



**The Rotary Club
of Ventura-East**

The Breeze

Editor: Jeff Hata
Volume L, Number 1

Rotary Club of Ventura-East • Official Newsletter and Bulletin

Publisher: Jeff Hata
July 5, 2012

Programs

Program Chair: Rocky Ludes & Deborah Perkins

July 5, 2012

Incoming President's remarks - Jordan Eller

July 12, 2012

Offsite - Four Brix Winery

July 19, 2012

Official D.G. Visit - Frank Ortiz

July 26, 2012

Interview Nikki Sloan - Joe Strohman

Greeter

June 29 – Deborah Roberts

July 5 - TBA

July 12 - TBA

July 19 - TBA

Fundraisers

Poinsettia Sales

Delivery Date

November 29, 2012

Rotary Bullseye Shooting Contest

July 4, 2012

Music Festival

August 18, 2012

Featured Performer

Ray Fresco

With the Ojai Youth Symphony

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

Club Events

Important Dates

Rotary Bullseye Shooting Contest.....Jul 4
Push em Pull em Parade.....Jul 4
Tom & Georganna's Annual Fireworks ExtravaganzaJul 4
Joint D.G. Social with Downtown.....Jul 17
D.G. Frank Ortiz's official visitJul 19
RCVE Concerts - Music FestivalAug 18

Raffle Prize Donors

July 5 - Danielle Brinkman

July 12 - TBA

July 19 - TBA

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Web Addresses

www.RotaryVenturaEast.org

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

Presidents Message ...



Jordan Eller
President 2012-2013

Fellow Rotarians,
What a fun Step Down Dinner we all enjoyed! Thank you to everyone that attended and a special thanks to Harriet Clune, Rich Stewart and Wendy Pazen for their help in planning the event. I should also mention that Rich did a fantastic job of being the MC for the event and kept the evening moving along quite well.

My first meeting as President will begin a new Rotary year for the Club. Taking from past years in Rotary, I have come up with a meeting format that incorporates some of the things I liked best from former Presidents and the way they conducted their meetings. For example, we'll be having a Vocational Moment at every onsite meeting and Joe Strohmman, Rich Stewart and Bill Spellman have agreed to take turns interviewing Members every week. I was also asked by Jeff Hata to bring back the Inspirational Moment so I gladly agreed with one addition; The Inspirational Moment will also include a good clean joke. With help from Harriet Clune and Rich Stewart we will be recognizing Member's birthdays each week with a birthday cake for all to enjoy.

Our Club went through a Club Visioning process with the help of District 5240 staff. My year will be focused on implementing changes so that we can reach our goals. There were more than a dozen members involved in the process and we set some lofty goals for the Club with a five year timeline in mind. All of these goals are reasonable and attainable if we take measured and deliberate steps to achieve what we have set out. Of these goals, my favorite was that in five years, there is a waiting list to join RCVE!

This time of year is always busy for our Club. Every day we are getting closer to our major fundraiser, the Rey Fresco Concert at Libbey Bowl. It's going to be a huge undertaking and has the potential to be a major fundraiser for our Club in the future. There are still weekly planning meeting being held at my office, every Tuesday at 5:30 if you would like to become involved.

Finally, I was truly honored to receive the Rotarian of the Year award at the Step Down dinner. Thank you Past President Tom Swan for this distinctive recognition.

Let's make this a fantastic year in Rotary!
Jordan Eller

2011 - 2012 Club Board of Directors

Jordan Eller	President
Nikki Sloan.....	President Elect
Tom Swan.....	Past President
Deborah Perkins.....	Secretary
Robert Lynn	Treasurer
Carol Marquez-Olson	Sergeant at Arms
John Masterson	Director 2010-2013
Arnulfo Carbajal.....	Director 2010-2013
Deborah Roberts	Director 2011-2014
Vance Thompson.....	Director 2011-2014
Ken Kagan.....	Director 2012-2015
Tim Hughes	Director 2012-2015

Avenues of Service Directors

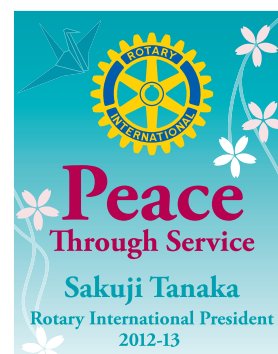
Nikki Sloan.....	Club Service
Husam Hishmeh	Vocational Service
Craig Miller	Community Service
Husam Hishmeh	New Generations
Judy Hoag	International Service
Mark Smith	Interact

Rotary International Officers

Paul P. Harris.....	Founder of Rotary
Kalyan Banerjee	President, Rotary International
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Jack McClenahan.....	Governor Elect, R.I. District 5240
Loretta Butts	Governor Nominee District 5240
Dr. John Carroll (In Memoriam)	P.D.G. 1981-1982
Sally Adelblue	P.D.G. 2005-2006
Rich Abbott	P.D.G. 2006-2007
Jane McClenahan.....	P.D.G. 2007-2008
Anil Garg.....	P.D.G. 2008-2009
Luz Maria Ortiz-Smith.....	P.D.G. 2009-2010
Deepa Willingham	P.D.G. 2010-2011
Wade Nomura	P.D.G. 2011-2012

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 June 21, 2012

Reported by Jeff Hata



Monte Widders led us in the Salute to the Flag!

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

Monte Widders then led us in the salute to the Flag.

Jeff Hata introduced guests and visiting Rotarians.

Visiting Rotarians from Oxnard were Steven Lee and George Benz, visiting from Ventura Downtown was Brenda Allison.

Deborah Perkins introduced our speaker William Aura.

Jeff Hata conducted elections for our Board of Directors for the years 2012 - 2015. Tim Hughes and Ken Kagan were unanimously approved. Jeff then conducted the election for our President for the year 2014 - 2015. The Past Presidents Committee nominated Deborah Perkins. No other names were offered for nomination. Deborah was unanimously approved by the club. Congratulations to Ken Kagan and Tim Hughes for your new board positions and a HUGE congratulations to Deborah Perkins for becoming our President Elect Nominee for the year 2014-2015, effective July 1, 2012!



Deborah Perkins is our new President Elect Designate!

Rich Stewart announced that our raffle prize was \$50 donated by Monte Widders.

Interact - Mark Smith told the club that the Career Center at Buena High School is being moved.

Deborah Roberts spoke about our upcoming concert. We have \$800 so far in ticket sales. Main Course California will be providing food service for our VIP area and for the band. The Lions club has the beer and wine concession at Libbey Bowl and they have agreed to donate 100% of their profits for our event to our scholarship program! Thank you to the Ojai Lions club!!!

In preparation for our event some of our club members will be working a couple of events at Libbey Bowl to see how things operate there.

Most of our cash sponsor's have made their donations at this point.

Speaking of sponsorships, Nikki Sloan thanked John Masterson for securing a gold sponsorship from Ojai Valley CMH. Nikki also let us know that Mid State Bank & Trust is on board for a gold sponsorship also! Our water and soda for the event are being donated by Canteen.

Nikki showed the club some ads that will be running in local publications and asked the club to please fill out the form that Nikki emailed to help us build our marketing database.

Deborah Roberts invited everyone to the W2O for drinks after work.

Harriet Clune announced that the club shirts were in. If you need any extra shirts, let Harriet know.

Jordan Eller reminded everyone about the Push-em Pull-em parade on the July 4th as well as the Rotary Bullseye shooting contest.

George Benze and Steve Lee invited everyone to participate in a Texas Hold-em tournament to benefit a Kenyan Water project. This tournament is being hosted by the Rotary Club of Oxnard.

President's Announcements:

Tom's Annual July 4th Fireworks Extravaganza will be held again this year at Tom's house. Also, Tom will be hosting a paper shredding party at his office on July 14th. Bring all your shreddable paperwork and enjoy a tri-tip slider while your there!

Next weeks meeting is being moved to Friday for the Stepdown dinner.

Happy \$'s Nikki Sloan, Jim Emch, Monte Widders, John Borneman and Deborah Roberts. Jeff Hata made a \$100 donation to our club foundation in honor of 45 years of suffering as a Kings fan before their first Stanley Cup and for celebrating his 55th birthday!



Deborah Roberts gave us a concert update.

Harriet conducted the opportunity drawing and our lucky winner was Bill Gray! Bill then donated his prize to our club foundation! Thank you Bill Gray!

Deborah Perkins introduced our speaker William Aura.

William Aura, a retired musician, gave a presentation about his journey of helping the people in Nepal. Approximately ten years ago, he sponsored a young boy who lived in Kathmandu, Nepal and put him through school. In 2006, he decided to take a trip to Nepal to meet this young boy in person.

The boy took him to the village where he was from. William was the first westerner to visit the village. He says it was like going back in time about 200 years. There were no cell phones, television, electricity, etc. The children played with blocks of wood and stones as toys, yet they were very happy. The people lived entirely off the land.

William felt that the village should have a school so he started talking to friends about his idea and in no time he had the money to purchase land and build a school. It is approximately a two hour walk from the village to the nearest town so everything had to be carried in. The school was successfully completed and now serves approximately 100 children.

The village was having a very big problem with girls between the ages of 9-11 being taken for trafficking. Part of the education program that William started educates the people about this problem and how to avoid it.

The biggest health issue in the village is death by snake bite. William saw several children die from this. The villagers did not know about antivenom. Instead, they called the Warlock over to the bitten child and they all prayed. Now, when someone gets bitten, they get the Warlock and then all travel to the nearest hospital.

People can sponsor a child to attend school in the village. It costs approximately \$5.00 per month for a girl to go to school. You can get more information about the Aura Imports Sponsorship Project on Facebook or at www.auraimports.com.

Thank you William for the great work that you are doing.
Deborah A. Perkins



William Aura spoke about his non-profit.

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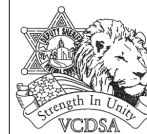


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Final Words from President Tom Swan

Fellow Rotarians;

This will be my final article as President of the best Rotary club in the world. It is with a bittersweet mixture of sadness and relief that the year of my leadership is at an end. Very soon the club will be in the capable hands of Jordan Eller.

As I look back on the past year, I am disappointed regarding the outcome of the New Generations membership proposal; I remain firmly convinced that in order for our club to be a vital contributor to our community we must attract younger professionals and the current antiquated system of membership needs revitalizing. Hopefully Jordan , Nikki or Deborah Perkins will pick up this gauntlet and find a workable solution. I also regret our lack of successful fundraisers this year. Going forward, I believe we have created the potential for at least two powerful and sustainable fundraisers in the form of the new barbecue trailer and the benefit concert series.



The barbecue trailer was built with the idea of operating several events per year, is fully operational and conforms to the current county health code requirements. We will be able to support ongoing functions and can easily commit to public venues such as the county fair or similar events, with the only limitation being the need for human resources. The benefit concert series is presenting the inaugural concert on Saturday August 18 at the Libbey Bowl in Ojai, with the presentation of local musical phenom group, Rey Fresco who will be collaborating with the Ojai Youth Symphony to produce a synthesis of classical music with salsa, jazz and reggae. I look forward to a delightful evening of entertainment and, personally, I am torn between working the event and sitting back and enjoying the enthusiastic melding of musical spirit.

From a positive perspective, I have been blessed with a wonderful board of directors and extremely capable advisers, plus a club full of members willing to jump in and help when needed. We were able to convert our website to Club Runner and we are working toward full integration. Soon we will be processing the majority of non-personal communications through our website and we might just be able to toss out all those clipboards.

In addition, we established and increased our social media connections,

Tom, cont'd on page 6



Thomas B. Swan
President of the Rotary Club of Ventura

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Weekly Raffle

Our raffle prize this week was two \$50 cash donated by Monte Widders.

Our lucky winner this week was Bill Gray.

Bill then donated the \$50 to our club foundation!

Congratulations Bill and thank you to Monte Widders for your generous donation.



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Tom, cont'd from page 5

started processing online event ticket sales and are currently moving toward an automated billing system.

We have also become more focused in our projects with the formation of a Standing Marketing Committee. The marketing committee will plug into each and every fundraiser, and eventually our community service projects, to give us the name presence in the community we deserve. For so many years we have been conducting good works in stealth mode; now it's time to start bragging about what we do.

Our New Generations team helped form the brand-new Balboa Middle School Interact Club and after existing for only a few months the Interact Club has already won a \$1,000 grant which was donated to Interface Child and Family Services in the Interact Club's name. That is an excellent example of hitting the ground running.

Our recent club vision exercise has given us the planning foresight to create a President's Development Committee to design, implement and monitor a five-year strategic plan. Several great ideas were formed in the club vision and we look forward to implementing as many of them as possible.

There have been many other beneficial advances made this year, and I have to say that learning the true nature of Santa Claus was fun and enlightening.


All in all, I believe I left a favorable imprint on the club and I am glad I served as president. I am not sure I would do it again, but then again, if you pay me enough maybe I would....

Tom Swan

Has-Been Elect

Rotary Club of Ventura-East


P.S. It's a bit ironic that just as I am stepping down, I finally feel comfortable at the lecturn.



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District 5240

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