

# THE ROTATOR

Vol. 104, No. 01 July 13, 2017

SAN DIEGO ROTARY CLUB

San Diego  
Rotary



Established 1911

## The Changing of the Guard

## Next Meeting



Tom Gable  
Editor

**John Morrell** hit the eject button as soon as he could after taking care of the change of command ceremony with new president **Bob Russell!**

The meeting started off with **Past President Stan Hartman**, who provided stirring inspirational ideas on Rotary and community contributions. **Solveig Deuprey** led the Pledge and *America the Beautiful*, accompanied by **Larry Showley**.

Ex-president John then covered Bob's wonderful history with Rotary, the success at his law firm (42 years at Procopio) and his community engagement. Then he handed it off to **Mayor Kevin Faulconer** for the official swearing-in of our 108<sup>th</sup> president. Bob raised his right hand for accepting the oath even before the Mayor asked. To which the Mayor responded, "I wish the city council members were as good as you."

Immediately after the final transfer of power with the pinning of Bob's president's pin and the passing of the gavel, John sped out the door on a post-presidential escape to Barcelona where he hopes to recover from the many assaults that he suffered at his recent roast.

President Bob then led the swearing-in of new officers and directors for 2017-2018. The new officers are **Suzu Spafford**, President-Elect, **David Oates**, President Nominee, and **Judy Thompson**, Secretary-Treasurer. The directors: **Michael Bruner**, **Mike Caruso**, **Tyler Cramer**, **Solveig Deuprey**, **Bill Early**, **Peg Eddy**, **Walter Lam**, **Andy Liska**, **Diana Marjip-Chuh**, **Mike Morton, Jr.**, **Chris Sichel** and **Don Teemsa**.

Bob presented Suzu with a president-elect pin. And to help draw attention to the need for great programming and help him stand out at meetings (not a problem, by the way), he presented David Oates, program chair for the year, with a crossing guard vest with "Rotarian at Work" on the back.

Bob saluted his three Club 33 sponsors: Paul Wells, friend and mentor for many years; the late Fritz Kunzel; and Pat Crowell (who came over after the meeting to make sure I could spell his name correctly). Bob also acknowledged some 20 Rotarians who influenced him over his 24 years in the club and then recognized his family, most notably Bev, his wife of 45 years.

On his vision for the year, Bob said his theme will be committed to service -- past, present and future. For Club 33, now the fourth largest club in the world, he offered three pillars to his platform: membership, money and service.

Membership is the biggest challenge of every Rotary Club. Club 33 loses 40 to 50 members a year, which is a bigger number than the average size of Rotary clubs all over the world (36). Our club needs to embrace continual change, since the average age of Club 33 members is 64 and there are more members over age 70 than under age 60. He applauded efforts to recruit new members under 40 -- the future business and civic leaders of our community.

On money, the club adopted a budget of \$175,000 for the year for projects. His hope is that Club 33 will continue increasing its budget so it reaches a point where it will never have to turn down a request due to an inability to fund it. He cited the annual auction as something everyone can support. It had a record year under President John and President Bob hopes to repeat the success under committee chairs **Diana Marjip-Chuh** and **Robyn Sukatski**.

On service, he encouraged members to get involved in committees, which will add to their joy over the years. He quoted Mother Theresa on the benefits: "I can do things you cannot. You can do things I cannot. Together we can do great things."

Rotary International President Ian Risely has asked all clubs to plant one tree for each member. Bob said there were challenges with planting 500 trees: where and how will they be maintained?

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July 20, 2017

**CAPT Joseph Buzzella, Jr.**

**United States Coast Guard**

The U.S. Coast Guard's continual presence in San Diego dates back to 1935. Today, the Sector is a model of interagency cooperation for the Department of Homeland Security as it works with other federal agencies to protect the region's maritime domain.

Join us to learn more about Coast Guard Sector San Diego's mission from its commander, CAPT Joseph R. Buzzella, Jr.

Captain Buzzella hails from Miami, Florida. He holds a Master's in National Security Strategy from the National War College, a Master's in Public Administration from Harvard University and a Master's of Science in Quality Systems Management with a specialization in Homeland Security from the National Graduate School. He is a former Fellow of the Harvard Kennedy School of Government Public Service.



**Chair of the Day  
Rick Huenefeld**

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

July 13, 2017

Fellow Members of Club 33:

Thank you to all who attended today's meeting of our Club to swear in your officers and directors for this upcoming Rotary year and to swear me in as your 108<sup>th</sup> President. Our theme for this Rotary year is "Committed to Service – Past, Present and Future."

**Past Service** – This year I will dedicate each of our meetings to a Past President and will talk briefly about the services to our communities provided by Club 33 Rotarians during that President's year.

**Present Service** – We will each have countless opportunities to serve during this coming year. Those opportunities will be provided to us through projects and programs of the 30 public service committees of Club 33. Join one (or more) of those committees and get involved. The more you are involved, the more good you will see being done and the more you will want to be involved.

**Future Service** – We need to ensure the financial stability and soundness of our Club's Foundation. So I am asking every Rotarian to fulfill your financial commitments to the Club 33 Foundation and to Rotary International this year. It is your generosity which will ensure that we are able to provide even greater service in the future.

**About Rotary International:** I firmly believe that we should be proud of our membership in Rotary International. We should be especially proud of all the great things we, as members of Rotary International, are accomplishing throughout the world. While the almost global eradication of polio is Rotary's signature accomplishment, Rotary International does much more than that, but it cannot do so without our financial support. So don't forget Rotary International.

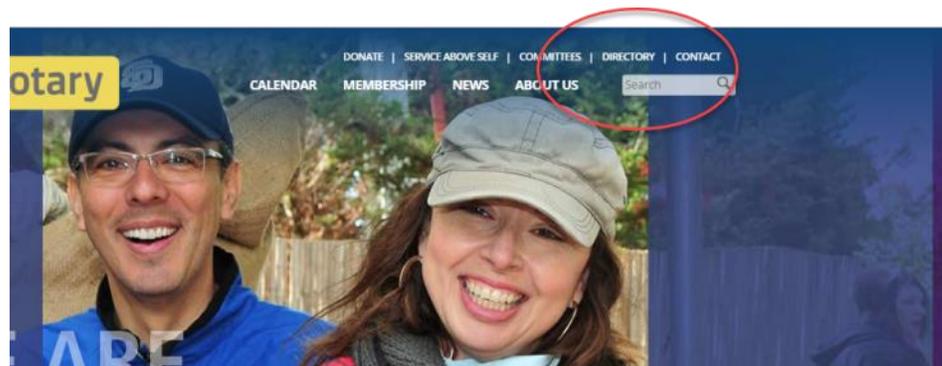
Let me conclude with this quote from Mark Twain, a quote which I alluded to today to conclude our meeting: "The most important day of your life is the day you were born. The second most important is the day you learn why you were born."

I sincerely hope that some of you may learn this year why you were born through your service as Rotarians. Let's all have a rewarding and fun year.

Sincerely,  
*President Bob Russell*



Our 2017-2018 member roster is now available. You can pick one up at the check-in desk at our Thursday meetings or at the Rotary office. They will not be mailed. Additional rosters can be purchased for \$20. Don't forget that you can also find the most current roster information in our online directory located on our website.



## QUICK BITS

If you missed **President John's Roast**, you can [click here](#) to watch the video.

Liberty Station's policy prohibits dogs in their building, unless they are a certified service animal. **Please refrain from bringing your pets to lunch.**

### New Program Cost

Effective July 1, the lunch and program cost per person will be \$33.

If you would like to attend the **memorial for Bink Cook's husband, Jack Cook**, please rsvp to [Bink](#) so they can be sure to have enough chairs and food for everyone.

#### Event details:

Saturday, July 22, at 4:00 pm

Location: Old Poway Park  
14134 Midland Road

The memorial will be followed immediately by a reception until 7:30 pm. This is an outdoor event.

Please dress casually and wear comfortable shoes.

## BIRTHDAYS

### July

Jennifer Barnes	17
Nancy Scott	18
Vern Aguirre	18
Bill Beamer	19
Rick McElvain	20
Leon Williams	21
Bert Wahlen	22
Suzy Spafford	23
Craig Evanco	23
Denis Vanier	23
Troy Wilson	23

## Changing of the Guard

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But Club 33 will be exploring the idea of a significant project in the community. Bob and the board will be looking for something that will increase recognition throughout San Diego and generate interest in others joining Rotary. He noted one recent step: we are now meeting in the "San Diego Rotary Hall," an effort arranged by our ED, **Paul Devermann**. Yes, the dining hall in which we have our weekly lunches is now named after the club.

Club 33 will also be strengthening its relationships with other clubs in the region, including Tijuana. Bob's hope is that Club 33 can identify a project to undertake jointly with the Tijuana Club. The international impact of Rotary is considerable, Bob said, driven by 1.2 million members in 35,000 clubs. He provided a litany of success stories: almost eradicating polio worldwide; clean water projects in impoverished countries; providing equipment for a new hospital in Uganda (a Club 33 project led by **Roger Haines** and **Walter Lam**); sanitation projects in Columbia; improving literacy in Guatemala; and more. "And none of this is possible without the generosity of Rotarians worldwide."

He asked everyone who has not been honored as a Paul Harris Fellow, with contributions of \$1,000 or more to the Rotary International Foundation, to start working toward that level. For current fellows, he encouraged members to work toward their second, third or fourth. Be part of all the good Rotary International is doing.

In closing, Bob thanked everyone for what they have done, what they are doing and what they will be doing. He quoted Mark Twain: "The most important day of your life is the day you were born. The second most important is the day you learn why you were born." Bob expressed his hope that, indeed, through our service as Rotarians, some of us in the room may learn this year why *we* were born.

As is traditional for Presidents, Bob had a gift for our guest speaker, Mayor Faulconer. In this case, a paper weight with the four-way test engraved on it. He said he hoped the mayor would display it prominently so people could get the feel for it. He encouraged the Mayor to take it with him to Sacramento and Washington, DC. "A lot of people there could use it," he said.

Finally, in noting his love of music, particularly country, he offered a line from Garth Brooks: "You aren't wealthy until you have something that money can't buy." Rock on.

## CALENDAR

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

### July

20 *CAPT Joseph Buzzella, Jr., US Coast Guard*

27 *International Youth Symphony*

### August

3 *Women's Championship Golf*

10 *Timken Museum*

## GROTARIAN EVENTS

Save the date for these upcoming events...more details coming soon

- August 29 - Tour of General Atomics
- September (date TBD) - Annual Poolside Chat
- October 31 - SDSU Film Festival
- December 5 - Grotarian Holiday Party at the Timken Museum

*The Grotarian Committee meets on the first Thursday of each month, immediately after the program.*

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

Bob Russell, President ♦ Paul Devermann, Executive Director

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# UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

Save the date for these upcoming meetings and events. More details coming soon!



**July 27, 1:30 pm– Annual All-Chair Committee Meeting.** Committee Chairs, Co-Chairs, and Vice-Chairs are encouraged to attend this meeting that will immediately follow our program. President Bob and President Elect Suzy Spafford will provide a summary of their plans for the year and give you an opportunity to ask any questions that you might have.

They will also discuss the upcoming **Club Assembly scheduled for August 24th**. All committees that are currently receiving project funding are required to participate in our annual committee showcase.

**August 17, 11:30 pm– Prospective Member Reception.** Bring a prospective member to our August 17th Comic-Con program! Guest speaker David Glanzer, CCSO of Comic-Con, will discuss the evolution of this event and its long-term prospects for remaining in San Diego. Registration will be required.



**September 16, 10:30 am - 1:30 pm—Rise Against Hunger (formerly Stop Hunger Now) meal packing event with the San Diego Padres.** This will be our second time to team up with the Padres at Petco Park to pack up meals for the impoverished areas of the Dominican Republic. We are doubling our goal to 60,000 meals this year! Registration will be required for up to 100 volunteers. Family and friends are welcome!

# 2017 CHANGE OF COMMAND



Mayor Faulconer swears in our 108th President.



Many of Bob's family, friends and colleagues came out to support him on his big day, including his wife Bev, his son Bobby, his daughter Leslie and her husband Matt, his grandkids Brady and Lilly, and his partners from Procopio.



(Left) Past President John pins Bob with the club's President's pin that has been passed down for the last 50+ years; (right) Bob passes down his President-Elect pin to Suzy Spafford; and with no President-Nominee pin to pass down, Bob gifts David Oates with something else he can wear all year long.



(Left) President Bob presents the Mayor with his speaker's gift; (center) present to support Bob were Club 33 ladies in their coordinating summer outfits; (right) presidential duties aside, tireless Bob continues on with his Badge Committee duties with **Bill Herrin**.