



THE ROTATOR

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SAN DIEGO ROTARY CLUB

Cinco de Mayo



Jim Wynkoop
Editor

What a great day to be at Rotary! In honor of Cinco de Mayo, we had Mexican food and dance performances by Grupo Folklorico.

To start off our meeting, **President Peter** called the meeting to order and gave

thanks to the Rotarians at Work (RAW) Committee for their successful projects over the weekend. **Craig Nelson, Emily Rex and Chris Christopher** put lots of work into organizing this annual event and they all went off successfully.

Today's Inspirational Moment was given by **Larry Hoeksema**. He had a heartfelt tale of working last weekend's RAW Rosecrans National Cemetery clean-up event, and recognizing a name on a headstone. After some neighborhood research, he found that it was a young man from his neighborhood, KIA in Afghanistan.

Brandon Horrocks and Suzy Spafford led us through the Pledge of Allegiance and *Star Spangled Banner*, and our friend **Mark Burgess** did the news sponsored by **Ray McKewon** and The Xceptional Music Company. He discussed the huge wildfire ongoing in Alberta, Canada, and a very large Parent/Teacher Convention going on this week in San Diego.

During President Peter's opening announcements, he mentioned that Zach Albrecht of our SDSU Rotaract group ended their year last week, and Zach was awarded the Daniel B. Nowak Outstanding Student Service Award. This award is for the effort, time and achievement toward furthering the interest of the student body and SDSU. Congratulations, Zack! Peter also discussed Craig Blower's memorial service over the weekend—a wonderful event with both tears and laughter.

President Peter then highlighted the work of the Mercy Outreach Surgical Team (MOST). Peter travelled to Mexico with the team a few

weeks ago, and brought up **Sal Hernandez, Jose Gil and Kathy Guevara** to the podium to honor their work in organizing these annual trips. He awarded Sal the honorary title of "Doctor of Rotarology," while awarding Kathy the title of "Queen of Rotary Club 33" during his remaining 55 days as President, picking up on a tradition with the clubs in Mexico. Jose was awarded Peter's "Big Heart" award. We learned that the MOST team, including **Gene Rumsey and Tom Vecchione** work tirelessly on these trips. In three and a half days, the 59 person team performed 401 cases. Important work like crossed-eye corrective surgery, cleft lip and palate repairs, and general surgery procedures were performed. The entire trip is a \$92k project, helped through donations from Rotary, Scripps and other groups. What an honorable project!

Mike Caruso did a recap of the 2016 Model UN event, which included several teams of high school students that Club 33 sponsored, which included Hoover High, High Tech High and San Diego High students.

Finally, our Chair of the Day, **Brandon Horrocks**, VP of Operations for Boys & Girls Club of San Diego, introduced the highlight of our meeting. Grupo Folklorico, led by Lalo Hirsch, is a folk dance group from San Ysidro High School. They performed Mexican Folklorico dances, in full costume, and they were amazing! A perfect touch for the Cinco de Mayo lunch. We learned that each of their dances and costumes have historical and cultural roots from each region of Mexico (Jalisco, Yucatan, Baja, Sinaloa, etc).

In closing, I would like to congratulate **John Neuhart**, who travelled to Cincinnati, OH over the weekend to run in the Flying Pig Marathon with his former Rotary Club. Nice work, John, and Happy Cinco de Mayo, everyone!!

Next Meeting

May 12, 2016

STEM Cook-off

Khamphet Pease

Math, Science & Technology Teacher, Wilson Middle School

Preparing Kids for Tomorrow's Opportunities

Three years ago, Club 33's STEM Committee launched an initiative designed to inspire young people to pursue STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) education, and to expose them to career possibilities in that sector. Learn how the program has grown, and see, LIVE, how it is teaching students skills such as programming and engineering that they'll need in tomorrow's workforce. Teams from Adams and Rosa Parks Elementary Schools will showcase their robotics prowess in response to challenges issued by Khamphet "Phet" Pease (2014 Middle School Teacher of the Year), who also will comment on the value of this and other Rotary-sponsored STEM programming.



Joe Austin
Chair of the Day

QUICK BITS



Club 33 Spring Tennis Tournament

Our **Spring Tennis Tournament** will be held on **Wednesday, May 25th at 5:00 pm** at the Barnes Tennis Center in Point Loma.

The cost is \$25, with most of the proceeds going as a donation to benefit Barnes Tennis Center's youth tennis program.

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

The **SMALL CLUB JOINT VENTURE COMMITTEE** wants to remind you to consider doing your meeting makeups with the **Southeast San Diego Rotary Club**. They meet on Wednesdays at noon at the Jacobs Center in the Community Meeting Room. Their address is 404 Euclid Avenue, San Diego, 92114. Their lunch cost is \$15. For catering purposes, please contact Diane Crawford at sesdrotary@yahoo.com the day before you plan to attend.

BIRTHDAYS

	May
Eric Rivera	9
Chris Cramer	9
Frank Panarisi	10
Tina Jenkins	10
Michael Brunker	10
Jay Arnett, Jr.	10
Michael Murphy	13
Jim Nickel	14
Diane Bell	15
Bob Witty	15
Al Harutunian III	15

Rotary Programs

Rotary is an education! The speakers and programs we are privileged to hear and see in our club are very big part of what keeps us coming week after week. We are a bunch of truly caring people. And we are connected to the world in so many varied ways. That is why it is so vital to continue to provide stimulating programs each week that inspire us, inform us, reveal to us, amaze us, and delight us. What riches we have!

We are now lining up programs for our next Rotary year. From sports luminaries to city planning to new developments in science, I am excited by the programs already on the calendar. But we need more. I bet each of you can think of *at least* 5 kinds of programs that you would want to hear. Write them down. I also know that many of us have connections to fascinating people and/or meaningful topics that would make excellent programs. Please, write them down! You can send your ideas to me (sspafford@suzyszoo.com) and the Program Committee will work on pulling together terrific programs that enrich our lives, that convince new members to join, and that remind us of how wonderful it is to be a Rotarian.

Below are some categories to help you get started with your list. The Program Committee will greatly appreciate this, and will follow up with you for more information.

Thank you!

[Suzy Spafford](#)

2016-17 Program Chair

Science/Technology
 Art, Music and Literature
 Entertainment Industry
 New and Upcoming in San Diego
 Economy and Finance
 Environment
 Medicine/Healthcare
 Education
 Sports
 Military
 The Natural World/Animals
 Government/Law Enforcement
 Discussions/Panels

CALENDAR

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

May

12 STEM Cook-off

19 George Chamberlain

26 Douglas Gordon

GROTARIAN EVENTS

Tuesday, May 17

Barnes Tennis Center

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN—LAST DAY TO REGISTER IS FRIDAY MAY 13

Please join the Grotarians and their families for a fun and active night at the Barnes Tennis Center in Point Loma. We will have a tour of the complex, conference room and tennis courts. We will see the clay courts, some of the few in Southern California. Demonstrations will be held on the courts, including the kids' courts, so bring your young ones and let's see them hit the ball.

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

Wednesday, June 22

California Tower at The Museum of Man

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

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

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

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FACES IN OUR CROWD



Students from Hoover Interact (left) and from High Tech High Interact (right) along with their advisors and mentors were recognized for having participated in this year's San Diego Model UN program.



(Left) President Peter showed off his MOST surgical cap; (Center and right) President Peter recognized the tremendous efforts of all those involved in organizing the successful MOST trip to Irapuato, Mexico last month, including Jose Gil, Kathy Guevara and Sal Hernandez. He bestowed upon them tokens of his appreciation and made Kathy the official Queen of Club 33 (a tradition of Rotary Clubs in Mexico.)



The students from San Ysidro High School's Grupo Folklorico put on a spectacular performance.



Photos courtesy of Paul Nestor

ROTARIANS AT WORK DAY 2016

Thanks to everyone who sent in photos from this year's Rotarians At Work Day!



Veterans Museum and Memorial Center
City staff members were very impressed with the amount of work that was accomplished! It was more than they had expected!



The Storefront Shelter



ROTARIANS AT WORK DAY 2016

Thanks to everyone who sent in photos from this year's Rotarians At Work Day!



Balboa
Park
Nursery



Pepper Canyon with Hoover Interacts



ROTARIANS AT WORK DAY 2016

Saturday, April 30 began as a cool, windy and rainy day for members of MAC and other Rotarians who volunteered for two RAW projects. At both national cemeteries in San Diego, Rotarians and their family members were assisted on beautification projects by about 15 Marines from MCRD at each location. **Rick Huenefeld** was responsible for inviting the Marines who were members of the Single Marines Club on the base.

At Ft. Rosecrans, the MAC team was led by **Mike Caruso**, event co-chair. Working side-by-side with the Marines were **Randal Densley**, his wife Shelly and their son (a Boy Scout), **Kevin Enright**, **Paul Hartley**, **Larry Hoeksema** and his wife Karen, **David Oates**, **Penny Robbins**, her daughter Clare and a friend of Clare's, **Bonnie Schwartz**, **Kathy Kerrigan** and Steve Bell, **Don Wilkie** and his daughter Cameron, **Peg Eddy** and her husband Bob.

At Miramar, the MAC team was led by Rick Huenefeld, event co-chair. Working at that location with the Marines were **Sandy Purdon**, **Troy Wilson**, **Jim Wynkoop**, **Evan Wahl** and his son Tiernan, **Craig Nelson** and his wife, **Suzu Spafford** and her husband Ray Lidstrom, **Frank Caperino**, **Chris Christopher**, **G.T. Frost**, and Rotaracts Vanessa Girard and Nick Milsner.

At both locations, rocks were installed, headstones were cleaned, weeding was done, and pavers were acid washed. The skies cleared late morning and all appeared to be tired but gratified that their progress was readily visible. Beautifying the final resting place of American heroes was a great RAW project as well as timely with Memorial Day at the end of May. A big "Thank You" to all who helped!

