

The Rotary Club  
of Ventura-East

# The Breeze

Editor: Jeff Hata  
Volume LII, Number 43

Rotary Club of Ventura-East • Official Newsletter and Bulletin

Publisher: Jeff Hata  
June 18, 2015

## Programs

Program Chair: Joe Strohman / Ken Kagan / Alison Thompson /  
Tom Hashbarger

**June 18, 2015**

Wade Nomura - PRLS

**June 25, 2015**

Terry Schaeffer - California Drought from a meteorologist's  
perspective

**July 2, 2015**

President Bruce McGee - The Upcoming Rotary Year

**July 9, 2015**

## Greeter

**June 18 - TBA**

## Fundraisers

**Poinsettia Sales**

Delivery Date

December 3, 2015

for information on fundraisers go to:

[www.RotaryVenturaEast.org](http://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. 29
Bruce McGee's first meeting	Jul. 2
Push-em Pull-em Parade	Jul. 4
Ventura Street Fair (BBQ Team)	Jul. 4
Ventura Chamber Family Day (BBQ Team)	Aug. 22
District Governor Jim Bell's Official Visit	Aug. 27
Moorpark Beer Festival (BBQ Team)	Oct. 10
Moorpark Civil War Reenactment (BBQ Team)	Nov. 7 - 8

## Raffle Scholarship Donor

**June 18 - TBA**

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## Web Addresses

[www.RotaryVenturaEast.org](http://www.RotaryVenturaEast.org) • [www.VenturaRotaract.com](http://www.VenturaRotaract.com)  
R.I.: [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org) • District 5240: [www.rotarydistrict5240.org](http://www.rotarydistrict5240.org)

## Presidents Message ...



**Dave Anderson**  
President 2014-2015

My wife, Wendy, subscribes to a bicycling magazine called Adventure Cyclist. Yesterday I was drawn to its cover article, “Circling the Volcanoes – Family Adventure in Nicaragua,” by Aaron Teasdale. The article recounts one family’s two-week bike ride around the double volcanoes on the island of Ometepe in Lake Nicaragua (about 20 miles south of Granada).

Their story brought to memory my own brief visit to Nicaragua several years ago, and evoked recollections of similar experiences. As

I mentioned at the club meeting last week, the opportunity to have visited Nicaragua changed my perception of the country from the abstract to a direct personal knowledge. My guess is that many of you have experienced the same phenomenon.



I want to thank Michelle Cekov for sharing her report last week on the work that GoCare is doing in Pantanal - and throughout Nicaragua. As members of the Rotary Club of Ventura East, we can be proud of the Club’s efforts to

serve the people of Pantanal over the years. But we should express our appreciation to Michelle and the entire GoCare organization for envisioning and implementing a truly sustainable system - one that will continue to provide high-quality educational programs to these communities for years to come.

As Michelle mentioned, GoCare is also ready and willing to assist any Rotary Club (including Ventura East!) to identify, assess, plan, and execute any number of future humanitarian projects in Nicaragua. Perhaps there will be new opportunities for service that our club will want to explore and act upon.

You can visit GoCare’s Facebook page here:

<https://www.facebook.com/GOCAREKids>

You can read an excerpt from Aaron Teasdale’s bicycling article here:

<https://www.facebook.com/AaronTeasdaleWritingPhotography/posts/378180079036370>

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

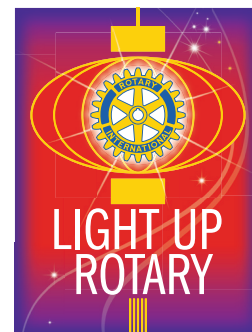
Bruce McGee .....	Club Service
Joe Strohmman .....	Vocational Service
Nicole Kreutz .....	Community Service
Jeff Hata .....	Youth Service
Judy Hoag .....	International Service

## Rotary International Officers

Paul P. Harris .....	Founder of Rotary
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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
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 June 11, 2015

Reported by Jeff Hata



Daryl Cruser gave our joke of the week & received his blue badge!

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

President Dave thanked Husam Hishmeh for greeting and Michelle Cekov for taking attendance. Bill Gray donated our raffle prize which was a \$50 gift card to Wood Ranch BBQ.

Todd Juvonen led us in the Flag Salute.

President Dave spoke about the July 4th Push-em Pull-em parade and the BBQ team's booth at the street fair.

Tim Blackwell spoke about the Johnny Cash music festival on June 27th & 28th. We will need all hands on deck for that weekend.

Tim Hughes spoke about President Dave's Step Down Dinner on June 29th.

John Borneman led us in a song.

Michelle Cekov passed around the duty roster and asked everyone to please sign up to help our meetings run smoothly.

Michelle Cekov also gave us an update on Nicaragua. The government is signing the agreement and GoCare will be moving forward with the two learning centers soon.

Happy \$'s: Tim Blackwell, Carol Marquez-Olson, Sam Marsh, John Masterson, Joe Strohmman, John Borneman, Rafael Canton, Midge Stork, Bill Spellman, Michelle Cekov, Ken Kagan and Tim Hughes.

President Dave presented Daryl Cruser with his blue

badge. Daryl Cruser then gave our joke of the day.

Midge Stork conducted the raffle and our lucky winner was Alison Thompson.

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## Did ya know???

*The ABC's of Rotary by Cliff Dochterman*

*1992-93 President*

*Rotary International*

### OPPORTUNITIES FOR FELLOWSHIP

Most Rotarians are successful professional and business executives because they hear opportunities knock and take advantage of them. Once a week the opportunity for Rotary fellowship occurs at each club meeting, but not all members hear it knocking.

The weekly club meeting is a special privilege of Rotary membership. It provides the occasion to visit with fellow members, to meet visitors you have not known before, and to share your personal friendship with other members. Rotary clubs, which have a reputation of being "friendly clubs" usually, follow a few simple steps:

First, members are encouraged to sit in a different seat or at a different table each week.

Second, Rotarians are urged to sit with a member they may not know as well as their long-time personal friends.

Third, members invite new members or visitors to join their table just by saying: "Come join us, we have an empty chair at this table."

Fourth, members share the conversation around the table rather than merely eating in silence or talking privately to the person next to them.

Fifth, Rotarians make a special point of trying to get acquainted with all members of the club by seeking out those they may not know.

When Rotarians follow these five easy steps, an entirely new opportunity for fellowship knocks each week. Soon Rotarians realize that warm and personal friendship is the cornerstone of every great Rotary club.



Midge Stork conducted our raffle today!

# KNOCKING DOWN LANGUAGE BARRIERS



*Anna Wieczorek, a member of the Rotary Club of Warsaw City, teaches English to elementary school students.  
Photo Credit: Courtesy of Anna Wieczorek*

Before the collapse of the Soviet Union in the early 1990s, Russian was the predominant second language offered in Polish schools, leaving tens of thousands of Polish emigrants without the English skills they needed.

That has changed over the last 25 years. English proficiency drastically improved after the government reformed its education system in 1991. The country overhauled its teaching curriculum and materials and introduced English as the primary foreign language. As of 2013, Poland ranks 8th in the world in English proficiency.

However, one segment of the population isn't reaping the benefits of the improved curriculum. Thousands of students in poor rural villages attend schools that don't have the adequate resources or well trained personnel to properly teach English, putting them at a disadvantage in today's global economy and labor market, says Anna Wieczorek, a Rotary Club of Warszawa City member and author of Poland's English curriculum for grades 1-3.

"The budgets of state schools in rural areas are limited compared to those in the cities and private schools," Wieczorek says. "Teachers in these schools are often underpaid and undertrained. Consequently, the level of teaching English is far from meeting the appropriate standards."

Added to that, she says, their students face social exclusion. "They lack

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Post Office Box 3012  
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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language, cont'd from page 4

the self-confidence and communication skills that students in the city, who have access to modern technology, might have,” she says. “The inability to learn English -- let alone acquire an appropriate education -- early on in their lives makes it difficult for them to evolve and develop further in life.”

Many of the students come from homes where unemployment and alcoholism are common, according to a report by the CASE Foundation, prepared for the Warsaw Delegation of the European Commission. Many turn their attention to the streets and crime instead of education, the report says.

### ROTARY GIVES RURAL COMMUNITIES SUPPORT

The Warszawa City members the Rotary Club of Berlin-Luftbrücke, Germany, and the Rotary Club of Milano Nord, Italy, are trying to change this trend. A \$45,000 Rotary global grant project is supporting English and other foreign language education for more than 1,200 underprivileged students in 10 rural communities. The clubs collaborated with Good Start, a program that provides equipment, software, and an interactive e-learning platform for afterschool education centers, as well as training for tutors.

Eleven centers are now equipped with computers, interactive white boards, projectors, multimedia, and printed learning materials. The three clubs, along with the Rotary Club of Edmonton Downtown, British Columbia, Canada, have furnished 12 other afterschool centers over the last three years in conjunction with previous Rotary Foundation grants, bringing the total to 23. Each dayroom is supervised by a local Rotary member.

Before the project, the centers would generally be empty after school. They only provided desks and chairs. With the new technology, interactive classes, and motivated instructors, the students now have an “attractive way to learn,” Wiczorek says.

Wiczorek, who also authors children’s books, writes the e-learning software and curriculum. “We are not only teaching English, but we’re improving their reading, writing, and computer skills,” she says. “They have a safe place to spend their free time after school. This makes a big difference in their daily lives and will help them define their future.”

According to a 2013 global language study from Education First, countries with higher levels of English proficiency also have stronger economies and their citizens have higher per capita income levels and quality of life. More and more multinational companies are mandating English as their common corporate language.

The study also suggests that because English is the predominant language in business, higher education, and politics, English proficiency

language, cont'd on page 6

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## Weekly Raffle

Today’s raffle prize was a \$50 gift card to Wood Ranch BBQ graciously donated by Bill Gray.

Our lucky winner was Alison Thompson.

Thank you to Bill Gray for your generous donation and congratulations to Alison!



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is important to succeeding in a globalized society. And low proficiency in English may be connected with weak integration into the global economy.

Gerhart Ernst, a Berlin-Luftbrücke Rotary member, says since his club was chartered in 1979, members have focused their efforts on supporting young people from disadvantaged homes. Their partnership with the Polish club is something they are especially proud of.

Ernst says his club wants to mimic this project in areas in Germany with a large number of refugees from Syria and Lebanon.

In March, members of the Warszawa City club visited one of the centers while an English class was in session. "It brought tears to my eyes to see these children so happy and engaged," says Wieczorek. "These kids have dreams about getting away from the poverty and affliction. We're doing all we can to make these dreams come true."

By Ryan Hyland  
Rotary News  
15-Jun-2015

**In the clashes between ignorance and intelligence, ignorance is generally the aggressor.**

**Paul Harris**



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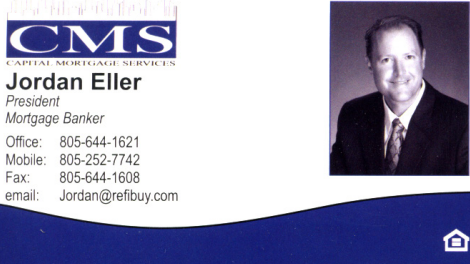
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**Rotary Club of Ventura-East, Membership List**  
**100% Paul Harris Fellow Club**

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		