.

President, cont'd on page 6

2011 - 2012 Club Board of Directors

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John Masterson.....	Director 2010-2013
Arnulfo Carbajal.....	Director 2010-2013
Deborah Roberts.....	Director 2011-2014
Vance Thompson.....	Director 2011-2014

Avenues of Service Directors

Jordan Eller.....	Club Service
Bill Spellman.....	Vocational Service
Craig Miller.....	Community Service
Floyd Gill.....	New Generations
Judy Hoag.....	International Service
Mark Smith.....	Interact

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Anil Garg.....	P.D.G. 2008-2009
Luz Maria Ortiz-Smith.....	P.D.G. 2009-2010
Deepa Willingham.....	P.D.G. 2010-2011

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?



Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

Meeting December 15, 2011

Reported by Jeff Hata



Jan Lindsay led us in the Flag Salute

President Tom Swan invited everyone to lunch, guests and visiting Rotarians first!

Jan Lindsay led us in the salute to the Flag.

President Tom thanked our greeter Deborah Roberts. Jeff Hata introduced guests and visiting Rotarians. Visiting Rotarian was Bob Noville from Santa Clarita. Guest of Tom Swan was Cecilio

Murillo.

Chuck Yuncker did our Student of the Quarter awards. Jacob and Gus both from the woodshop program.

Terry announced that the raffle prize was \$25 gift cards to Barnes & Noble & Macy's.

Judy announced that the club will make about \$7,200 from poinsettia sales this year. Good job everyone!

Vance made the last announcement for the Club Christmas Party Saturday at the home of Bill Spellman.

President Tom urged everyone to use the website and update your profiles. The Ojai clubs have John Robinson scheduled to do a program on March 16th. If you would like to attend this meeting please let President Tom know so we can make reservations.

Avenues of Service:

New Generations - Husam Hishmeh spoke about the initial Interact meeting at Balboa Middle School. Wendy Pazen has volunteered to be the club advisor to Balboa Middle School.

Club Service - Jordan Eller informed the club that Allen Olson is doing well and is at the Venturan.

There will be a joint meeting with Downtown &

South on December 28th at the Derby Club.

Vance Thompson spoke about our Christmas Party.

Happy \$'s: Jeff Hata, Rick Shimmel & Wendy Pazen.

Deborah Perkins introduced our speaker Cheney Caldwell.

Cheney Caldwell and Greg Abrams gave a very inspiring presentation about the current activities of the Ventura Rotaract Club. The Rotaract Club is comprised of individuals between the ages of 18 and 35, mostly young professionals and students. The club was chartered in June 2010, and has been going full steam since then, having already participated in 53 events. Cheney is currently in her second year as President.

In November 2011, fourteen people, a mix of Rotaract members and Rotarians, went to Playa Gigante, Nicaragua for an international service project. This is a remote village that is accessed by a 45 minute drive down a dirt road. There are approximately 400-500 people living in the village.

While in Playa Gigante, the members performed a variety of repairs. The local school had many desks without tops and many of the chairs were in need of repair. The members purchased wood (a five-hour process) and repaired the desks and chairs. The school had a two-stall outhouse which did not have doors and had paint that was peeling and worn down. The members installed doors and painted the entire structure. Although it was not initially in their plan, after seeing the sad state of the children's swing set, the members felt they just had to fix it. They replaced the tree branches that were being used as swing seats with new pieces of flat wood and the entire set was painted a cheerful blue color.

Although the village has plenty of land in which fruits and vegetables could be grown, the villagers did not have seeds. The members brought seeds with them and planted a vegetable garden with the types of plants



Vance Thompson made the last announcement for the Christmas Party.

Meeting, cont'd from page 3

that would likely flourish in that climate and soil. The vegetable plants included tomatoes, zucchini, and squash. When the members returned to the site of the garden a day or two later, they saw that the villagers has put logs around the garden to protect it. The members took this as a sign that the villagers really appreciated the garden.

With a donation from the Ventura Downtown Rotary Club, Rotaract was able to bring a mobile dentistry unit with them to Nicaragua. They presented it to the health clinic in Tola, and it was immediately put to use. The members also brought a box full of reading glasses which were donated by our very own Bob Pazen. In addition, each person brought a 50 lb. bag of clothing with them to give to the villagers.

The members were assisted by a local who let them stay in his house for the entire trip and who was instrumental in coordinating everything with the villagers. Toward the end of their trip, they had a pig roast in which the entire village was invited. There were approximately 70 children at the roast and they were treated to the fun of a piñata.

Rotaract is looking to continue its work in Nicaragua, particularly with long-term projects. In order to continue on with this and other projects, the club would love to have more members who can help. Cheney gave a very inspiring and heart felt explanation of her vision for not only the club, but also of making this world a better place. As she aptly stated, one person cannot do it alone. The club is having a membership social on January 16, 2012, so please spread the word and encourage others to attend.

Thank you Cheney and Greg for all of the great work that you do, your passion, and your inspiration!

Deborah A. Perkins



Our speaker today was Cheney Caldwell.

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Dear Rotarians,

On behalf of the over 2,000 people who celebrated their Thanksgiving at one of our rescue missions, thank you Rotarians! The weather was outstanding, the volunteers were incredible and the meals were amazing. Rotary Club of Ventura-East helped to make it all possible by providing over 75 turkeys for the hungry and homeless. A special thank you is due Allison Thompson for coordinating the "turkey drive". Once again, thank you to everyone who made the day special for the many hurting and hungry people who rarely experience special for the right reasons.

Tim Hughes

Rescue Mission Alliance

Note from the editor: Tim gave this article to me just after Thanksgiving. My apologies to Tim for taking so long to get this in the Breeze. Jeff Hata

Making time for family and Rotary

By Arnold R. Grahl

Rotary International News -- 8 December 2011

When Bill Simmermon joined the Rotary Club of Highlands Ranch (Littleton), Colorado, USA, six years ago, he wanted to be an active member without sacrificing time with his family.

So the father of two brought his sons along to lunch meetings and involved them in club activities. His eldest son, Denver, has taken part in community and international service projects, is a member of Interact, and has been the featured speaker several times at the club's weekly meeting. And Simmermon's wife has been an active part of the club.

"My family is all in," Simmermon says. "My involvement with Rotary



Denver Simmermon takes part in a medical mission in Nicaragua, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Highlands Ranch (Littleton), Colorado, USA. Photo courtesy of Bill Simmermon

Family, cont'd on page 6

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


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
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President, cont'd from page 6

doesn't conflict with family time. It has actually enhanced our family time, because we are all there together."

On RI's official LinkedIn group, several Rotarians also discussed the benefits of involving their family in Rotary. Henna Budhrani, a member of the Rotary club of St. Maarten, Sint Maarten, says she has included her children in the club's holiday food distribution to the elderly. Her kids will also attend the club's annual Christmas party for children from low-income families.

Like father, like son

Bruce Thomson belongs to the same club as his father, the Rotary Club of Lynnwood, Washington, USA, and both are past presidents. Long before he joined, however, Thomson notes he took part in the club's annual projects, along with his mother and four sisters. His children now help out in club projects.


"Our club serves as the conduit for our family's community service," Thomson says. "Rotary has had a major impact in our family evolution and that has impacted the community."

"Rotary has something to offer the whole family," Simmermon says. "For some of our members, the No. 1 reason they were interested in Rotary was that they could get their children involved in service projects. There's a big push in high schools to have children take part in community service, and it looks good on their transcript when they apply for college."

And he notes that The Four-Way Test and Rotary's other guiding principles are useful for parents.

"The same values Rotary stands for are values we believe in as a family," he says. "We want to pass along those values to our children."

Family is on the minds of many Rotarians in December, as Rotary celebrates Family Month. In addition to recognizing the importance of families in Rotary, the month celebrates the family of Rotary, which includes Rotarians and all those involved in Rotary's work -- from Rotary Foundation program alumni to participants in Rotary youth programs around the world.




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