

The Rotary Club
of Ventura-East

The Breeze

Editor: Jordan Eller
Volume XLVI, Number 33

Rotary Club of Ventura-East • Official Newsletter and Bulletin

Publisher: Jeff Hata
March 25, 2010

Meeting March 25, 2010

Reported by Jordan Eller



Vance Thompson led us in our Flag Salute.

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

Jeff thanked our greeter Vance Thompson. Jim Word led us in the salute to the Flag.

Introduction of guests was done by Vance Thompson.

Guest of Jim Word was his wife Alberta, Guest of Donna Turner was Gary and

guest of Joe Strohmman was Joe's wife Julie and their daughter Marie.

We then introduced TWO new members, Maria Lopez from Univeristy of Pheonix and Maria's sponsor is Judy Hoag and Craig Miller with Service Master and Craig's sponsor is Deborah Roberts. We also welcomed back into the club, Floyd Gill with Wachovia/Wells Fargo Bank. Welcome to all three of you!

Presidents announcements:

The District Assembly is March 27th and we need all Avenues of Service Directors and members of Wendy's board to plan on attending. It will be at Pacifica High School in Oxnard.

We will be hosting the Ventura Chamber of Commerce Breakfast on June 4th and on September 23rd we will be hosting the Ventura Chamber of Commerce Mixer.



Welcome to our new members Craig Miller, Maria Lopez & Floyd Gill!

Avenues of Service Reports:

Club Service (Wendy Pazen) - Announced that on May 22nd we will be having a poker tournament at Garman's Pub. The buy in will be \$100 and there will be a limit of 100 players. All of the buy-in's will be donated to the Gates Polio Challenge. Do the math and let's get 100 players to sign up! Time will be 8:00 pm until the last player standing.

Happy Dollars: Nikki Sloan, Wendy Pazen, Husam Hishmeh.

We then listened to our program introduced by Nikki Sloan.

Today we had the pleasure of having an offsite Rotary meeting at the Working Artist Ventura project, otherwise known as WAV. Chris Velasco, the non profit developer from an organization by the name of "Place" that partnered with the City of Ventura for this incredible asset to our community has built 17 of these joint living space/ artist housing projects across the country including projects in Minnesota, Seattle, Washington,

Meeting, cont'd on page 3



Nikki Sloan introduced our speaker.

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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

WOW, what a well attended offsite meeting we had last week! That's what I have to say. Offsite meetings are usually the poorest attended meetings we have, but that just goes to help prove the fact that if you provide quality programs, people will come!

The Working Artist Ventura project (WAV) is truly an asset to our city and hopefully will prove to be a model for other projects in our country and possibly the world to emulate. It was very interesting to hear the history behind how this project came into being and what effort and team work between the city and the project team took place to make WAV a reality.

I want to thank Rocky and Nikki for the tremendous work they do to provide us with programs that are interesting, educational and fun! We don't realize the amount of coordination and effort they put into making sure we have a great program every week. We are a lucky club to have these two people putting our program schedules together.

The District Assembly was this past weekend and I have to say that this was one of the best District Assemblies I have attended. The general session in the morning was very interesting and informative and the iron lung they had running on the stage helped to drive home the message that we must "End Polio Now!"

Thanks to President Elect Wendy, President Nominee Tom, International Chair Judy, New Gen Chair Floyd, Rotaractor Cheney and Past President Deborah for giving up their Saturday and attending.

Welcome to our two new members and one returning member. Please make sure you introduce yourself to Maria Lopez and Craig Miller, our new members, and to Floyd Gill, our returning member. Floyd worked with us on many of our projects while he was away from the club and we are glad to have him back as a member. Maria and Craig will be bringing a lot of energy to the club which will also be great to see! This makes us plus 3 members for the year! Great job everybody!

YIRS
Jeff Hata

2009 - 2010

Club Board of Directors

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Wendy Pazen	President Elect
Deborah Roberts	Past President
Michelle Mercado	Secretary
Robert Lynn	Treasurer
Devere L. (Pete) Gallagher	Sergeant at Arms
John Masterson	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

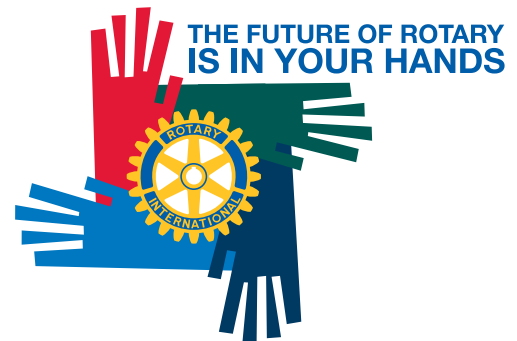
Wendy Pazen	Club Service
Husam Hishmeh	Vocational Service
Tom Swan	Community Service
Floyd Gill	New Generations
Judy Hoag	International Service
Mark Smith	Interact

Rotary International Officers

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John Kenny	President, Rotary International
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Deepa Willingham	Governor Elect, R.I. District 5240
Wade Nomura	Governor Nominee District 5240
Dr. John Carroll (In Memoriam)	P.D.G. 1981-1982
Marc Vertin	P.D.G. 2002-2003
Arnie Dowdy	P.D.G. 2003-2004
Jan Lindsay	P.D.G. 2004-2005
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

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

April 1, 2010

RYLA - Darin Arrasmith

April 8, 2010

GSE Bangladesh Trip - Andrea Barkan

April 15, 2010

Disaster Preparedness - Maria Sanchez

April 22, 2010

Clean Water in Africa - Father Doug Edwards

Greeters

April 1, 2010

Monte Widders & Jim Word

April 8, 2010

Lee Albee & Dave Anderson

April 15, 2010

Bob Beckwith & John Borneman

April 22, 2010

Rafael Canton & Harriet Clune

Rotary Recognition

Program Chair: Rich Stewart

April 1, 2010 - John Borneman

April 8, 2010 - TBA

April 15, 2010 - TBA

April 22, 2010 - TBA

Meetings

TBA

New Member Training Session

April 15, 2010

Vocational Service

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

April 6, 2010

Board of Directors Meeting

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

April 12, 2010

Club Service

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

April 12, 2010

Community Service

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

April 20, 2010

International Service

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

April 8, 2010

New Generations

2nd Thu/Month, 1811 Knoll Dr. 5:30 PM

Every Monday

Buena Interact Club

Buena High School, Room 48 12:30 PM

Reno, NV, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and Washington DC. Our Ventura WAV housing development is the world's only sustainable artist housing project.

Place's principles are to build housing projects that provide arts and culture, sustainability and provide social justice to the communities in which they are built by helping to end homelessness. Many of the housing projects began as dilapidated eyesores to the city's in which they are located and with the cooperation of local municipalities were able to convert them from abandoned printing press facilities, converted Masonic temples or auto dealerships to viable, cultural, revenue generating housing centers. Place has found that contrary to providing shelters for the homeless which only results in an 8% success rate to end homelessness, their development studies reflect that 92% of occupants that live in the Place housing projects remain living in a home not shelter in one year.

The City of Ventura challenged WAV to provide permanent affordable housing with the following attributes: it should be a cultural tourism destination, have a public theatre gallery, have retail space at market rents, help the homeless in the city and be the greenest building ever built in the city! You might recall that the site formerly was a vacant dirt parking lot that formerly was used about once a year for fair parking. It had been environmentally contaminated for many years which obstructed most developers from building on the site. With a combination of EPA funds, local philanthropists, tax credit financing, private money, loans and grants, Place was able to build WAV for an estimated \$28 million dollars. Of particular noteworthiness, no tax revenue was used to construct WAVE and because of the solar panels on the building, each day over 30,000 watts of solar energy is given back to the California grid. An added contribution to the City of Ventura was that during the worst part of the recession, WAV provided over 300 prevailing wage jobs to our local community.

Though building WAV wasn't without challenges...during construction it was discovered that the water table below the property was so high it required over \$1 million gallons of water each day to be purified first, then pumped out to allow for a sound foundation. This the largest California water purification permit ever pulled in the State! Not to mention that the bank that was providing the financing failed during construction and two title companies that provided the title insurance went bankrupt!

With over 130,000 square feet, WAV has a total of 83 units



Chris Velasco spoke to us about WAV.

of which 13 are for sale, 69 are affordable rental units for artists and the remaining 14 are affordable rental units for previously orphaned/ foster kids. WAV provides these children social and living skills to be on their own and provides affordable health care for each and every occupant of the project.

There were over 450 applicants that applied to reside in the 54 available affordable rental units for artists and today 100% are occupied. The average rent for the artist units are from \$600-\$800/ month and the "for sale" market rate units are listed from \$625,000 to \$875,000. Every penny of the proceeds from the sales of the units is reinvested back into the WAV project. We toured a few of the rental and sale units and found each space allowed for artists to display their individuality, and make art in a public setting that allows visitors to tour the project and see art in the making. This was quite a treat to see and if you missed this wonderful Rotary offsite, you've missed an opportunity to see just one of Ventura's charming attributes.

Best Regards,
Nikki Sloan

Interact club cooks up a tasty fundraiser

By Arnold R. Grahl
Rotary International News -- 31 March 2010

Interactors in Oregon, USA, have found a tasty way to raise money for local and international service projects.

With the help of the sponsor Rotary Club of Bay Area Sunrise (Coos Bay-North Bend-Charleston), the Interactors at North Bend High School recently held their third annual Iron Chef competition, raising thousands of dollars to send their club president to

Interact, cont'd on page 5



Rachele Summerville, of the Rotary Club of Bay Area Sunrise, serves as a sous-chef during the Iron Chef competition. Photo courtesy of Bay Area Sunrise Rotary Club

Important Dates

Santa Anita Social	Apr. 17
Rotarians at Work Day	Apr. 24
RYLA	Apr. 22-25
Poker Night at Garman's	May 22
Ventura Chamber Breakfast	Jun. 4
Club Step Down.....	Jun. 5
D.G. Luz Maria Step Down.....	Jun. 12
R.I. Convention, Montreal.....	Jun. 20 - 23
Push-em Pull-em Parade	Jul. 4
Ventura County Fair Parade	Aug. 7
Harbor Fireworks Cruise.....	Aug. 7
Ventura Chamber Mixer.....	Sep. 23
Pumpkin Patch	Weekends in October
Halloween Fundraiser.....	Oct. 30
Children's Christmas Party	Dec. 23

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Jeff Hata

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Interact, cont'd from page 4

Spain on a short-term Rotary Youth Exchange, support Shoes for Africa, and renovate a school study lounge.

Lynda Kristoffersen, liaison to the club and the district's Interact chair, came up with the idea after reading an article in the New York Times about similar contests held at dinner parties. The club's first try pitted a chef from the Oregon Coast Culinary Institute against a chef from a local restaurant in the basement of Kristoffersen's church.

"It was really low scale because if I was going to fail, I wanted to fail small," says Kristoffersen of the event, for which all 50 tickets sold out at \$40 each. The next year, the competition moved to the culinary institute, allowing for an expanded schedule of events. It also sold out, with all 100 tickets selling in 10 days.

"This year due to the economic times, we only sold 72 of our 100 tickets, but it was the best one ever," Kristoffersen says. "We instituted closed-circuit TV in all the rooms so if people were listening to the band or having a glass of wine or eating appetizers, they could still follow the competition."

Secret ingredient

For the contest, the two chefs create three entrees using two proteins the Interact club selects ahead of time, along with a bread, dessert, and salad. A secret ingredient -- this year's was Greek yogurt -- is revealed right before the competition "to shake things up a bit," says Kristoffersen.

Interactors and Rotarians help in the kitchen as sous-chefs cutting, dicing, and chopping as needed. While the chefs are at work, other chefs, culinary students, or volunteers perform a series of mini-contests, or "quick fires," such as guessing the ingredients in a dish or racing to be the first to shuck and clean oysters for a sauce.

A panel of judges scores the entrees to determine the year's Iron Chef. The audience is assured plenty of samples.

"There's tons of food," Kristoffersen says. "It's a full meal plus some."

The event serves as the main fundraiser for the Interact club. This year, in addition to revamping the school lounge, the club is giving some of the money to Shoes for Africa, the Interact district's international project. Half the money raised each year is used to send the club president-elect on a Youth Exchange.

"Our president-elect will go to Spain for 30 days and then the person she stays with will come here to her house and stay 30 days," says Kristoffersen. "It is intended to build awareness of other people's cultures and beliefs and to learn diversity and tolerance and spread that."

"It's a great way to do international goodwill, friendship, understanding,

Interact, cont'd on page 6

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Weekly Raffle

We did not have a raffle this week.



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Interact, cont'd from page 5

and peace,” says Tashina Stillmaker, the Interact club’s president-elect. “I am looking forward to coming back with a good service project for our club.”

Kristoffersen says the event would be easy to replicate. “Even if you do not have a culinary school in your area, you can tweak it to work,” she says. “You can have an outdoor competition where they have to barbecue everything. There are so many ways you can do it.”

She says clubs can contact her at lynda.kris@gmail.com

Joan Wilkinson, spouse of past RI president, dies

By Ryan Hyland

Rotary International News -- 24 March 2010

Joan Wilkinson, wife of Rotary Foundation Trustee and 2007-08 RI President Wilfrid J. Wilkinson, died on 22 March. She was 78.

Joan, of Trenton, Ontario, Canada, was a founding member of the Inner Wheel Club of Trenton and served in all of its offices, including president. She was an honorary member of the Rotary Club of Trenton.

“Joan was an outstanding first lady. She was deeply devoted to Wilf, her family, and to Rotary,” says Foundation Trustee Vice Chair John F. Germ, who served as aide to the president in 2007-08. “I don’t think she ever met a stranger, because she considered everyone she came across as a friend. She went out of her way to meet people and make them feel at home.”

After graduating high school, where she met her husband, Joan worked in the statistician’s office of the Bell Telephone Company of Canada. During her youth, she was active in the Girl Guides of Canada.

Joan was a fundraiser for the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario, Canadian Cancer Society, and Hastings Manor senior citizens home. She was also a provincial board of inquiry member and was active in the Trenton Memorial Hospital Auxiliary and the Trenton Memorial Library. She worked with local children in need and became the first chair of the Dufferin Street Preschool.

Visitation will take place 25-26 March at Rushnell Funeral Centre, 60 Division St., Trenton. Funeral services will be held on 27 March at St. Peter’s Catholic Church, Dundas St. W. and Queen St., Trenton.

Joan is survived by her husband and their sons, Stephen, Bill, Peter, and John. In lieu of flowers, Wilf Wilkinson asks that contributions be made to The Rotary Foundation in his wife’s memory.



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District 5240

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