

It's Baseball Season!



Deirdre Maloney
Editor

With baseball's opening day just a few days away, this week's Rotary meeting was at a fever pitch as **President John** rang the bell and announced we'd be celebrating one of our most beloved institutions: the San Diego Padres.

First at bat was **Bink Cook**, who came armed with an Inspirational Moment that featured wise words from a few of her favorite ball players. Among them? Lou Gehrig's "Anytime you have an opportunity to make a difference in this world and you don't do it, you are wasting time on this earth." And, of course, Yogi Berra's little witticism: "Baseball is 90% mental, and the other half is physical."

Up next was the Pledge led by **Chris Sichel**, who threw us a bit of a curve ball with this week's tune, an a cappella version of "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" (made even better when the Padres toe-tapping "Swinging Friar" mascot danced his way onto the dais).

Mark Burgess then briefed us on the latest news, sponsored by **Nancy La-turno** and the upcoming Mainly Mozart Festival, which included the not-so-breaking headline that our Padres currently remain tied for first place. Next on the roster was the video of the week, which featured a touching tribute to one of our most cherished Padres of all time, #19 himself, Mr. Tony Gwynn.

President John returned to welcome our visitors, and also to thank everyone who voted on the club's bylaw revision regarding the new YoPro membership category, which passed with a 98% yes vote. **Bob Fletcher** then gave us the scoop on the annual club's fishing trip scheduled for September 11-13, which promises to be another fun-filled-fishing extravaganza aboard "The Searcher."

Dan Amaro then provided a different kind of pitch, beginning with a pop quiz. Here's a rundown of the answer key: 1) we're *all* on the membership committee, and 2) we *all* love to come to Rotary each week, and 3) there's absolutely *no reason* why we wouldn't give someone else the opportunity to be a part of it (and change lives) by bringing them to the upcoming Prospe-

ctive Member Reception. It's on April 13 at 11:30 am. You can register on the club's website or email Mary at the office.

President John rounded out his duties by razzing **Pat Crowell** for his exceptionally green shirt (which Pat wore to close out his beloved "St. Paddy's Day Month"), and then introduced Chair of the Day **Patti Roscoe**. Patti hit it out of the park when she provided a collection of memorabilia from her many philanthropic organizations to the Rotarian visiting from farthest away, popping only one slight foul when she couldn't quite name the Padres pitcher who signed the baseball she was gifting. She then introduced the two men who would provide a double-header of Padres updates, COO Erik Greupner and SVP/member of the ownership group, Tom Seidler.

Erik said that the departure of the Chargers only ups the Padres commitment to represent the San Diego community in national sports. He then provided a look at some recent accomplishments and some moments-to-come for the Padres and Petco Park. While you'd need the Padres record-setting videoboard to include his many points, here are a few highlights from the past year:

- Hosted the 2016 All-Star Game to rave reviews from all (including the baseball commissioner)
- Hosted a number of major concerts, including Billy Joel and the Rolling Stones
- Brought together 12,000 people for the "Celebrate San Diego Rally," proving that San Diego's sports fans are still energized despite the Chargers' exit.

What's on deck?

- The 2017 FanFest, a free event for families, taking place this Saturday, April 1
- More concerts, including a performance by Metallica, which caused a ripple of excitement among our crowd. (This means you, **Ryan Kussner**)
- The potential hosting of this year's Holiday Bowl (updates coming soon)!

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Next Meeting

April 6, 2017

Dr. Eli Berman

**Chair and Professor
of Economics
UCSD**

Dr. Eli Berman will summarize a decade of research on economics in conflict zones, and draw lessons for confronting ISIS and stabilizing Iraq and Syria. Using evidence from Iraq, Afghanistan, and other conflicts, he will explain why local allies must be induced by foreign powers to provide governance and enable economic development to stabilize Syria and reverse refugee flows. Framing development and security force assistance in that context implies practical policy reforms.

Dr. Berman is Chair and Professor of Economics at UCSD, and is also Research Director for International Security Studies at UCSD's Institute of Global Conflict and Cooperation (IGCC).

IGCC addresses global challenges to peace and prosperity through academically rigorous, policy-relevant research, training, and outreach on international security, economic development, and the environment.



Kathy Kerrigan
Chair of the Day

QUICK BITS

Mark your calendars— ROTARIANS AT WORK DAY is on Saturday, April 29.

If you would like to organize a project for this year's event, please contact [Craig Nelson](#) or [Emily Rex](#). Registration for our various projects will begin next week.

Do you have a change of address? Changed jobs recently or have a new title?

If there are any changes in your contact information that you would like to make for the new membership directory, please contact the [Rotary office](#) no later than April 14, to ensure its inclusion.



On September 21st our club will present its 3rd 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 June 30.**

BIRTHDAYS

April

Joe Watkins	3
Hugo Douge	4
Gary Nelson	4
Robyn Sukatski	7
Cari McCormick	8
Jon Greulich	8
Kurt Volker	9

It's Baseball Season! *continued*

Next, Tom talked about the work of the Padres to engage the community, first outlining the four-word initiative known as “Live” (wellness programs), “Learn” (education programs), “Play” (programs that get more kids involved in baseball), and “Serve” (military and first responders programs).

Tom ran down a number of other programs as well, including one close to our club's heart, the “Stop Hunger Now Meal Packing Event” (now called Rise Above Hunger). Mark your calendars for September 16 for this second event our club will do with the Padres at Petco Park.

Finally, it was time to get down to baseball and the outlook of our team. Our duo says the future of the Padres is bright, citing such facts as the signing of more than 70 amateur and international players last summer, and the news that ESPN rated the Padres farm team as the second best in all of major league baseball. He also listed a few prospects we should look out for this season. (Hint: keep an eye out for such players as Josh Naylor, Manny Margot, and Anderson Espinoza.)

One last noteworthy nugget. When **David Oates** asked if Petco might host Aztec football games in the future, the response was yes...but probably within a limited timeframe. Why? Because of the belief that our mighty Padres will actually need the stadium at the same time...when they're busy playing into the postseason.



Share the Gift of Rotary

Our next **PROSPECTIVE MEMBER RECEPTION** will be held on **April 13 in Room 201, from 11:30 am – 12:15 pm.**

Be sure to register yourself and your prospective member on our [website](#).

If you would like an electronic version of the invitation, please contact [Mary](#) in the Rotary office.

CALENDAR

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

April

- 6 *Dr. Eli Berman-Chair and Professor of Economics at UCSD*
- 13 *Dr. Edith Eva Eger, Author, Auschwitz survivor*
- 20 *District Four-Way Test Speech Contest*
- 27 *Offsite meeting at the SD History Center 5:30 pm (no meeting at Liberty Station. See page 2 for more info)*

GROTARIAN EVENTS

Tuesday, April 18
Location: SD County Sheriff's Regional Crime Lab
Time: 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Cost: \$25

This is a RED BADGER / GROTARIAN event only.

This event is limited to 25 people, therefore, registration is only open to Grotarians (no guests or spouses please).

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

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

John Morrell, President ♦ Paul Devermann, Executive Director

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

SAN DIEGO HISTORY CENTER

**Mark your calendars—
We are having an offsite evening
meeting at the San Diego History**

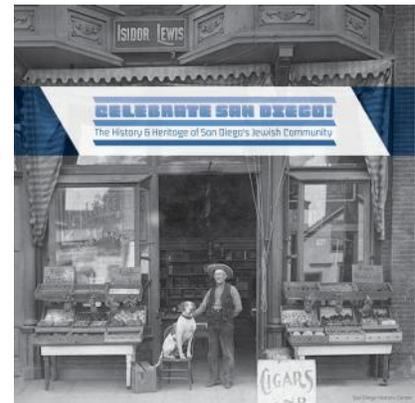
Thursday, April 27th , 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm

There will NOT be a lunch meeting at Liberty Station on April 27th. Instead, we will be meeting at the San Diego History Center in Balboa Park from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. Heavy hors d'oeuvres and adult beverages will be served.

We will get to tour and visit the History Center's current exhibitions, including "The History & Heritage of San Diego's Jewish Community," "Irving J. Gill: New Architecture for a Great Country," and "The Lore Behind The Roar! 100 Years Of The San Diego Zoo." Guided tours to see their research library and archives will also be available.

Guests are welcome (Regular \$32 lunch cost applies).

[Please register on our website](#) if you plan on bringing a guest to this meeting.



CLUB 33 FISHING



Attention, Rotary Anglers! This year's trip will again be on the Searcher, one of the fleet's premier Long Range Vessels. We'll be going out on a 1.5 Day excursion (Trip # 24) that will leave at 4 pm on Monday, September 11th, fishing all day on Tuesday, September 12th, and returning on Wednesday, September 13th. The price for the trip includes bait, bunk in stateroom accommodations and all your meals and snacks. Passport or passport card is required, and a Mexican or CA fishing license is extra. The cost is \$495.00, and you can book online at www.searchersportfishing.com, or by calling Fisherman's Landing at (619) 221-8500.

SPACE IS LIMITED, SO BOOK NOW!

Some believe that 2017 will showcase the return of the legendary Albacore Tuna, a species that have been missing since 2008! So come on and join us for Rotary fishing fellowship! Any questions, give **Bob Fletcher** a call at (619) 454-7580.

FACES IN OUR CROWD



The San Diego Padres Friar with (left) **Peg Eddy** and **Past President Michelle Candland**; (center) with President John; (right) with **Past President George Jessop**.



(Left) The Friar with **Larry Showley**; (center) Tom Seidler, President John, Patti Roscoe and Erik Greupner; (right) the Friar joins Chris Sichel on the stage to sing *Take Me Out To The Ballgame*.



(Left) **Mike Morton, Sr.**; (center) **Mark Stuart** and friend; (right) **Joe Sammartino's** son, Joey, was excited to see the Friar at our meeting!



(Left) **Katie Fulhorst**; (center) **Doug Wilson, John Wertz, Tom Vecchione** and President John; (right) Tom and Erik display their gifts from President John.