



The Rotary Club
of Ventura-East

The Breeze

Editor: Jeff Hata
Volume XLVII, Number 45

Rotary Club of Ventura-East • Official Newsletter and Bulletin

Publisher: Jeff Hata
May 26, 2011

Programs

Program Chair: Rocky Ludes & Deborah Perkins

May 26, 2011

What's Happening on the Farm - Sara Jane Underwood

June 2, 2011

Report from the RI Convention

June 10, 2011

Meeting moved to June 10 Stepdown

June 16, 2011

West Point Cadet - Clayton Reagan

Greeters

May 26, 2011

Jordan Eller & Jim Emch

June 2, 2011

Pete Gallagher & Richard Gallagher

June 10, 2011

???

June 16, 2011

Chad Gibson & Floyd Gill

Fundraisers

Poinsettia Sales

Delivery Date

December 1, 2011

Club Events

Important Dates

Wendy Pazen's Stepdown.....	Jun 10
Grants Seminar South.....	Jun 11
GSE Team Leader Application Deadline	Jun 17
Deepa Willingham's Stepdown.....	Jun 25
Push em Pull em Parade.....	Jul 4
Tom Swan's First meeting	Jul 7
Membership & PR Seminar South.....	Jul 9
Foundation Seminar	Aug 6
GSE Team Application deadline	Aug 19
Ambassadorial Scholarship Application deadline.....	Aug 29
GSE Korean Incoming team.....	Sep 25 - Oct 25
Basic PRLS	Oct 8
District Conference	Oct 20 - 23
Master PRLS3.....	Oct 29
D.G. Wade's Visit.....	Nov 3
Master PRLS4	Nov 19
Master PRLS1	Dec 10
Mid Terms	Jan 7
Mid Terms	Jan 14
Master PRLS 2	Jan 21
Mid Terms	Feb 4

Raffle Prize Donors

May 26 - Alison Thompson

Table of Contents

Programs / Greeters / Fundraisers / Recognition / Club Events .	1
President's Message	2
Meeting Notes	3
Baby in the Car.....	5
Weekly Raffle.....	5
Membership List.....	7

Web Addresses

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

Presidents Message ...



Wendy Pazen
President 2010-2011

On May 12, we awarded scholarships to 6 very deserving Buena High School Seniors. One of these students, **Tigran Parsadanyan** spoke briefly about his homeland of Armenia. After the meeting, **Bill Spellman** was approached by **Tigran's** mother and father, who remembered **Bill** from years before. It was a very emotional reunion. The following is a brief summary that I requested **Bill** share with our club, of how they originally met and the amazing outcome of that meeting.

Read Bill's story on page 5. I must add that **Tigran** has not only received the "Presidents Award" scholarship from our club, but he has also completed his freshman year of college before he even graduates from Buena High School. He is truly an amazing young man who was given the opportunity to succeed by one of our members and the community of Ventura County. Congratulations, **Tigran!**

One kindness that we exhibit now, will go forward for future generations!

Have a wonderful week and make a difference!!

Wendy



Michael Doyle, our final scholarship recipient Paige Worley and President Wendy Pazen.

2010 - 2011 Club Board of Directors

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Tom Swan	President Elect
Jeff Hata	Past President
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Deborah Perkins	Director 2009-2012
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.....	Director 2010-2013

Avenues of Service Directors

Tom Swan	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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Jan Lindsay	P.D.G. 2004-2005
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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

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 May 19, 2011

Reported by Jeff Hata



Jordan Eller stepped in for Terry McBreen and conducted our raffle.

of Bob Pazen were Dan Kang & Richard Jimenez. Visiting Rotarians - from Moorpark Morning, President Lilian Canterbury, from Ventura Downtown - Gary Wolfe, from Ventura-South - Dan Drake & Melody Thurman.

John Borneman then lead us in a song.

Jordan Eller announced that our raffle prize today was a \$50 cash donated by Bob Lynn.

Michael Doyle then presented our final scholarship to Paige Worely. Paige was unable to attend our meeting last week because she had to take an AP exam.

Dan Drake and Melody Thurman made an announcement for the Boys & Girls Club Garden Party which is being hosted by the Rotary Club of Ventura-South.

Tim Hughes made an announcement for the Ventura County Rescue Mission Open House on May 21 from 1 - 3.

Presidents Announcements:

President Wendy did not have any announcements this week.

Avenues of Service Reports:

Vocational Service (Bill Spellman) announced that we

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

Wendy thanked our greeters Tom Crozier and Michael Doyle?

Tom Swan led us in the salute to the Flag.

Jeff Hata gave our Inspirational Moment.

Chad Gibson introduced our guests and visiting Rotarians. Guest of Husam Hishmeh was Peter Duffy, guests



Pete Gallagher spoke about sorting drugs to take to Mexico.

will be awarding three vocational scholarships next week.

Club Service - Tom Swan made an announcement for President Wendy's Stepdown dinner.

Community Service - Craig Miller spoke about Rotary Rehab this weekend.

Happy dollars: Deborah Roberts, John Borneman, Bill Hicks, Tim Hughes, Jeff Hata, Husam Hishmeh & Richard Jimenez.

Jordan then conducted our raffle and the lucky winner was Jim Emch! Congratulations to Jim and thank you to Bob Lynn for his generous donation.

Bill Spellman then presented our program about the history of our club.

In celebration of our 48th Club Anniversary, we took a stroll down memory lane with Bill Spellman, Andy Corliss, and John Borneman.

The Club was established in 1963 by John Masterson, Pete Gallagher, and Andy Corliss, with Bob Beckwith and Ron Hertel joining shortly thereafter. The new club faced a bit of opposition from the Downtown Club which resulted in a membership restriction. Our Club was only allowed to solicit members West of the center of town, although the Downtown Club could solicit members without restriction.

Andy recalled the challenges of securing new members and described experimenting with incentives to get people to come to the meetings. In addition to free lunches, the Club also offered to literally pick-up each prospective member and bring them to the Club for the meeting.

The Club was quite different in its early days. At the time the Club was formed, all members were male. The wives were often referred to as Rotary Anns. It was not until many years later that women were allowed to join. Some of the reasons voiced in opposition to allowing women to join included that fact that it could make some member's wives jealous and that the male members would have to start watching their language.



Andy Corliss spoke about the formative years of our club.

Our own President, Wendy Pazen, was previously a Rotary Ann.

Attendance requirements were stricter. You had to make-up a meeting by attending another meeting seven days before or after the meeting that you missed. There were no other options for make-ups. Despite this, many members have achieved perfect attendance including Bob Beckwith and Pete Gallagher.

Bill noted that some of the awards given to members in the early days included an award for the Best Horse's Ass, and an award for the Invisible Rotarian.

When membership reached approximately 50 members, the Club helped form the Ventura South Club and the Ventura Marina Club. Unfortunately, the Ventura Marina Club recently folded.

Thank you gentlemen for sharing your memories!

Deborah A. Perkins



Bill Spellman led a discussion about the formation of our club.

A #2 pencil and a dream can take you anywhere.
Joyce A. Myers

Happiness is not something you postpone for the future;
it is something you design for the present.
Jim Rohn

Health is the greatest possession. Contentment is the greatest treasure. Confidence is the greatest friend. Non-being is the greatest joy.
Lao Tzu

Rotary Club of Ventura-East
Post Office Box 3012
Ventura, California 93006
info@RotaryVenturaEast.org



Danielle L. Brinkman, CPA
300 East Esplanade Drive
Suite 520
Oxnard, CA 93036
P: 805-485-7194
F: 805-278-1200
E: danielle@brinkmancpa.com

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John A. Masterson
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Capt'n Cruise Travel News
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P. O. Box 3200
Ventura, California
93006-3200
805-340-0956
Fax: 805-642-4447

E-mail: jmasterson@CaptnCruise.com
www.captncruise.com

Wendy Pazen
Office Manager

Dr. Robert L. Pazen
Optometry
801 South Victoria Avenue
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The baby in the car

In the late 1980s and early 90s Paula and I were involved with a group called the Center for US/USSR Initiatives. It was a sort of people to people program as the Soviet Union was falling apart. We traveled with the group in 1989 for my third and final Russian trip.

In the early 90s, the group proposed an intern program. Since the state owned everything in the USSR, private enterprise was against the law. It existed but it was all black market. The idea was to bring potential entrepreneurs to the US to "intern" with American business people to see how business was organized in the US. Since several couples from Ojai had been on the trip, it was natural to bring one of the groups to this area.

There were about fifteen of them. Paula and I met them at LAX. The businesses involved were in Ojai and Ventura. Bill Hicks had one of the interns at Barber Ford.

One of the ladies, Karina Atenesian, spoke excellent English as would be expected since she was a college professor in Armenia and taught English. She spoke with an accent but had better grammar than most Americans.

Karina interned with Andi Bloom at Tottenham Court, an English tearoom in Ojai. She planned on opening a gift shop in Yerevan Armenia. Everyone fell in love with the interns but especially with Karina. They stayed for about a month and we were all sad to see them go back.

When Karina returned, she wrote to the ladies at Tottenham Court that everything had fallen apart. There was war with Azerbaijan. The economy had collapsed and there was no way she could open a business in the near future. There was no heat in their apartment building, no electricity and the winter was unusually severe. Her son and daughter in law had a new baby and it was so cold that the baby could not get to sleep. They had to bundle up the baby and drive around in the car with the heater on so that it was warm enough for him to go to sleep.

We all felt badly about they were suffering. What touched those of us who had children the most was the thought of the baby in the car. As we all sat around here with cushy little lives with our nice warm houses. We all felt that we needed to do something but were helpless.

The ladies at Tottenham Court chipped in and bought a ticket for Karina to return to the US. She was able to return legally and get a green card. She could not have made enough money at Tottenham Court to support herself so I helped her get a job at Golden West.

As soon as she was able, she started to work on getting her family to the US. Amazingly, she was able to get her whole family here within a few years, all legally. Even her mother.

Baby, cont'd on page 6

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Weekly Raffle

Our weekly raffle was a \$50 cash donated by Bob Lynn.

We raised \$125 this week bringing our total to \$4,617 for this Rotary Year!

Our lucky winner was Jim Emch. Congratulations Jim.

Remember, all proceeds from the weekly raffle go directly to help fund college scholarships for Buena High School Seniors.

Again, thank you to Bob Lynn for his generous donation and congratulations to Jim Emch!

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Baby, cont'd from page 5

She worked at Golden West until we sold to Blue Cross in 2001. We kept in touch for a few years but I eventually lost connection with the family.

Last week as we gave out the Scholarships, we were impressed with the quality of all the recipients but especially Tigran Parsdanyan. After he finished speaking Michael Doyle asked him to say a little about his family coming to America. When he mentioned the Azerbaijan war and the cold winters, I immediately had a flood of memories, especially about the baby in the car.

After the meeting Tigraan's mother and father came up to me and reminded me of our connection.

Tigran was the baby in the car.

Bill Spellman

I Believe

I believe-
That just because two people argue, it doesn't mean they don't love each other,
And just because they don't argue, it doesn't mean they do.

I believe-
That you shouldn't be so eager to find out a secret. It could change your life forever.


I believe-
That two people can look at the exact same thing and see something totally different.

I believe-
That your life can be changed in a matter of hours by people who don't even know you.

I believe-
That even when you think you have no more to give, when a friend cries out to you - you will find the strength to help.

I believe-
That credentials on the wall do not make you a decent human being.

I believe-
That the people you care about most in life are the essence of life.
Tell them today how much you love them and what they mean to you.




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District 5240

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