



# THE ROTATOR

Vol. 103, No. 10 September 15, 2016

SAN DIEGO ROTARY CLUB

## 2016 Mr./Mrs. San Diego



Craig Nelson  
Editor

**President John Morrell** called the meeting to order and welcomed visitors to the best Rotary Club on the planet! The building was packed with guests and friends of our Mr. San Diego, **Leon Williams**, and our Mrs. San Diego, Lucy Killea,

including a healthy turnout from the Downtown Breakfast Rotary Club. You know it's a special day when the audience includes two previous Mayors, the current Mayor, and 7 in the audience who think they are the future mayor.

The Inspirational Moment was delivered impeccably by **Kimberley Layton** on the subject of mentorship and on her personal mentor Lucy Killea. Our guest of honor was in the front row beaming with pride.

**Debbie Day**, accompanied by **Greg "bubbly toes" Zinser** on the keys, led the club in the Pledge of Allegiance and *God Bless America*.

In an interesting twist, there was no news-of-the-day because *we* were the news of the day with TV cameras on hand to capture the program!

A wise president knows when it's time to get the show on the road, and President John wasted no time in bringing Past President **Fred Frye** to the podium to preside over the ceremonies. Fred gave a brief history of the Mr./Mrs. San Diego award which has taken place since 1952, and in 1975, was moved to the guiding hands of the Rotary Club 33 past presidents. This is the first time two people have shared the award and Jerry Sanders noted he was shocked that it took this long for Lucy Killea and Leon Williams to win this prestigious award.

Past President **Ben Clay** took the podium to share a few stories about Lucy Killea. We San Diegans feel like we know Lucy from her tireless work as a public servant, Councilwoman, Assemblywoman and State Senator for so many years, but leave it to Ben to uncover some little-known facts and gems. Prior to being elected to office, Lucy served as a code breaker, and perhaps much more, for military intelligence or "MI," which is now

part of the CIA. She attended the First United Nations Assembly in London in 1946 as a member of Eleanor Roosevelt's staff. Lucy went Independent early in her political career, long before it was fashionable, and it often made her a key swing vote on important legislation. She was so charming both parties thought she was on their side!

Ben Clay then introduced Mayor **Kevin Faulconer** who marveled at his years working with and around Lucy. The Mayor presented the Mrs. San Diego Award to Lucy, and the plaque was almost as big as she. Her acceptance speech was humble and witty and it was easy to see why she kept getting re-elected.

Fred Frye took control of the mic once again and brought **Michael Brunker**, CEO of the Jackie Robinson YMCA, to the podium. Michael profiled 2016 Mr. San Diego Leon Williams, born 94 years ago in Oklahoma. Leon was San Diego's first black councilman and our first black County Supervisor. The city knew a good thing when it saw one--Leon never lost an election.

A longtime advocate of the light rail system, Leon was first appointed to the Metropolitan Transit Board in 1976 and served until 2006 when he retired as Board Chair. San Diego State University named Leon an "Aztec for Life" and named the SDSU trolley station after him. It has often been said of Williams, that "he fought for the little guy."

Michael turned the program over to "has been" Jerry Sanders—as in, Jerry, "has been" pretty much everything there is to be in San Diego. Chief of Police, CEO of the Red Cross, United Way, Chamber of Commerce and Mayor. Jerry has been so successful in everything he has touched, it makes you wonder why nobody thought to make him coach of the Chargers. Mayor Sanders presented the Mr. San Diego award to Leon Williams.

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## Next Meeting

September 22, 2016

*Presenting*  
**Nancy Hughes, Founder**  
**Stove Team International**

Stove Team helps local entrepreneurs establish factories in Latin America. These self-sustaining businesses produce safe, affordable, fuel-efficient cookstoves to replace dangerous open cooking fires.

Why stoves? Smoke from open cooking fires kills more than eight times as many people as does malaria. Daily cooking is the equivalent to mothers and children smoking three packs of cigarettes a day. Four million women and children suffer painful and debilitating burns from their cooking fires. 500 million cook fires emit nearly one billion tons of greenhouse gases each year and cause massive deforestation. An average man, woman or child spends 20 hours each week gathering wood. Wood collection takes valuable time that could be spent at work or school.

In 2007, Nancy Hughes and a team of volunteers from the Eugene Southtowne Rotary Club wrote a Rotary matching grant and invented a small portable stove – the Ecocina, which produces almost no smoke and uses less than half the wood of an open fire. The Ecocina reduced carbon emissions by 68% and particulate matter by over 86%. Aprovecho Research Center has verified that the Ecocina is one of the most efficient "rocket stoves" in the world.



**Roger Haines**  
Chair of the Day

## QUICK BITS



The first round of the 2016-2017 **Club 33 Golf Tournament** will be held on September 23 at the San Diego Country Club. If you are interested in playing, please contact [Marten Barry](#).



Plans are underway for our annual **Giving Thanks, Giving Back auction on November 17**. If you would like to make a donation towards our silent or live auction, please complete the [donation form](#) and return it to the Rotary office. Donations of wine need to be at least 91 points or better and cost a minimum of \$25. Any questions? Contact Auction Chair [Diana Mar-Jip Chuh](#).



The 2016 election ballots will be mailed to you on **November 14**. Completed ballots must be returned by **December 1**.

## BIRTHDAYS

### September

Bill Lawrence	19
Rod Eales	19
Rick Gulley	19
Paul Van Roon	21
Joan Friedenberg	22
Richard Coutts	22
Ray King	23
Jeff Wiemann	23
Al Wasserman	23
Will Newbern	23
Doug Wilson	23
Chris Yanov	24
Audrie Astebury	24

## Mr./Mrs. San Diego *continued*

Leon sure looked like he was having a ball up there on the stage and he summed it up pretty well, stating, "Being rich isn't measured by the amount of wealth you accumulate, it's by the amount of friends you have!" He is not enamored with the degree of acrimony in politics today. "I think if someone has a different point of view, accept it and don't be so critical. I assume they got their point of view the same way I got mine – so why not respect it?"

Jerry Sanders and Kevin Faulconer each spoke about their "path to public service." For Kevin, it came at an early age, doing his homework in the back of the City Hall in Oxnard, CA while his father conducted business. He joined Interact in high school and Rotaract in college. Not many can say they have attended Camp Enterprise as both a student and a Rotarian.

Jerry always saw himself as a cop from an early age, and he humbly states public service just kind of ran into him. Next thing he knew, it was the better part of his life, and the city is much better off for it!

Rotary shines a light on this type of behavior, and many of us show up on Thursdays thinking we're doing pretty good and helping where we can...only to be humbled and inspired by those doing so much more. What these people have in common is they all seem to start with an attitude that the glass is half full. Each believes that they, we, can make the world a better place, and that there is work yet to be done. All of us can impact San Diego and the world through public service.

### *In Memoriam*



#### **Robert K. Cleator, Jr. 1944-2016**

A mass will be held for Bob on Friday, September 30 at Saint Agnes Catholic Church at 10am  
(1140 Evergreen Street in Point Loma)  
A Celebration of Life will follow at the San Diego Yacht Club

## CALENDAR

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

### *September*

**22 Nancy Hughes, Stove Team International**

**29 Rob Quigley, David Malmuth and Norm Miller—Innovation of East Village**

### *October*

**6 Tomas Herrera-Mishler, Peter Comiskey and John Bolthouse—The Future of Balboa Park**

## GROTARIAN EVENTS

**Tuesday, September 27  
Spreckels Organ  
Time: 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm  
Cost: \$40**

This rare behind-the-scenes event is limited to 40 people so sign up now. Guests will enjoy a wonderful dinner from Soda & Swine then tour the innermost chambers of the organ while it is playing!

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

**Tuesday, October 18  
Grotarian event at WFW Industries & Workshops for Warriors**

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

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

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# 2016 Mrs. San Diego - Lucy Killea & Mr. San Diego - Leon Williams



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# STOP HUNGER NOW

On Saturday, Sept. 17 members of our Club and their families teamed with the Padres Volunteer's for a couple hours of work to package 40,000 meals that will be distributed in the Dominican Republic to schools and other outlets to benefit those in need. Two Padre players from the Dominican Republic, along with the Pad Squad and Friar, joined the group of 150 volunteers for a fun and fulfilling project.

