



# THE ROTATOR

Vol. 102, No. 32, March 3, 2016

SAN DIEGO ROTARY CLUB

## Ranger Jack in the White House



Tom Gable  
Editor

President Peter welcomed one of the largest crowds of late, even without the benefit of a single visiting Rotarian.

Divya Kakaiya, a native of Kenya, provided the Inspirational Moment, followed by the Pledge and *America the Beautiful* led by President

Peter and accompanied by Suzy Spafford.

Thank you to Jo Dee Jacob for sponsoring the news this week, presented by Mark Burgess.

Honored as Paul Harris Fellows were: Steve Cairncross, No. 2; Chuck Pretto, No. 9; Greg Zinser, No. 2; and a surprise for Diana MarJip-Chuh, her first.

Honored as Rotarian of the Quarter: Mia Harenski, Chair the Hoover Interact Committee and member of our Finance Committee and Review Committee.

Chair of the Day was the effervescent Stephanie Saathoff, president and owner of The Clay Company, legendary government and community relations firm. The San Diego native and SDSU graduate introduced Jack Ford, son of the late President Gerald Ford.

Jack noted he didn't feel offended that it had been 20 years since he was last asked to speak to the club, on the occasion of the 1996 Republican National Convention when San Diego was host city.

He was pleased to return, and led the club through the saga of a 23-year-old college student suddenly moving into the White House. Jack was working as a ranger in Yellowstone when President Nixon resigned and his father became the new President of the United States. Jack was on back country patrol on horseback when he received a radio call to return to the ranger station. A park service helicopter ferried him to the closest airport

for a private plane ride to Salt Lake City and a commercial flight to Washington. On the flight, the pilot replayed the radio broadcast of President Nixon's resignation speech and the long flight gave it some time to sink in.

When he arrived in Washington, the organizers forgot a minor detail – picking him up at the airport. Jack was in ranger clothes and didn't have any money, so he went to Travelers Aid to call for help. He got a ride to his parents' home (they lived in 2400 square-foot house in Alexandria) and spent that evening on the phone calling his buddies to borrow clothes for the ceremony the next day. He secured everything but shoes, hence the photos of him in cowboy boots, long before they were popular.

At the swearing in, the Secret Service outlined his protection plan. He would go from being a casual college kid who enjoyed spontaneity to having 12 to 14 guys following him around.

"Not the way I planned it," he deadpanned. They always required a schedule, such as 20 minutes' notice even when he only wanted to go to a bar and have a beer.

He said even with no social media or cell phones, scrutiny was intense. If he went out to dinner with friends, had drinks or attended a concert, he saw it in the paper the next day. Having a flock of Secret Service agents hovering was the give away.

On the good news side, living in the White House was a single man's dream: unique setting, 24-hour room service, not having to make your bed or clean up your room.

He went back to Yellowstone for duty. When he saddled up to go on patrol, he was joined by 16 Secret Service escorts on horses, ready to go.

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## Next Meeting

March 10, 2016

California Innocence  
Project  
Justin Brooks

### The Causes of Wrongful Conviction

Hundreds of innocent people have been released from prison in the United States over the past two decades. By examining the cases, we have learned that common causes of wrongful conviction are false confessions, bad identifications, police and prosecutor misconduct, informant testimony, and poor defense work. Professor Justin Brooks, who has worked in the trenches exonerating clients as the Director of the California Innocence Project, will talk about some of his projects' exonerations and the causes that led to the tragic result of an innocent person serving time in prison for a crime he/she did not commit.

The California Innocence Project is a law school clinic at California Western School of Law in San Diego dedicated to freeing the innocent from prison, training law students, and changing laws and policies to lessen the number of wrongful convictions. The California Innocence Project has freed twenty innocent people from prison, trained hundreds of law students, and changed multiple California laws to improve the justice system.



Bill Wise  
Chair of the Day

## QUICK BITS



### **ROSTER PHOTOS - MARCH 10** *One date only!*

If you need a photo for our 2016-2017 membership directory or would just like an updated one, a photographer will be available on March 10 starting at 11:30 and again after our meeting at Liberty Station.

### **Update your contact info for the 2016-17 Membership Directory!**

We are currently in the process of putting together the 2016-17 roster. If you have not already done so, please submit any changes to your contact and business information to the Rotary office immediately. The deadline to submit your changes is on **April 4th**. [Click here](#) for the form.

## BIRTHDAYS

### **March**

|                  |    |
|------------------|----|
| Kirk Jackson     | 7  |
| Tom Day          | 7  |
| Stephanie Rossis | 8  |
| Kay North        | 9  |
| Peter MacLaggan  | 10 |
| Richard Cox      | 10 |
| Michael Anderson | 11 |
| Kathy Koenig     | 12 |
| Mary Zoeller     | 12 |

## *Ranger Jack in the White House* *continued*

“I went from the lone ranger to having a small cavalry,” he said. Since most had zero experience with horses, Jack helped them unsaddle at night and saddle up in the morning.

Back at the White House, Jack enjoyed the perquisites, including riding in Air Force One (a Boeing 707 at the time) and the Marine Corps One helicopter, which was great for going to Camp David for the weekend. His personal guest list included George Harrison, Andy Warhol, Bianca Jagger and Chris Evert. He traveled with his parents to Europe for the Helsinki Accords meetings. More than visiting places, he enjoyed the interactions, new friendships and the knowledge he gained.

The Presidential campaign was a big part of President Ford’s last year of office in 1976. Jack spent many nights in small towns and did more speeches than his dad, including trying to build support on college campuses. He appeared on Meet the Press the last Sunday before the election—at age 24, the youngest guest in the show’s history.

President Ford lost to President Jimmy Carter in a tight election (and Carter lost four years later to Ronald Reagan in a landslide).

After the election, Jack moved to San Diego County where he was publisher of a weekly Del Mar community paper and later served four terms on the Del Mar Fair Board. In 1985, he started a company to provide a variety of services to the shopping center industry. The company, [InfospaceUSA](#), is based in Oceanside and now has 500 employees and clients all over the country.

During the Q&A session, Jack responded to questions about the pressures of the Presidential office (“enormous”) and the differences in politics over the past 40 years. He said campaigns had more dignity when his father went through it. And in a comment on shifting priorities and stances on the issues:

“I think candidates today reflect society but don’t shape it,” he said, to a round of applause.

## CALENDAR

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

### *March*

*10 California Innocence Project*

*17 Camp Enterprise Kickoff*

*24 St. Patrick’s Day Program*

## GROTARIAN EVENTS

**Save the date! Tuesday, April 19**  
**Evans Car Collection**

**5:30 pm - 7:30 pm**

*More details coming soon!*

## 2016 Peace Award

On September 22, 2016 our club will present its 2nd annual Peace Award and you are invited to submit a nomination for the award. [Click here for the criteria and application form](#). **The deadline to submit your nomination is April 30.** If you have questions please contact Jenni Prisk at [jenni@prisk.com](mailto:jenni@prisk.com) or Jean Young at [jyoung@youngcoinc.net](mailto:jyoung@youngcoinc.net).



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

Peter Duncan, President ♦ Paul Devermann, Executive Director

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# PROJECT ALLOCATION

**2016-2017 GRANT APPLICATIONS**

**DEADLINE TO SUBMIT IS MARCH 18**

The Club's Project Allocation Committee (PAC) has begun accepting 2016-2017 grant applications. To be considered by the PAC for a grant, applications must be completed in all respects and received by the Rotary office via email to [mary@rotary33.org](mailto:mary@rotary33.org) no later than March 18, 2016.

You can find both the grant application memo and the grant application on our website in the About Us, Member Downloads section. You will find them under **Foundation Downloads**.

<http://www.sandiegorotary.club/about-us/member-information/>

## ROTARIANS AT WORK

**SAVE THE DATE  
FOR OUR 2016 ROTARIANS AT WORK DAY  
SATURDAY, APRIL 30  
MORE DETAILS AND  
ONLINE REGISTRATION  
COMING SOON**





## Prospective Member VIP Reception March 24

### *Who can be a member?*

- *Those who are in all levels of management*
- *Those who have a passion for giving back*
- *Those who want to help others professionally and personally*
- *Those who will attend meetings as often as they can*

### *Share the Gift of Rotary*

You and your prospective member are invited to a pre-lunch reception for an opportunity to meet with fellow-Rotarians and Board Members.

**Bring one (or more) prospective member!**

**WHEN:** Thursday, March 24, 2016  
**TIME:** 11:15 am      **Room:** 202  
**RSVP:** Register on the Club's website event page

<http://www.sandiegorotary.club/event/membership-vip-reception/>

*The club will pay for lunch for your guest. Registration is required.*

*[Click here](#) if you would like a pdf copy of this invite to forward to your guest.*



# CLUB 33 GOLF TOURNAMENT

A beautiful day on the links was enjoyed by 12 Club 33 Rotarians and one SDSU Rotaract student, Jordan Maharaj, on Friday, February 26, 2016. The second round of this year's tournament featured a blistering 69 by **Ellis Smith** who has seized the lead from **Tom Wilson** and **Guy Maddox** with one round to go, date forthcoming. Keep your eyes peeled for the next and last golf round of this Rotary year to be soon announced!



## FISHING



### **!! ATTENTION ROTARY ANGLERS !! THE 2016 ROTARY FISHING TRIP IS SET**

This year's Rotary fishing trip is set for the custom long range vessel **SEARCHER**. We are again on an extended 1 ½ day trip, departing at 4 PM on **Monday, September 12** from Fisherman's Landing in Point Loma. We will fish all day on Tuesday and return to the dock about 7-8 AM on Wednesday, September 14. The boat has comfortable staterooms for all Passengers and we will enjoy 4 delicious meals and snacks. The trip cost includes everything except drinks, tips and any fish processing. The load is only 28 passengers on this 95 foot boat, which gives all of us plenty of room. **Total cost of this trip is \$485.00**, and is during the prime time for great fishing and smooth weather. This trip sells on a first-come-first-served basis, so call the Searcher office soon at 619) 226-2403 for your reservation.

Last year we caught limits of 35 – 42 lb. Blue Fin Tuna, and as the water is already warmer than normal, the chances of another good year are excellent!

**Come join us and try to pry the new "Ferd Fletcher Perpetual Trophy" out of Bob Fletcher's fishy hands!!**

*Thank you,  
the Rotary Fishing Committee*

# FACES IN OUR CROWD



(Left) **Todd Struyk** showed his support for our visiting Girl Scout; (right) pictured from the left: Jack Ford , Juliann Ford, Christian Ford and **Leon Parma.**



(Left) **Leon Williams** and Jack Ford; (right) **Daryl Ferguson** and President Peter...and **Jeremiah Doran.**



(Left) Stephanie Saathoff did a fantastic job at her first time as Chair of the Day (right) Mia Harenski received the Rotarian of the Quarter award.



(Left) Jack Ford shared a photo of himself at 24 years of age on Meet the Press; (above) and a photo of him and his father aboard Air Force One.