

THE ROTATOR

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SAN DIEGO ROTARY CLUB

San Diego
Rotary



Established 1911

Together, We Can Do More: The Legacy of Leon Williams



David Oates
Editor

stifled creative-wise by taking more than my share of white space.

President Peter took time away from his Nair Hair Removal endorsement duties to call the meeting to order. **Joe Craver** then gave what by all accounts was one of the most inspiring moments of recent programs by relating a very personal, poignant and moving story of his recent visit to the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C., to pay tribute to his old U.S. Air Force squadron mates. I prefer to call them by their other name: Heroes. **Jack Anthony** followed by leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of *God Bless America* that was accompanied by soon-to-be President Nominee **Suzy Spafford** on the piano. Next, **Mark Burgess** presented the news, thanks to **Chuck Dunning** and CW6. Peter followed by welcoming all guests, most notably past Rotary International President and namesake for the International Fellowship of Scouting Rotarians award, Cliff Dochterman. We were also honored to host members of the Southeast San Diego Rotary Club and the renowned San Diego State Rotaract Club.

Peter then provided an overview of a new membership program for Young Professionals, or YoPros, that's designed to entice qualified individuals under the age of 40 to join our club with special financial dispensation in exchange for being involved in at least two committees. If you know someone of that age who would make a good member, but is hesitant to join because of the luncheon and monetary commitments, contact me. This program may be just the ticket to get them in San Diego Rotary and be a valuable participant in service!

Author's note: After waxing poetically via these articles for more than three years, I'm now told that we, the esteemed Rotator editors, are limited to 900 words: henceforth known as "The Dave Oates Rule." My apologies to those that I've inadvertently stifled creative-wise by taking more than my share of white space.

Next, **Greg Zinser** stood tall in front of Judge Peter and accepted a \$500 fine for having his cell phone ring out loud at a recent meeting. El Presidente did provide a silver lining, though, by matching the donation, enabling Greg to receive another Paul Harris Fellowship in recognition for his long-standing service to our club. Well deserved! **Richard Ledford** was also hit with a nice fine for littering the tables with flyers that invited all of us to participate in SANDAG's regional plan through a series of public meetings, and other ways. See him for details on what is an important, civic-wide matter. Next, Mark Burgess came back to the podium to preside over the presentation of the Cliff Dochterman Award to **Judy Thompson** and **Keith McKenzie** for all that they do for Scouting.

Chair of the Day **Michael Brunker** then took to the podium to perform the customary duties of the position by welcoming all visiting Rotarians and presenting a bevy of gifts to the esteemed Mr. Dochterman, who traveled the furthest to be with us. He followed this by introducing journalist and biographer Lynne Carrier, author of "Together, We Can Do More: The **Leon Williams** Story," that celebrates the achievement of our one of our own. Leon was the first African American to serve on the San Diego City Council as well as the first—and still only—African American San Diego County Commissioner. Carrier noted that while his kind demeanor and staunch adherence to civil discourse were key attributes to his success, it was equally matched by what supporters and staffers cited as a relentless drive to make the region a better place. She noted many of his celebrated achievements, including being the catalyst for the idea that ultimately became the Center City Development Corporation as well as the Southeastern Economic Development Corporation.

Continued on page 2

Next Meeting

January 28, 2016

Gary McCord

Professional Golfer,
Golf Analyst and Author

"Life is full of ups and downs, good and bad, but it wouldn't be fun any other way." Living his life by this optimistic philosophy, Gary McCord persisted through years of mediocrity before finding great success in many aspects of the world of golf. An outstanding player, announcer, instructor, author, speaker, and even actor, Gary McCord has become a golf celebrity.

Gary is well known for enduring 23 years and 422 tournaments on the PGA Tour without nabbing a single victory. A man of good humor, he boasted a "NO WINS" license plate for years to poke fun at his own less-than-glamorous career as a professional golfer.

He joined CBS Sports in 1986, and he quickly became known for his outspoken (and sometimes controversial) golf commentary.

Gary is the author of the best-seller "Golf for Dummies" and his autobiography "Just a Range Ball in a Box of Titleists." He also appeared as himself in the Kevin Costner movie Tin Cup.



Tom Wilson
Chair of the Day

QUICK BITS

When attending our Thursday meetings, please remember to check in at the registration desk with your badge, even if you are not going to eat. It is important for us to track all attendance. Thank you.

Sodexo Catering will be conducting weekly surveys on their food and service for our Thursday meetings. Please take the time to complete the short survey on your table whenever you attend a program. Your feedback is important to them, as is working with us, to keep the quality of food and service at its best.

BIRTHDAYS

January

Joe Zakowski	25
Larry Hoeksema	25
Dan Murphy III	26
Robert Horsman	27
Elena Salsitz	27
Ray Peet	27
John Hinrichs	28
Marlee Ehrenfeld	29
George Harris III	30
George Driver	30
Cecil Steppe	31
Lynn Congemi	31

The Legacy of Leon Williams *continued*

Mr. Williams also was a key driver in the preservation of Chicano Park, the Ford Building (known today at the Air & Space Museum) in Balboa Park and other similar assets in the Downtown region. According to Carrier, the book's title was the phrase he included in every official City Council and County Commissioner correspondence that he wrote.

What you may not have known about Mr. Williams before is that he came to San Diego courtesy of World War II, having enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps. He was graduated from San Diego State College (as SDSU was then known) in just two and one-half years, and, when appointed to the San Diego City Council in 1969, took over fellow San Diego Rotarian Tom Hom's seat when he was elected to the California State Assembly. In doing so, Mr. Williams still worked his day job for a time, spending many sleepless nights and weekends to juggle the additional demands that he willingly took on.

As celebrated as Mr. Williams was at our program, his presence was sorely missed as he attended to matters relating to the very recent passing of his wife following a long battle with cancer. Our love and support are with him and his family during their time of need. We will no doubt welcome him back at a future meeting soon. Until then, I'll look forward to seeing him — and you — in service.



Union Tribune photo of Leon and his wife Margaret on the San Diego Trolley in October 2005.

CALENDAR

ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD AT LIBERTY STATION CONFERENCE CENTER UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

January

28 - Gary McCord, Professional golfer, golf analyst, author

February

4 - Richard Lederer, Best-selling author

11 - Sweetheart's Program

GROTARIAN EVENTS

Attention Grotarians—this meeting is one of the requirements toward your permanent badge. Please consider attending if you have not attended one before.

WINTER FIRESIDE CHAT

Tuesday, January 26

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Location: Academy of Our Lady of Peace

This free event is open to Grotarians only (please, no guests or spouses.)

[CLICK HERE](#) for more event details and to register.

Meetings: Every Thursday at Noon, Liberty Station Conference Center, 2600 Laning Road, San Diego, 92106

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A FUN COMMITTEE EVENT

A ROTARY FELLOWSHIP AND NETWORKING EVENT WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

We invite you to join Grotarians, SDSU Rotaracts, and the “Fun” Committee, along with members of the Coronado Club and other District 5340 Rotary clubs for an early evening of fun, fellowship and networking.



The event is set to take place at the beautiful law offices of **Higgs, Fletcher & Mack from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm**. Food and beverages will be served. **Cost is \$15 for Rotarians and guests, \$7 for Rotaracts**. Last day to register is January 29.

[Click here](#) for more details and to register.

MEMBERSHIP

NEW YOUNG PROFESSIONALS PROGRAM

The Club Board has spent some time evaluating options for how we can expand our membership with a focus on increasing the number of younger members. Almost every other large club has a special program to attract younger members. We modeled our program after best practices of what has been successful.

The Young Professional program, YoPro for short, doesn't change the requirements to become a member, but does offer flexibility in attendance and some reduced costs. Of most importance it requires that YoPros be involved in committees and club activities. Engagement is a large part of what we expect.

You will hear more details as we further promote the initiative but start thinking about 30-somethings that you can sponsor. Contact the office, review the [membership section on our website](#) or talk with the membership committee leadership—[David Oates](#), [Mary Colaccico](#) or [Jean Young](#)—for more details.

FACES ON OUR CROWD



(Left) President Peter presented Southeast San Diego Rotary Club President Sharon Payne with their very own Rotary bell; (right) President Peter with guest speaker Lynne Carrier and Chair of the Day Michael Brunker.



(Left:) Greg Zinser was fined for forgetting to turn his phone's ringer off during last week's meeting; (right) **Solveig Deuprey** and **Buddy Thomas** were delighted to meet former RI President and devoted Scouter Cliff Dochterman.



Cliff presented both Judy Thompson and Keith McKenzie with the Cliff Dochterman Award for their exemplary service to Scouting.

PEACE COMMITTEE



On January 15 and 16 approximately 1500 people from around the world assembled in Ontario, CA for the Rotary World Peace Conference. One hundred and fifty speakers provided information on topics ranging from human trafficking to peace through education. We were treated to world renowned speakers during the full plenary sessions. One of them was Claes Nobel, the grand nephew of Alfred Nobel, the founder of the Peace Prize.

I was delighted to attend the conference with **Ann Hill** from our club, together with Jordan Maharaj and Zackary Albrecht from the SDSU Rotaract Club. We would love to see more of our members in attendance in the future!



Many thanks,
Jenni Prisk
Peace Committee Chair

(Left) Jenni Prisk speaking about Peace through Education; (center) Rotaract Zack Albrecht with Claes Nobel; (right) actress and humanitarian Sharon Stone addressed the crowd at the conference

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL



**ROTARY
SERVING
HUMANITY**

2016-17 Rotary International President John Germ has selected his presidential theme as “Rotary Serving Humanity.”

Germ unveiled his theme to incoming district governors on January 18 at the International Assembly in San Diego.

“I believe everyone recognizes the opportunity to serve Rotary for what it truly is: not a small opportunity, but a great one; an opportunity of a lifetime to change the world for the better, forever through Rotary’s service to humanity,” said Germ.

[Click here](#) to read the full article from Rotary International.

INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION AND MICROCREDIT COMMITTEE



At our committee meeting this **Thursday, January 28**, immediately following the program, we will discuss the upcoming **East Africa Rotary District Conference in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on April 14-16, 2016**. Walter Lam and Roger Haines will be attending, and will also visit Rotary projects there. If you are interested in a fabulous trip to Africa, please come to the meeting, or contact [Walter](#) or [Roger](#).

Boys admire Rotary Solar Cooker in Nairobi.

Rotaract Clubs To Make Water Pasteurization Indicators (WAPIs)



On **February 13, 2016**, Rotaractors from SDSU and UCSD will spend the day making 500 Water Pasteurization Indicators (WAPIs) to be distributed with Rotary Solar Cookers in East Africa. These simple devices consist of a tube with wax that melts at pasteurization temperature ($65^{\circ}\text{C}/149^{\circ}\text{F}$), indicating that water is safe to drink. Using a WAPI eliminates the need to boil water, cutting in half the time to make water safe. Reusable, the WAPI on the right shows that pasteurization temperatures have been reached, because the green wax has melted and moved to the bottom of the tube. The WAPI is then removed from the water. After the wax hardens, the tube is turned upside down and put in a new pot of water, like the WAPI on the left.