



THE ROTATOR

Vol. 103, No. 05 August 11, 2016

SAN DIEGO ROTARY CLUB

Protecting Mexican Fisheries



Tom Gable
Editor

Club 33 had a fish feast for lunch on August 11 (tales from the fisheries of the Gulf of California, but nothing on the menu unfortunately.)

Jackie Meyer, who may spend as much time in Baja California as she does in San Diego, provided an inspirational introduction to the Cabo Pulmo marine protection program that would follow. **Dom Addario** led the Pledge and singing of *America*, accompanied by **Katie Fulhorst** (who is new to the Music Committee this year.) **Stan Lawrence** covered news of the day sponsored by **Ginny Ollis** of Woods Real Estate Services. Deciding no longer to pursue introductions using “Hollywood names”, **President John** instead tried a geographic fining of all members in the audience: all Point Loma residents (\$20); then Point Loma residents and San Diego Yacht Club members (\$40); and then Yacht Club commodores with the other two criteria (\$60) of which four were in attendance: **Fred Frye, Sandy Purdon, Doug Arbon** and **Jim Jessop**. Let’s see who he fines next week.

Sesy Enriquez, president of City Heights Rotaract, reminisced about a visit to Mallorca under the Rotary banner, where they were treated like royalty and celebrities.

Bob Russell provided insights into membership in our club. It was a reminder to us all that it is a privilege and not a right. Being a member includes the responsibility of finding new members who can carry on the good work of Club 33 for future generations. Bob reviewed some of the bylaws and covered the [general criteria](#) of the membership process. He noted that some of the rules have been eased, such as the requirement that you had to know a prospect for at least one year.

Nick Bernal, our newest member and president of Preferred Valet Parking, talked about how he had set high goals to grow his business and that he plans to do the same in

Rotary, committing to the values of service above self.

Chairman of the Day, **Evan Wahl**, Vice President of Carlsbad Tech, presented various generic pharmaceuticals to the Rotarian from the farthest distance, Sue Mack, from Coronado. He also gave her a sling shot stuffed monkey that made an annoying sound while airborne and an eye care supplement scheduled for launch in November. “You can start to use it now...at your own risk,” he cautioned.

Evan then introduced Dr. Octavio Aburto, Director of the Gulf of California Marine Program, an assistant professor at Scripps Institution of Oceanography (SIO) and a professional conservation photographer. Dr. Aburto coordinates programs aimed at protecting fisheries in the Gulf of California and other Mexican waters.

Using some of his own award-winning photography, Dr. Aburto showed us huge schools of fish going through their spawning aggregations. During this aggregation, they have one objective: to reproduce. They form into concentrated rivers of fish extending hundreds of meters in length and some 15 to 20 meters in height creating a giant “fish bowl”. This concentration improves the breeding process. The Gulf corvina concentrate for breeding just before spring at the top of the Gulf of California by the Colorado River Delta, in an area equal to just 1 percent of the species entire home range, creating an easy environment for over-fishing.

Seventy-five percent of Gulf corvina are caught during the species spawning aggregations, which makes the corvina highly vulnerable to overexploitation. This has led to the creation of no-take zones and other approaches to managing fisheries in the upper Gulf of California, including use of nets with larger mesh so only mature fish would be caught.

Continued on page 2

Next Meeting

August 18, 2016



**SAN DIEGO CHARGERS
ENHANCING AMERICA'S
FINEST CITY**

Chargers President of Football Operations John Spanos will first give an update on the upcoming football season and then he will join Fred Maas and Jeffrey Pollack who will outline the November Chargers Citizen's Initiative and the conceptual plans for expansion of the Convention Center and new home for the San Diego Chargers.



Chris Sichel
Chair of the Day

Don't forget...our meeting on August 25 will be held at MCRD.

There will not be a meeting at Liberty Station.

If you will be bringing a guest to this meeting, you will have to register them online for entry onto the base. **Deadline to register guests is August 19. [Click here to register your guests with their full name as shown on their identification.](#)**

2016 PEACE AWARD

Our Peace Committee is proud to announce the recipients of the 2nd Annual Peace Award:

Promises2Kids

and

**Kevin Cahill,
Founder of Model UN**

Promises2Kids is a leading nonprofit organization originally founded over 30 years ago as the Child Abuse Prevention Foundation of San Diego County. Since 1981, Promises2Kids has responded to the needs of foster children and provided support to children removed from their home due to abuse and neglect.

Kevin A. Cahill has been a Rotarian for over 23 years. He is the Chair of District 5340's Model United Nations Program for high school students in Southern California, Mexico and Canada. He has a passion for working with the youth, and has been the Youth Service Chair at his Rotary Club and the Chair of the Interact program at Canyon Crest Academy in San Diego for the last 10 years.

Please join us on Thursday, September 22 at our regular luncheon where we will honor their amazing work.

BIRTHDAYS

August

Rob Dean	15
Joe Farrage	17
Jim Wynkoop	17
Marten Barry, Jr.	19
Rodger Dougherty	20
Penny Robbins	20
Ellen Casey	20
Charlie Van Vechten	21

Protecting Mexican Fisheries *continued*

Based on input from the scientists on the depleted fisheries, the Mexican Government designated a federal reserve in the area in 1995 called Cabo Pulmo National Park. Scientific teams conducted expeditions in 1999 over a three-month period to document the nature of the fisheries and the populations of the threatened species. In a follow up study in 2009, the scientists found significant progress. Dr. Aburto showed a bar chart with a four-fold increase in the average population of all species, from moray eels, to groupers, to creole fish, angel fish and sharks.

Dr. Aburto also highlighted efforts to define the economic and ecological value of the mangrove ecosystems in the gulf. These include providing timber, a nursery habitat for fishery species, protection of coastal communities from storm surge damage, and ecotourism revenue. He said ongoing work is essential because 68 percent of the reefs are at risk. Families that have fished for generations have now changed their life styles to meet the new regulations.

The reefs are once again alive with fish and the region has proven spectacular for scuba diving and snorkeling. The fishing families are now teaching people to dive and take fishing trips outside of the protected park. People pay a lot of money to dive with big fish so the families have found new sources of income.

Bottom line: Cabo Pulmo is a model for success and can be replicated in other marine protected areas to help reverse current trends of ecological degradation, create healthy marine ecosystems (reefs, lagoons, mangrove forests), and support the economic sustainability of coastal communities.

As one wag noted at our table: this is one fishing story that can scale.

CALENDAR

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

August

18 San Diego Chargers

25 Offsite lunch at MCRD

September

1 DG Marilyn Sanderson & Annual Committee Showcase

8 Kristin Gaspar, Encinitas Mayor and County Supervisor Candidate

GROTARIAN EVENTS

**Tuesday, September 13
Annual Grotarian Poolside Chat
Time: 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Cost: FREE**

Red Badgers! Please come and learn more about Club 33 and our committees as we enjoy President John Morrell's delicious Pozole by the pool.

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

**Save the date!
Tuesday, October 18
Grotarian event at WFW Industries & Workshops for Warriors**

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

John Morrell, President ♦ Paul Devermann, Executive Director

San Diego Rotary ♦ 2247 San Diego Avenue, Ste. 233, San Diego, CA 92110-2943

Phone: 619/299-3309 Fax: 619/299-3340 ♦ e-mail: paul@rotary33.org ♦ website: <http://www.sandiegorotary.club>

MEMBERSHIP

San Diego  Rotary
Established 1911

Prospective Member Reception



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*

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

Share the Gift of Rotary

Bring one (or more) prospective member!

WHEN: Thursday, August 18, 2016

TIME: 11:15 am **Room:** 207

RSVP: Register on the Club's website event page
<http://www.sandiegorotary.club/event/prospective-member-reception/>

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

MEMBERSHIP 2016/17

[Click here](#) to review the club's membership criteria and guidelines.

FACES IN OUR CROWD



(Left) Club 33 members who live in Point Loma where asked to stand, unaware they would be fined by President John; (right) **Fred Frye** and **Sandy Purdon** received a triple fine for also being former Commodores of the San Diego Yacht Club.



(Left) City Heights Rotaract President Sesy Enriquez told us about her Rotary trip to Mallorca; (right) new member Nick Bernal, pictured with President John, introduced himself to the club.



(Left) President John with guest speaker Dr. Octavio Aburto and Chair of the Day Evan Wahl; (right) Dr. Aburto explained the consequences of over-fishing along the coast of Mexico.



(Left) **Mart Trotter**, **Stan Hartman** and **Bill Gore** joined us today; (right) **David Oates**, **Doug Arbon** and **Tom Vecchione** were winners of Dr. Octavio's raffle.

