

The Rotary Club
of Ventura-East

The Breeze

Editor: Jeff Hata
Volume LII, Number 38

Rotary Club of Ventura-East • Official Newsletter and Bulletin

Publisher: Jeff Hata
April 23, 2015

Programs

Program Chair: Joe Strohman / Ken Kagan

April 23, 2015

Offsite - Ventura Family YMCA

April 30, 2015

GoCare - Nicaragua Project

Greeter

April 23 - TBA

Fundraisers

Poinsettia Sales

Delivery Date

December 3, 2015

for information on fundraisers go to:

www.RotaryVenturaEast.org

Avenues of Service Meetings

Club Service	TBD
Vocational Service	TBD
Community Service	TBD
New Generations	TBD
Conference Call (213) 992-5290	PIN 01623
International Service	TBD
Marketing	TBD
Membership	TBD

Club Events

Important Dates

Johnny Cash Music Festival (BBQ Team)	Jun. 27 - 28
Step-Down Dinner	Jun. 28
Push-em Pull-em Parade	Jul. 4
Ventura Street Fair	Jul. 4
Moorpark Beer Festival (BBQ Team).....	Oct. 10
Moorpark Civil War Reenactment (BBQ Team).....	Nov. 7 - 8

Raffle Scholarship Donor

April 23 - TBA

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Web Addresses

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

Presidents Message ...



Dave Anderson
President 2014-2015

Five years ago, the Rotary Club of Ventura East provided a gift of \$5,000 to the **Ventura Family YMCA**, which was used to launch a program called **“Operation Splash!”** This initiative enabled the YMCA to offer introductory swim lessons to disadvantaged children in the Ventura area. Thanks to this and subsequent gifts from the Club over the past 5 years, the YMCA has been able to deliver free swimming lessons to over 700 children in need.

The success of **Operation Splash!** has inspired the YMCA to launch similar programs, such as **“Operation Kick!”** which provides free soccer lessons to children living in shelters and transitional homes, and **“Operation Senior!”** which provides aquatic therapy classes for active older adults.

In 2013, the YMCA consolidated its various outreach programs under the name **“Operation Ventura!”** Under this expanded program, the YMCA offers its full range of programs and services, including swimming, youth sports, and leagues, to Ventura’s homeless and underprivileged children.

As members of Rotary Club of Ventura East, we can be proud of our participation with the YMCA in bringing these services to the community. We will have an opportunity to see the program in action, at our upcoming off-site lunch meeting at the YMCA facility, Thursday April 23, 2015.

Dave Anderson

2014 - 2015 Club Board of Directors

Dave Anderson	President
Bruce McGee	President Elect
Tim Hughes	Past President
Tom Hashbarger	Secretary
Alison Thompson	Treasurer
Dick Gallagher	Sergeant at Arms
Tim Blackwell	Director 2012-2015
Ken Kagan	Director 2012-2015
.....	Director 2013-2016
Laura Shannon	Director 2013-2016
Todd Juvonen	Director 2014-2017
.....	Director 2014-2017

Avenues of Service Directors

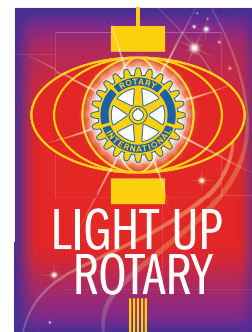
Bruce McGee	Club Service
Joe Strohmman	Vocational Service
Nicole Kreutz	Community Service
Jeff Hata	Youth Service
Judy Hoag	International Service

Rotary International Officers

Paul P. Harris	Founder of Rotary
Gary C.K. Huang	President, Rotary International
Loretta Butts	Governor, R.I. District 5240
Jim Bell	Governor Elect, R.I. District 5240
John Weiss	Governor Nominee District 5240
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
Frank Ortiz	P.D.G. 2012-2013
Jack McClenahan	P.D.G. 2014-2015

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 April 16, 2015

Reported by Jeff Hata



Welcome to the club Kathy McGee!

President Dave rang the bell and invited everyone to get their lunch, guests and visiting Rotarians first.

Midge Stork announced that our raffle prize today was a \$50 gift card to Olivas/Ventura golf courses donated by Husam Hishmeh.

President Dave thanked our greeter Michelle Cekov and Vance Thompson for taking attendance.

Joe Strohman led us in the Flag Salute.

Jim Emch introduced our guests and visiting Rotarians. Visiting from Ventura Downtown was Gary Wolfe. Visiting from the Rotary Club of Santa Monica was Pam Brady. Guest of Tom Hashbarger was Gary Webb. Carol Norton invited herself to visit today because of our speaker Woody Woodburn. Carol was a long time employee of Lindsay and Co. and guest of the club for the last time was Kathy McGee.

Jeff Hata gave our Inspirational Message. Jeff also gave information for our offsite meeting next week at the YMCA.

If you are coming to the meeting, please let the reception staff know you are with Rotary and they will direct you where to go.

Bruce McGee spoke about upcoming BBQ's and the July 4th Push-em Pull-em parade.

President Dave inducted our newest member Kathy McGee who is now retired, but very active with the Botanical Gardens!!!

John Borneman led us



P.E.N. Husam Hishmeh donated our raffle prize today.

Dick Gallgher gave our joke of the day. Dick's wife Mary said it was inappropriate, but was actually quite funny.

Happy \$'s: Rich Stewart, Rocky Ludes, John Masterson, Midge Stork, Husam Hishmeh and Bill Spellman.

Letter to the editor -- Joke of the week

By Rafael Canton

A healthy sense of humor is part of what I call "mental hygiene." Group laughter can have good effects on the participants. Our "Joke of the Week" recognizes this.

Any group of people who share a joke every week will eventually run out of jokes that nobody ever heard before. One possibility is that jokes will have to be re-run, thereby losing their original impact. Or the quality of the jokes might become disrespectful of Rotarian ethics.

Fortunately, there is an alternative. It is "Group Laughter without a Joke," also known as "Laughter Yoga". I am interested in our Club's succeeding in fitting such a technique into our regular meetings. Please cooperate with me in making my attempts successful--try to make each other laugh more and to make laughter spontaneous.

Thank you
Rafael Cantón

SPIRIT OF EARTH DAY: TREE PLANTING PROJECT STEMS FROM SURVIVING A TSUNAMI

As a child, Gowri Rajan was scared of trees because of the reptiles and insects lurking in their roots, branches, and leaves.

"I wouldn't go near trees," says Rajan. "It's ironic that, later in life, a tree would be the reason I'm still alive."

On the morning of 26 December 2004, a tsunami slammed into Rajan's vacation house on the Indian Ocean in Sri Lanka, where her family and a few friends were staying for the holidays. The water violently crashed through the house, destroying everything inside. "I said my last prayers. I thought this was the end," she recalls.

When the water receded, it swept Rajan with it. But she saved herself by grabbing onto one of the few trees



Rotary member Gowri Rajan waters a newly planted tree last December in the Kurunegala district of Sri Lanka.

Photo Credit: Photo courtesy of Gowri Rajan

that hadn't been uprooted.

"For 20 minutes I held on with all my strength. I could feel the ocean pulling my body in," says Rajan, who lost three of her friends that day.

After the wave receded, she started to swim back to the house through the dark water, to rejoin her family and friends. A second wave came crashing in. A friend was able to reach Rajan and help her climb to the top of another tree. "I was saved by two trees," she says. "It's a miracle I'm still alive."

Now, Rajan is looking for a million people to share their tree stories to raise awareness and money to restore the island nation's trees.

Rajan is a Rotary member and leader in her region, which started the One Million Tree Stories project in December, 10 years after the tsunami. One of the region's Rotary clubs, the Rotary Club of Ibbagamuwa, is playing a prominent role because it had already been working on reforestation. The Rotary members are partnering with hundreds of local farmers, a bank, and government agencies. The Sri Lankan army will help plant the first trees. The goal is to plant 1 million trees this year along the banks of protected reservoirs in Kurunegala district, in the country's North Western Province, and another 4 million trees over the next five years.

Rotary members and the public can sponsor a tree for 100 Sri Lankan rupees (about \$.75 cents) and are encouraged to tell their own tree stories on the project's Facebook page. "Research shows every human being is emotionally connected to a tree in some way or another," says Rajan. "We

tsunami, cont'd on page 5

Rotary Club of Ventura-East

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Ventura, California 93006

info@RotaryVenturaEast.org

Clubs Nearby ...

Ventura-South	12:00 pm	Monday
		Wedgewood Banquet Center
Santa Paula	12:00 pm	Monday
		The Glen Tavern Inn
Ojai West	7:00 am	Tuesday
		Soule Park GC
Camarillo Breakfast	7:00 am	Tuesday
		Spanish Hills GC
Oxnard	12:10 pm	Tuesday
		Courtyard by Marriott
Fillmore Sunrisers	6:45 am	Wednesday
		Varies, go to their website
Ventura	12:00 pm	Wednesday
		The Derby Club
Camarillo	12:00 pm	Wednesday
		Camarillo Center for Spiritual Living
Oxnard Sunrise	7:30 am	Thursday
		Tomas Cafe
Fillmore	12:05 pm	Thursday
		The Fillmore & Western Train
Ojai	12:00 pm	Friday
		Soule Park GC

Jeff Hata

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Office Manager

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Optometry
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Ventura, CA 93003
805/650-2020
Fax: 805/650-2024



tsunami, cont'd from page 4

want to hear these stories. It will help create a personal connection to the tree you sponsor.”

Rajan says 40 cents of each dollar donated to the project will go to The Rotary Foundation, while the remaining 60 cents will be used to buy trees and care for them during their first two years. Every tree will be tagged and entered into a computer system that will enable sponsors to monitor its growth.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

According to the Sri Lankan government, the nation’s forest coverage has declined from 53 percent to 29 percent over the last two decades.

Don Nihal Wanigasekara, president of the Ibbagamuwa Rotary club and the originator of its tree-planting project, says widespread deforestation is contributing to “the destruction of our planet.”

“Although the government has imposed laws to control deforestation, more effort must be made to help our country’s natural habitat,” says Wanigasekara, a mechanical and mining engineer. “Planting one tree has an enormous benefit to the environment,” he adds.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, a single tree can absorb a ton of harmful greenhouse gases over its lifetime, produce enough oxygen for four people every day, cool the air as well as 10 room-size air conditioners operating 20 hours a day, and provide an estimated \$273 of environmental benefits in every year of its life. Trees also control storm water runoff and reduce the risks of both flooding and drought.

Wanigasekara estimates that Sri Lanka needs a minimum of 20 million new trees over the next 10 years to be able to counter the effects of the carbon dioxide and other gases released into the atmosphere through the burning of fossil fuels.

“Our club unanimously accepted to take on this project because we know how crucial it is to make the environment safer for future generations,” says Wanigasekara. “We all have a personal responsibility to keep this planet green. I hope a million trees is just the beginning.”

By Ryan Hyland
Rotary News
22-Apr-2015

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Weekly Raffle

Today’s raffle prize was a gift card to Olivas/Ventura Golf courses graciously donated by Husam Hishmeh.

I did not catch who won the raffle today.

Thank you to Husam Hishmeh for your generous donation!



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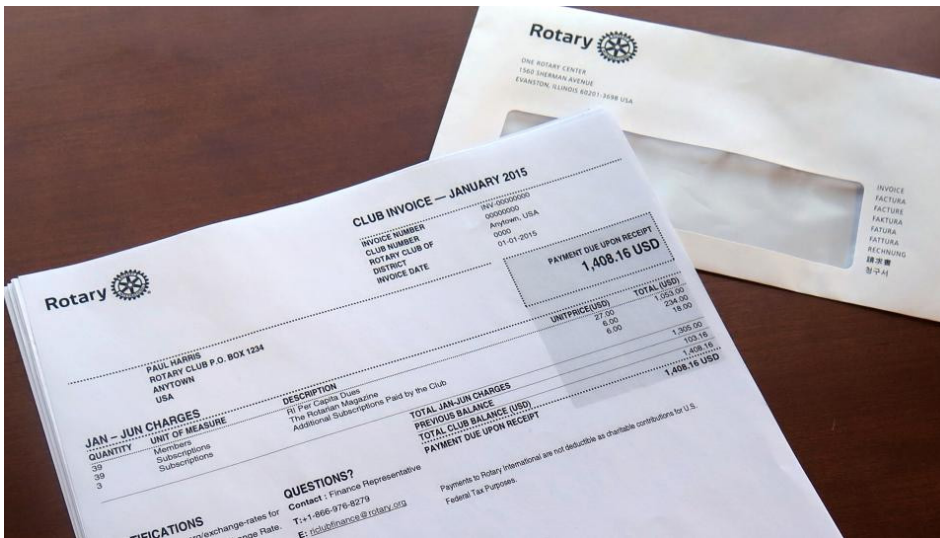
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SIMPLIFIED BILLING PROCESS GETS POSITIVE REVIEWS FROM CLUB LEADERS



The single-page invoice that Rotary club leaders received in January, replaces a complex document they'd previously had to complete.

The single-page invoice that Rotary clubs received in January, which replaces a complex document they'd previously had to complete, is being cheered by many club officers.

In the past, club secretaries had to fill out an eight-part semiannual report to calculate the amount their club owed Rotary International for membership dues, subscriptions, and outstanding balances. New members were written in, old members were crossed out, and many calculations were required before the club treasurer could pay the invoice.

"Nobody wanted to do the semiannual report; it was confusing," says Gail Winterstella, president of the Rotary Club of Spring Lake-Brielle, in New Jersey, USA. "Now, the invoice comes, it's done, it's right, and you just print it out and pay the bill. It's much easier." And all membership changes are now managed online. The club invoice is calculated from the number of members in Rotary's database as of 1 January and again as of 1 July.

John Neighbors, president of the Rotary Club of West U (Houston), is also happy with the change.

"The new club invoice has simplified the dues-payment system by billing for a stated amount rather than an estimated billing subject to club

invoice, cont'd on page 8



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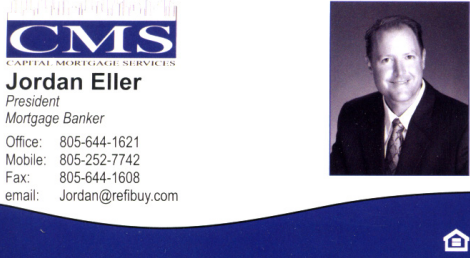
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Rotary Club of Ventura-East, Membership List
100% Paul Harris Fellow Club

District 5240

Chartered May 23, 1963

Albee, Lee	Retired	Polito, Ron	Commercial Real Estate
Anderson, David	Architecture	Ponce De Leon, Augie	Honorary Member
Blackwell, Tim	Insurance	Potts, Cari Ann	Attorney
Borneman, John	Songleading	Shannon, Laura	Wholesale Pet Supply
Burgh, Jeff	Government	Spellman, William J., D.D.S.	Prosthetic Dentistry
Canton, Rafael, M.D.	Psychiatry	Stewart, Richard E.	Banking, Real Estate Loans
Cekov, Michelle	Non-Profit	Stork, Midge, CFP, CSPG	Financial Planning, Investments
Clune, Harriet	Real Estate Management	Strohman, Joseph, Jr.	Business Law
Corliss, Andrew	Broadcasting	Swan, Thomas	Investment Advisor
Cruser, Daryl	Insurance	Thompson, Allison	CPA
Eller, Jordan	Banking, Mortgage Lending	Thompson, Vance, CLU, ChFC	Insurance, Financial Planning
Emch, James H., C.P.A.	General Accounting	Turner, Donna	Honorary Member
Gallagher, Devere L. (Pete)	Automobile Servicing	Widders, Monte L.	General Law
Gallagher, Richard	Stock & Bond Sales	Whitman, Diana	Honorary Member
Gray, Bill	Property Management	Word, Jim	Department Store
Hashbarger, Tom	Health Services	Yuncker, Chuck	Honorary Member
Hata, Jeff	Printing		
Hicks, William	Domestic Automobiles, Retail		
Hishmeh, Husam	Restaurateur, Franchisee		
Hoag, Judith	Real Estate Sales, Residential		
Hoag, Will	Honorary Member		
Hughes, Tim	Real Estate Sales, Residential		
Juvonen, Todd	Financial Services		
Kagan, Kenneth	CPA		
Kreutz, Nicole	Banking		
Ludes, Rocky	Honorary		
Lynn, Robert	Jewelry		
Marquez-Olson, Carol	Travel Agency		
Marsh, Sam	Secondary Education		
Masterson, John A.	Foreign Automobiles, Retail		
McGee, Bruce	Wholesale Foods		
McGee, Kathy	Education (Retired)		
Norman, Richard M.	Trial Law		
Norstedt, Chris	Honorary Member		
Noville, Robert	Civil Engineering (Retired)		
Pazen, Robert L., O.D.	Optometry		
Pazen, Wendy	Office Management		

invoice, cont'd from page 6

adjustment, thus allowing club and RI records to be consistent,” Neighbors says. “I also like the detail that includes members by name and admission date, and keeps track of the additional Rotarian subscriptions for our honorary members and special persons.”

Ann Wright, who is membership committee co-chair for District 5890 (Texas), points out another benefit: current and accurate membership information. Wright says that, in the past, clubs in her district tended to wait to update their membership data until they received the bill from RI showing a member total different from the number of members they knew they had. As a result, the district had accurate numbers for all of its 63 clubs only twice a year, two or three months after each billing was sent out. This made it difficult to gauge membership gains and losses, and therefore difficult to fine-tune membership strategies.

“Under the new system, we find that clubs are more diligent in maintaining accurate and current numbers on Rotary.org, and this is a great help to our governor and membership committee,” Wright says.

Winterstella notes that Rotary staff provides excellent support for those using Rotary.org to manage club membership data. “If you have any problems, you make a phone call and they tell you how to do it. It’s simple.”

Here are a few things you need to know about the invoice:

- If you’re a club leader, register new and terminated members within 30 days. Any changes for the July invoice must be entered by 1 July. You can update your membership data by signing in to Rotary.org and, under the Manage tab, navigating to Club administration, then add/edit/remove member.
- Encourage club members to immediately report changes in their membership status so that club officers can update the information.
- If your club uses an integrated local database to manage its membership information, check with your database vendor and allow plenty of time for Rotary to receive the changes. Consult the Frequently Asked Questions for more information about syncing changes using an integrated local database.
- Changes in publication subscription preference should be made before each billing cycle. Subscriptions will be in effect for the entire billing cycle.
- Clubs are required to pay all outstanding dues within 120 days of the due date.

By Arnold R. Grahl
Rotary News
20-Apr-2015

